



# JUSTICE & PEACE E-BULLETIN MARCH & APRIL 2024

Welcome to the e-Bulletin from the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. Please send Events for inclusion to [justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk). The deadline for the next e-Bulletin is 29 April 2024.

## CONFLICT IN THE HOLY LAND

In response to Cardinal Vincent's call for a Day of Prayer for the Holy Land on 8<sup>th</sup> March, Westminster Justice & Peace are hosting an online **9-Day Novena of Prayer every evening from 29<sup>th</sup> February leading up to 8<sup>th</sup> March, 8.00-8.45pm**. Led by Mary Pierre-Harvey from Hounslow Parish.



*Our Lady Untier of Knots*

In this Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots, we pray for the populations of Palestine and Israel suffering the terrible consequences of violence and war and for an end to all war. We pray that they may feel the concrete reality of God's love. You are welcome to join us for as much or as little of the Novena as you are able. [More details...](#)

## HOLY LAND ROUNDTABLE

We convened our first Roundtable on the Holy Land at Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington, on 20<sup>th</sup> February. **A second meeting will be held at Farm Street Arrupe Hall, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH, on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 4-6pm**. Please contact Colette on [colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk) if you would like more information or to be added to the Holy Land Mailing List.



## PARISHES, CLIMATE AND EVANGELISATION

Teresa Carvalho, Evangelisation Co-ordinator for the Diocese of Westminster is the guest speaker for the **11<sup>th</sup> March (Lent) online meeting of the Southern Dioceses Environment Network**. Teresa will be helping us reflect on to integrate climate conversations and activities into our everyday parish work. This event is aimed especially catechists, but also priests, deacons, administrators, flower arrangers, gardeners and anyone with a passion for their local environment. Please pass this on to anyone who might be interested, or include in your newsletter. [Register with Eventbrite](#)

## YEAR OF PRAYER 2024

For this Year of Prayer leading up to the next Jubilee Holy Year in 2025, all are invited to delve deeper into the **Lord's Prayer**, reflecting on it line by line. The Westminster Deaf Service is encouraging everyone in the Diocese to learn to pray the Our Father in sign language by the end of the year. Please give it a try!



## DIARY OF EVENTS

**29 February – 9 March, 8.00-8.40pm: Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots, for the Holy Land.** You are welcome to join us for as much or as little of the Novena as you are able. [Please register to receive the Zoom link.](#)

**1 March, 7.00-8.00pm: Catholic Union and Ampleforth Society Lecture - “The Gospel Imperative for Climate Action”, Speaker Lord Deben** (formerly known as John Selwyn Gummer). At Ampleforth College and also streamed online. [More details](#)

**4 March: Caritas St Joseph’s** - Bernice Hardy, Co-founder of Wave (we are all valued equally) will share the story its work to encourage more inclusive worship and social places in the heart of our communities <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/family-forum-talk-caritas-st-josephs/>

**6 March, 6 for 6.30pm: Book Launch ‘Pondering and Praying Vatican II’ by Archbishop John Wilson.** St George’s Cathedral Southwark. Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7HY. The book offers an introduction to the four key Constitutions of Vatican II. [More Details](#)

**8 March: Day of Prayer for the Holy Land.**

**9 March, 3-5pm: Caritas Volunteer Service - Volunteering Fair.** Westminster Cathedral Hall. If you are considering volunteering and want to explore possible roles within the Diocese, do come along. More details will follow here: <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/volunteering-fair-2/>

**11 March, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network - Parishes, Climate & Evangelisation.** Speaker: Teresa Carvalho, Evangelisation Co-ordinator, Diocese of Westminster. Monthly online meeting for prayer, sharing and networking on the Care of Creation. Attend as a one-off or participate regularly. [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

**12 March, 4.00-5.00pm: Centre for Catholic Social Thought and Practice (CCSTP) Webinar – ‘Catholic social justice work and the General Election’.** An election-oriented webinar, aimed at Catholic social justice actors, to consult on needs and ideas for materials for social justice work in advance of the General Election. This webinar, chaired by Prof Anna Rowlands and led by Sarah Hagger-Holt, will explore local needs and the work already underway by different groups and organisations, and plan for additional resources that can assist the Catholic community in England and Wales in pursuing its responsibilities for the common good in an election cycle. [Bookings](#)

**14 March, 12-4pm: CAFOD – Come to Parliament to Lobby for Peace in the Holy Land.** The UK can play an important role in adding to pressure for an end to the conflict. CAFOD and Oxfam invite you inside the Houses of Parliament on Thursday 14 March between 12-4pm to speak directly to your MP and urge them to back calls for peace. [Sign up and invite your MP to meet you](#)

**16 March, 11.00am: Annual Ecumenical Service to mark the anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Romero.** St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London. Speaker: Raymond Perrier. [Romero Trust](#)



**18 March, 12.30-1.30pm: Monthly Prayer Vigil outside the Home Office** – Organised by Westminster Justice & Peace, London Catholic Worker and the London Churches Refugee Fund to pray for migrants seeking safe passage to the UK. Marsham Street, SW1P4DF. Contact Barbara Kentish [barbarakentish@talktalk.net](mailto:barbarakentish@talktalk.net)

**20 March, 12.30pm: Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark.** With Archbishop John Wilson. Includes presentation to schools who have achieved the Romero Award. [Romero Trust](#)

