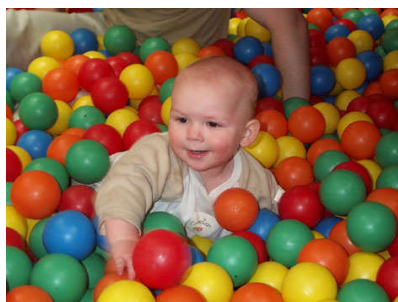


Issue 7 June 2008

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In Pursuit of Happiness...

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.....but is there another way to find it?. see page 2

What can we do ?

This is a question I frequently ask myself when faced with so many injustices at home and overseas. The following issues have been very much on my mind over the last few weeks:

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'Time for God's Creation'

Church leaders have called upon Christians throughout England to use the period from 1st September until 4th October as an opportunity to put the environment at the heart of their worship.

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Care for the Elderly

I found myself thinking how much do we value and care for our older people. In a few years our society will have an age imbalance when the children of the 'baby boom' reach retirement age.

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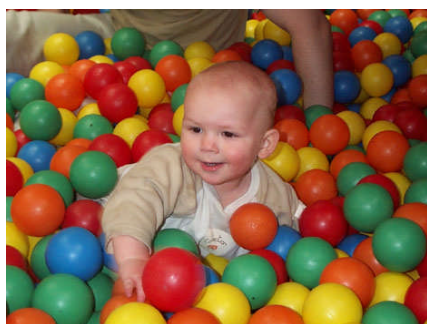
Climate Camp

You may remember Climate Camp last year at Heathrow, on the line of the planned 3rd Runway. This summer the destination for Climate Camp will be Kingsnorth, near Rochester in Kent;

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In Pursuit of Happiness...

You can almost hear the collective sighs as we approach the summer period and the longing for the all important rest over the coming (hopefully!) warm months. Many families scrimp and scrape enough together for the happiness of the all important two weeks away together and feel that sometimes this can only be achieved by going to the other side of the earth. The writer Alain de Botton posed the philosophical point in his book the *Art of Travel*, that we can be equally unhappy in a “tropical paradise” as in our own home. We often see families waiting in airport lounges and perhaps hear the inimitable line from a frustrated parent berating a child - “How can you be unhappy, don't you realise how much this holiday has cost me?” It's true that while many search for happiness in the strangest of places very often the reality is that we can obtain it not by trying to “get what we want” but rather “wanting what we have got”.

Over the past few weeks we have seen so many instances where life within families has gone horribly wrong for one reason or another: the horror that has put the village of Amstetten into the public

consciousness, the passing of a year where Kate and Gerry McCann still have no news of their daughter Madeleine's whereabouts or wellbeing, the murder of Jimmy Mizen in a Southwark bakers shop. Yet, there is a dogged determinedness within the human spirit which demands that these terrible events can and should be turned to a much greater positive effect. The children incarcerated in a cellar and abused for so long now wonder at the sky they have never seen and the rain they have never felt. The McCann family have decided that they will continue working to set up networks and alert systems to prevent the abduction of a child. Margaret Mizen, Jimmy's mother, when asked why she was not angry said simply "it was anger that killed my son, there is too much anger in the world".

Our homes and our communities should be safe places and it is sometimes difficult to see how they can be "holy". However, as we know, God is always present in the love and sometimes "messiness" that we find in our homes.

Families, in whatever shape they find themselves, are the building blocks of communities. They are, I believe, an entity that needs to be continually fed with warmth and love from those within and become a beacon for those without. Over the next few months we will be launching a very important resource called *Home is a Holy Place* to help and support families. We hope that many individuals and couples will, by sharing both their experiences and knowledge of family life with all its ups and downs, bring us all to a greater commitment and understanding of what is good in our homes.

Whatever you are doing and wherever you find yourselves over the next couple of months, please take time to enjoy being with family and friends and become fully refreshed for the autumn.



There is a season for everything and a time for every activity under heaven.
Eccl 3:1

What can we do ?

This is a question I frequently ask myself when faced with so many injustices at home and overseas. The following issues have been very much on my mind over the last few weeks:

Democratice Republic of Congo (DRC)

Some weeks ago I attended a CAFOD Campaigner's Day. The morning session was arranged around two presentations from visitors from the DRC. The first speaker, Bishop Dieudonne Uringi Uuci (Bishop of Bunia) gave a personal view of his ministry in Bunia and its people; the second speaker was Abbe Alfred who is an active participant in the Bunian Diocese Commission for Justice and Peace and a partner of CAFOD. His talk was accompanied by slides which portrayed the inhuman living conditions of local people who worked for one of the global mining companies. He also highlighted the terrible plight of very young children working in mines and the devastating impact excavation of new mines has on the local community and the environment. Both these presentations left me feeling angry and helpless – I have been aware of the situation in the DRC but, hearing these personal testimonies and actually seeing how the Congolese people live, affected me greatly.

(See the article "A different kind of Bishop" in this Newsletter by Sarah Hagger-Holt of CAFOD relating to the above).

I came away that day determined to do something. At the end of these two presentations a local MP spoke to us about campaigning – he had also been on a recent visit to the Honduras. He advised that the most effective way of lobbying your MP was to write to him/her. I therefore urge you to do just this. Personal letters do have a big impact on our MPs, and they must then address the issue being brought to their attention. We should also support CAFOD's Unearth Justice Campaign, for "clean gold". (www.cafod.org.uk/campaigning/unearth-justice/golden-rules). This site also features Franck Bura, co-ordinator of GRAPI (the Research and Action Group for Peace in the north-eastern DRC region of Ituri).

Our Commission will continue to raise awareness on the plight of the people of the DRC and to maintain pressure on our government to use their influence with the mining companies, urging them to invest part of

their profits to rebuild the infrastructure of many towns in the DRC where mining has taken place. We also hope to work with CAFOD and support them in their campaigns for justice in the DRC.

Refugees and Migrants

As we approach Refugee Week (11-17 June) I am encouraged and inspired by the homily our Bishop made at the Mass for Migrants in Westminster Cathedral on Monday, 5th May. For those of you who were not present to hear Bishop Thomas speak, I urge you to visit www.dioceseofbrentwood.net where you can access a copy. In the face of an often negative and damning press, our Bishop's prophetic message delivered a feeling of hope, welcome and compassion towards refugees and migrants. He encouraged us to write to our MP's on two counts: deportation of refused asylum seekers back to Zimbabwe and the "Strangers into Citizens" campaign www.strangersintocitizenscampaign.net

Burma

On 2nd May, cyclone Nargis ripped across the coast of Burma, bringing misery and devastation to tens of thousands of Burmese people. The major aid agencies, CAFOD, Christian Aid and Medicins Sans Frontiers will accept donations on their websites.

