

TIME TO ACT FOR JUSTICE, PEACE & ECOLOGY

MARCH 2022



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.

This Lent, let us look at the signs of our times, particularly the damage being done to poor communities and to the community of living things on Earth by destructive human behaviour. Christian churches have been waking up to the moral imperative to address justice, peace and care for creation. St Columban, patron of the Columban missionaries, once said, "If you wish to know the creator, learn about Creation."

God expects from us a maturity to accept responsibility for the future of communities nationally and globally. Indeed, we need to look out for the well-being of future generations. Consider undertaking some of the campaigning ideas suggested.

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PETITION TO STOP FOSSIL FUEL PROJECTS IN THE UK

Fossil fuel companies are planning to launch over 30 new coal, oil and gas extraction projects in the UK. The science is clear: to avoid climate breakdown, there must be no more fuel extraction projects. Please sign and share this Friends of the Earth campaign.

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ACTION FOR PEACE DURING LENT

Ash Wednesday is on 2 March. This year Pax Christi will join with Christian CND in an online act of witness 7.00 – 8.00 pm. Witness will also take place in Coventry, Leeds, Liverpool and London. In addition, resources for reflection are available throughout Lent at the Pax Christi website.

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TAPPING INTO INSPIRATION THIS LENT

On 11 March, look for and share the winning articles and images of the Columban Schools Media competition, 'Anyone can make a difference: 21st century changemakers'. And events, talks and liturgies highlighting the witness of St Oscar Romero have been organised during Romero Week 19-27 March.

This Lent, let us remember that God is with us as we orient our lives towards Gospel values. The teachings of Jesus are radical and demanding but lead to a new creation where advocacy for people on the margins is heard and advocacy to sustain our common home bears fruit. May we dare to dream and be inspired to build the path to a better future. Amen.

(Columbans)

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