

Justpeace

PAX CHRISTI

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PEACE SUNDAY: LET'S PUSH THE BOAT OUT

It's Peace Sunday again! 16 January is the date, and we hope to regain momentum since last year's observance was so curtailed by Covid. So for 2022 let's push the boat out, out into deeper water, reaching people of all ages through the liturgy and prayer, by sharing the message, and by action for peace.

'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace' is the theme announced for World Peace Day. Pope Francis is inviting us to think of the role of education and upbringing in building lasting peace, and creating solidarity and dialogue between generations as a way of building peace. This provides a golden opportunity for families, schools and groups to explore their role in peacemaking.

In her Abingdon parish Anne Dodd will be giving a two-minute talk at the end of each Mass. 'I'll tell people where Pax Christi comes from, and, quoting from Pope Francis' World Peace Day message, I hope to convey that peacemaking is a central part of traditional Catholic belief.' She is very aware that with live-streamed Masses she is addressing a much bigger congregation than usual.

In Leeds Tim and Teresa Devereux will offer each parishioner a prayer card, while Arn Dekker will ask his Cambridge parish priest to allow a retiring collection. 'I will contact the children's liturgy group and the choir, and I'll ask for the bidding prayers to be used.'

TIME TO GET PLANNING!

It's a concerted effort. We need the help of every member to get Pax Christi's message out there. Our resources are plentiful, either online, or paper copies can be sent to you (see order form enclosed).

Which of these suggestions would work in your situation?

Personally: Offer to give a talk at Mass or in another setting – use our script, or the pre-recorded talk. If you use social media share our posts and retweet, adding your personal comment.

Families: Try out our prayer time resource specially prepared for young children. Talk to family members who are less aware of peace issues and find common ground.

Parishes: Talk to your priest about marking Peace

Sunday. Print out the liturgy booklet which includes ready-to-use penitential prayers, homily reflections by Fr Rob Esdaile, and bidding prayers. Display the Peace Sunday poster, or quotes on a notice board outside the church; organise a collection; offer a short piece for the parish newsletter.



Peace Sunday – every generation can be involved

Young people: Give our 'Activities & Prayers' pages to those responsible for children's liturgy at church. In schools pass on the assembly/form-time notes from our Education Worker, Aisling Griffin. Organise an 'Artists for Peace' project, inviting young people to create images, videos, graphics, that illustrate the link between peace and care of creation. Find ideas here: <https://paxchristi.net/2021/10/15/winners-artists-for-peace/>

Groups: Read or adapt the script to give a short talk and stimulate discussion. Start a cross-generational discussion in your parish, perhaps linked to the Synod preparation, on the links between faith and justice. There are excellent support resources here: <https://millionminutes.org/generations>

Fundraising: Organise a fundraising activity or a parish collection to support Pax Christi. We rely on Peace Sunday donations to help fund our work - and those were down by 75% this past year, making income much more precarious. Members will receive one small donation envelope with this *Justpeace*. Just ask for more if you could use them.

You can find all our Peace Sunday information, ideas and resources on our dedicated webpage: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022/>

POPE FRANCIS' 2022 WORLD PEACE MESSAGE

EDUCATION, WORK AND DIALOGUE
BETWEEN GENERATIONS:
TOOLS FOR BUILDING LASTING PEACE



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