

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

In every parish the parishioners in our diocese should first of all have this in their prayer. Secondly, see what way they can help. Sometimes it is by giving donations but also even in the parish I think we learn to give to people who we will never meet, for example, in Africa and elsewhere. Also, we should see who are in need in our street, in our homes, in our towns, in our cities and say what can we do for them. We can then reach out beyond them to the terrible conditions of the poor in the world. I think that everybody can do something.

Rev. Roberta Rominger, United Reform Church

Roll your sleeves up and get involved with the concerns of your immediate neighbour is the more challenging thing but that is where we find Christ as well. We find him right there in our midst and we find ourselves with stories to tell about the things that he is doing and the places where we work.

Jack Maple, Anglican Advisor

Local parishes have a role to work with local communities so that they actually feel that they are engaged in the decision-making and that those who perhaps might otherwise be marginalized have their needs heard and hopefully met.

Rev. Chris Brice, Social Justice Adviser, Diocese of London

It seems to me that if the church is not seen to be deeply concerned about transforming the world in which we live here and now and in trying to, in a sense, build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, with God's help and by His Spirit, as we pray for each day in the Lord's prayer "your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven", if we are not doing that, then we have to seriously ask, well what are we here for?

Nicholas Sagovsky, Westminster Abbey

The major issue I have been involved with is the issue of asylum, specifically within the wider issues of immigration and migration and the contribution that migrants have made to our society.

Geoffrey Duncan, United Reform Church

It has something to do with human dignity. It has a lot to do with equality and I believe if we bring about justice in society we are going a long way down the road to peace. Peace for the individual, peace in the community and peace in the wider global situation.

Elizabeth Simon

You may think of your lunch club which has 25 people coming, elderly folk are coming, week in and week out or the youth group of maybe 40 youngsters or of a summer play scheme or an advice service and you may think it is small, it is not reaching very far, it has not got that many people. Stop and think who else in your particular community is doing anything of that nature and you will begin to see that however small it may be, it really does make a difference.

Barbara Kentish, Westminster Justice and Peace Commission

Justice and Peace, as well as all the activities we do, is about our having faith that the Kingdom is here and if we have that faith that will show in whatever we do. We have our hope, we have our vision about what it might look like but as long as we keep doing these things in that faith, we can't help but bring the Kingdom of God to where we live.

Fr. Joe Ryan, Westminster Justice and Peace Commission

Justice and Peace has to do with living out the gospel values and listening particularly and remembering the words of Jesus "when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink; I was naked and you clothed me; I was in difficulty and you came to my help. Insofar as we can identify Jesus with our brothers and sisters in need then that is our motivation. That is what is the driving force behind all of our activities in social justice and looking after and caring for our brothers and sisters, particularly those who have no voice of their own. We are their hands, we are their voices, we are their hearts and minds and this is the great motivation and inspiration when getting involved in issues of social justice.