



Archdiocese of Liverpool
Justice & Peace Commission

'See, I am making
all things new'

**our Christian response
to the COVID-19 crisis**

INFORMATION PACK

Annual Assembly

28th June — 4th July 2020

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald MAFr

Sunday 28 June (7.30—8.30pm)

Diarmuid O'Murchu MSC

Monday 29 June (7.30—8.30pm)

Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD

Wednesday 1 July (7.30—8.30pm)

**Panel Discussion with all three speakers & Andy
Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester**

Saturday 4 July (10am—12 noon)

Registration at jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk





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“See, I am making all things new”

Background to the Assembly

“See, I am making all things new”

Steve Atherton, J&P Fieldworker

Liverpool Justice and Peace Commission’s Annual Assembly began in the 1980s as the AGM that archbishop Derek Worlock had written into the constitution. This Assembly has taken different forms and visited different venues over the years before settling, about fifteen years ago, into its regular venue at the diocesan offices in LACE at the edge of Sefton Park.

The topic is always current and relevant:

20 years ago we watched a theatre company presenting on asylum issues; 15 years ago we heard Fr Sean McDonagh on the environment; 10 years ago we focused on parish contacts; 5 years ago we looked at local poverty; 4 years ago we began to look more closely at the movement of peoples with **WELCOMING THE STRANGER – Responding to the Refugee and the Asylum Seeker**; 3 years ago we looked at **SIGNS OF THE TIMES: hope in an uncertain world**; 2 years ago **BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS: Resolving personal and political conflict**; last year the environment with the dramatically titled **APOCALYPSE NOW**; this year we’re looking at our experiences and learning from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The format has stayed consistent: prayer, speakers, discussion, shared food, market place, workshops, and ending with some action-planning.

When we began planning our programme for 2019-20 our topic for the Assembly was to be Modern Day Slavery (MDS) to mark the end of a year spent trying to raise awareness and map incidences of MDS. This had been the topic of our Memorial Lecture and had been followed up by a local project in south Liverpool helped by the Salvation Army and a growing joint project with the Anglican diocese. Our plan was to gather parishes from across the diocese to share information and resources on what we had managed to learn during the year.





Then came COVID-19 forcing us to either cancel or rethink. Problems are also opportunities and we decided to rethink.

Life has changed enormously since COVID-19. The experience of the pandemic has been filtered by the circumstances in which people live. In Britain, for some it has meant suffering, hardship and sacrifice with dangerous work surrounded by the fear of death or complete loss of income and consequent homelessness. For others it has been stressful with worries about providing food for families with reduced wages and confinement in small living spaces. For some it has been merely inconvenient with lack of contact with friends and families. For some it has been rather pleasant with the air becoming clearer, the pace of life slowing down, the roads becoming quieter, neighbours becoming more solicitous and a greater sense of community togetherness. For all it has meant big changes. Then came the realisation that the people we rely on most aren't the highly paid but the low waged. Millionaires and sports stars may be the media heroes but we need the unseen heroes who are often on zero-hour contracts, driving white vans, working as care assistants and always taken for granted. The inequalities in our society have become obvious.

When we widen the perspective to include other countries outside our rich world the inequalities become horrifying. Social distancing isn't even a possibility in a shanty town with ten people sharing one room, no health provision and no social safety net.

The pandemic has forced the closure of the global economy and brought into focus many of the issues surrounding economic structures, political relationships and climate disaster. As we sat in our little bubbles, wondering what was going on and what it was that we were learning, we came to the conclusion that these were the questions that needed asking.

Fortunately, the Commission has members who are media-literate and able to plan for online conferencing. The great advantage of internet communication is that not having to be in the same room makes it easier to bring people together who are physically far apart.

We have Cardinal Michael from Liverpool, Diarmuid from Dublin, Christine from London, Andy from Manchester, all held together by a technical team on the Wirral, in Leyland, Warrington, St Helens and Liverpool while being chaired by people from Wigan, Tyldesley and Liverpool.