It is rather ironic that this catastrophe should have occurred at this time, because we have arranged for James Mawdsley to be our main speaker at CJSR's Annual Conference next year. Many of you will know that James has campaigned tirelessly against the regime in Burma and, indeed, has been imprisoned and tortured in that country. The Conference will take place on Saturday, 21st March 09 in the Cathedral Parish Hall, Brentwood. Please make a note of the date and check our website (www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/cjsr) for more details.

Davina Bolt

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

Ghandi

Apostleship of the Sea

Cultural exchange in Tilbury

Fr Patsy Foley, AOS port chaplain in Tilbury, sees himself as a missionary. He specifies that this is not in the old-fashioned sense of building churches, which he once did in Africa, but in a very personal sense of offering himself as a witness. His role now is to build bridges, to resolve conflict, to heal existing divisions and to prevent new ones from forming. For Fr Patsy, a commitment to ecumenism and interfaith dialogue, is indispensable. "There is no place for racism, discrimination, oppression or bullying in Christianity".



Forty years ago Fr Patsy was ordained in St Patrick's Missionary Society, also known as the Kiltegan Fathers. He went out to Africa to teach but, he says "I learned far more than I ever taught".

In Fr Patsy's eyes, those to whom he went to teach the Gospel were already "real Christians", demonstrating Christian values in their acceptance of strangers and their behaviour to each other. He says "Seafarers also have so much to teach us about tolerance".

On any ship there may be up to five or six different nationalities. People with little common language and no shared culture or religion co-exist in the confined space of a ship. Life onboard is demanding and yet, according to Fr Patsy, seafarers not only co-operate, but "work together exceedingly well".

A Korean story

A simple example from port life demonstrates the missionary role of the chaplain. Two Korean seafarers came into the port of Tilbury. They spoke very little English but seemed to want to go to central London. Fr Patsy offered to take them to Tilbury station. The seafarers were reluctant as, perhaps due to the language barrier, they seemed not to know who he was or whether they could trust him.

So Fr Patsy searched for a way to bridge the cultural divide. He knew four words of the Korean language, learned on a visit there twenty

years previously. Pointing to himself he pronounced one of them, "shimbunim". "Ah, shimbunim", exclaimed one of the seafarers, suddenly understanding. "Shimbunim", "priest".

Through a combination of words and gestures the seafarer managed to convey that he was not a Catholic but his wife at home in Korea was. The two seafarers forgot about going to London and insisted Fr Patsy join them onboard their ship for coffee. Having gone out to the port to offer welcome, Fr Patsy found the roles reversed. Now he was the guest, welcomed into the seafarers' home. Drawing on his Korean vocabulary, he told his hosts that he liked the Korean delicacy of kimchi, pickled vegetables. He was immediately invited to return for dinner the next day.

The following day, the Korean seafarers came to the seafarers' centre to use the telephones. Fr Patsy brought them back to their ship and was invited onboard. However, they found that the Marine Coastal Agency was carrying out an inspection and all crew were required to work. As a chaplain must take great care not to disturb the life of the ship, Fr Patsy took his leave. On this occasion he did not get his kimchi but he certainly bridged the cultural divide.

The rewards of volunteering



In May 2008 a Filipino seafarer from the MSC Leigh visited the Tilbury Seafarers' Centre. It was his first visit to the UK for some years and especially important as his mother was working in West London. He tried phoning her from the centre but she was not answering.

Then an urgent call came from his ship, he was to return at once. The reason: the ship's officers had arranged for his mother to meet him onboard.

AOS volunteer driver Roger Hammond immediately offered to drive the seafarer back to the docks. According to Roger, the excitement was tangible. The seafarer was shedding tears of joy as he talked in high emotion of "seeing momma" for the first time in seven years.

Roger said "it's at times like this, you realise what you volunteer for".

Some 20% of the world's merchant seafarers come from the Philippines. Life at sea means separation from home and family for all seafarers. For those whose families might also have to migrate in search of work, the situation is especially challenging. AOS is committed to providing practical services to enable seafarers to maintain that vital contact with home and family.

Sources The Apostleship of the Sea website

Care for the Elderly

One aspect of my role in the Commission is to provide support for the residents at the Almshouses in Ingatestone. Many of the residents are older people and I am often amazed and humbled by the stories they have to tell. Over the last few years I have found myself listening to recollections of life in South Africa, stories from the second World War and the experiences of one gentleman who had been a journalist and an archaeologist and who had a wealth of knowledge to share. It is a privilege to listen to them.

I found myself thinking how much do we value and care for our older people. In a few years our society will have an age imbalance when the children of the 'baby boom' reach retirement age. Will the State be able to offer all the social service care they need? Will pensions keep up with the cost of living or will we have 'older people in poverty'? All the evidence of social scientists and demographers suggest that we as a nation will not have all the answers.

'Moral, but no Compass' is a report from the Von Hugel Institute, which was commissioned by the Church of England. It said that the government "showed a significant lack of understanding of, or interest in

the Church of England's current or potential contribution in the public sphere." This may well be true for all the work being done in the Christian sector.

The Bishop of Hulme Stephen Lowe, Church of England spokesman on urban affairs told BBC Radio Four's Sunday Programme that the Church was far and away the biggest voluntary organisation in the country and had been for centuries.

Where does that leave us in our parish communities? There are already many valuable projects taking place at parish level to support the older people in our community. The work of SVP immediately comes to mind but there are other things that can be done. We are used to our Eucharistic Ministers taking communion to people who are housebound, sick or disabled but how many parishes have set up a transport service to bring people to church so that they can be a part of the community.

Two neighbourhood support groups come to mind in the Chingford area. They are ecumenical groups being under the aegis of Churches Together and they provide the type of help that most Social service care plans cannot. Their services include, transport, shopping, collecting prescriptions and most of all giving time to talk and to listen. Care Highams Park runs a monthly Sunday Lunch Club and on Christmas day they run Christmas Inn providing Christmas dinner and all the social trimmings for those people who would otherwise be alone.

Many schools encourage older people to come and share their experiences with the children. A favourite topic for eleven year olds is World War 2. To hear about it from people who were there and who have very personal memories brings that era to life for those children and gives the older contributors the sense that their lives are still valued.

