

# TIME TO ACT FOR JUSTICE, PEACE & ECOLOGY

DECEMBER 2021



A passion for justice, a desire for peace and a concern for the integrity of God's creation are all essential to the living out of the Gospel. They are not optional extras, but core components of Christian faith.

Pope Francis says in Laudato Si': "Each year sees the disappearance of thousands of plant and animal species which we will never know, which our children will never see, because they have been lost for ever. The great majority become extinct for reasons related to human activity."

One of the consequences of a degraded environment is increasing numbers of people on the move. This is especially the case when environmental factors link with conflict to force people to flee their native land. The Columbans lament the increasing number of deaths of migrants in the channel and UK government hostility to refugees. Columbans support calls for a kinder, fairer and more effective approach to supporting refugees in the UK.



### **SUPPORT CALLS FOR A KINDER APPROACH TO REFUGEES**

The orange heart represents compassion for people fleeing persecution. Inspired by the refugee flag, and the colours of a lifebelt, the heart symbolises hope and kindness. Share a heart on your social media channels to show support for refugees, using the hashtag #TogetherWithRefugees.



### **LAUDATO SI ACTION PLATFORM**

14 November - Launch by the Vatican. This project suggests seven sustainability goals to be achieved within seven years, including adopting renewable energy; adopting simpler lifestyles; fostering ecological education and spirituality; advocating for sustainable development; and ethical investment.



### **COLUMBAN SCHOOLS' COMPETITION**

Please promote our competition for 13-18 year olds! The theme is 'Anyone can make a difference'. Who in the world today is doing something about inequality, injustice, exclusion and environmental degradation? What can they teach us? The competition is open for writing and image entries until 11 February 2022.

May God bless us with wisdom to care for the Earth. And may the Lord who established the dance of creation, who marvelled at the lilies of the field, who transforms chaos to order, lead us to transform our lives and the Church to reflect God's glory in creation.

Amen

To connect and find out more:

