



Justice and Peace

'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 for justice and peace cannot be a fringe interest but should be at the heart of our faith.

Our parish Justice and Peace group was re-launched in 2017, and our objectives are to raise awareness of justice and peace issues in the wider parish community, and, following from this, to act to bring about change. We are looking at issues both locally and globally.

What we have done so far:

Action

Weekly coffee money after Sunday Mass is regularly collected for local and international charities. In the past year we have supported:

- St Chad's Sanctuary (a project in Birmingham, jointly funded by the Diocese and the Salvation Army, which provides a place of welcome and support for asylum seekers)
- Loving Humanity (providing resources for women in refugee camps in Jordan and Turkey)
- Way Ahead Project (a drop-in and advice centre in Leamington Spa for homeless people)
- Leamington Night Shelter
- Exquisipan (Bread for Life) – a women's bakery project in Peru
http://www.exquisipan.org/en_US

Advent giving tree: December 2017: parishioners were asked to buy and wrap gifts of clothing and toiletries for the homeless people attending the Leamington Winter Shelter, and to leave them under our Advent tree. There was a very generous response and the gifts were delivered at Christmas.

Leamington winter shelter is currently crowd-funding to raise £60,000 to refurbish a new and permanent night shelter, as the current one is due for demolition. If you would like to donate



please see their website <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lwsnightshelter>

Foodbank: parishioners were encouraged to buy an extra item every time they visited a supermarket during Advent, and donate it to the Foodbank collection. And, of course, to continue into the New Year, where possible!

Awareness raising

Toilet twinning: it was agreed that we should 'twin' the toilets in the parish hall – through a project with Tearfund which enables latrines to be built in communities around the world, bringing safety, dignity and better health. We will give an update on our progress with this in due course. <https://www.toilettwinning.org/>

Next Meeting

At our next meeting, we will explore the possibility of becoming a 'Live Simply' Parish.

The *livesimply* award is awarded by CAFOD to communities who can show how they have been living:

- simply
- in solidarity with people in poverty
- sustainably with creation.

The meeting will be on **Tuesday 13th Feb., in the Martyrs' Room**, when Lizzie Wignell from CAFOD will talk to us about what this involves. Everyone welcome.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/How-to-campaign/Livesimply-award>