Children often have a different relationship with grandparents because they have more time to share and skills to teach. Given that so much childcare in this country is now being provided by grandparents there would seem to be a wonderful resource just waiting to be tapped. What do grandparents get out of this? A feeling that they still have a role to play in their families, be it large or small.

The lesson that we need to learn is that support isn't a one way process. Each of us may have needs that the other can fulfil As you reach old age you have to pass on responsibilities, for some people that is easier than

for others. For some offers of help and support can be seen as weakness or failure. Maybe that support can be made more acceptable if there is a 'trade off' in skills or experience that each person finds valuable.

Elisabeth Abbott

For more information on the report 'Moral but no Compass' and the full interview with Bishop Stephen Lowe go to the BBC News website at news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7442285.stm

Welcome to Contact the Elderly

When older people live alone, without family or friends living nearby, loneliness can become their only companion.

Many prefer to live independently, yet it can be a hard and lonely road.

"I felt that I had come out of a dark tunnel into the light. Before I joined Contact, I thought that my life had ended - and now it's started again!"
an elderly guest.

We help people aged 75 or older. They are lonely, live at home on their own and are unable to easily get out of the house unaided.

Small local groups use volunteer drivers who each pick up 1 or 2 elderly people from their own homes. They take them to the home of a volunteer host where the volunteers and older people spend a few hours together with afternoon tea, usually on a Sunday.

Each group normally meets once a month, welcomed into the homes of different hosts.

To meet the growing numbers of lonely older people, we need more volunteers to join new groups.

There is a Contact the Elderly group being formed in the Brentwood area. If you would like to help please contact Linda Braeburn on 01279 417264 or visit the website at www.contact-the-elderly.org

Church Leaders call for worshippers to make 'Time for God's Creation'

Church leaders have called upon Christians throughout England to use the period from 1st September until 4th October as an opportunity to put the environment at the heart of their worship. The 'Time For God's Creation' initiative, which would run annually, follows a resolution made at the Third European Ecumenical Assembly in 2007, attended by representatives of Europe's Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant churches, that the period "be dedicated to prayer for the protection of Creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles that reverse our contribution to climate change."

At a meeting on 3rd June the four co-presidents of the ecumenical body 'Churches Together in England' – Archbishop Rowan Williams, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, Commissioner Elizabeth Matear, and Bishop Nathan Hovhanissian – affirmed together their shared commitment to making the environment and collective responsibility for tackling climate change a fixed annual feature of the worship and shared witness of all the churches in England.

'Time for God's Creation' incorporates several existing dates related to Creation themes in the different church calendars. In 1989 the Ecumenical Patriarch invited all Christians to observe 1st September as a day of thanksgiving for Creation and an occasion for petitions for its preservation and healing. The period also incorporates Harvest festival, celebrated by Anglican and Protestant churches and concludes on 4th October with St Francis' day, when Roman Catholics reflect on Creation themes.

Commending the initiative, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams said:

"Every Sunday in the creed, Christians confess their faith in God who created the world we inhabit. It's his gift. As stewards of that gift, each of us has a responsibility, both to God and to the generations to come, to ensure that this remains a sustainable world. Placing environmental concerns at the heart of our Christian worship for this fixed time each year, demonstrates our shared commitment to that end."

The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Cormac Murphy O'Connor, said:

“In his World Day of Peace message for 1990, Pope John Paul II draws our attention to the figure of St Francis, and reminds us that ‘he offers Christians an example of genuine and deep respect for the integrity of creation.’

I have always been struck by the witness of St Francis for he helps us to see that the beauty and goodness of creation are a reflection of God’s own Beauty and Goodness.

‘Time for God’s Creation’ is a sobering reminder of our obligation to respect and care for our world. Inspired by St Francis we pray and work together for the common good.”

Moderator of the Free Churches of England and Wales, Commissioner Betty Matear, said

“We believe that God is our Creator and humanity, created in His image, has been given responsibility for the care and stewardship of the world’s resources. We are accountable to those who will follow us, to leave behind a world that would please its Creator but our lifestyles also affect the lives of others – today. ‘Time for God’s Creation’ will be an opportunity for us all to look at our choices, to reflect on how our lives impact on others and to allow God to challenge us to become positively involved in caring for His world.”

Primate of the Armenian Church of Great Britain and co-president for England’s other Churches, Bishop Nathan Hovhannisian, said:

“And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it (Gen 1:28[a]).



Our Creator has entrusted us with this planet as a gift: may we always treasure it, and ensure that we are its good stewards, so that we remain also worthy of it. “

“Churches Together in England”

CAFOD Brentwood

We are currently seeing the devastation caused by Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar (Burma). Working through Caritas Internationalis, local church partners have begun delivering food and other aid to 10,000 people in Yangon and Irrawaddy. Donations can be made through the DEC emergency appeal (of which CAFOD is a member) or direct to CAFOD. Please pray for the people of Myanmar and also the people of China, recently hit by a terrible earthquake.

We are thankful for the support and commitment of parishes and schools to the work of CAFOD.

Lent Fast Day asked us to think about changing the way we relate to creation. In many CAFOD-funded projects, people are caring for the earth and seeking alternative livelihoods. It's not about lifestyles – it's a matter of survival. If we believe creation is a gift from God to be cherished, then climate change is a dire warning that we should be treading more lightly on God's earth.

To date, parishes and schools in the Diocese have raised over £66,000 for Lent Fast Day. Thank you.

Community in action. The parishes of St Stephen and St Nicholas in Manor Park joined with their primary school, St Winefride's to raise money during Lent for Community World Gifts. They raised a staggering £8,420 for communities overseas – enough to fund two classrooms and two water supplies.

Campaigners in Wanstead lobbied local MP Harry Cohen about climate change. He responded with his own pledge to strengthen the Climate Change Bill currently going through parliament.

Religious brothers and sisters also lobbied parliament to “kick the carbon habit”. There is still time to lobby your MP. Contact the office for pledge cards and a lobby guide.

You can find out how CAFOD works both in England and Wales and internationally by coming along to an Understanding CAFOD day. The next one takes place on Saturday 19th July in our Brixton office.

We would like to finish with a personal contribution from volunteer Bob Bradford.

We Share because we Care!

