



JUSTICE & PEACE E-BULLETIN

July 2025

Welcome to the e-Bulletin from the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. Please send Events for inclusion to justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk. The deadline for the next e-Bulletin is **26 September 2025**.

Colette writes:

June 2025 was an exceptionally busy month for Justice and Peace activity in the Diocese of Westminster!

On 4th June we helped to host a very special combined event for the Southern Dioceses Environment Network and the Northern Dioceses Environment Group on 4th June 2025 to mark the 10th Anniversary of Pope Francis Papal Encyclical '*Laudato Si'* – *On the Care of Our Common Home*'. Austen Iveigh, a well-known Catholic journalist, writer and papal commentator, was our guest speaker. He helped us to reflect on where we have come in the last ten years and what we are being called to do in the next ten. [You can watch Austen's presentation on our website here](#)



Austen Iveigh - Celebrating *Laudato Si*

Then on 7th June we gathered in the FCJ Centre for Spirituality & EcoJustice in Euston for a Diocese of Westminster celebration of our own: '*Revisiting Laudato Si*'. Fr Richard Nesbitt and John Paul de Quay were our guest speakers, as we also enjoyed prayer, workshops and home-made soda-bread! [Watch the highlights video here](#)



Bishop Paul (l) with Brother Johannes at the microphone

Refugee Week (16th-22nd June) was marked with a prayerful Vigil outside the Home Office. About 40 people gathered to remember those who have died on the way to seeking sanctuary in Europe and to pray for a fairer and more compassionate asylum system.

[Read the Reflection given by Bishop Paul McAleenan](#)

More than 130 Schools gathered for a Festival of Hope at Westminster Cathedral on 24th June, presided over by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Westminster Justice and Peace joined partner organisations Pax Christi, CAFOD, Caritas, the Agency for Evangelisation and the Youth Service in running activities in the side chapels based on the Jubilee themes. [Read the report here](#)

Finally, on 19th June parish about 70 representatives for CAFOD, Caritas and Justice & Peace from across the Diocese came together for a combined Jubilee BBQ at Christ the King Parish, Cockfosters (home to CAFOD Westminster). This was a chance for staff to thank the volunteers, plus an opportunity to network and learn more about each other's work. Only about a quarter of our parishes Justice & Peace Contacts. It would be great to have more! Follow the link to find out which parishes still have a vacancy if you are interested in volunteering for this role: <https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/parish-contacts/>





DIARY OF EVENTS

Holy Year 2025 - To find out more visit the Diocese of Westminster webpages: [Jubilee 2025](#)

3 July, 6.30-7.30pm: CAFOD Briefing for Mass Lobby of Parliament (9 July 2025). Join this informal chat about the Lobby and explore how we as CAFOD supporters can make the most of the day. <https://cafod.org.uk/news/campaigning-news/join-us-for-the-mass-lobby-of-parliament>

7 July, 6-8pm: Catholic Union Pub Talk ‘Prisons in Crisis: What Does Catholic Social Teaching Have to Offer?’ Guest Speaker Andy Keen-Downs, CEO of Pact, Chair Catherine Pepinster. You can book [here](#).

8 July, 11.00am-1.00pm: Caritas Westminster Deaf Service - ‘Jubilee Way’ Pilgrimage from St Etheldreda’s, Ely Place, to St Mary’s, Moorfields. Option 1 - meet with Shell Roca, Head of the Deaf Service, at Farringdon Station at 11a.m to walk the pilgrimage route. Wear comfortable walking shoes and take some waterproofs or an umbrella in case it rains! Option 2 - Join Sarah Metcalfe in Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London, SW1P 1QN at 11.30am to explore the churches in pictures. To sign up contact shellroca@rcdow.org.uk or sarahmetcalfe@rcdow.org.uk

8 July, 6.00-8.00pm: Addressing Domestic Abuse in Church Communities - The Tablet Webinar. Join Nikki Dhillon Keane, Head of Caritas Westminster [Safe in Faith](#) project, and Stephanie MacGillivray, Senior Officer at [Caritas Internationalis](#), for an in-depth discussion on tackling domestic abuse within church communities. Cost £12.50. [Register with The Tablet](#)

