

Action

Organise a meeting (online) of local faith groups to reflect and plan.

Contact your church leaders and invite them to join you in calling the UK Government to end the Trident nuclear submarine programme now. This money could be used for healthcare, sustainable energy, combatting poverty.

Connect relevant people in your community with groups like Medact (for health professionals), Mayors for Peace, Nuclear-Free Local Authorities.

Celebrate the leadership of the 122 nations who voted in favour of the UN Treaty and the 50 who ratified it. Name them. Congratulate those who are connected with Nigeria, South Africa, New Zealand, Ireland, Vietnam and more.

Pray the prayer given here, or other peace prayers. Pray with others.

Talk to people of all ages and backgrounds in your community and make links together between nuclear weapons, human rights, care for our common home, public spending and racism.

Prayer

Lord,
Strengthen my determination
to work for a world of peace
and justice, free from nuclear
weapons;

My conviction that whatever
our nationality or race we are
all global citizens, one in
Christ;

And my courage to challenge
the powerful with the values of
the Gospel. Amen



Useful organisations and websites

Pax Christi England & Wales
paxchristi.org.uk/

Christian Campaign for Nuclear
Disarmament
<https://christiancnd.org.uk/>

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
www.cnduk.org

International Campaign to Abolish
Nuclear Weapons
www.icanw.org

Nuclear Morality Project
www.nuclearmorality.com

Nuclear Information Service
www.nuclearinfo.org/

Pax Christi International
<https://paxchristi.net/>



The Catholic Church and the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty

October 2020: Fifty Ratifications!
The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons will enter
into force on 22nd January 2021
In international law nuclear weapons are illegal
But the work of peace is not yet done...

The UK Government has so far refused to engage with the Treaty.
Despite the global pandemic, the government continues with its hugely
expensive programme to replace Trident.

November 2019 Pope Francis visits Nagasaki

He calls for: 'A world of peace, free from nuclear weapons...
To make this ideal a reality calls for involvement on the part of all:
individuals, religious communities and civil society,
countries that possess nuclear weapons and those that do not,
the military and private sectors, and international organizations'.

November 2019 Pope Francis visits Hiroshima

He reaffirms that "The use of atomic energy for purposes of war is
immoral, just as the possessing of nuclear weapons is immoral."

December 2017 Nobel Peace Prize

This awarded to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
(ICAN), for its work on the Ban Treaty.
Pax Christi is a member of ICAN.

November 2017 Rome Disarmament Conference

The Vatican hosts the conference where Pope Francis affirms that the
threat and possession of nuclear weapons is to be condemned.

July 2017 At the United Nations

122 States vote in favour of a UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear
Weapons (TPNW). The Holy See is one of the first States to sign it.

A quick guide to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

It prohibits states parties from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, acquiring, stockpiling, transferring, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons.

It prohibits the stationing, deployment or installation of nuclear weapons

It prohibits states parties from involvement/assistance to enable nuclear weapon production, deployment or other promotional activities. This could affect banks, companies and pension schemes involved in financing or maintaining nuclear weapons and their systems.

It obliges states to provide assistance to individuals under their jurisdiction who are affected by nuclear weapon use or testing.

It obliges states to cooperate and assist each other in fulfilling their obligations.



Catholics are helping to defund and delegitimise Nuclear Weapons

The world has changed. Nuclear weapons are illegal under international law.

Countries which possess nuclear weapons and have not engaged with the Treaty are not bound by this international law. Nevertheless we expect policy changes by financial institutions, led by those who operate internationally. It is time for us to press for these changes.

Contact your bank/pension provider. Ask about their policy on nuclear weapons. Are they now categorised with other 'controversial weapons' such as landmines ?

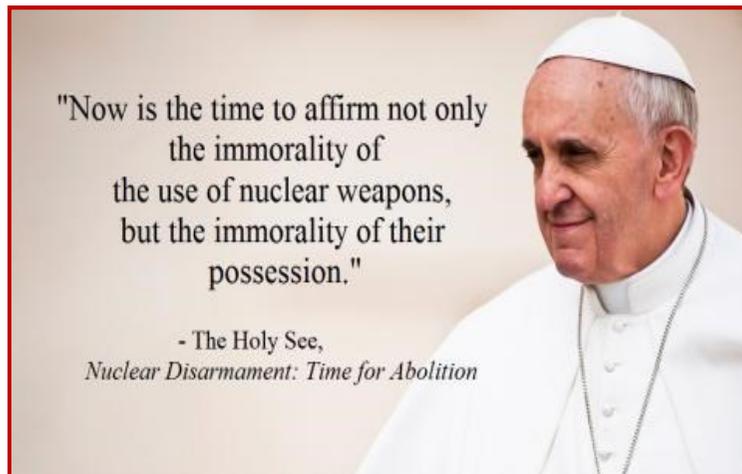
Use the information and tools on the UK Nuclear Weapons Financing Research Group's website to help you:

moneyoutofnukes.wordpress.com

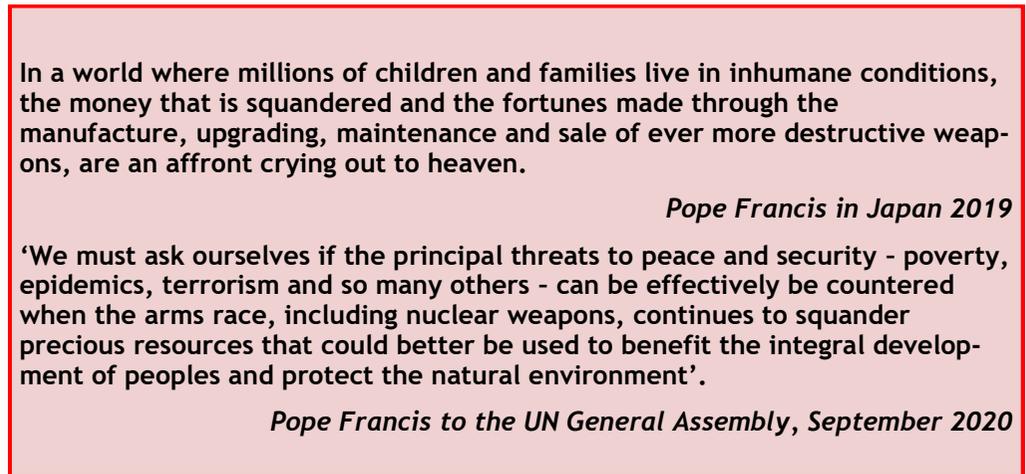
Use *Don't Bank on the Bomb* to identify companies involved in nuclear weapon production and the financial institutions continuing to invest in them.

<https://www.dontbankonthebomb.com/>

Ask questions about the financial institutions used by your parish/diocese/groups you belong to.



<https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/>



More actions
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