

## Saint John Fisher Justice and Peace Group

http://www.sif-justiceandpeace.org.uk/

Minutes of meeting: 14th November 2017 at 8:00pm

Venue: 30 Eastway

**Present**: Sandra Carolan, Mike Carolan, Peter Nash, Teresa Pollard, Julie Sheahan,

Apologies: Fr. Matthias, Viera Hamid, Marie Bullard, Barbara Harnett

We said a prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes for Sheila, Liam, John, and for Marie's parents Barbara and Neville, all of whom are unwell.

**Meditation:** Teresa read from an article written by Aid to the Church in Need about Christians returning to their villages in Mosul and Nineveh. This linked with the appeal by Christians in Bethlehem and gave much food for thought and discussion.

**Food Collections:** David took the November food collection to Wimbledon Foodbank. He also took the St John Fisher School Harvest collection to the Foodbank. Many thanks to David for this. Next year we should contact the school in September to see how we can help with the Harvest collection. Next month's collection will be for Christian Care; we will circulate their list of requests to the Beavers and the School if they want to give Christmas items.

**Christmas Cards for Prisoners: 25/26<sup>th</sup> November:** Julie has bought 300 cards, at a cost of £70, and made labels and printed information. Teresa will help one morning next week to address the cards. Rota for the weekend:

Sat 6 pm: Teresa and Peter

8 am

9.30 Sandra and Mike will help after 9.30 and before 11.00

11.00

6.30 Julie

Julie will ask Beryl, Christine and Barbara if they can help

Julie will ask Fr. David if he can mention the cards in the notices, stressing that people should not make political comments.

**Peace Service:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 at 7.30 pm.

Fr. Matthias will lead the service. The theme will be "Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants and refugees". Pax Christi will be sending materials to parishes. Julie will ask Fr. Matthias and the Parish office to look out for these materials. When we receive the materials Julie, Teresa and Beryl will meet with Fr. Matthias to plan the service. Julie will contact Mary Farrell to lead the music. She will ask her if she might bring the St John Fisher school choir. Margaret Redding will do the refreshments. Julie will ask Sandy if the Guides can read.

**Charity of the Year 2018:** We will ask Fr. Matthias if he would like to nominate a Ugandan charity.

**Treasurers report:** Julie received £70 for the Christmas cards.

Any Other Business: Disability and poverty: Peter has written to his MP pointing out the links between poverty and disability. Changes to the benefits system leave many, especially

the disabled worse off. We are urged to use Peter's letter to write to our MP. (Look in 'Documents' section for text over next 12 months).

**Boundary changes:** the current proposed boundary changes mean that St John Fisher Church and St John Fisher School will be in different parliamentary constituencies. We can look at the proposals and make comments before 11<sup>th</sup> December at: <a href="www.bce2018.org.uk">www.bce2018.org.uk</a> **Night Shelter:** The appeal for help at St Marks has been publicised. Attendance at the training on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> is obligatory.

**Furniture:** Christian Care are appealing for good furniture, especially beds and storage. The full list is on our notice board.

Next meeting: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 8.00 pm

Venue: 30 Eastway Meditation: Peter Chair: Teresa

Grace was said.