Our speakers bring us a range of perspectives, expertise and insights. Cardinal Michael has experience of parish life in Africa as well as high office in the Vatican; Diarmuid O'Murchu is a priest in good standing despite being a theologian who constantly pushes the boundaries of orthodoxy; Christine is the dynamic young head of CAFOD and one of the most 'senior' women in the church in England and Wales; Andy is a leading figure for change and an advocate for the regions rather than the metropolitan centre. We are excited to bring together this group of inspirational people.

Like many others, we've become frequent Zoom users and when we realised that short sessions are more fruitful than long sessions we decided to opt for a series of short inputs, leaving time for reflection and response. Hence the four-session programme spread over a week.

We hope you enjoy the experience and look forward to hearing/reading your feedback.



The members of the Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Commission would like to thank Steve for all his work over the last 16 years with the Commission as the Justice & Peace Fieldworker for the Archdiocese of Liverpool. His unfailing commitment to "See-Judge-Act" has permeated his time in post and brought Justice and Peace issues to the heart of the Diocese ensuring the voices of the marginalised, the forgotten, the unseen and the vulnerable are heard.

Thank you Steve for all that you have been to the Commission and all that you will continue to be to the J&P movement in your retirement.



Archdiocese of Liverpool
Justice & Peace Commission

'See, I am making
all things new'
**our Christian response
to the COVID-19 crisis**



Sunday 28 June (7.30 – 8pm)

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald MAfr
offers a spiritual reflection



Monday 29 June (7.30 – 8.30pm)

Fr Diarmuid O'Murchu MSC
discusses 'framing the conversation':
local and national issues followed by
breakout groups



Wednesday 1 July (7.30 – 8.30pm)

Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD
discusses international issues followed
by breakout groups



Saturday 4 July (10am – 12pm)

sharing of responses to the earlier talks,
followed by Q&A to a panel made up of
the **speakers and politicians**

Live feeds available



Liverpool J&P



/jpliverpooljp

Registration and further information

limited places for zoom events,
so book as soon as possible [here](#).

Steve Atherton: 07740 008 970

Assembly Programme

“See, I am making all things new”

Please note as with all events we hope they will run to time and smoothly, but please bear with us as if things go awry - we are also at the mercy of technology!

Sunday 28 June at 7:30 —8:30pm: Zoom Meeting

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald

Welcome
Introduction to the Assembly
Speaker introduction
Opening prayer
Reflection
Your responses
Closing prayer
The next events
End

Monday 29 June & Wednesday 1 July at 7:30 —8:30pm: Zoom Meetings

Diarmuid O'Murchu (Mon), Christine Allen (Wed)

Welcome
Introduction
Opening prayer
Speaker introduction
Talk
Discussion groups
Feedback
Closing prayer
The next events
End

Saturday 4 July at 10am—12 noon: Zoom Webinar

*Panel Discussion live—Diarmuid O'Murchu, and Christine Allen
joined by Andy Burnham*

Welcome
Opening prayer
Talk highlights
Panel discussion
Q&A
Break
Panel discussion with Andy Burnham
Concluding remarks
Closing prayer
End





Opening Prayers

“See, I am making all things new”

Sunday

Lord God, bless our Virtual Assembly which brings us together as brothers and sisters, from near and far. We come together in this time when humanity is struggling to understand the many challenges and threats we face today.

Your said, “See, I am making all things new”, we ask you to renew the world. We pray for good relationships among peoples of different identities, among nations, and for international cooperation. Grant us, your children, the wisdom and courage to participate in your work.

You who instruct the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant us the same Holy Spirit to journey with us throughout this Assembly.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Monday, Wednesday and Saturday

Lord God, we acknowledge your love and your active presence in the ongoing creation and redemption of the world.

