

Shrewsbury Diocese JPSR E-Bulletin – June 2012

www.jp-shrewsburydiocese.org.uk

Vision: A diocese fully engaged with the call of God to be a people of justice and peace

Welcome to the first edition of the new e-bulletin.

As you probably know, the newly named Commission for the Promotion of Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility is still reeling from the sudden loss of our Co-ordinator Joan Sharples due to compulsory redundancy, alongside other diocesan workers for Youth, Marriage & Family Life and Adult Education & Formation. Joan served our Commission for 19 years with great dedication and skill. Commission members are trying to cover the many roles performed by Joan in her unassuming yet highly professional way to continue J&P work in the diocese.

Joan established the regular e-bulletin as a means of communicating current events and topical campaigns to interested groups and individuals throughout the diocese. It is a tribute to the success of her initiative that the e-bulletin is used and valued by many activists outside the diocese and also at national level.

For more information and resources go to the website at www.jp-shrewsburydiocese.org.uk

Please note the following changes in contact details:

- Correspondence to Michael Crawley, Secretary, Shrewsbury Diocese Commission for the Promotion of Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility, 5 Riddings Court, Timperley, Altrincham, WA15 6BG
mjcrawley@waitrose.com
- Donations or contributions for *MouthPeace* to Ged Cliffe, Treasurer SDJPSR, Fern Villa, Four Crosses, Llanymynech, SY22 6PR ged.cliffe@tiscali.co.uk
- Items for the e-bulletin, diary dates and notice of events to Anne O'Connor anneoc980@hotmail.com

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1. Engage with Rio+20 The **Columban Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office** is part of the **National Justice and Peace Network of England and Wales (NJPN)** which is calling for stronger action to tackle climate change, illegal logging and access to clean water at this month's **Earth Summit in Brazil**. It urges the Rio+20 gathering of world leaders to come up with a programme of transition towards more **sustainable development**, particularly in the area of food and agriculture. Also, to implement an **international Financial Transactions Tax** or 'Robin Hood' Tax which could potentially raise millions of dollars for countering climate change and poverty.

Governments from around the world will gather in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on **20-22 June** to commemorate 20 years of the 'Earth Summit', the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development that first established a global agenda for 'sustainable development'. The NJPN, inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, has been incorporating **Care for Creation** into its agenda for the past two decades. Environmental concerns, particularly the issue of Food, have been the focus of two of its recent annual conferences. The Columbans too have incorporated "**solidarity with the poor and with the exploited Earth**" into their mission documents and run campaigns on **Climate Change, Patenting and Mining** www.columbans.co.uk 020 8202 2555

The NJPN has produced a fuller Briefing on Rio+20, containing action suggestions for engaging with Rio+20 www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/documents/Rio20BriefingFINAL21May_000.pdf and a Rio+20 Statement http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/documents/Rio20StatementFINAL21May_000.pdf

Progressio has mailed a Rio+20 Action Pack to every Catholic parish in England and Wales and produced accompanying resources, including a **Youth Resource**, available to download from their website www.progressio.org.uk/rio 020 7733 1195

Also for young people, **CAFOD's Youth Section**, particularly 'Introducing global issues' is useful.

See <http://www.cafod.org.uk/resources/youth-leaders/ggyl-youth-group>

CAFOD's Schools Section has resources on issues connected with Rio+20, such as climate change and water www.cafod.org.uk/primary and www.cafod.org.uk/secondary 020 7733 7900

2. Booklet: *Your Journey to Peace* The Olympics were established in ancient Greece to foster a "friendly athletic competition" and bring about a truce between warring city states. This year, during London 2012, many organisations are working together to promote "100 Days of Peace". In this booklet you'll find a thought for each day, personal stories and inspiration to help you make peace a reality – in your community, in your school, in your world and in your heart. Copies are £1.50 each, or £1 for 100+

http://www.rpbooks.co.uk/product_details.php?item_id=1525

3. Catholic Woman of the Year 2012 Congratulations to Jo Siedlecka, founding editor of **Independent Catholic News** on her award. Keep up to date with all the latest news worldwide with <http://www.indcatholicnews.com> Sign up for regular email updates http://www.indcatholicnews.com/maillist_proc.php?op=joinform&list_id=2

4. Church Action on Poverty People-Powered Change Training Programme 2012 marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of Church Action on Poverty, and the need has never been greater. A brand-new People-Powered Change training programme draws on the work of projects over more than a decade in supporting local people to reclaim power over key decisions which affect their lives.