With the current economic forecast from the Governor of the Bank of England most of us are going to have to lower our standards of living, and looking at how they have risen for most of us over the last twenty years, that might be painful but not be too difficult. What we must respect and recognise is that our developing world partners will have little control over their standard of living as they so largely depend on our contributions to live on – if these reduce, so does their standard of living to a dramatic degree.

livesimply has always suggested that we should be prepared to make sacrifices and pass the resulting savings to the poor rather than just contribute to the odd collection or money raising scheme. The difference being that we are using this cause to show we care and are happy to share. Please let this attitude prevail during our forthcoming economic problems and for us to make economies in places other than reducing the sacrifices we have made to support the poor.

livesimply so that others may simply live.

Denise Grierson

Joanna Jarvis, Denise Grierson and Mary Mathews
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email: brentwood@cafod.org.uk website: www.cafod.org.uk

A different kind of Bishop

Bishop Dieudonne Uringi Uuci enjoys confounding expectations. He has been Bishop of Bunia in the north east of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for two years. Long enough for him to feel that, in his view, life as a Bishop in the DRC is quite different to one over here.



The DRC is a huge country, as large as Western Europe, and the diocese of Bunia is roughly the size of England and Wales. Many of its roads were destroyed by conflict between 1998 and 2003 and have not been repaired since. Despite the practical difficulties in travelling around his diocese, Bishop Dieudonne knows that being with people is

the most important part of his job. So he hops on his motorbike and rides along muddy tracks to sit and talk with people in the villages about the problems they face and what solutions can be found.

His close relationship with people in the area, including five years as a parish priest in the mining town of Mongbwalu, has motivated him to speak out on mining and its relationship with poverty. “Some people might think the church is just about preaching the gospel,” he explains, “but we can’t talk about spirituality without trying to change the human condition.”

North east DRC is home to one of world’s richest goldfields, yet its people live in poverty. Thousands of small scale miners, including children, work in difficult and dangerous conditions to scrape out a living. The local school and hospital, once maintained by mining companies operating in the area, have fallen into disrepair. The hospital beds do not even have mattresses.

But soon everything could change. Multinational mining company Anglo-Gold Ashanti have acquired the concession to mine in Mongbwalu and are preparing to start a large scale operation there. Yet discussions between the company and the government are held in secret. The people who will be most affected by the new mine don’t know what is being planned, who will have responsibility for their schools and hospitals and whether they will still be able to earn a living once the mining operation begins.

Bishop Dieudonne, alongside CAFOD partner the Diocesan Commission for Justice and Peace, has helped present the concerns of local people to the mining company and galvanised the support of Bishops across DRC. As part of the Unearth Justice campaign, CAFOD supporters in the UK have supported the call for mining companies to be open about the financial and social agreements they have made with governments.

The Bishop is driven by a desire for fairness and a deep concern for the people in his diocese. “The government can have its share, the company can have their share, but local people should also have their share” he says “how is it that places can have these resources yet people are not benefiting, they still live in misery?”

He recently visited the UK, telling CAFOD supporters about the

importance of their role in the Unearth Justice campaign. Support from the UK helps motivate him to continue: “There are a lot of us, in our churches and sister churches and different organisations. This mobilisation encourages us and gives us hope to win. We’re going to win. They are going to change. We believe it.”

Sarah Hagger-Holt
CAFOD

A few selections from life in Evander and out-stations, Dundee Diocese, South Africa.

Six of our Youth arrived at 10 o'clock. It's usually 7am, but they had all joined in the Holy Week and Easter celebrations, so it was fair to have a lay in on Easter Monday! After our 6.30am Mass, a quick swim (for any new readers this is not my pool – it is part of the Sasol Plant that I can access from 4am – 9.30pm a real gift for me, and makes sure I have a wash!) and strong cup of tea and toast, I had already loaded the three fifty 5kg bags of Soya mince, and beans, and twenty 5kg bags of maize meal for the 'Progress' kitchen in the Location, to feed the local orphans their one meal a day during the four week school break. 1kg of Soya mince makes an average of 35 portions of 150gms. The youngsters can do the unloading of the food, and sorting of the clothes at the other end. The Soya we use as the 'meat'. The delicious gravy is made from boiling bones and animal heads, donated from a Slaughter house and Butchery, and adding stock and spices.

Love and prayers for you all, and again a huge THANKS for the support and encouragement from family, friends, friends-of-friends, and our twinned Diocese of Brentwood. It is a daily wonder how, without asking, we get supplied with whatever we need to help the people here – hand-made Rosaries from Kay in Canada; food; clothing for babies and children from Saffron Walden, and other stalwart friends; the various finances to start and sustain projects which will eventually be self-sustaining; and gifts that arrive 'out of the blue' just at the needed time, like sterile gloves, and, you'd never guess, a hundred teddy bears. Of course all supplies can be found in South Africa (as in any country) but they are not always so easily available, or affordable, locally. But then the purpose is not just supplying the needs of people, it

means so much to be part of a wide varied loving 'family' where, as we say, graces flow to the givers and those who benefit in receiving, and we can touch the very purpose of life in the love of God..... as on Maundy Thursday the Bread of Life and 'washing of feet' are part of the same evening and mission command.

Fr. Piotr was appointed priest in eMbalenhle after Christmas, but this week he moves to Ermelo. It's just one of those things that can happen in a Township. He's a great priest and will do wonders in his new parish.

To fill you in about the PROGRESS Crèche and pre—school in Ext. 14 - last year PROGRESS had just over 140 children. At the beginning of this year it had accepted well over 200! During the summer holidays some extra Container style rooms were added to provide more accommodation. Fortunately the land they have is sufficient to provide plenty of space for the children to play and to work. As you appreciate, when numbers increase then it necessitates more staff, sufficient toilets, a kitchen that can cope - or at least room enough for a fire, and so on. Our parish provided funds for another extra toilet. When finished there was a ceremonial opening before it could be used! This is our second toilet donation.

Extension 14 is a mixture of RDP (Reconstruction Development Project) houses - many rather rough and shoddily built, and shacks. Unemployment is very high. The number of orphans and child-headed families goes into the hundreds.

PROGRESS provides two meals for the children who leave before 3.30pm., and an extra meal for those who stay later. The first meal about 8 / 8.30am is porridge, and bread and jam. The midday meal is either pap and gravy or rice and meat. The 3.30pm meal is bread and jam and also more pap or rice.

An extra plus to this Crèche and pre-school is the feeding of many poor and orphans after school. This is not an official feeding scheme, it is something that has grown from necessity, and began by just happening. Many children who are orphans, on their way back from school come in to share the afternoon meal - and this is offered free, there is no payment. Of course locally the people know one another so this means that only the children and youth who would otherwise not eat are catered for. Meeting the children also provides the opportunity

to pick up any problems that some may have in managing their family - and particularly to guard them from, and often to rescue them from being taken advantage of in any way, or earning money 'on the streets'. There is a lovely homely, free, very practical, and Hope-filled atmosphere about Progress.

