

St John Fisher Justice and Peace Group
<http://www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk/j&p/home.php>
Minutes of meeting on Tuesday 11th July at 9.30 am
In the Presbytery

Chair: Peter

Present: Christine Davis, Barbara Harnett, Peter Nash, Teresa Pollard, Margaret Redding, Julie Sheahan,

Apologies: Tom Kavanagh,

Minutes: Julie

Meditation: Barbara read from Basil Hume's: To be a Pilgrim, a meditation on Hope

Study Topic: Many thanks to Christine for buying four copies of Stations of the Cross. We discussed the first station, considering why the crowds did not defend Jesus, and why the international community did not engage in the sufferings in Sarajevo. Next month we will study the Second Station.

Food Collections: There was an excellent collection for Faith in Action which Christine delivered. In future Faith in Action may be able to collect from us.

Next month we collect for the Foodbank and the following month for Christian Care. Julie will send messages to Melissa for the newsletter before Melissa goes on leave.

Website: The Home Page and Charity of the Year pages have been revised and can be seen at the address above.

Palestine/Israel: On Thursday 21st September, United Nations International Day of Peace, we will hold a Service in the church, followed by a talk by Cheryl Kipping, an Ecumenical Accompanier (EA) serving on the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI). Tom has booked the Church and the Hall. The theme for the service will be "No place to lay my head"; with a central focus on families, the theme will explore the story of the Holy Family—their fear from King Herod, escape to Egypt, and journey back home—and how the challenges they faced can inspire us all. We will plan the service in late August/early September. Julie will contact Maggie Hayes to ask if she and Tim will accompany our hymns.

Nigeria: We were shocked to hear from Fr Francis of the death of a priest friend of his and promise prayers for priests in Nigeria. Christine advised us of the UN Periodic review of human rights in Nigeria. We are urged to write to our MP drawing his attention to the figures showing the persecution of Christians in Nigeria. You can do this at:

<https://advocacy.opendoorsuk.org/page/126917/action/1?ea.tracking.id=Web>

We might consider making Nigeria the focus of our actions for Red Wednesday on 22nd November. The London event that evening will be at St George's Cathedral.

Treasurer's report – £203.95, there was no expenditure

Any Other Business: Christine offered to host a tea party/fundraiser for ACN, perhaps in October. We agreed to meet in August.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 8th August 2023 at 9.30 am in the Presbytery.

Chair: Barbara

Meditation: Teresa

Apologies:

Grace was said