**20 March, 1.30-3.00pm: Westminster Cathedral Interfaith – A Discussion of Pope Francis' Laudate Deum.** Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace, SW1P 1EP. More information from John Woodhouse, [woodhousesopten@btinternet.com](mailto:woodhousesopten@btinternet.com)

**20 March, 6.00pm: Catholic Union Pub Talk with Jon Cruddas MP (Labour - Dagenham and Rainham) in association with Catholics for Labour.** The Morpeth Arms (upstairs), 58 Millbank, London SW1P 4RW. <https://catholicunion.org.uk/>

**21 March, 6.00pm: Catholic Action for Animals Webinar 'Introduction to Animal Rights from a Faith Perspective – New Insights into Animal Agriculture'.** Introduction by Bishop John Arnold. Hosted by the Animal Interfaith Alliance, in collaboration with the Diocese of Salford, the Laudato Si' Action Platform, Climate Healers, Born Vegan and In Defence of Animals. To register please email: [Barbgard.aia@gmail.com](mailto:Barbgard.aia@gmail.com) putting 'WEBINAR 21-3-24 Registration' in the subject line.

**23 March, 10.30-4.30pm: London Jesuit Centre Workshop – 'Discerning Social Activism: Spiritual Resources for World-Changers'.** Offering Christian social activists spiritual resources to help inform & sustain them in their work of world-changing. Led by the Spirituality and Social & Environmental Justice teams at the London Jesuit Centre, with special guests:

*Fr Martin Newell - Passionists; London Catholic Worker*

*Megan Knowles - Jesuit Refugee Service*

*Melanie Nazareth – Christian Climate Action*

*Rev Mo Budd - Church of England; Don't Pay UK*

*Yogi Sutton - Catholic Association for Racial Justice*

<https://londonjesuitcentre.churchsuite.com/events/ls693hrd>

**23 March, 4pm (refreshments) for 4.30-6.00pm (meeting): Westminster Holy Land Roundtable.** All are welcome to join us for our second meeting at Farm Street Arrupe Hall, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH. We will be exploring what efforts we can make towards peace and justice in the areas of Muslim, Christian & Jewish relations in our own Diocese, supporting local parish responses to the conflict, promoting prayer and liturgy, assisting Christians and other communities in the Holy Land, and ending the weapons trade. We are hoping to establish a Westminster Holy Land Working Party as a result of this meeting, so please do come along or get in touch with Colette [colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk) if you would be interested in being a part of that.

**28 March: Maundy Thursday**

**29 March: Good Friday**

**31 March: Easter Sunday**



**15 April, 12.30-1.30pm: Monthly Prayer Vigil outside the Home Office** – Organised by Westminster Justice & Peace, London Catholic Worker and the London Churches Refugee Fund to pray for migrants seeking safe passage to the UK. Marsham Street, SW1P4DF. Contact Barbara Kentish [barbarakentish@talktalk.net](mailto:barbarakentish@talktalk.net)

**25 April, arrival for 6pm, 6:30-8.00pm: London Citizens Mayoral Accountability Assembly 2024. Methodist Central Hall, Westminster.** This Assembly will be the culmination of London Citizens efforts over the past year to seek commitments from the top two candidates for Mayor on key issues of work and wages, housing and migration. <https://www.citizensuk.org/chapters/london/> [Register for a ticket](#) or contact Colette or Fr Dominic if interested in finding out more.

**2 May: Mayor of London and London Assembly Elections.** <https://www.londonelects.org.uk/>

**6 May, 12 noon: Mass for Migrants – St George’s Cathedral Southwark.** Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7HY. The three Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster come together annually around the Feast of St Joseph the Worker to give thanks for the contribution made by migrant communities to London and the South-East. All are welcome, whether you are of a migrant or non-migrant background, for this joyful celebration of many cultures. The liturgy is prepared by the Justice & Peace Commissions and Ethnic Chaplaincies of the three Dioceses.

**6 – 10 May: Creation Retreat at Buckfast Abbey.** Led by Paula Pearce. Reflection on creation in the light of Franciscan thought and mission. 4 nights half-board from £525. Buckfast, Devon, TQ11 0EE. [www.buckfast.org.uk](http://www.buckfast.org.uk)

**11-19 May: Urban Tree Festival.** <https://urbantreefestival.org/>

**13 May, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Climate and the Elections.** Representatives from CAFOD and the St Vincent de Paul society will present their preparation materials for the coming Mayoral and General Elections and help us reflect on what involvement in the democratic process means in terms of climate and the environment. Monthly online meeting for prayer, sharing and networking on the Care of Creation. Attend as a one-off or participate regularly. [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

**8-16 June: Great Big Green Week** <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

**19-21 July: National Justice and Peace Network Conference - ‘Just Politics’** [NJPN](#)

**22-25 August: Greenbelt Festival ‘Somewhere to Come Together.’** A weekend of music, comedy, craft, theatre, dance, food, spirituality, talks, provocation and more. <https://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>

**1 September – 4 October: Season of Creation.** This year’s theme is ‘To Hope and Act with Creation’. [Season of Creation website](#)

**9-22 September: Fairtrade Fortnight. NB New dates!!** [Fairtrade Foundation](#)

**11-24 November: COP29 in Azerbaijan.** UN Climate Change Conference, 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 29) [UN COP29 Website](#)