The monthly fee is R90 per child. It is dignified that families are pressed to pay this, though of course some never quite make it, and that is where subsidies come in. Children are not rejected. Each family agrees to provide through the year - 10 toilet rolls, a box of tissues, three Sunlight soaps, a large tin of jam, six plasters, and a face cloth. Food for the meals, apart from the jam, is bought and donated. Donated treats would be in the form of items such as biscuits and vitamin fortified milk like Nespray, and other nutritional drinks. It is bad for these children (isn't it for anyone!) to have junked up and over sweetened food and drinks, so we try to offer some mild education into their potential adverse affects on health, including the effect on the child's behaviour.

The surrounding environment is poor, muddy or dusty roads, and includes one of those unofficial rubbish dumps where the children scavenge. I'm hoping this will be cleared soon as it's been there over a year. Mind you the dump may just get shifted down the road or round the corner!! THANK YOU to the providential supporters of this school and its outreach.

Other Crèches we support are much smaller, with maybe 20–50 children. Each one has its own intriguing story. WINGS of LOVE (but most will have a meaningful Zulu name), a few streets from Progress, would be typical of a struggling pre-school with patched up, draughty, leaking, and rather 'dark and dingy' buildings, with earth floors. The monthly fee is R20, and they can provide only water and a biscuit for the children – they have to bring a lunch box, which of course many are not able to do. We're careful not to create the wrong dependence or expectations in the help we give. One (of many) strategies is to provide those children who have with more, and then teach them to share - which is no problem. The poor families, many of which have sick and dying members at home, I visit and see what can be done for them. One has to observe carefully because, as I'm sure you know, a child with a full stomach can still die of starvation, because what they fill

themselves with has no value to feed them (another story in itself). We've been graced with many 'miracles of healing', which naturally helps make the Church real. I'm not sermonizing, but you know what I mean. It is universal that if we preach Christ then He must be there, if we preach His healing then sick people must get up cured, a dying baby back to good health, as well as faith and strength given to make sense of suffering and death. This actually happens, and it's in the poorest most suffering parts of the Township. It is a wonderful, and often daunting experience.

The 'Zambian Sisters' of John the Baptist who run the 'Alphonso Maria Fusco Place of Safety and Orphanage' that I have written of at greater length previously, are striding ahead in their work. More help and training is being developed for the children. Attractive landscaping is very therapeutic for the children, and is a homely welcome for the visitor. A small school in Town has relocated from its rented premises to buildings on the Orphanage site. This has livened the place up. Two added bonuses is that some of the children in care can attend the school, and Sister Dorothy has been appointed one of the teachers. Sister Maureen and the older girls have made a full set (all the colours) of Tabernacle veils and Lectern drapes for the Church in Evander. I collected them just before Easter. This provided them with good training, pride in their work, and some income to buy their own material – differently creative to patching the boy's shirts and trousers and sewing on buttons.

The Mduduzi (meaning here, helping comfort) Home Based Care in the Township continues. The volunteers struggle with their own health, and in providing the needs of the very poorest house-bound sick. But they fulfil their commitment wonderfully. The ladies have asked for help to set up a shoe mending facility to provide some extra income. I admire them for that. Very grateful Thanks for the supportive funds that have been promised to help the HBC. These groups are at the heart of the caring community.

REACH FOR A STAR at Christmas time was, again, a great success. On two occasions I took four of our youth to spend the night at Pax Christi, the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, and then the next day to deliver the gifts to St. Anthony's Orphanage. All the gifts were as requested by the Orphanage, to help kit out the children in clothes and school

'uniforms' for 2008. On return the youth shared the experience of their visit with the whole community. On Christmas Day (and I had prayed for you all) I was very spoiled with a family lunch on a farm. The house was some four miles along a bumpy road, which is fine for tractors and four wheel drives, but a slow careful drive in the parish Tazz. Later in the afternoon, on the way back, I enjoyed visiting families in the Location, and a very special family of fifteen children (at my last count), of mixed relationship, who live in a garage with the mother of six of them – all happy and carefree, and 'feasting' on chicken and rice – a big treat from the usual pap. I'd had a very blessed and happy day, and my neighbours enjoyed their goat. The goat they had slaughtered on Christmas Eve, and hung the meat in the tree over night. Local celebrations were not wild but continued until the early hours.

Most of our Twinned parishes are in regular contact. A few need a revival injection!. There are a few priest moves pending in the Diocese, but I shall share those when they have actually taken place. The last Diocesan priests meeting, in March, took place in Pongola. We have arranged the next gathering for this month, in Evander. These meetings have proved invaluable to support each other as we socialize, arrange some teaching, and generally keep an eye on one another and our missionary work. Before Christmas Pongola, which is a rural and a very hot mission, had its first ever parish gathering/fundraising event. As it was a Sunday I could not go myself, but made a visit the week after. They had slaughtered the donated cow by the Holy Family church, and performed the Traditional ceremonies for the Ancestors, then hung the horns in the tree, and stretched out the hide to dry in the sun – it was still there when I made my visit. The following week the hide was to be used to make a couple of drums.

By the way – someone's Navigator Device tells me that the Evander Mission site is 5,518 feet above sea level. I was almost right! Well, that's my allocated two sides filled! Love, prayers, and God bless you all. Thank you Roger and Una for making these mailings possible. Also to Davina and the JSR Commission, and other Brentwood Office Staff, and Bishop Thomas. Every day I remind myself that I work 'in the vineyard' as an extension of The Body of Christ in the Brentwood Diocese.

Gerald

Easter Monday March 24th 2008.

30th Annual Justice & Peace Conference

Hear my People Cry

18 – 20 July 2008

Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

A conference that explores the dilemmas and opportunities of living a Christian Life in the modern world – exploring what it means to “live justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God”. It will focus on the implications of “doing justice” in the places where we live.

Main Speakers

- John Battle MP was national coordinator of Church Action on Poverty from 1983 until he was elected as MP for West Leeds in 1987. His parliamentary interests have included a wide range of social justice issues.
- Dr Patrick Riordan SJ is an assistant director of Heythrop.
- Sr Margaret Scott, aci is an experienced teacher and lecturer.
- Ivanete de Araujo works for the support agency Apoio.
- Fr Tom Cullinan is a priest of the Liverpool archdiocese.

Visit www.justice-and-peace.org.uk for more information and to download a booking form.

