

Justice & Peace Link January 2023

National Justice and Peace Network Publications The latest NJPN eBulletin is available [here](#)

Sunday, 1 January Millions of Christians around the world mark the first day of every month by **praying and fasting for the environment**. Monthly prayer points are published and can be used at any time during the month. Click [here](#) for January's prayer points

Sunday, 1 January **World Peace Day** Pope Francis' 2023 Message for World Peace Day is: "No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace." Read the full text [here](#). In England and Wales, this is celebrated on the second Sunday in Ordinary time, 15 January, see below.

Saturday, 7 January 11.00am-noon

The first in 2023 of a series of Christian Climate Action's Saturday reflections examining different aspects of the climate and ecological emergency and / or exploring biblical perspectives on how we might respond. The format usually includes a presentation of 20 – 30 minutes, followed by either breakout rooms for 20 – 30 minutes, or a Q&A session. These sessions are a good way of getting informed, challenging our Christian perspectives and getting to meet other people in Christian Climate Action. This session will be looking ahead to our **big protest of 2023 – which is called 100 Days**, explaining what the campaign is and how we can be involved, plus an opportunity to ask questions and air ideas. Register [here](#)

Monday, 9 January 12.45-2.00pm

To start the year, the **Northern Dioceses Environment Group and Southern Dioceses Environment Network** will be meeting together to reflect on the challenges that lie ahead in 2023. The meeting will hear from the Diocese of Salford that has been carrying out extensive surveys of all parish and diocesan buildings to develop a decarbonisation pathway and to help prioritise decarbonisation projects. We will also get an update on the Guardians of Creation initiative with a focus on the engaging parishioners in the 'ecological conversion' we all need to make if we are to respond with urgency to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. All are welcome. Register with Eventbrite [here](#)

Wed, 11 January 6.30 – 8.00pm

What happened at the Biodiversity COP? Webinar discussing the follow on from the biodiversity COP, arranged by Curlew Action. In December, campaigners and NGOs met in Montreal to discuss the future of global biodiversity. What happened? What promises were made? How will it impact biodiversity in the UK? To register, click [here](#)

Saturday, 14 January 11.00am-noon

One of Christian Climate Action's Saturday reflections. **Sarawak Indigenous activist leader** Peter Kallang's will tell the story of his work with SAVE rivers and his new campaign to Stop the Chop, a story of hope, interconnected global activism, and how you can get involved. More information [here](#)

Sunday, 15 January **Peace Sunday**

Resources are produced by Pax Christi and available [here](#). Peace Sunday is promoted with the support of the International Affairs Department of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Pax Christi depends very much on financial contributions received from Peace Sunday parish collections.

Tuesday, 17 January, 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm Hybrid event

Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution 16–18 Queen Square Bath BA1 2HN

The politics of a changing climate. Political ideas and practices are not created in a vacuum; they are the products of their times. If we have now entered the Anthropocene, a new era characterised to an unprecedented degree by human activity, then what kind of politics is more appropriate? In this talk, Sophia Hatzisavvidou will consider what ecopolitics looks like today, arguing that a changed climate requires a change in politics. She will argue that in order to address current and emerging challenges, all future politics must be ecopolitics. Sophia Hatzisavvidou, University of Bath. Book tickets [here](#)

Wednesday, 18 January 7pm

Green Christian Joy in Enough Online workshop: **Catholic Social Teaching - Towards a Politics of Communion** led by Anna Rowlands of Durham University will be talking about her new book "Towards a Politics of Communion: Catholic Social Teaching in Dark Times". Register [here](#)

Wednesday, 18 to Wednesday, 25 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 'Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst Injustice.' Materials for this year have been prepared by the churches of Minneapolis [here](#)

Thursday, 19 January 7.00pm

Towards a Beatitudinal Church Participate in an online conversation with Archbishop Charles Scicluna, arranged by Root and Branch. Click [here](#) to register and ffi.

