
The Hassockfield protests are continuing. You can find out more by going to [No To Hassockfield](#) –. If you cannot attend in person, perhaps you could join in prayer from home. There is an online version of the vigil on the Diocesan website which can be found [here](#). You can download the most recent booklet with the prayers and readings that are used [here](#).

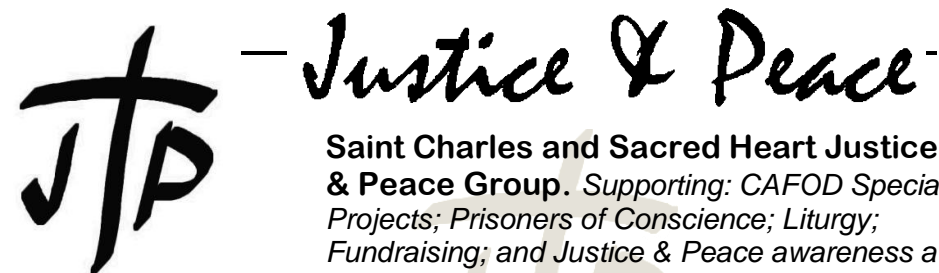
On the **1st Sunday of every Month at 3pm** a vigil takes place at the site as an opportunity for multiple faiths and religious groups to come together in opposition. On the **3rd Saturday of every Month at 12pm** a demonstration takes place at the site with the aim of showing solidarity with the women detained



The **DIOCESAN REFUGEE PROJECT** [Justice & Peace Refugee Project - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](#) is always in need of help. Food donations can be left in the church porch. The full list of items that are needed is available [here](#). Azad Hazan, who manages the project, issues [regular reports](#) on the progress on the project webpage.

In 2024, the Justice and Peace Group supported the following charities:

Kenton Food Bank:	£169.30	(Trinity Bookstall)
Hazelrigg Food Bank:	£169.30	(Trinity Bookstall)
Trinity Church:	£50	(Trinity Bookstall)
CAFOD:	£230	(Soup Lunch)
CAFOD Emergency Fund:	£149	(One World Lunch)
Freedom From Torture	£149:	(One World Lunch)
Changing Lives:	£100	
Peoples Kitchen:	£100	
Emmaus North East:	£100	
SVP Blackfriars	£100	
J&P Refugee Project	£250	
Night Stop De Paul Trust	£100	
Crisis Skylight Newcastle	£100	



NEWSLETTER

February: 2025

Saint Charles and Sacred Heart Justice & Peace Group. Supporting: CAFOD Special Projects; Prisoners of Conscience; Liturgy; Fundraising; and Justice & Peace awareness at home & abroad. For further information: Tel 07427837813 or visit the parish websites at www.stcharlesgosforth.org.uk

or
[Sacred Heart RC Parish, North Gosforth \(sacredheartng.org.uk\)](http://Sacred Heart RC Parish, North Gosforth (sacredheartng.org.uk))

Future events



In recognition of 2025 being a Jubilee Year, the National Justice and Peace Network is hosting a series of online conferences on the theme of Opening Doors.

Details of how to join future events can be found on the NJPN website.

[National Justice & Peace Network](#)

- An event to mark Church Action on Poverty's forthcoming '[Poverty Sunday](#)', which will celebrate the victories in the battle to resist poverty, and discuss the realities of poverty which still have to be tackled, will be held at St Michael's Church, Church Street, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4DN on 2nd March at 6.00 pm, with refreshments afterwards. Everyone is welcome to join the event.

2025 J&P programme

- First Sunday of each month coffee morning to continue. The March coffee will include the [Big Brew focus on tea growers](#).
- The Ceilidh at Sacred Heart will be on Friday 14th March. Tickets are now on sale.
- The April Soup lunch will be on 06/04/2025
- The J&P Group AGM 08/04/2025
- The [Jo Cox gathering](#) is to be promoted as a parish event (June 21/22/06/2025. TBC)
- A second hand book sale will be held in on Trinity Church (Gosforth High Street) forecourt. Date TBC and proceeds for local food banks.
- October 12/10/2025 One World Lunch.
- November 26th and December 7th, Write for Rights card writing.

Gaza ceasefire

Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, along with Ali Abu Awwad and Shaul Judelman, cofounded Roots - Judur - Shorashim, a joint Palestinian-Israeli grassroots peace-making initiative which nurtures understanding, nonviolence and - transformation.

He has published the following prayer.

Our Father in heaven, Creator of all humanity

Whose mercies are upon all His creatures and whose love is withheld from none.

Who has sanctified the Holy Land and placed here both Palestinians and Israelis, Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

Let our unique and particular covenants with You never blind us to Your love of all Your creatures.

May our love of You, of our nation and of the land never prevent us from loving the other peoples of this land of Yours, and may it never prevent us from honouring their love of this land.

Help us to heal our suspicions, fears, and hatreds and to aspire towards harmony and brotherhood.

Help us to fully see the humanity of all and to expand our concern, our identities, and the circles of our love to embrace all the peoples of this land.

Help us to remember that our fates are intertwined and that our destiny is to live together; that one people's pain, suffering, loss, or restriction will only bring the same for the other; and that the welfare and the happiness of one depends on the welfare and the happiness of the other.

Elevate our wills to desire for the other what we desire for our own people. Grant us the courage and the strength and gladness to Your city, to join forces to search together and to dedicate ourselves to the implementation of the common good of all the peoples of this land of Yours.

In this way may we bring joy to Your land and may You look favourably upon us and bless us all with peace.

The world's biggest humanitarian disaster

While the attention of most of the world is focused on the events in Gaza and the Ukraine, these wars are dwarfed in scale by what is happening in Sudan and South Sudan. More than one million people from that country have crossed the border into neighbouring South Sudan to flee the conflict that started in April 2023. According to the latest UN figures, almost three quarters of those fleeing are South Sudanese nationals returning to their homeland while over a quarter are Sudanese refugees. But they are entering a country already struggling with its own crises.

James Wani, Christian Aid's Country Director for South Sudan based in Juba, said: "*The knock-on effects of the war in Sudan together with widespread, catastrophic flooding has heaped even more hardship on a population already struggling to survive. The world must not look away from what is happening and do all it can to provide more funding for the level of lifesaving aid that is needed in both countries.*"

Around eight in 10 people in South Sudan live in extreme poverty and over six million people across the country face food shortages, with 1.7 million of these just one step away from famine.



The bookstall at St Charles is ongoing - bring and buy and your donations will help 6 homeless charities.