

St John Fisher Justice and Peace Group

<http://www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk/j&p/home.php>

Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 9.30 am

In the Presbytery

Minutes

Chair: Barbara
Apologies: Tom, Teresa
Minutes: Julie

Meditation: Stations of the Cross – Fifth Station

We discussed Simon of Cyrene helping to carry the cross and considered how we might help to carry other peoples' crosses.

Next month we will study the Sixth station

Informing Ourselves: Love the Stranger p.7-10

We looked at the Church's teaching that it is our duty to welcome all displaced people who come to our country, and discussed the practicalities of this. Next month p. 11-13.

Reports:

Christmas cards for Persecuted: All 300 cards were taken by parishioners, many of whom welcome this annual initiative despite the £2.20 cost of a stamp. We should order the same number next year.

Cake Sale: Christine raised £100 selling cakes which she sent to ACN Africa appeal, where it will be doubled.

Red Wednesday: The lighting of the Church in red was very successful. It was pleasing that children at the primary school also wore red to mark the day and raise awareness. The service at the Cathedral is written up in Talkabout.

Food Collections – Christmas bags for Christian Care. Fifteen large bags were filled and will be delivered to Christian Care tomorrow, Wednesday at 2 pm. Surplus items were taken to the Foodbank where they were welcomed. A thank you has been published in the newsletter. On 6/7 January we will collect for Wimbledon Foodbank.

Palestine Sale: Unfortunately the sale had to be cancelled as the person bringing the goods was ill. It may be possible to place an order. Declan also sent information about two forthcoming events concerning Palestine, details of which will be circulated to those present. The display is in the Narthex.

Planning

Peace Service 2024 – Monday 1st January at 4 pm

Tom, Teresa, Christine and Julie met and are writing the service. Christine will talk to Maggie Hayes about music. Barbara will buy milk and shortbread and organise the refreshments, with Sandy's help. Julie will circulate the poster for members to share, Tom will send to the Deanery and Churches in Merton Park.

Treasurer's report: £113.02

Any other business: We should think about a new Charity of the Year for 2024. Possible suggestions were Santa Marta and Third Space Ministries. To discuss in January.

Time and Place of next meeting – Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 9.30 am in the Presbytery

Chair: Peter