As we thank you for the opportunity to hold this Virtual Assembly, grant us to see your world and all that is happening in it with your vision. Grant us also the courage to use our talents to build a human community that plays well its role in the world. Send us your Holy Spirit to guide us and to fill us with love, hope, mercy and justice for all.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald MAFr

Michael Louis Fitzgerald was born in Walsall (U.K.) in 1937 and was ordained priest as a member of the Society of Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) in 1961. After further studies in theology and Arabic he was on the staff of the Pontifical Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI), Rome (1968-1978) which included two years seconded to Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. He was Director of PISAI (1972-8). Two years of pastoral work in Sudan were followed by a period on the General Council of the Missionaries of Africa (1980-1986). In 1987 he was appointed Secretary of what is now the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, being ordained bishop by Pope Saint John Paul II on 6 January 1992. On 1 October 2002 he was appointed President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and was raised to the rank of archbishop. In 2006 he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio in Egypt and Delegate to the League of Arab States. On his retirement in October 2012, he took up residence at St Anne's, Jerusalem and then moved to Liverpool in December 2018 to join a newly-established community of Missionaries of Africa.

He was created Cardinal by Pope Francis on 5 October 2019.

Reflection:
Making all Things New
Sunday 28 June 2020



Diarmuid O'Murchu MSC

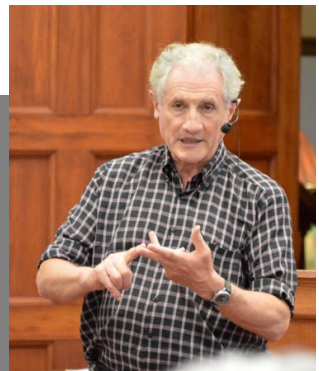
Diarmuid O'Murchu, a priest, a member of the Sacred Heart Missionary Order, and a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin Ireland, is a social psychologist most of whose working life has been in social ministry, predominantly in London, UK.

In that capacity he has worked as a couples` counsellor, in bereavement work, AIDS-HIV counselling, and, in more recent times, with homeless people and refugees. As a workshop leader and group facilitator he has worked in Europe, USA, Canada, Australia, The Philippines, Thailand, India, and in several African countries, facilitating programmes on Adult Faith Development. He now lives in Dublin, Ireland.

Publications: his best-known books include
Quantum Theology;
Reclaiming Spirituality;
Catching Up with Jesus;
Jesus in the Power of Poetry;
and Christianity's Dangerous Memory
with Crossroad Publishing.

Accompanying Notes at the back of the Info Pack

Talk:
Covid-19,
Justice, & Spirituality
Monday 29 June 2020



Christine Allen Director of CAFOD

Christine Allen took up her post as the new Director of CAFOD in spring 2019. Since taking leadership of the charity, she has helped launch the new strategic direction 'Our Common Home'. Inspired by Pope Francis's call for an ecological conversion, it reflects CAFOD's mission to create a stronger, more integrated approach to people, communities and the environment.

Christine has also visited CAFOD's partners in the Democratic Republic of Congo and met communities and Bishops across England and Wales.

Before joining CAFOD, Christine's career was committed to fighting for social justice. Originally from Waterloo, Liverpool, she began her career as a field worker with the Justice and Peace Commission in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. In 1989, she first joined CAFOD as a campaign's coordinator.

For the last seventeen years, Christine held leadership positions at two faith-based international development organisations, as the Director of Policy and Public Affairs for Christian Aid and as Progressio's Executive Director from 2001-2012.

Christine is a strategic leader whose vision, energy, deep-rooted faith, and commitment to Catholic values make her specially placed to lead CAFOD's journey over the coming years.

Talk:
International Response
to COVID

Wednesday 1 July 2020



Andy Burnham

Mayor of Greater Manchester

Andy Burnham was elected as Mayor of Greater Manchester in May 2017.

Responsible for shaping the future of Greater Manchester, Andy's priorities include ending rough sleeping, transforming Greater Manchester into one of the greenest city regions in Europe, and making Greater Manchester a great place to live, get on, and grow old.

