

Dear Justice and Peace Supporter,

Travels of a Social Justice Co-ordinator

A few weeks ago I was up at Faslane, once again with members of our network as part of the regular SCANA witness against nuclear weapons. It's one of the places I visit which makes me feel like I'm 'at home' here, since the police liaison officer always remembers my name, who I am, who I work for (etc etc), and asks after how things have been since we last spoke. We saw a marked increase in the presence of the police on this occasion, as the week before 2 members of the Faslane Peace Camp, who are there permanently had 'locked-on' in the road to disrupt vehicles while our friends from Glasgow Catholic Worker had been holding their monthly vigil. When the officer was describing what had happened words like "disrespectful" (to the prayers of the Catholic Worker), and "nuisance" were the ones chosen. I heard the same words from press and politicians when discussing the Extinction Rebellion demonstrations which took place in various cities (the most coverage went to London) including in Edinburgh where I was able to talk with a couple of people briefly on my way to a meeting before Easter. The irony of both sets of criticism; if you think that a few people in the road are a problem, just wait till the planet dies! Both the nuclear arsenal stockpiled around the world, including down the Clyde at Faslane, and a complete unwillingness by politicians to deal with (in some cases, even to accept) the risks of climate change remain astonishing. I think there is no finer praise for any of us than to say that we are disrespectful, a nuisance, or disruptive to the everyday, when the everyday sees poverty, homelessness, and inequality raising at unprecedented levels. When we call out those in power who are selling arms, and then bemoaning the wars that they are used in, and the refugees who are displaced. To paraphrase a message shared by Christian Climate Action, for the powers of the day Easter was a disrespectful disruptive nuisance; when the Empire executes you, you're supposed to stay dead. A happy, blessed, (if slightly belated) Easter to everyone in the J&P network!

Danny (Co-ordinator)

We are excited to launch **our new look website!** There are a few new features including a video celebrating our 40th anniversary as well as our new 'Speakers List'. Take a look here <http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/>

Are you looking for a speaker for your group? If so then take a look here at our new '**Speakers List**' <https://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/Get-Involved/Speakers-List>

We are compiling a list of people who will travel to groups/meetings and deliver talks on a variety of different topics. The contact details for each speaker is listed so that you can be in touch directly with them to make arrangements. Each speaker listed has information on the issue they will speak to as well as information on the geographical areas they are prepared to cover and whether equipment or expenses are required. Speakers wishing to be added to our 'Speakers List' should email office@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk



Justice and Peace Scotland
Speakers List



Tickets are now available for our conference on **Saturday 21st September 2019** at **Renfield St Stephens Centre, 260 Bath Street Glasgow G2 4JP**. Don't delay get your ticket today on Eventbrite at this link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/laudato-si-care-for-our-common-home-tickets-59884089925> Four expert speakers will covers topics from divestment from fossil fuels to ethical finance and more, there will also be a question and discussion session with the panel of

experts. Tickets are **£10** which includes tea/coffee and lunch on the day. We would encourage you to place an add in your parish bulletin about the conference and encourage as many people to join us on Saturday 21st September for A Day of Reflection on Pope Francis' encyclical **Laudato Si'**.

Don't forget to take a look at our **Care for Creation** page here <http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/Campaigns/Environment/Care-for-Creation>

We have committed to campaigning on the environment in 2019 and in doing so we are aiming to produce a resource sheet each month on a different topic related to the environment with information and ideas for action. So far, the topics we have covered are Consumption, Water, Food and Carbon Offsetting and the topic for May 2019 is Transport. Our hope is that these resource sheets will give you inspiration and ideas on how we can all change aspects of our lives and become better stewards of our world.



NEW DIRECTIONS?

Open House Conference 2019 – Saturday 1st June 2019

Adelaide's Auditorium Bath Street Glasgow G2 4 HZ 09:30 – 16:30

Pope Francis has called for a Catholic

Church which listens and learns from one another. What would such a church look like?

Scottish parishioners will talk about initiatives which are changing their understanding of church. Participants at the conference will be invited to join the conversation to explore possible new directions for the Church in Scotland.

