

Shrewsbury Diocese Justice and Peace Commission

QUICK NEWS NETWORK

Issue 2:2007

April/May 2007



Two years ago 250,000 campaigners took to the streets of Edinburgh and 700 parishes sent signed white sashes to add

their voices to the call to world leaders to **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY**, but those leaders are not acting urgently enough.

In 2007, campaigners are uniting again. This time we are telling leaders the world can't wait for action.

- 5,000 children die every day from dirty drinking water
- A woman dies in childbirth every minute
- More than 5 million people living with HIV and AIDS still do not have access to drugs
- Global warming puts us all in peril and poor countries will be hit first and hardest.

In June the UK Prime Minister will speak in our names at summits of European and G8 governments.

Chair of CAFOD Bishop John Rawsthorne says:
"As we approach the summit of G8 leaders in Germany in June, it is important to remember that the voice of ordinary people from around the world helped make governments promise in 2005 to make poverty history.

"We must continue to use that power to ensure that aid is doubled and that citizens of poor countries have a say in how aid is spent. Pope Paul VI wrote in Populorum Progressio: 'The hungry nations of the world cry out to the peoples blessed with abundance.' It is time to respond to that cry."

There are two easy ways to play a part:

- send a postcard or email to the UK Prime Minister before he sets off to the G8
- join campaigners in London on Saturday, 2 June to tell him: the World Can't Wait.

To find out more, please call 020 7095 5692 or visit www.cafod.org.uk/worldcantwait.

LONDON RALLY - 2JUNE

Ring the Alarm The World Can't Wait

A coach from Chester will be travelling to London for the event, leaving from Hoole URC at 6.00 a.m. Cost £15 per head. Contact: Peter Byrne 01244 678087.



ROMY TIONGCO - UPDATE

Romy was astounded by our response to his request for support; and grateful for its effect. From thinking death a probability he has come think there is a good chance of survival, and of furthering the cause of justice and democracy. Police protection has been supplied; the National Bureau of Investigation has taken up the murder case with orders "from the top". The Regional Governor has offered the umbrella of affiliation to the KAMPI party. The Philippines Government has acknowledged the interest of the UK Government. But Romy asks us to keep up the pressure - writing to the Embassy and maybe the President (can be sent via the Embassy), and suggesting that US citizens could write to the Washington Embassy of the Philippines. Know any? For background on Romy's situation or to receive further updates, by email or by post, contact Joan.

BRIEFLY...

- **A Theft from the Poor**, an excellent eight-page resource, examines the 'intolerable scandal' of the arms trade. The document is produced by Pax Christi as its contribution to the Live Simply initiative.
- www.housingjustice.org.uk is the new website for Housing Justice and Homelessness Sunday.
- www.twig.org.uk is the newly developed website for the Telford & Wrekin Interfaith Group.
- **Strangers or Friends? Women Speaking to Women of Other Faiths** is a useful A4 resource sheet produced by the National Board of Catholic Women. Contact Angela Perkins 01642 791840 enquiries@nbcw.org .
- Congratulations to **Shropshire** on achieving **Fairtrade County** status!
- The **Sankofa Reconciliation Walk**, marking the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade, passes through Cheshire: June 21 Stoke—Crewe; 22 **Crewe—Runcorn**; 23 **Runcorn—Liverpool**. www.lifelineexpedition.co.uk

EASTER

A time to celebrate New Life!
 Where, today, have you seen new life flourishing?
 How, today, have you been nourished?
 How, today, have you nourished the life of others?



D I A R Y

MAY

1 **Chester** Quaker Meeting House, Frodsham Street, 7.30 p.m. Film: *The Iron Wall*, a documentary detailing the impact of the Israeli settlement programme in the West bank and the building of Israel's security wall. Donations welcome. Organised by Chester Action for Palestine. Contact Christine Cannon 01244 675230.

13-19 **Christian Aid Week**
020 7620 4444

14 **The Christian Response to Climate Change: Theology & Action**
Sarum College, Salisbury, 9.30-4.30. Speakers: Ed Echlin & Ruth Jarman. Cost £40.00. Contact Fiona Hulbert 01722 424833.

16 **World Debt Day**
www.cafod.org.uk

20 **Wirral Coastal Walk** from Seacombe Ferry to Thurstaston Country Park Visitor Centre 5, 10 or 15 miles. Raise money for CAFOD. Contact Finbarr Stewart 0151 632 5504.

20 **Not for Sale Sunday**
equipping churches to engage in the issue of trafficking of women, girls, boys and men for exploitation in the sex trade. 0845 456 9335
www.notforsalesunday.org

JUNE

2 **The World Can't Wait**
www.cafod.org.uk/june2

3 **Altrincham** St Vincent's J&P Group, Speaker from Cornerstone (Manchester Homelessness project) Westleigh (parish centre) 7.30-9.00. Contact Anne O'Connor 0161 980 8396.

5 **Environment Sunday**
www.christian-ecology.org.uk

10 **Campaign Against Arms**

Trade Christian Network Day of Prayer
020 7281 0297

16 **Pax Christi AGM** London 10.30-4.30. Speaker : Rev Giles Fraser , vicar of Putney, and regular contributor on contemporary Christian issues to Radio 4 Today Programme and the Guardian's Face to Faith column . Contact Pax Christi 020 8203 4884.

17 **International Mass** St Vincent's, Altrincham. 11.15 a.m.

18-24 **Refugee Week**
020 7346 6752

28 **Telford & Wrekin Interfaith Group** Meeting Point House, 7.30 p.m. Short AGM then an address *Between Two Cultures* By Rev Dr Israel Selvanayagam, Interfaith Consultant, Recent Principal UCA, Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham. Contact 01952 240434.

JULY

20-22 **National J&P Conference**
Called to be Peacemakers
020 7901 4864.

AUGUST

6 & 9 **Anniversaries of first use of atomic weapons at Hiroshima & Nagasaki.**
Pax Christi
020 8203 4884
& CND 020 7700 2393.

23 **International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition**
www.setallfree.net

SEPTEMBER

9 **Racial Justice Sunday**
CARJ 020 8802 8080

21 **Global Cease Fire Day**
020 7456 9180
www.peaceday.org

J&P AREA MEETING

Live Simply

This meeting will take a look at the document *On the Development of Peoples* - the inspiration for the Live Simply initiative and provide an opportunity for those present to share current activities.

Monday, 4 June

7.30 - 9.00

**St Ann's,
29 Vicarage Avenue,
Cheadle Hulme SK8 7JW**

Contact Joan.

RIP RUFINA VIGIL

Salvadoran Rufina Vigil (Amaya), died on 6 March. She was one of only two survivors when the Atlacatl brigade of the Salvadoran army massacred the people of her village of El Mozote in 1981, an atrocity, at first, denied by the governments of El Salvador and the U.S.

Rufina bore witness to the truth saying that "God saved me because he needed someone to tell the story of what happened". In 1990 the J&P Commission organised a visit and she spoke at Crewe and Mold. Those of us who heard her will never forget her.

Please send me your dates and news, so that they can be included in future editions of the **Quick News Network** mailing.

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NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS
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