

Austin Smith House  
96 Ivor Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham B11 4NX  
Tel: 0121 772 7933 / 07985 728 464

26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Archbishop Bernard,

we are writing to you as members of the Justice and Peace networks in the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

We write to add our voice to those concerned about the Catholic response to the climate and ecological emergency. We are aware that in late 2020 you received a letter from a wide network of Catholic organisations requesting a meeting to discuss this, and three specific 'Asks', with the focus on recognising the urgency of the situation we are in, and of speaking out that basis. We enclose a copy of that letter.

We know that there was a meeting between representatives of that network, and Bishop John Arnold as the Bishop for the Environment on the Bishops Conference.

We would like to ask for a meeting with you, as our own Bishop, to discuss the contents of the letter, especially the "3 Asks". We appreciate and are grateful that you and the Archdiocese have begun to respond the call of Laudato Si to an ecological conversion. We would like to discuss with you what we can do to help and assist you and our Diocese respond more urgently to this emergency situation. If possible in person, Covid situation allowing, or failing that by zoom or similar.

Yours sincerely, *M.J.Newell* Fr Martin Newell cp

Signed on behalf of all the signatories listed below

Phil Mayland, Justice and Peace Commission, Birmingham Archdiocese  
Sister Margaret Walsh IJS  
Sister Margaret Breen CSSP, Sister Anna o'Connor CSSP  
Father Kevin Kavanagh  
Kris Pears, Paschal Somers, Paul McGowan, Fiona Hoey (Coventry Justice and Peace Group)  
David McLoughlin  
Matthew Neville, Orla Cunningham (Faith Justice Network)  
Janet Vaughan  
Richard W.Henshaw (Lichfield)  
Ann Kelly  
Jane Lavery  
Jonathan Holden, (parishioner of St Peter Apostle, Leamington, & parish J&P group)  
Imelda Sharkey, 17 Randolph St, Oxford OX4 1XZ  
Jackie & Jim Edmunds (Birmingham)  
Jim Quinn ( Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Redditch: CAFOD campaign volunteer)  
Michael Malone-Lee (Oxford)  
Liz Heaven