

JUSTICE & PEACE MATTERS

Racial Justice Sunday

17th February is Racial Justice Sunday The Catholic Association for Racial Justice is a support and a voice for black and minority ethnic Catholics including the Gypsy, Roma & Traveller communities. CARJ attempts, in all its work, to have a special concern for the most disadvantaged – to stand alongside them and act as advocates on their behalf. GRT communities are clearly among the most disadvantaged and CARJ will make it a continuing priority to stand alongside these communities and to support Catholics and others who work directly with them. CARJ also facilitates, encourages and empowers people of all backgrounds to work within the Catholic community, ecumenically and in the wider society for racial justice.

Please remember them in your prayers.

For more information go to:- www.carj.org.uk

WELCOME to this month's edition of J&P Matters. We met on Monday evening. Our next meeting will be on

Monday 1st April at 7.30 p.m..

All are welcome!

Please also join us on 28th February, see below.

Topics for this month:

- [Adult Faith Formation / J & P collaboration](#)
- [Lenten Events](#)
- [Non-Violence Works](#)
- [Racial Justice Sunday](#)
- [Fair Trade Fortnight](#)
- [Climate Coalition](#)

Fair Trade Fortnight 25th Feb - 10th March

The focus this year is on the people – in particular the women – who grow the cocoa for the chocolate we love so much. **£1.86** is the amount a cocoa farmer in West Africa needs to earn each day in order to achieve a living income. Currently, a typical cocoa farmer in Cote d'Ivoire lives on around **74p** a day. Almost all cocoa farmers in West Africa live in poverty. For the women the situation is even worse. They may plant and harvest on the farm, look after children, carry water, collect wood, cook and clean for the family, and transport the cocoa beans to market but often with fewer rights than men. This is why the Fairtrade Foundation is campaigning for a living income to become a reality for cocoa farmers in West Africa. ***'If we can work together with governments, chocolate companies and retailers to make the commitments and policies necessary, then we can make it happen'***.

A living income means enough money to live a simple but dignified life, paying for essentials such as clothing, medicine and school. **This is not a luxury but a human right.**

During Fairtrade Fortnight 2019, the campaign is telling the story of cocoa farmers in Côte D'Ivoire, through the eyes of women.

She Deserves running water, She Deserves a doctor, She deserves a living income.

Here are some ways you can get involved with the She Deserves campaign.

1. Sign the petition

Fairtrade is calling on the UK Government to make sure that our trade with developing countries puts poverty reduction first, delivering living incomes for all. The petition opens for signatures on Monday 25 February.

2. Host an event

Get together with friends or colleagues to draw attention to the issues affecting cocoa farmers. Over a Fairtrade hot chocolate and slice of Fairtrade chocolate cake, let your friends know why they should choose Fairtrade. Most people are unaware of the extreme injustices in the cocoa supply chain but by choosing Fairtrade we can begin to make a difference. You could ask your guests to donate **£1.86** (the amount per day that farmers need to earn to achieve a living income).

3. Fundraise for Fairtrade

The Fairtrade Foundation is a charity and relies on donations to help fulfill their mission. Why not organise a bake sale or raffle?

4. Fairtrade chocolate

Perhaps one of the simplest ways to support cocoa farmers around the world, is by buying Fairtrade chocolate and cocoa. While this doesn't immediately solve all the issues, keeping up the demand allows farmers to sell more of their cocoa on Fairtrade terms thus increasing their income.

For further information on ways to support Fair Trade go to:- www.fairtrade.org.uk

Working towards deepening our Faith

The Adult Faith Formation is a gathering of parishioners who meet on a Thursday evening to look at ways of further understanding & deepening our faith through contemplation, discussion & prayer. This winter's National Cycle of Prayer includes victims of Human Trafficking & the Unemployed. The J & P group has been invited to share in leading a session on this with the focus on 'Intercession'. We intend the session, which will last an hour, to be an opportunity for us all to share our thoughts & feelings on how Human Trafficking & Unemployment affects us & how, as Christians, we can best intercede for victims and those who suffer.

Please join us on Thursday 28th February at 7.30pm All welcome

Lenten Events

We may be getting off to a late start to Lent this year but it is not too early to let you know some of the events that will be taking place as we prepare ourselves spiritually to welcome & rejoice in the Risen Lord!

CAFOD Lent Fast Day – 15th March

'No one beyond reach'

Please have a simple meal & donate what you save to help CAFOD reach those who daily struggle to survive. Sadly CAFOD are having to turn away **one in three** request for help because of lack of funds. No one should be beyond reach.

Stations of the Cross

We hope there will be several opportunities to follow the Way of the Cross during Lent but the J & P group will be leading Stations on Sunday 14th April at 3pm. Please put this date in your diary & watch out for further Lenten events.

Diary Dates

Feb 5th - 24th - Climate Coalition – 'Show the Love'

Feb 17th - Racial Justice Sunday

Feb 28th Adult Faith Formation / J & P

25th Feb - 10th March – fair Trade Fortnight

15th March – Lent Fast Day

13th/14th April Food Bank Collection

Climate Coalition 5th – 24th February

Show the Love

Every February since 2015, hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life have joined in one of the biggest climate movements yet. Show the Love for all the things you want to protect from climate change. It has never been more important to make your voice heard to the people who have the power to make a world of difference.

To add your support & take your own climate change challenge go to:-

www.theclimatecoalition.org

Non-Violence Works

Ahmedabad, India 1969 Shanti Sena peace brigades placed themselves between Muslim and Hindu rioters and brought peace after four months of patient reconciliation work.

creation

help us to remember those who farm the land to grow them.

Help us live in a partnership of love and support

with those who produce our food and drink

so that we might enable others to feed their families

and create a sustainable future.

Amen