Before being elected Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy was MP for Leigh from 2001. In government, Andy has held Ministerial positions at the Home Office, Department of Health and the Treasury. In 2008 he became Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, before returning to Health as Secretary of State in 2009.

In opposition, Andy has served as Shadow Education Secretary, Shadow Health Secretary and Shadow Home Secretary.

Andy lives in Leigh, Greater Manchester, with his wife and three children. He is a keen supporter of Everton FC.

Panel Discussion:
Local socio-political
response
Saturday 4 July 2020



Closing Prayer

“See, I am making all things new”



Lord, we pray that you will bless our special, virtual, Assembly which, in the midst of a humanity struggling to understand the nature of our diseased world, brings together your children, our sisters and brothers, far and near, for you to breathe your Spirit upon us.

You have said, “See, I am making all things new”, and we pray for new relationships.

We pray for a new relationship between nations, for international cooperation, not national self interest.

We pray for a new relationship between peoples regardless of colour and race, of gender or sexuality, and regardless of how we search for you and your truth.

We pray for a new relationship with our Mother Earth, and the fruits of that earth, all things good, and all things ‘green’.

And, as ever, we pray for peace, a real peace, a peace so new, so born out of justice that it passes all our understanding in its depth and breadth.

Lord, much of our world is broken, broken by loss and suffering, broken by grotesque inequalities, even in that very loss and suffering; we pray you to make all things new that we may have Christ, the God of love, the God of peace, the God of justice, alive in our hearts.

You have told us to ask, Lord: we pray as your children that we too can make all things new.

Lord hear our prayer.





APPENDICES

Key Questions for Discussion Groups

“See, I am making all things new”

You will have an opportunity to share your responses in the public chat or you can email your comments to Steve Atherton at s.atherton@rcaol.org.uk or the Justice and Peace contact email j-p@rcaolp.co.uk by Thursday 2 July.

Diarmuid O’Murchu’s Talk—Monday 29 June 2020

1. How did Diarmuid’s presentation make you feel?
2. What is humanity’s place in the grand scheme of life on earth?
3. What networks are you connected to and what influence do they have?

Christine Allen’s Talk—Wednesday 1 July 2020

1. How did Christine’s presentation make you feel?
2. How can we contribute to CAFOD’s response?
3. What would you choose if you could only take one action?

Selected Scripture Quotations

Cardinal Michael's Reflection

Sunday 28 June 2020

Then I saw *a new heaven and a new earth*; for the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea.

Ap 21:1

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: "Now I am making the whole of creation new"

Ap 21:5

When he (the Advocate) comes, he will show the world how wrong it is.

Jn 16:8

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves.

Ac 15:28

Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven... God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them.

Jn 20:22-23

The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God.

Rom 8:16

But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth...and he will tell you of things to come.

Jn 16:13





From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we await for our bodies to be set free....The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Ro 8:22-26

Someone may ask: 'How are dead people raised, and what sort of body do they have when they come back?' They are stupid questions. Whatever you sow in the ground has to die before it is given new life and the thing that you sow is not what is going to come....God gives it the sort of body that he has chosen.

1 Co 15:15-18

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God.

2 Co 5: 17-24

NB These are not fully comprehensive nor are they necessarily in order of use.

Accompanying Notes

Diarmuid O'Murchu Talk

Monday 29 June 2020

Covid-19, Justice, and Spirituality

1. *Background Context for Covid-19*

a) *Zoonotic Spillover, possibly from Bats*: When a bat is stressed -- by being hunted, or having its habitat damaged by deforestation -- its immune system is challenged and it finds it harder to cope with pathogens than it would otherwise do in a natural way. As the infection becomes more activated in the host (mammal or animal), it gets more readily transmitted to other creatures, including humans.

b) *Our Failure to Acknowledge and Respect Nature's Interdependence*: It seems that the covid-19 virus originated in the so-called wet-markets of Wuhan, China where wild animals are held in captivity, alienated from their natural habitats, and often held in appalling conditions, extremely stressful for the animals and the birds. Consequently, there is a high probability of viruses being shed in large numbers. Additionally, the mass transportation of such animals increases the risk of spreading such viruses.

c) *Our Ignorance of Ecological Equilibrium*: The problem, it would seem, is not the bats (or other animals and birds) but money-driven human exploitation, and an appalling ignorance of the ecological equilibrium upon which all life flourishes. Maybe, the most cost-effective way to protect humans is not by new vaccines but by humans themselves learning to protect all life-forms within their authentic ecological niches.

