



Saint Thomas More Coventry Justice & Peace Group

St Thomas More's Justice & Peace Group aims to meet monthly, tries to keep abreast of local, national & international issues, inform the parish where we can and involve them wherever possible.

Live Simply – in 2018 we have concentrated on working towards the **LiveSimply Parish award** and hope to be assessed in early 2019. In addition to the actions described below, we have started a **fruit orchard** in the land behind church with donations of trees from parishioners and have held 2 **walk-to-church Sundays**. We are working towards **Fairtrade parish status**, making the **church buildings more energy efficient** and **creating habitats** around the church grounds for birds and bats.

CAFOD – we organise the collections for **Lent & Harvest Fast Days**, a couple of our members usually do the Fast Day talks at Sunday masses. We also collect at **Christmas for World Gifts** and have had good collections for all 3 events for many years now. We have raised over £10,000 pounds for our **World Gifts virtual village** in 10 years.

Christmas Cards for Prisoners of Conscience – one of our group has led this initiative for several years and prepares **suitable cards** to be sent to prisoners all over the world, using **non-religious cards** and **messages** where religious ones would not get through the censors. The group address the envelopes (as many of the addresses are long and complicated) and then after mass in early December we ask **parishioners** to write the cards and keep the leaflet with individual **prisoner details** so that they can continue to pray for them. Prisoner details are provided by **Action by Christians Against Torture**. (www.acatuk.org.uk)

Refugees & Asylum Seekers – we collect food in a box at the back of church for **Carriers of Hope in Coventry** for those in need. A group of people cook meals for those staying at the **Coventry Peace House Night Shelter** and the **Coventry Hope Winter Shelter**, feeding about 18 and 24 people respectively, covering 3 evenings a month, so this is shared with other groups in the city.

Our Contact information:

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