Looking for a Gap year in the UK working with people who are poor?

ONE YEAR THAT MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE

www.vincentianvolunteers.org

The work with the refugees was a very real and sobering experience of poverty...:The time I was leaving, I felt so sad I couldn't hold back my tears I loved the children so much...:

Contact: Sr Barbara Quilty DC

St Wilfrid's, 4 Birchvale Close, Manchester M15 5BJ

Tel : 0161 226 9561 or 0161 2736881

Email : barbaraquilty@hotmail.co.uk

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill (HFE) and Amendments to the Abortion Act 1967

As this 7th edition of our Newsletter goes to press we urge you to keep on campaigning against this *inhumane* legislation. We must continue to lobby MPs to oppose the Bill, as a whole, because it is profoundly wrong in its assumptions and in its objectives. Please **write a personal letter to your own MP** because more parliamentarians are likely to read, take seriously and reply to postal letters. You can write to your MP at: House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Please write messages in your own words, and keep them brief and courteous. You can use the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children's website to find out who your MP is: www.spuc.org.uk/mps. **This is a crucial time to keep up the pressure** as the HFE Bill has passed through the Committee Stage but the Report Stage is due to be held in the next couple of months, probably around beginning of July (date to be advised). I would urge you to visit SPUC's website: www.spuc.org.uk who have put together some excellent information on how we can make our objections to this Bill known.



Another good source of information is
The All-Party Parliamentary Pro-Life Group”
www.parliamentaryprolife.org.uk



Our Bishop, Thomas McMahon, has been vociferous in his objections to this legislation and recently made a personal plea to our parish priests asking for every parish to be represented at the mass lobby of MPs on 14th May. He also made his representations strongly known in a joint letter with the Bishop of Chelmsford, and spoke at the Rally at Central Hall with David Alton and Ann Widdecombe.

Together the Bishops of England and Wales are asking Catholics to oppose this Bill as it raises four key concerns:

- It will allow human/animal hybrid embryos to be created.
- Fertility clinics will no longer have to consider “the need for a father”.
- Decisions are made by an appointed Embryology Committee which excludes people with pro-life views.
- Some MPs want to use the Bill to make abortion even easier.

The CJSR website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/jsr will have up-to-date information on the current status of this Bill

Davina Bolt

(Acknowledgements: SPUC, The All-Party Parliamentary Pro-Life Group)

Pax Christi Daily Prayer

Thank you loving God

For the gift of life
For this wonderful world which
we all share
For the joy of love and friendship
For the challenge of helping to build
your kingdom.

Strengthen

My determination to work for a world
of peace and justice
My conviction that,
whatever our nationality or race,
we are all global citizens,
one in Christ
My courage to challenge the powerful
with the values of the Gospel
My commitment to find nonviolent
ways of resolving conflict
- personal, local, national and
international

My efforts to forgive injuries and to
love those I find it hard to love.

Teach me

To share the gifts you have given me
To speak out for the victims of
injustice
who have no voice
To reject the violence which runs
through much of our world today.

Holy Spirit of God

Renew my hope for a world free from
the cruelty and evil of war so that we
may all come to share
in God's peace and justice. ***Amen***



Zimbabwe

Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of men and
women; ***Move my hands that they may feed the hungry.***

Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing;
Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers.

Let me share my possessions to clothe the naked;
Give me the care that strengthens the sick.

Make me share in the quest to set the prisoners free;
***In sharing our anxiety and our love, our poverty and our
prosperity, we partake of your divine presence. Amen.***

Canaan Banana

Refugees

Stealthily, we moved from the edges,
Drawn by dreams of plenitude,
Leaving our homes at the margins
Of the deserted flatlands,
Where nothing grows
And what we had of wheels and cogs
Grow rust and harbour cobwebs.
It was fear that urged us on,
Hacking at our hearts,
Fear of the demented power,
That fed upon its own illusions
And cut the naval string
Which bound us to our Tribal Story.
We were stripped at gunpoint
At the precise point of intersection
Between what passed as frontier of the Nations.

We carry nothing with us
But the golden memories
Of a love that had once
Bound us together as a people,
The incense of a gifted race
Which had ministered a fruitful land for a thousand years
And we carry, like a sacrament,
The myrrh of our Nation's woundedness
In which is mixed the wisdom of our ancestors.

This is who we are.
These are our gifts,
As we stand before your walls
And if this is not enough
To gain entry to your land,
Let the sun come down
Upon our dry bones
And the moon carve us a grave.

Patrick Purnell SJ

Could you cope with no cash?



There are many asylum seekers who, following the due process and whilst their applications are considered, receive some limited help in the form of food vouchers.

This support is more commonly known as “Section 4”. The criteria for receiving these vouchers are strict but it does mean that people are tied to one supermarket to obtain their food. They receive vouchers with a face value of £35 but are often forced to exchange them. The less scrupulous take advantage of this situation and the going rate is usually just over half the face value.

The JRS (Jesuit Refugee Service) are offering an exchange system to help people in this position on a pound for pound basis. This enables people to shop locally and avoid travel costs and also seek out the bargains.

The JRS are asking for your help in this and if you regularly shop at ASDA, Sainsbury's or Tesco you can buy these vouchers from JRS – it will only cost you the postage and you will be making a big difference to the lives of many families.

Tesco and ASDA vouchers come in the form of a Gift Card which will hold any unspent funds, Sainsbury's are in the form of a paper voucher and are a little less convenient as no change is provided. They also can make great presents!

If you want to help or find out more – please contact either the Jesuit Refugee Service (020 7357 0974 email uk@jrs.net) or cjsr@dioceseofbrentwood.org You know what they say – every little helps!

Phil Butcher

TEST your Knowledge on refugee issues

How much do you really know about refugees and asylum seekers and the issues that affect them and us.

1) What is a refugee?

- a) A foreign person in a country
- b) A person who has fled their country for fear of persecution
- c) A person who has moved to a new country for a better job and more money

2) Which country's suffering has produced the most refugees in the world?

- a) Palestine
- b) Iraq
- c) Somalia

3) Applications for asylum in the EU have been increasing over the last 25 years.

- a) True
- b) False

4) How many applications for asylum were received in 2006 in the UK?

- a) 1 million
- b) 240,000
- c) 24,000

5) What percentage of asylum seekers in the UK are given permission to stay?

- a) 75%
- b) 43%
- c) 18%

6) Proportional to its population, the UK receives the most asylum seekers in Europe.