2. *Is this Crisis an Ecological Call to Conversion?*

In a matter of a few weeks, in the city of Wuhan, the smog lifted and people could see the blue sky again; birds returned to favoured habitats, and fishes to old streams. Now that humans had to recede from their anthropocentric driven-ness, earth could once more reclaim its innate organicity! Have we become a maverick species holding to ransom the womb of our becoming and the source of our daily sustenance?





3. The Shift from Patriarchal Power to Mutual Empowerment

As the virus began to spread, world leaders highlighted the priority of collective endeavour, from the ground up, to engage and halt the spread of the disease, returning power to the people, & the people's struggle to reclaim it!

4. Issues Related to Health-Justice

- a) Our co-dependent health-care systems;
- b) Our disconnection from natural healing;
- c) The vulnerability of depleting immunity;
- d) Manipulation of pharmaceutical corporations. .

5. The Challenge of a New Work Ethic

For Earth Day 2020 (April 22nd), a global poll of 2,250 office workers discovered 77 percent believe working from home is one of the most effective ways to help the environment: 1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions; 2. Reduce fuel usage; 3. Less office waste; 4. Less energy usage; 5. Closer connection with family/ loved ones.

6. Challenges for Economic Justice:

“Many of you live from day to day, without any type of legal guarantee to protect you. Street vendors, recyclers, carnies, small farmers, construction workers, dressmakers, the different kinds of caregivers: you have no steady income to get you through this hard time! This may be the time to consider a universal basic wage which would acknowledge and dignify the noble, essential tasks you carry out. It would ensure and concretely achieve the ideal, at once so human and so Christian, of no worker without rights.” Letter of Pope Francis (April 12th, 2020).

Major Challenges for Eco-Spirituality

1. We need to revisit our origins and come to terms with the fact that we are born of the earth – we do not come into the world, we come out of it – and it is our status as Earthlings that define all we are and all we are meant to be.
2. We must learn to treat our earth as an alive organism, and not merely as a material object which we thoughtlessly and ruthlessly use for our benefit and usufruct.
3. We must face our anthropocentric arrogance, and come to realise that we too are just another organic species, unique to be sure, but not superior to any of the other creatures who share the web of life with us.
4. We must come to terms with the fact that our role is to be egalitarian co-operators and not brutal competitors, and our educational systems need to change urgently to make that shift in value-orientation.
5. In so far as we consume from, and of, other organic creatures, we must learn to do so in a much more informed and collaborative way. For instance, do we need to be meat-eaters to flourish and survive as a human species?
6. We need to evolve an economics – and accompanying social and political structures – that treats all earth's resources as gifts (a gift-economy), to be shared sustainably for the good of all. For instance as we strip thousands of hectares of Amazonian forest to provide more meat, we don't seem to realize that over 50% of our medicines are gifted to us by the plants and tress of that same source.
7. For those of us following mainline religions, we need to come to terms with the fact that all the major religions carry a dark shadow of imperial power and control, that no longer makes any spiritual sense. An empowering spirituality for the future needs to be much more earth-centred and collaborative.

