

Justice and Peace Group

Justice and Peace is about working for a better world.

If we are truly people of faith, we should be scandalised about injustice in our world and want to bring about lasting change. So, a concern about justice and peace cannot be a fringe interest but should be at the heart of our faith.

Our Justice and Peace group was re-launched in 2017.

Our objectives are to raise awareness of justice and peace issues in the wider parish communities of St Mary Immaculate and St Charles Borromeo and following this, to act to bring about change. We are concerned with local, national and global issues.

The Justice and Peace group works across both parishes. **We meet monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Martyrs Room at St Mary Immaculate church. New members are always welcome!**

Both parishes have recently been awarded **Live Simply** parish status in recognition of all our efforts to work towards:

- Living Simply
- Living Sustainably and
- Living in solidarity with the poor.

In order to achieve the Live Simply award, we had to evidence the actions and activities taking place in the parishes. This was submitted to Cafod, who administer the scheme. We were then visited by two representatives from Cafod who carried out the assessment and presented us with the award.

Some examples of our activities include:

- Soup lunches every Advent and Lent (donations received were sent to Cafod and Emmaus)
- Advent Giving trees (Gifts sent to the Leamington Night Shelter)
- Christmas cards sent to prisoners of conscience
- Foodbank collections
- Tree planting at St Mary Immaculate school (parishioners gave donations to purchase the trees)
- Collecting items for recycling (crisp packets, toothbrushes and pens)
- Developing a parish allotment at St Charles Borromeo
- Coffee morning donations sent to different charities including Mary's Meals, Carriers of Hope, Welcome Here and Feewheelin dance group amongst others
- Both parishes sponsor a Christian child through Friends of the Holy Land charity

See our parish action plan for more details of our activities and future plans.

Although we have now achieved the award, our **Live Simply** work still continues!

Please join us!

Useful Links to other websites:

Birmingham Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission

<https://www.birminghamjandp.org.uk/>

National Justice and Peace Network

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/>

Cafod Birmingham

<https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/CAFOD-in-your-area/Birmingham>

Climate Change awareness

<http://www.sp4climate.net/>

The Climate Coalition

<https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/>

Campaign against the Arms Trade

<https://www.caat.org.uk/>

Traidcraft Exchange

<https://traidcraftexchange.org/>

Toilet Twinning

<https://www.toilettwinning.org/>

Emmaus Coventry

<https://emmaus.org.uk/coventry-warwickshire/>