

## **St John Fisher Justice and Peace Group, Meeting 3 Jun 04**

Meeting held at 20:00 at 90 Grand Drive

**Present:** Liam (chair), Tom, Cathie, Julie K., Julie S.

**Apologies:** John, Barbara, Carol, Eliane, Kirsty, Alan. (Sadly Alan is no longer able to attend meetings)

Cathie talked about the Oasis of Peace community in Israel and we prayed for their intentions.

**Notes of the previous meeting** had been circulated and were accepted.

### **Matters arising**

Arrangements for showing the Peace video at local schools had yet to be made.

Cheques had been sent to the Goa Orphanage and Merton Faith in Action Homelessness project and presented to representatives of the Tzaneen Project at their performance in the Church Hall, an event which was well attended and successful.

### **Merton Faith in Action Homelessness Project**

The Canon had passed to Liam a letter indicating support required. The project hopes to open in early September and needs funds and volunteer helpers. It was felt that we could offer to get an article about the project published in the Parish magazine. It was agreed that Liam would suggest to Canon that he ask if the Project have an article we could use, and posters we could display. We might also write a short notice for the Fisherman's Herald. We had sent a contribution from Canute's dinner dance; it was for the Canon to decide what contribution the parish might make.

**CAFOD** has a new website: [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) and a new regional organiser: Paul Whittle Tel: 01322 294924. Unfortunately the Café meeting tonight about Cafod clashed with our meeting.

**Southwark J & P Network** is being reorganised. The suggestion is that representatives from parish groups might meet in their deaneries, and deaneries would then send one or two reps to diocesan meetings once or twice a year. There was some discussion about this more organised structure but members felt that if this were introduced, they would be willing to represent our group on a rota basis so that meetings were not too onerous.

**Multicultural Event:** 15th October has been provisionally arranged with the Canon and Liam has asked Mary Farrell to confirm this is OK. He will then contact Canute. Further arrangements to be discussed at the next meeting. As **One World Week** is from 17 – 24 October, this would be a fitting start to the week. We also hope to organise multi-lingual readers and a world map for this week.

**Peace Service** It was suggested that we might invite Bishop Tripp. Liam to discuss with Canon and Fred whether we might ask the Bishop to say a few words.

**NJPN** Conference is at Swanwick on July 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. No-one present is able to attend.

**CARJ:** The parish Council have discussed the welcoming of new parishioners. Welcomers at Mass are to be trained and encouraged to wear badges so that new parishioners can recognise them. Tom is organising this. It is also hoped to organise a social for new parishioners with representatives of many parish groups.

**Talkabout:** Liam has written an article for the summer issue. Hopefully we will have an article about the Homelessness Project for the autumn issue.

**Asylum Welcome:** The AGM of Merton Churches Asylum Seeker Support Group is on Saturday 12 June at 10 a.m. at Queens Road Baptist Church, Wimbledon. Liam read to us from their newsletter of the work they are doing with people, many of whom are suffering from trauma and would otherwise be destitute. He urged us to always consider supporting them.

**Prisoner of Conscience:** Liam again encouraged us to write to Fr Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly who has spoken out for religious freedom in Vietnam for over 25 years. Two arrests, 10 years in prison and a vitriolic official media campaign against him have failed to silence him. We are asked to write non-religious cards or letters of support for his campaign for religious freedom and tolerance towards all, to: Rev Nguyen Van Ly, Trai Tu KA, Xa Ba SAO, Huyen KIM BANG, Tinh HA NAM, Tia Xa PHULY, Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

**AOB** Julia mentioned the Interfaith group invitation to visit the mosque in Morden on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm and invited members to join her.

**Treasurer's Report:** £105.20

Next meeting: Thursday 8 July at 8 p.m. at 85 Northway

Meditation: John (?)

Minutes: Cathie