

The Diocesan Justice and Peace website always has some interesting articles and is well worth a read if you get the chance. It is at [Justice & Peace - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](http://Justice & Peace - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle (diocesehn.org.uk))



Hassockfield (Derwentside) Immigration Detention Centre – An interfaith prayer vigil takes place on every month, (usually on the first Sunday at 3pm). An online version of the prayer vigil can be found here. Usually about 30-40 people attend. You can find out more by clicking on the above link..

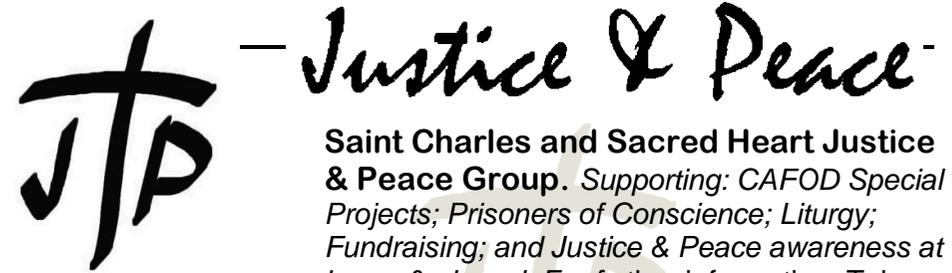


The DIOCESAN REFUGEE PROJECT [Justice & Peace Refugee Project - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](http://Justice & Peace Refugee Project - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle (diocesehn.org.uk)) is always in need of help. Food donations can be left in the church porch. The full list of items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

Other events



The annual joint Muslim and Christian pilgrimage to pray for peace will take place at the Marian shrine in Jesmond, Newcastle. Saturday June 14th at 2.30 pm. The event is for women and children, although men accompanying their family can attend. For information contact: Maria McKenzie (07796 372316) Hengameh Ashraf Emami (07912 749017) Mary McLoughlin (0191 285 0391) interreligious.relations@diocesehn.org.uk



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

NEWSLETTER

June 2025

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

Upcoming events and news:

The National Justice and Peace Network 47th Annual Conference will be held on 25 – 27 July 2025 at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Keynote Speakers will be Dr Rowan Williams: former Archbishop of Canterbury and Dr. Joanna Frew.

The theme this year is *Rethinking Security 'Is Violence and War Inevitable?'* The focus will be on the spirituality and practice of nonviolence.... Various speakers will be sharing their experiences, coming from different angles, calling people to reclaim our Spirituality and practice of Gospel nonviolence

For further details please contact Sharon Chambers;

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Upcoming events and news (cont'd):

- The parishes of St Charles, Sacred Heart and the Holy Name have combined under the auspices of the Hexham & Newcastle Justice & Peace Network to show a moving series of videoed conversations between Israeli and Palestinian parents who have lost children to violence. In the voices of these Israelis and Palestinians, who have paid the ultimate price, it is possible to find conviction that another way is possible and find hope in their commitment to work together to make that a reality. *Listening from the Heart to the Voices of Bereaved Israeli and Palestinian Parents* will take place on Tuesday 17th June at 7:00 pm at Holy Name Parish Hall, The Holy Name Church, 7 North Jesmond Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle NE2 3 JX.
- On June 19th from 6.30 to 8.30 at Jesmond United Reformed Church Angus Ritchie, Anglican priest and author of the book "Inclusive Populism", will be sharing his insights into community organising and how it can be a powerful tool for inclusive engagement, rooted in faith and shared values. His work offers practical insights into how we, as Catholics, can help build bridges in our communities. The evening will also include time for relationship-building, shared stories, and food.
- Jo Cox Get Together Event, July 5/6th. St Charles will once again mark this event which celebrates the legacy of the murdered MP who put all her energy into promoting togetherness and welcome to all. Tea, coffee and scones will be served after evening and morning Mass that weekend, name labels provided and details of some parish activities on display. A special welcome to all who are new to the parish. Everyone is invited to come along and put names to faces and put the message of the gospel into our parish community.

Stop the cuts to overseas aid

CAFOD have launched a campaign seeking support against the governments cuts to the Official Development Assistance (ODA) programme.

Bishop Stephen Wright is chair of CAFOD, the Bishops' Conference's official aid and development agency. He has criticised Prime Minister Keir Starmer's announcement on defence spending and cuts to Official Development Assistance (ODA), saying lives will be lost as a result of this decision. He said:

"This year is a Jubilee Year for the Church – a time of hope, journeying together, and resetting injustices, not a time for turning our backs on those in need. The government shouldn't be balancing the books at the expense of the poorest communities around the world."

CAFOD has a link ([here](#)) to enable you to contact your MP to let them know you oppose these cuts, and that it's more critical than ever that the UK supports the world's most vulnerable communities.

The big bank switch

The extraction and use of fossil fuels has a disproportionate impact upon the poorest in our global society. If together we help end the dependence on fossil fuels, we can create a greater community cohesion.

Did you know that banks are amongst the biggest funders of fossil fuel industries? This means that they are part of the driving cause of climate change! Why would we switch our personal banks? James Buchanan, Climate Finance Campaign Manager at Laudato Si' Movement, said: "This largest-ever call for action from Christian organisations to UK banks financing new fossil fuels demonstrates the significant concern of faith groups about the role of banks in fuelling the climate crisis."
<https://laudatosimovement.org/news/catholic-religious-orders-among-70-organisationscalling-on-major-uk-banks-to-stop-financing-new-fossil-fuels/>

The opportunity to make a difference is presented to us by The Big Bank Switch. Everyone is invited to review their bank credentials
<https://justmoney.org.uk/the-big-bank-switch/>

The Big Bank Switch is supported by; just money movement, Just Love Operation Noah and the Laudato Si Movement. The 3 main banks being recommended for their green credentials i.e. banks that don't finance fossil fuels, are Nationwide, Triodos and The Co-op Bank.



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