9 July: Mass Lobby of Parliament for the Climate. Organised by the [The Climate Coalition](#). Come and lobby your MP on climate, debt and nature issues to create a better future for all. If you are attending the day, come and say hello to Westminster Justice and Peace Co-ordinator, Colette Joyce, at the Faith for the Climate stall at the Queen Elizabeth Centre between 9am-4pm! There is still time to register with [CAFOD](#)

14- 20 July: Muslim Climate Action Week. Now running for a second year. Mosques, youth groups, schools, faith leaders, activists and communities from across the UK will unite in a powerful, faith-led movement for climate justice. [Sponsored by Islamic Relief](#)

14 July, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Transitions and New Directions: What Next? Lunchtime meeting for Catholics and our friends concerned for the care of creation. Each meeting includes prayer, updates on care of creation resources, news about upcoming events and activities and reports from the Diocesan Environment Leads. Join the mailing list as regular participant or register to attend as a one-off. New participants welcome. More information and recordings of presentations from previous meetings can be found on our website [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

14 July, 1.00-5.00pm: Caritas Westminster Conference -They Shall Build up Ancient Ruins. Explore what’s known about land and property re-use and community asset transfer in religious and non-religious settings, with a focus on practical solutions for the future. Speakers include Lord Khan, [Minister for Faith, Communities and Resettlement](#), Annoushka Deighton, [We’re Right Here Campaign](#), and Stephen Aldridge, Chief Economist, [Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government](#). The Mercers’ Hall, Ironmonger Lane, London, EC2V 8HE. [Register Here](#)



17 July, 7.00pm – 9.00pm: Community Organising with Citizens UK and Caritas Westminster. Please *"save the date"* for this online training taster with [Citizens UK](#) who already engage with parishes and schools in our Diocese. [Community organising](#) brings people and local groups together to build a better, fairer society. It can also help you and other volunteers build a team in your own parish to make a difference on key local issues. [More info coming soon here](#)

18 July, 7.30pm: 'Care for God's Creation and Creatures: A Biblical Perspective'. Public Lecture by Daniel Mascarenhas SJ. Daniel is a Jesuit scholastic studying at Boston College. Originally from Goa, India, he worked in mechanical engineering before joining the Jesuits. He is particularly interested in the intersection of Christian discipleship and animal ethics, and promotes dialogue on the topic through his website [vegancatholic.org](#). FCJ Centre for Spirituality & EcoJustice, 32 Phoenix Road, London, NW1 1TA. Followed by discussion and vegan nibbles! [FCJ Sisters Spirituality Centre](#)

19 July, 2.00-3.00pm (Celebration) & 11.00am-1.30pm or 3.30-6.00pm (Discussion Groups) - Laudato Si' Movement 10th Anniversary Global Gathering. Historic culmination of a year-long listening process. Over the past year, more than 4,000 Laudato Si' Movement members across 40+ countries have shared their perspective on the past and their hopes for our future together. Discover outcomes, celebrate the achievements so far, and join the global discussion on the future of the Laudato Si' Movement. Register: <https://laudatosimovement.org/global-encounter/>

21 July, 12.30-1.30pm: Refugee Week 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 and remember those who have lost their lives attempting these long, perilous journeys. Marsham Street, SW1P4DF. Contact Barbara Kentish to sign up or just come along. homeofficevigil@gmail.com

25-27 July: National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN) Annual Conference. Theme: 'Towards A Just Peace: Challenging the Inevitability of Violence'. Guest Speakers Dr Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, and Dr Joanna Frew. The Hayes Conference Centre, Hayes Ln, Swanwick, Alfreton DE55 1AU. Booking now online! [NJPN Conference 2025](#)

