



Saint John Fisher Justice and Peace Group

<http://www.sjf-justiceandpeace.org.uk/>

Minutes of meeting: 12th September 2017 at 8:00pm

Venue: 30 Eastway

Present: Sandra Carolan (Chair), Viera Hamid, Peter Nash, Teresa Pollard,
Julie Sheahan,

Apologies: Beryl Shannon, Marie Bullard, Mike Carolan,

Meditation: Teresa read a lovely passage from *The Happiness Habit* by Fr. Daniel O'Leary, on being 'Truly Alive'. This gave much food for thought and discussion.

Charity of the Year – Merton Against Trafficking

Awareness of the problem of Modern Slavery is increasing as evidenced by today's Evening Standard and its campaign.

In addition the Bishops of England and Wales are supporting a study by St Mary's University, Strawberry Hill into Modern Slavery. Julie will complete the survey on behalf of our group. She has also forwarded it to Marie at Southwark Justice and Peace. She will forward the survey to Kerry Coke at Merton against Trafficking and to Peter to forward to Hope for Justice.

Teresa also drew our attention to the situation of Child Brides in many countries. This is another form of Slavery as well as paedophilia.

Merton Listening Project: Responses are being studied. When there is more information Peter will let us know. In due course we will invite Nick Coke to our meeting.

Food Collections: Despite the holidays the collection in August for the Foodbank was outstanding. Fr. David and Melissa helped Julie load the car to take to the Foodbank, who were very grateful. Thanks also to Fr. David for passing on thanks to the parish. Peter has sent an article, prepared by the Trussell Trust on Foodbanks, to Talkabout. This is very informative. Julie will ask if the strapline used on the website "many people each bringing one item is our aim" can be added to the notice in the magazine.

Ethical actions: October: Check that places where you shop pay their staff the living wage. This can be checked at: www.livingwagemovement.org

November: Be sensitive to the needs of others.

December: Avoid metallic wrapping paper and glitter cards which are not recyclable.

Peace Service: We will hold our Peace Service on Monday 1st January 2018 at 7.30 pm. Julie will ask Fr. Matthias, when he returns, to lead us again. We will adapt the Pax Christi service using the Pope's message for Peace.

There was discussion about joining Pax Christi. We will send a donation when we order the booklets, and possible cards, and review this in January.

Future Plans: We will repeat the cards for Prisoners in November. This will need to go on the agenda next time. We will need approximately £80 for 300 cards.

Treasurers report: We have approximately £160.

Any Other Business: Tuesday is not an ideal day of the week for Sandra and Mike. Again we will review this in January.

Next meeting: Tuesday 10th October at 8.00 pm
Venue: 30 Eastway
Meditation: Teresa
Chair: Viera

Grace was said.