Saturday, 21 January 11.00am-noon

One of Christian Climate Action's Saturday reflections. Phil Kingston, co-founder of CCA and parishioner in the Clifton Diocese will be looking at recent evidence and asking the question "**How imminent and dangerous is runaway climate breakdown?**" Register [here](#)

Sunday 22 January

6.00 - 8.00 pm (Please arrive at 6pm for dinner at 6.30pm)

The Ammerdown Centre, Ammerdown Park, Radstock BA3 5SW

Dinner with the Rwandan Sisterhood 'On the brink of Holocaust Memorial Day, we welcome our friends from the Rwandan Sisterhood. Following the genocide, these women will share their stories of hope and the incredible work they are involved in.' Tickets are £25 (£10 of the ticket will go to the Rwandan Sisterhood Association), available [here](#)

Thursday, 26 January

5.45pm

Alkmaar Room, Guildhall, Bath BA1 5AW.

Bath and North East Somerset Council – **Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration 2023**

The event will include readings, music and poems on this year's theme – 'Ordinary people'. During this event we will mark the Holocaust and subsequent genocides and acknowledge the more recent experiences of refugees including those from Syria, Afghanistan and Ukraine who have sought sanctuary in our area. A full programme will be publicised in early January. Booking is essential, as places will be limited. The event will take place in person only. To book your place to attend, please email equality@bathnes.gov.uk

Thursday 26 January, 7-7.45pm

The **UK Online Commemoration for Holocaust Memorial Day 2023**. Register [here](#)

Friday January 27

Holocaust Memorial Day Holocaust Memorial Day is the day for everyone to remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. This year's theme is 'Ordinary People'. For more information and resources see the [HMD website](#)

Friday January 27

7pm

Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution, 16–18 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2HN

Lies, Damned Lies – and 'Narrative' Tom Suárez, will be addressing the question: How has Israel persuaded much of the world that it is a heroic country that has built 'a villa in the midst of a jungle' and established itself as 'a beacon of liberal democracy'? This false account not only has secured the dispossession and brutal suppression of the Palestinians, it has compromised our own democracies and freedoms in its cause. We need to be robust in refuting it and telling the truth. Tom Suárez is a US historical researcher and writer. His latest books are *Writings on the Wall: Palestinian oral histories* (2019) and, just published, *Palestine Hijacked: How Zionism forged an apartheid state from river to sea*. Ilan Pappé described his earlier *State of Terror* as 'a tour de force ... the first comprehensive analysis of the violence and terror employed by the Zionist movement, and later the state of Israel, against the people of Palestine'. Salman Abu Sitta, president of the Palestine Land Society, has called *Palestine Hijacked* 'singularly powerful ... a must-read to clear the fog of deliberate deception used to shield Israel's crimes against Palestine'. Tickets (£3-£5) [here](#) arranged by Bath Friends of Palestine

Friday, 27 to Sunday, 29 January

RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch How many birds will you see in just one hour over this weekend? To play your part and for further information including identification guides, sign up [here](#)

To do

As we start the new year let us reflect on how we, as Catholics, can play our part in looking after our precious planet. We have the authority of Pope Francis calling on us and all people to care for our common home (*Laudato Si* #3). We are probably already changing the way we live in order to reflect this call but a good way to assess our contribution is to measure our carbon footprint. There are a number of websites which offer a straight forward calculator (including [Carbon Savvy](#) and [Giki](#)) and ideas for further carbon saving actions. The key is to re-do our footprint annually, and January is the perfect time to do it for the previous year. To support us, celebrate new actions and to spread the word we need to work in community, whether family, a group of friends or our parish. There are lots of ideas and resources on the [Journey to 2030](#) website.

If you would like to publicise an event, please send details to the Secretary, Clifton Diocese Justice and Peace Commission justiceandpeace@cliftondiocese.com. The items above are included as they may be of interest because of their relevance to peace and justice issues. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Justice and Peace Commission.