Book your ticket on Eventbrite here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/new-directions-a-conversation-about-being-church-in-scotland-tickets-59578939211>

7.30pm Wednesday 15th May St Joseph's Church Hall Mayberry
Place Blantyre G72 9DA

*Hope, Heartache & Hot Sweet Tea – Tales of a human rights
monitor in the Holy Land.*

Philippa Bonella has just returned from three months in a small
village in the occupied West Bank. You are invited to hear stories of
the people she met against a backdrop of ancient sites of the Holy Land.



Beyond the Walls



After the success of our pilot event in
September Justice and Peace Scotland are
delighted to be running our school's education
project '**Beyond the Walls**' again. The day is for
students in S3/S4 and introduces them to 8 of
Scotland's leading lay-apostolate groups, all
putting Catholic Social Teaching into action. For

more information, or (for teachers) to book a group please see our Eventbrite page:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/beyond-the-walls-tickets-61226123985>

We're inviting all schools across Scotland to join us on 20th June to
mark World Refugee Day. Schools are invited to organise a non-
uniform day, with the funds raised going to support an appropriate
organisation who works to support those who are displaced. Globally a
person is displaced every 2 seconds, this is 44,400 people every day.
Please contact local schools encouraging them to get involved, and / or organise something in your
workplace / community to help draw attention to the situation of those who are forced to flee their
homes. For more information get in touch with the office.

world
refugee
non-uniform day

Music for Worship



A selection of music for praise, thanksgiving, and comfort inspired by faith.

Casting Crowns – Great are you Lord <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZqV6i98SkA>

A video of US based Christian Rock group Casting Crowns song Great are you Lord,
recorded live, with images celebrating the beauty of creation and our world.

Chris Tomlin – Whom shall I fear <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOkImV2cJDg>

Chris Tomlin is a Texas based song writer and worship leader responsible for several well known and
popular hymns. TIME magazine once estimated that due to the popularity of his songs in churches
that Chris was the most 'often sung artist anywhere'.

Food for thought

Each edition we will try to bring something thought provoking, and perhaps challenging for you to reflect on. This edition we have three selections. First a TED talk from journalist Carole Cadwalladr asking 'is it possible to have free and fair elections anymore?'



https://www.ted.com/talks/carole_cadwalladr_facebook_s_role_in_brexit_and_the_threat_to_democracy?language=en

In an unmissable talk, journalist Carole Cadwalladr digs into some of the most perplexing events in recent times. Exploring the tactics of data-hacking and targeted adverts used in both the UK and USA Cadwalladr calls out the "gods of Silicon Valley" for being on the wrong side of history and asks: Are free and fair elections a thing of the past?

Our second is a talk from Rachel Held Evans on 'Keeping the Church Weird'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZQWfRU4tPw&list=PLPif6v5EJizPU9gfaXoHkTchnSXzVnrZW&index=7>

Rachel Held Evans is a best-selling author who writes about faith, doubt and life in the Bible Belt of the USA. Wrestling with questions about Christianity in an information age, and for a millennial audience and that often asks 'how do we keep young people in the Church?'. Rachel passed away this weekend aged 39.

The third item comes from artist and activist Benjamin Von Wong looking at the issue of plastic in our ocean, and his creation 'Strawpocalypse'.

<https://thestrappocalypse.com/>

*Straws are used for minutes but take centuries to disappear.
Every 60 seconds, a truckload of plastic flows into the ocean.
By the year 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the sea.*

In a unique art installation Benjamin Von Wong takes used straws to demonstrate the threat to our environment caused by single use/ throw away plastic.

Don't hesitate to be in touch with the Justice and Peace National office on 0141 333 0238 and please consider printing out a copy of our newsletter and leaving it at the back of your church, or sharing it with a friend in print, or by email.

www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

Twitter : @JandPScotland

Facebook & Youtube: Justice and Peace Scotland

Instagram : justiceandpeacescotland

If you have any upcoming events, interesting articles, music selections you think would be good to share with the Justice and Peace network in Scotland please get in touch!