



# A Hundred Days of Peace

This summer the whole of London will be focused on the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Inspired by the Sacred Truce around the original Games, the three London dioceses of Westminster, Brentwood and Southwark are celebrating 100 Days of Peace: beginning on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 50 days before the Olympic Opening Ceremony, and ending on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 50 days after the Paralympic Closing Ceremony. Lots of things will be happening in the next few months.



The 2012 Games are nearly here, the torch relay will soon be on its way around all the counties and cities of the UK.

The peace walk led by Colette, 100 Days of Peace project worker, was our first endeavour, with a turnout of nearly 100, praying at different points around the perimeter fence of the Olympic Park. With our

There are so many ways we can celebrate this Olympic Peace season. Barry and Margaret Mizen, who have been trying to put on a big Peace Concert during the 100 Days, have at last got a venue at the Hammersmith Apollo for October 28<sup>th</sup>, the last day of the 100 days. Watch this space - a truly Pentecostal time!

Barbara Kentish



Gathering for the Olympic Park Peace Walk

rainbow flags we prayed for peace for countries, for the environment, for refugees and for the economy. Our Brazilian friends turned out in a crowd, and they will walk with us through the 100 Days, to see what legacy we will hand on to them for their preparations for Rio 2016.

Our **Prayer Vigil on June 8-9<sup>th</sup>** at St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square, will begin the 100 Days with hourly prayers of different traditions, culminating in song and a service attended by the Bishop of London, Richard Chartres, and the Archbishop of Westminster, Vincent Nichols and other London Church leaders.

### Wanted: 500 People for Prayer Watch and 50 Stewards!

The Prayer Vigil at St Martin in the Fields needs you to pray for peace for the Olympics, London and the World. Fri 8<sup>th</sup>-Sat 9<sup>th</sup> June any time between 11pm Friday and 12 noon Saturday.

See [www.peacelegacy.org.uk](http://www.peacelegacy.org.uk) or contact the Justice & Peace Office for more information

It is exciting that London Citizens will celebrate the start of 100 Days of Peace on June 9<sup>th</sup> with events highlighting their CitySafe Havens achievements around London, all linked by helicopter!

## Music for Peace

On Sat 16<sup>th</sup> June there will be a **Music for Peace Workshop** at St John Vianney Parish Centre, West Green (see enclosed flier for details). The day is for singers and musicians of all ages and abilities to learn music to inspire our work for peace before, during and after the London 2012 Games.

Also there will be a **Peace Lunch and informal Mini-Concert** of peace-themed songs from 12.00noon on Fri 8<sup>th</sup> June at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, E2. Anyone able to contribute to this is welcome. The day will end with a peace service, where people of other faiths or of none will join in. Details from: [justicepeaceourlady@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:justicepeaceourlady@hotmail.co.uk)

## Pax Christi Peace Icon

The Peace Icon is a sacred painting made at the Monastery of St John in the Desert, near Jerusalem, and presented to the Pax Christi movement in 1999. Its panels represent scenes of reconciliation and figures associated with peace. Each aspect leads to meditation on the deep movements of the heart necessary for peace and reconciliation.



During the 100 Days of Peace the Icon will be travelling to churches in Westminster, Brentwood and Southwark. It will be passed on in relay to the parishes to offer a focus for prayer and reflection, ending its journey at a special Mass in St George's Cathedral, Southwark where it will be handed over to the Brazilian community (hosts for the 2016 Games). See [www.peacelegacy.org](http://www.peacelegacy.org) (events) for the Icon's full itinerary.

## Thirst for Change Campaign

Thank you to all who joined CAFOD in calling on David Cameron to lead the world in demanding clean water and safe sanitation for all. To date we have received over 27,500 cards.

We are delighted to report a most generous response to our Lent Appeal. Every penny raised during Lent and up to 17th May will be matched by the Government. This will double the impact of your donations.

**Please encourage all to send in Lent collections to reach CAFOD by 17th May.**

## Mauá, São Paulo Emergency

We have received some alarming news that the Mauá community in São Paulo, Brazil, is facing the threat of eviction.

“When we face difficulties, we will remember that people across the other side of the world are thinking of us and this will give us strength...if it wasn't for your support, we would be in a very different situation.”

When community leader Neti met Tony Sheen in Brazil last year, she asked him to thank CAFOD supporters for their help. Now, as her community faces the threat of eviction, support is needed more than ever.



Mauá Community building in São Paulo

The Mauá community is a group of 220 families who have been occupying a former hotel building in São Paulo, Brazil. The building had been abandoned for more than 17 years after the owner failed to pay tax. It remained derelict until a group of brave and inspirational people took it over in 2007 and began to make it safe and habitable for many homeless and vulnerable people. Today, the building is home to a vibrant and hardworking community. There are sports classes and study groups for the children, volunteers improve the building's infrastructure, and everyone works to ensure no one is without food.

The eviction order has come as quite a shock to Neti and others in the community. The judgment calling for the eviction, states that the occupation has only begun this year and is therefore illegal, despite the community having ample evidence to the contrary.

In response to this situation, CAFOD partner APOIO has organised a hearing with the public ministry. The families will then have a few weeks to legally appeal the eviction. The outcome is still very uncertain, and the community has asked for our prayers. If you would like for us to pass on a message of solidarity to Neti and those in Mauá, please email the office (see below).

## Pentecost Reflection Day

A Day Retreat for volunteers and supporters, with special guest speaker and focus on spiritual reflection of 50 years of CAFOD's work. The day will run from 11am-4pm followed by Mass. **Saturday 26th May** at Woldingham School, Marden Park, Caterham, Surrey CR3 7YA (but use CR3 7LR if coming by satnav) Please contact CAFOD to reserve a place. You will need to bring your own packed lunch please, however refreshments will be provided.

## Pedal Against Poverty

Join CAFOD on **Sunday 27th May** for a ride through the Lee Valley Country Park, Hert-



fordshire and raise money to combat poverty! For further details contact CAFOD or log onto [www.cafod.org.uk/sponsored-events/bike/pedal-against-poverty](http://www.cafod.org.uk/sponsored-events/bike/pedal-against-poverty). Registration £6.

Tony Sheen

CAFOD Westminster: 020 8449 6970

[westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk)

## Interfaith Pilgrimage for Peace

The 27th Annual Multi-Faith Pilgrimage for Peace will take place on Saturday 26th May in the East End of London

The day will begin at 09.30am at St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace (78 Bishopsgate, London EC2). The group will then travel by train (10.30 at Liverpool Street) to visit places of worship around the East End. The pilgrimage will include visits to a Hindu Temple, Shia and Sunni Muslim centres and a Sikh Gurdwara as well as Christian churches. Lunch will be provided by Sachkhand Nanak Dham International (1.00pm Froud Centre/St Michael's Church, 1 Toronto Avenue, Manor Park E12) and the day will end around 6pm.

Participants will need a One Day Travel Card Zones 1-3 or equivalent, and should bring head covering and be prepared to remove shoes on entering some places of worship.

For further details and booking form, contact: Jon Dal Din, Tel: 075 2775 8729 or email: [jondaldin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jondaldin@rcdow.org.uk)

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