28 July, 12.30 -1.30pm: Christian Memorial Prayer Vigil for Gaza - Praying for the thousands of people who have died during the war in Gaza since October 2023. Held outside the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, King Charles St, London SW1A 2AH. Lamentation is a powerful element of our Christian tradition. At this Vigil, we will lament the thousands of people who have died, often un-mourned and un-named, due to the ongoing violence in Gaza. We will read from the list of 50,000 names compiled by Iraq Body Count who are now sharing their expertise for Palestine <https://iraqbodycount.substack.com/p/gazas-internal-list-of-the-killed>. Sponsored by Westminster Justice and Peace, London Catholic Worker and Pax Christi. Contact: Barbara Kentish homeofficevigil@gmail.com

31 July: Caritas Westminster – Deadline for 'Love in Action' Volunteering Awards nominations. For more information or to nominate a volunteer or volunteer team from a parish or school in the Diocese please visit: <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/volunteer-service/awards>

6 August, 11.00am-1.00pm: 80th Anniversary of the Bombing of Hiroshima – Pax Christi Vigil outside Westminster Cathedral. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/calendar/>



9 August, 11.00am-1.00pm: 80th Anniversary of the Bombing of Nagasaki – Pax Christi Vigil outside Westminster Cathedral. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/calendar/>

9 August, 5.00-6.00pm: Pax Christi Franz Jägerstätter Service. Westminster Cathedral Crypt. Followed by Interfaith Walk to Battersea Peace Pagoda for the annual Hiroshima and Nagasaki Memorial Service. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/calendar/> Learn more about [Franz Jaggerstatter](#)

1 September – 4 October: Season of Creation. This year's theme is 'Peace with Creation'. <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

13 September, 10am-12noon: West London Justice and Peace Network. Online Meeting. Guest Speaker: Bishop Jim Curry, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster based in West London. Contact Maggie Beirne for more information and to receive the Zoom link. maggiebeirne@googlemail.com

16 September, 6.00-8.00pm: Catholic Union Craigmyle Lecture - 'Catholicism for the Next Generation' This year's speaker is Lord Lemos CMG CBE, social policy expert and author. Chaired by Baroness Hollins, President of the Catholic Union. Notre Dame University, 1 Suffolk Street, London, SW1Y 4HG. Sponsored by [Stone King](#). [You can book your ticket here](#)

19-22 September: Jubilee of Justice in Rome. Westminster Justice and Peace Pilgrimage. We are taking a small delegation of 10 people to Rome to take part in the Jubilee of Justice on Saturday 20 September 2025. There are a few places still available. Estimated cost for accommodation and flights - £400. We will be staying at [Villa Lante Center](#), a property belonging to the Sacred Heart Sisters and located in the heart of Trastevere, near the Vatican City. Activities will include a Pilgrimage to the Holy Door, Catechesis with Pope Leo XIV and meeting other Jubilee of Justice participants from around the world. Please contact Colette Joyce or Fr Dominic Robinson justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk by 11 July if you are interested in joining us. [Jubilee of Justice](#)

4 October: Feast of St Francis of Assisi – celebrate 800 years since St Francis wrote his famous 'Canticle of the Creatures' praising God for the wonders of creation, beginning with the words 'Laudato Si'.

28 October, 7.00-9.00pm: Westminster Interfaith - A Celebration of 60 Years of Nostra Aetate. [Nostra Aetate](#), published in 1965 at the close of the Second Vatican Council, marked a watershed moment for interreligious dialogue. It is the Catholic Church's "Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions" and it has helped to shape 60 years of interreligious dialogue. Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH. Contact James Holland, Westminster Interfaith Co-ordinator, for more information. jamesholland@rcdow.org.uk

4 November, 6.00-8.00pm: Catholic Union AGM. London Jesuit Centre, following a Mass at Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH. [More information to follow.](#)

10-25 November: COP30 in Belem, Brazil - UN Climate Change Conference
<https://unfccc.int/cop30>

6 December, 3.00pm: Annual World AIDS Mass. Canon Pat Browne, former Chaplain to the Houses of Parliament, will preside and the preacher will be Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP. This is a chance also to see World AIDS display, including UK AIDS Quilt Panels, in the side chapels (5-15 December). Followed by a reception. Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH.



Official prayer from Pope Francis for the Jubilee year 2025

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.