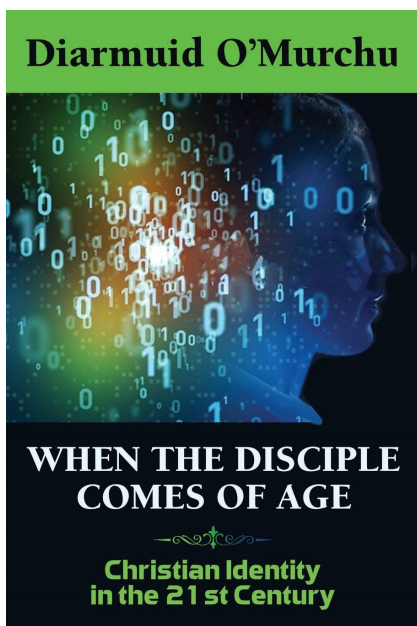




8. We need to learn and appropriate anew our true human story of seven million years during which time we lived in a much more convivial relationship with the living earth, thus opting to outgrow the petrified, reductionistic anthropology of the past few thousand years.

These are some of the non-negotiable elements we need to wrestle with as a human species, if we stand any hope of living meaningfully as Earthlings from here on.

*(More in my book, *When the Disciple Comes of Age*, 2019)*





The Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Commission

The Justice and Peace Commission is currently made up of 18 members from across the Archdiocese, and a variety of backgrounds, we also have a full-time fieldworker and a part time administrator, who are both employed by the Archdiocese.

The commission has formal meetings six times a year and has four subgroups which meet frequently throughout the year.

Currently the 4 subgroups are focused on Asylum Seekers and Refugees, The Environment, Inequality and Modern Day Slavery.

Aims of the Justice and Peace Commission:

- to stimulate awareness of the need for justice and peace both at home and overseas, in the parishes of the Archdiocese;
- to assist in the work of reflection on those needs in the light of the Gospel and the Church's social teaching, in the parishes of the Archdiocese;
- to foster and encourage action for international and local justice and peace in the parishes of the Archdiocese.

Role of the Justice and Peace Commission: This is framed by the practice of Catholic social teaching, which requires the Church `to see, **judge, and act` in its pursuit of justice and peace (see cycle pictured).**

Each year the Commission sets out priorities for discussion, information and education, and action, as it seeks to apply its aims.

The Commission acts as a resource body to the Archbishop, the Fieldworker, and, as appropriate, to the relevant Archdiocesan bodies.

It can liaise with local and national bodies having similar aims and objectives to those of the Commission, including organisations of other Churches and other Faiths, or none.





Get Involved: Who's Who

CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

cafod@cafod.org.uk or 0303 303 3030

CAFOD, the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales, is part of Caritas Internationalis, one of the largest aid agencies in the world, and is a Church network with a local presence in 165 countries or territories which is trusted even in the most dangerous places and communities, regardless of religion. CAFOD is therefore able to help those really in need and relies on and empowers local people who have technical expertise who, as part of their communities, are best placed to respond to needs. As well as **Development** projects, CAFOD also helps in **Emergencies** and also has a strong **Campaigning** action to try to bring about necessary change. The current major campaign is on the global impact of Coronavirus and has four aims: that any vaccine developed with UK public money is made available to everyone regardless of their income or country; to provide urgent support to help developing countries cope with the crisis; cancel all debt payments by developing countries due in 2020 and 2021; rebuild a fairer, more just society after the crisis so that the world's most vulnerable people can live in dignity and to restore our common home for future generations (Sign the petition [here](#)) In addition, there is an ongoing campaign on Climate Action.

CAFOD also is very involved in **Education** in England and Wales, producing quality curriculum related resources for schools and colleges and also providing assemblies and workshops for schools, all delivered free of charge. For all its activities, CAFOD relies on its supporters and volunteers, so if you would like to know more or get involved please use the above contact details or contact your local Volunteer Centre , which for Liverpool Archdiocese is <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/CAFOD-in-your-area/Liverpool>