- a) True
- b) False

7) From which country did the majority of asylum seekers to the UK come in 2006?

- a) Iran
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Eritrea

8) Refugees in the UK are less educated than the UK population.

- a) True
- b) False

9) What is the link between Einstein the scientist, Andrex of toilet paper fame and Lucien Freud, the artist?

(1) According to the 1951 Geneva Convention (A/2
(http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/3b66c2aa10.pdf)
(2) There are more than 10 million Palestinian refugees
(3) This figure is falling each year
(4) This figure is falling each year
(5)
(6)
(7)
(8)
(9) They were all refugees and had contributed to their societies.

ANSWERS

Mass for Migrant Workers - 2008

In total contrast to the previous year the sun shone brightly as the huge procession of banners entered the packed Cathedral at Westminster. The congregation, who reflected the diversity of London were there to make witness for the huge contribution that migrants and their families have made to our communities for many years. The Feast of St Joseph the Worker has become a key focus in our diaries and is a wonderful example of all that is good in our church communities.



One of the key moments of the mass for many were the inspirational and prophetic words spoken by Bishop Thomas McMahon. He said “Welcoming and hospitality have always been at the very heart of the Bible and have been very much the tradition of the United Kingdom. Migrants helped to rebuild

the United Kingdom following World War II and are continuing to regenerate London and this country. They make an indispensable contribution.” He was applauded at the end of the homily which spoke of the way long term migrants are often treated in the UK in which he spoke of the “shameful and unjust” way in which many are exploited because of the governments failure to act.

We are now looking forward to next year’s Mass on Bank Holiday Monday, 4th May 2009, which will be followed by a march to Trafalgar Square.

We will be announcing details in due course but please make sure this date is firmly fixed in your diary!

Phil Butcher

Music Bridges Cultural Differences!

Audiences at St Cedds Goodmayes and Our Lady of Fatima Harlow, were treated to a musical extravaganza by a renowned group of performers from Krakow.

The Piwnica sw Norberta group – who started a number of years ago in the cellars beneath St Norbut's Church in Krakow - showed how music really does transcend all cultures. They draw their influences from a wide range of cultures including Polish, Jewish, Balkan, English and Irish. Whilst the mixed audience could not understand all the words, the music flowed and with a combination of poetry, drama and stunning lighting transported the audience to a range of countries and musical traditions. Fr Andrzej Forys, who has been trying for many years to bring this group to the UK said, "In a world where we are surrounded by much noise, this evening gives us an opportunity to sample some of the best of all sounds in the world". The group received a standing ovation at the end of the concert.



If you missed the concert –
a CD is available of some of the music performed.

For more information contact cjsr@dioceseofbrentwood.org
or phone 01277 265290.

New Neighbour Programme (NNP).

As is often mentioned the wheels of government turn inexorably slowly. However, we are pleased to be able to advise readers that we are approaching the final stages of the NNP Pilot project in Colchester.

Other projects in London are now well underway and as soon as the details have been finalised the project hopes to welcome five families from Iraq. Teams from the Home Office are currently working in the Refugee Camp in Jordan and it is hoped the families will be able to move to Colchester – under this scheme – in the next month or so.

This initiative is a joint project with many churches and church groups participating. It is an important way in which we, as a community, can offer practical help and support to refugees. If you feel that you could help in this work please contact us at either by telephone 01277 265290 or email at cjsr@dioceseofbrentwood.org .

Phil Butcher

“I was a stranger and you made me welcome” Matt. 25:35

Building Better Communities

HOW THE CHURCH CAN AID UNDERSTANDING AND BRING ABOUT RECONCILIATION WITH GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS

Our Lady of Good Counsel parish, Wickford was host to this day Conference on 9th May. Over 80 people filled Our Lady`s Hall with a buzz of positive energy as the Anglican Bishop of Chelmsford, John Gladwin and the Catholic Bishop of Brentwood, Thomas McMahon, opened proceedings. Bishop John read from Hebrews chapter 11, 13-17 which seemed especially relevant to the difficult situation of many Travellers . Bishop Thomas asked us to reflect on how the Church can reach out to mediate between “settled”, Gypsy and Traveller communities.

There followed a fascinating power point presentation by Nick Williams on the cultural history of Gypsies and Travellers. It would be helpful if this could be shown to Faith communities throughout the UK as a starting point in creating greater understanding of these marginalised

ethnic groups.

Despite the interest engendered by Nick`s account several of the Dale Farm Travellers had to leave the Hall to take calls from relations and friends at the High Court . By coincidence at that moment Mr Justice Andrew Collins was giving his Judgement on the Judicial Review of Basildon District Council`s decision last December to evict 86 families from Dale Farm and 15 from Hovefields, both sites near Wickford. Dale Farm is the largest partly unauthorised, Traveller site in the UK, the increase in numbers over recent years resulting from the national deficit in authorised site provision and evictions from sites elsewhere in the country. Before starting his presentation Cllr. Richard Bennett announced Mr. Justice Collins` main conclusions: that in making its decision to evict Basildon District Council had not taken into consideration sufficiently the impact on individual family situations – severe physical illnesses, vulnerable children and older people and the fact that they had nowhere to move to because of the lack of authorised sites. The Hall erupted into cheers and some tears as it sank in that the families had won a reprieve although the Council has the right of appeal.

We then settled down to Cllr. Bennett`s thought provoking presentation on The Reasons for Conflict which examined the myths and prejudices underpinning the animosity between “settled” and Traveller communities. Cllr. Bennett speaks to schools, colleges, statutory services groups on this subject and we were privileged to hear his moving account of the harsh reality many Travellers face on a daily basis.

Those attending included Priests, Nuns, Vicars, Ministers and lay members from parishes across Essex, Suffolk Cambridge, Kent and Thames Gateway, Head Teachers, representatives from the Catholic Bishops Conference, Bishop of Chelmsford Office, Gypsies for Christ, Gypsy Council, Equality Commission, Dale Farm Travellers, Essex County Council Home Education Service, SW Essex Primary Care Trust, Brentwood Diocesan Commission for Justice and Social Responsibility, Traveller Law Reform Project, Help the Aged, Wickford Police as well as TV and Press reporters.