Participatory Methods and Tools for Empowering Communities

A one-day practical workshop, delivered by experienced Community Pride Unit staff, to:

- learn about the importance and the power of using participatory techniques when working with communities
- look at a variety of participatory tools and techniques, evaluate their strengths and limitations, and learn how to use them
- review what you need to consider when choosing and using a particular technique

Date: Tuesday 26 June 2012 Time: 10am - 4pm Venue: Manchester

Introduction to Community Organising

A one-day course, interactively exploring the key ideas behind community organising, what it can achieve and how to get started. You will:

- understand what community organising is
- be more motivated to work to address problems in your community
- be more confident about how to organise for change
- have a clearer idea about solutions to local problems

Date: Friday 6 July 2012 Time: 10am - 4pm Venue: Manchester

Booking details from Church Action on Poverty www.church-poverty.org.uk 0161 236 9321

5. Design a Christmas Card that brings a message of hope and justice to mark the 30th anniversary of Church Action on Poverty in 2012. Closing date 30 June 2012. Details from Clare McBeath, Community Fundraiser, Church Action on Poverty info@church-poverty.org.uk

6. Voices from the Margins - a new report on Faith, Hope and Love amongst people who are homeless by Revd Gill College. Many organisations currently working with people who are homeless originated from a faith-based perspective, ranging across the Christian denominations, from Roman Catholic to Free churches. Recently, it seems that people have become aware that the faith element has become so minimised as to be almost non-existent. This raises the question: What is the place of faith when working with people who are homeless?

Gill College interviewed 140 people using a day centre to ask them for their views on this important question. Her report can be downloaded from the **Housing Justice** website www.housingjustice.org.uk or you can order a full colour, bound copy for £5. Email info@housingjustice.org.uk or phone 020 3544 8094 (**New number**)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

18-24 Refugee Week www.refugeeweek.org.uk

20 – 22 Rio +20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro 20 years on from the 1992 Earth Summit that gave rise to “Agenda 21” and real hopes of moves towards a more sustainable future. www.uncsd2012.org

23 Chester Green Day 10am to 4pm at Chester Town Hall. A day event to showcase the work of a range of organisations involved in activities concerned with sustainability or the environment, organised by Chester Transition. Register to participate (small charge) Contact Simon Brown on simonwbrown@dsl.pipex.com or phone 01244 403960.

24 – 25 Action by Christians Against Torture Vigil starting 8pm 24th through to 25th finishing with 10am Family Mass at St Teresa’s, College Rd, Upholland WN6. This overnight vigil is held in churches all around the world. Everyone is invited to spend some time in prayer and reflection between 8pm Saturday and 10am Sunday. It is a chance to link our prayer, our J&P consciousness and our action in one event. If you can join us, please sign up on the parish website <http://www.stteresas-upholland.org.uk>. If you can’t join us, please send a message of support.

30 Heald Green Festival J & P stall for Church Action on Poverty 1– 4 pm in field behind public hall Outwood Road, Heald Green

JULY

2 Forty Years of Greenpeace Showing of a film in celebration of this milestone year in Greenpeace’s activities. 7.30pm at St Peter’s Centre, The Cross, Chester

7 Annual J & P Walk – Shrewsbury Diocese 5 mile morning walk around Ellesmere to be led by Fran Butler. For more details contact Tony Walsh 0151 355 6419 or Fran 01691 622 755

8 The Spiritual Motivation for working for Justice An afternoon of reflection and prayer led by **Fr. Bernard McDermott** from 3pm to 5pm at The Evron Centre, 1 Adswood Lane West, Cale Green, Stockport organised by Our Lady’s Justice and Peace Group. Contact Brian Potter 0161 485 8312. All welcome.

20 –22 National J & P Conference at Swanwick — theme ‘*A New World Order? - China Today and Our Response*’ More information and booking: www.justice-and-peace.org.uk 020 7901 4864

AUGUST

6 & 9 Anniversaries of the first use of atomic weapons at Hiroshima & Nagasaki More information and prayer resources from **Pax Christi** www.paxchristi.org.uk 020 8203 4884

SEPTEMBER

4 North West venue for John Dear SJ on his speaking tour of the UK. St John’s, Standishgate, Wigan WN1 1XD 17.30 onwards. If you have never heard John Dear, this is a rare opportunity to be inspired. If you have heard him, you’ll want to hear him again. This is free event and all are warmly invited to attend. (Contributions to his travel costs will be welcome.) NB. St John’s is just over 5 mins walk from the station. The church car park will be open but drivers will need to negotiate the one way system. For further info contact Liverpool J&P office 0151 522 1080.

9 Racial Justice Sunday Resource Pack from www.ctbi.org.uk/588

10 CWDF Forum meeting 6.45 for 7.00pm at St Peter’s Centre, The Cross, Chester. Speaker: Forum member Susan Flynn about Merseyside URC’s ongoing work with women of Malawi.

11 Opening of exhibition about the work of The Leprosy Mission, at St Peter’s Centre, The Cross, Chester. www.leprosymission.org.uk