Nugent

www.wearenugent.org

Nugent is the social welfare charity of the Archdiocese of Liverpool. It was started by Father Nugent in 1881 and employs over 600 people, and has over 200 volunteers It is the largest education, health and social care charity in Liverpool and offers a diverse range of support to

adults and children through schools, care homes, community and social work services. Nugent works at the heart of some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and seeks to generate interest, awareness and understanding of issues around poverty and social welfare and the impact of this on wider communities. Nugent's mission is to care, educate, protect and inspire those in need and its ideal is for everyone to be able to live comfortably and in dignity. Nugent summarises its values as iACCORD: an acronym including the 'i' at the front which stands for humble integrity: Integrity, Ambition, Courage, Compassion, Optimism, Respect, Dignity

The Caritas Manager, Marie Reynolds is the link between the Justice & Peace Commission and Nugent, E: marier@wearenugent.org

Liverpool Friends of Bil'in

Contact: gwen.backwell@hotmail.co.uk

Liverpool Friends of Palestine are twinned with Bil'in, a village in the occupied West Bank of Palestine. Since 2005 the village has been a leader of the non-violent resistance movement and our role is to support them in this so that one day the Palestinian people will know freedom and justice again. We do that through many kinds of support from financial aid, through to providing teachers of English, making a permanent travelling exhibition about their everyday lives with the village children, collaborating with the 2 village schools, helping the economy of many families by selling their beautiful embroidered craft work; and most of all, by arranging exchange visits when their representatives are exposed to a large variety of new audiences here, and people here can have direct experience of Palestine. If you would like to get involved at any level or would like to buy Palestinian foodstuffs or Bil'in craftwork, please contact Gwen.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace Studies

Contact: Dr Catalina Montoya Londono, E: tutu@hope.ac.uk

The Archbishop Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace Studies at Liverpool Hope University brings together academics and practitioners who work on issues related to peace, war and conflict from a variety of perspectives. The Centre promotes the benefit of drawing on interdisciplinary approaches to shed light on the multidimensional challenges that are faced by militarism and deeply divided societies. The Centre promotes cooperation between academics and practitioners to enable innovative and original research projects, outputs and impact. The

Centre holds a number of events during the year, including an annual conference and a civic lecture.

Global Justice Now
www.globaljustice.org.uk

Global Justice Now is a social justice organisation working as part of a global movement to challenge the powerful and create a more just and equal world. It is concerned for the many millions of people unable to access essential resources – like food and water, housing and energy, healthcare and education. It is particularly concerned with levels of poverty and injustice in the global south but recognises also deepening levels of poverty in the global north. Financial markets, one-sided trade agreements, and privatisation all take control out of the hands of the ordinary people, especially the poorest.

Current campaigns are concerned with post-Brexit trade agreements, Global Free Movement, Affordable Medicines for All, International Climate Action, Preserving and enhancing the Independence of the UK Aid Budget

Fair Trade Foundation
www.fairtrade.org.uk

The Fairtrade Foundation aims to ensure that a fair proportion of the income from the sale of products goes directly to the producer, rather than being mainly diverted by the company which brands it and sells it, a company which is normally located in a comparatively wealthy country. More than 1.66 million farmers and workers in over 1,200 producer organisations around the globe are part of the Fairtrade Foundation. This means that they are guaranteed the Fairtrade Minimum Price which protects them against unfair and volatile prices. When prices do rise, they receive additional income, but their income is not allowed to fall below the guaranteed minimum. Small farmers work in co-operatives which also receive The Fairtrade Premium, to spend on improving their farms or investing in community projects such as a school, a medical centre, a clean water supply.

Fair Trade products are available in stores, or from Traidcraft, www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/ Locally they can be purchased on a sale or return basis from Fair4All, in Warrington Market, <https://www.facebook.com/Fair4All/> For more information about becoming a Fairtrade Parish see <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Fairtrade>