Given the numbers and wide range of interests they represented, the questions and discussion which followed could have gone on much

longer. People described their experiences of campaigning and working with Travellers and Gypsies, Nick and Richard commented and offered suggestions. Bishop Thomas asked to be given further details when someone described the obstacles some Slovakian Roma parents were facing in gaining places for their children in Catholic schools. There was a suggestion that sympathetic “settled” residents could volunteer to act as Human Rights Monitors at evictions which have been documented as often needlessly traumatic and brutal. Fr. John Glynn’s housekeeper spoke movingly of witnessing what appeared to have been discriminatory behaviour towards a pregnant Traveller woman at a local hospital clinic; Richard agreed to investigate the possibility of giving a presentation to the staff on the special needs of this minority group.

The lively discussion carried on during lunch; typically at the start of the day when the Travellers had seen the numbers arriving, they had rushed out returning with extra supplies of food which were very much appreciated. People had time to look at some fine posters designed by Traveller, Gypsy and Roma children as well as photos of the new Dale Farm Community and IT Centre opened by Lord Avebury and blessed by Fr. John Glynn on 3rd May.

The afternoon started with the Revd. Michael Hore speaking about conflict resolution, the need to acknowledge how fear is a powerful motivator and the importance of creating a safe place for people from different groups to meet and start to build bridges. Revd. Hore gave examples of the slow, difficult process of mediation and the sometimes surprising changes of heart he had witnessed. He stressed that Churches are uniquely positioned to act as agents for conflict resolution as they are seen as non-partisan by the often highly political special interest groups representing “settled” residents, Travellers and Gypsies.

Father John Glynn then gave a riveting account of being Our Lady of Good Counsel’s parish priest meeting the spiritual and pastoral needs of a mixed group of “settled” and Traveller parishioners. He made the point that he had had no need to seek out the Travellers, they had come to the church. Over time and not without difficulties and misunderstandings, progress had been made. Travellers had contributed greatly to the spiritual and social life of the parish. Four Dale Farm Travellers were now Eucharistic Ministers. The Traveller

community show unfailing generosity whenever special appeals are made for the parish projects in South Africa, Malawi, Uganda and India as well as local charities. Fr. John stressed the respect and trust Travellers show him and Sr. Catherine which help to sustain him through all the difficulties of meeting the needs of his parish.

Richard Sheridan of Dale Farm and Chair of the Gypsy Council, had planned to speak but had had to go to the High Court . We listened instead to the account of a man who described the hardships and kindnesses he had encountered as a Gypsy in a moving and humorous account , he has recently been forced to leave his home because of the 2012 Olympics building work in East London.

The day ended with a blessing by Bishop Thomas and the feeling that we still had more to learn and share; the contacts made will hopefully continue to help promote understanding and witness for justice and harmony in all of our communities.

At the conclusion of the meeting, several of the Conference participants accepted the Travellers' invitation to visit Dale Farm.

Ann Kobayashi
Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish



Climate Camp

You may remember Climate Camp last year at Heathrow, on the line of the planned 3rd Runway. This summer the destination for Climate Camp will be Kingsnorth, near Rochester in Kent; combining sustainable living, educational workshops, and inspiring direct action. Kingsnorth is destined to be the location for the UK's first new coal-fired power station for 30 years. The camp will last from Sunday 3rd to Monday 11th August.

This year a group of Christians will be running a café within the camp, and we welcome anyone who would like to join us. We hope to demonstrate in a practical way, that we care about God's creation and are serious about tackling climate change. The café is supported by the Student Christian Movement, Christian Ecology Link and the i58 network, among others. It will provide tea, coffee and cakes to campers during the day, and be an ecumenical space for Christians to gather for worship and prayer. Volunteers are welcome from all backgrounds and no previous experience is necessary.

What you can do:

- publicise Climate Camp within your parish and encourage people to attend, whether for a day, a few days or for the whole camp. See www.climatecamp.org.uk for more information
- consider volunteering with the café. Please email climatecampcafe@lists.blogbound.com to find out more, join the mailing list and receive email updates
- contribute prayers, bible studies or liturgy for use during ecumenical worship at the camp
- pray for all involved in the run up to Climate Camp and during the event itself.

Rosie Venner
Links Worker
Student Christian Movement

Forthcoming Events

“Make Peace Real”

a day with

**Pat Gaffney, Chair of Pax Christi
and Hilary Topp, Education Worker**

Pat will guide us on personal peace making and share effective ways to plan strategies for our own peace ideas.

Saturday, 20th September

10.30 am – 3pm,

**Cathedral Parish Hall,
Brentwood**

“Valuing Difference ”

— ten years on

A chance to look at the issues surrounding disability and to find practical ways to encourage a welcoming climate for everyone in our parishes.

Saturday, 25th October

10.30 am – 3pm,

**Conference Centre
Cathedral House,
Brentwood**

“HIV/Aids”

a day with

Dr Anthony Reddie,

Religious Fellow and Consultant in Black Studies, at Birmingham University. Purpose of the day to inform, educate and de-stigmatise the general perception of HIV/Aids in anticipation of World Aids Day, 1st December.

Saturday, 29th November

Conference Centre

Cathedral House

Brentwood

CJSR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2009

Our keynote speaker, James Mawdsley, has campaigned tirelessly against the regime in Burma and the injustices inflicted on the people in that country; he was imprisoned and tortured by the military regime for his views and has also been a life-long supporter of human rights.

Saturday 21st March 09

10.00 to 3.30

Cathedral Parish Hall,

Brentwood.

Dates for your diary

2008

July 6th	Day for Life	www.dayforlife.org
July 7th – 9th	G8 Summit Japan	www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk
July 13th	Sea Sunday	www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk
July 18th-20th	NJPN National Conference ‘Hear My People Cry’ <i>for more details see page 21</i>	
Aug 8th-9th	Anniversaries of first use of atomic weapons at Hiroshima and Nagasaki	www.paxchristi.org.uk
Sept 14th	Racial Justice Sunday	www.carj.org.uk
Sept 26th	Child Poverty Day	www.actionaid.org.uk
Oct 3rd	CaFOD Harvest Fast Day	
Oct 5th	Disability Sunday	
Oct 19th-26th	Week of Prayer for World Peace	
Oct 19th-26th	One World Week	
Oct 27th-2nd	Landmine Action Week	www.landmineaction.org
Nov 16th	Prisoner’s Sunday	www.prisonersadive.org.uk
Dec 1st	World AIDS Day	

2009

March 21st	CJSR Conference, Cathedral Parish Halls (Keynote speaker James Mawdsley)
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We warmly welcome contributions for Just Time.

***Please post them to Cathedral House or email
cjsr@dioceseofbrentwood.org.***

***Please pass this copy on to someone else
when you have read it.***

***Further copies can be obtained by contacting our office
or online at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/cjsr***

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Disclaimer

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