Pax Christi

<https://paxchristi.org.uk>

The work of Pax Christi – the Peace of Christ – is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Its vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in any form. Pax Christi is rooted in Catholic Christianity but is open to all who share its values and work. Pax Christi works for Peace, based on justice; Reconciliation between individuals or whole countries after times of violence or dispute; Nonviolence while challenging what is not fair or just. Pax Christi works to support teachers, chaplains and youth workers in promoting a culture of peace in schools and amongst young people; to develop solidarity between people who are working non-violently for justice and peace, through joint actions for peace in Israel-Palestine, through events to encourage international efforts to abolish nuclear weapons and by celebrating the life and witness of peacemakers. Pax Christi campaigns against military spending, the arms trade and nuclear weapons. The National President of Pax Christi is Archbishop Malcolm McMahon. Pax Christi is open to individual membership. Contact: info@paxchristi.org.uk

Together for the Common Good

<https://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk>

Together for the Common Good is a small charity helping people play their part to strengthen the bonds of social trust, based on the sacred nature of common humanity. To this end it holds public conversations and events for young people. It believes that society's well-being depends on rebuilding social solidarity, putting people, communities and relationships first. It calls people to fulfil their unique vocational responsibility by putting Common Good principles into practice and by working with others of different opinions and backgrounds, including churches, other faith communities, and people of no religion. It is volunteer-driven and draws on the body of thinking known as Catholic Social Teaching, a coherent framework that puts the human person first. The T4CG e-newsletter reaches across different Christian traditions, performing a unique cross-pollination role, as well as a Common Good perspective on the signs of the times. In this way the organisation strengthens civil society and builds trust.

Friends of the Earth

friendsoftheearth.uk

Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland is a grassroots environmental campaigning community, including campaigners and lawyers, with a very large number of local groups and supporters. It campaigns on local environmental protection, adopting alternative energy solutions, global environmental and social justice. It is currently campaigning on climate change, trade deals between Britain and USA, increasing tree cover, preserving bees, plastic use, use of renewable energy.

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

The following national and local groups work with asylum seekers and refugees.

Red Cross

www.redcross.org.uk

Refugee Action

www.refugee-action.org.uk

A national organization which offers support to Asylum Seekers and Refugees and campaigns of their behalf.

Asylum Link Merseyside

www.asylumlink.org.uk

Offers a range of services and support to asylum seekers.

Leigh Asylum Seekers and Refugees Support (LASARS)

www.lasars.org

Holds a weekly Drop-in and offers support with housing, job applications, health and solicitors.

Merseyside Refugee Support Network (MRSN)

www.facebook.com/MRSNLiverpool/

An information and support service for local refugee communities and organisations working with and for refugees and asylum seekers.

Refugee Women Connect

www.refugeewomenconnect.org

Provides drop-ins and a range of support for women asylum seekers and refugees in Liverpool, St Helens and Halton.

Support for Wigan Arrivals Project (SWAP)

www.swapwigan.org



What Next?

“See, I am making all things new”

Pope Francis has set up a COVID COMMISSION in the Vatican under the leadership of Fr Augusto Zampini Davies, an Argentinian priest who was seconded to CAFOD and know to many as a wonderful exponent of the teaching contained in Laudato Si.

The COVID COMMISSION has a programme called **PREPARE THE FUTURE**. Importantly, this is not Prepare FOR the Future with the implication that the future is going to be a disaster that we need to mitigate. This is a Commission whose task is to enlist the catholic communities of the world to work with all people of good will to make sure that the future is not a disaster.

Pope Francis will release catechesis (teaching) on how he sees this work developing but we are sure it's not just going to be guidance for bishops and priests. Preparing the future is a task for all of us.

As the direction becomes clear, we will be gathering people to make sure that we all have a chance to be involved and to understand the vision of Pope Francis. CAFOD will be a main channel of information and we will partner with them in this great work.

To keep in touch, sign up for bulletins, emails, postings, etc on the J&P website:

jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

Thank you to our speakers and panellists for their generous commitment to making this Virtual Assembly possible, to the J&P Commission members for the courage to try something new and the J&P Tech Team, (all Commission members), who have experienced a sharp learning curve in putting this together!

*No hard copy materials were produced in advertising this event, nor miles travelled to any meetings.
Thank you technology!*