

Pastoral Plan for Justice and Peace in Hexham & Newcastle Diocese

Diocese

- Raising awareness and promoting J&P as central to the life of the Church in the Diocese informed by Catholic Social Teaching supported by the J&P Co-ordinating Council ideally supported by staff with appropriate skills and status.
- To improve effective networking and communication and broadening the scope of social issues (see Footnote) to involve all the Diocesan church institutions committed to Justice & Peace issues. eg JP Co-ordinating Council, CAFOD, CARJ, CWL, SVP orders & agencies etc.
- To promote a justice and peace programme that fully lives up to our mission and is promoted by all.
- To embed social justice formation practices in diocesan structures and parish communities.

Deaneries/Clusters

- Groups to operate across parishes and churches and faiths (members may be involved in a number of different groups). *There are many other ways of acting that J&P members have found useful in particular contexts. Some already work ecumenically; some focus on credit unions etc*

Parish

- To see the whole parish as a potential mission community. *This avoids justice and peace being left to a small group and not being integrated into the life of the parish. It demands commitment from priest and parish and regular renewal.*

Catechesis

- To integrate justice and peace into sacramental preparation programmes for both children and adults (RCIA). *More Catholics would then be enabled to perceive the essential integration of faith and justice.*
- Training & discussion on Social Teaching. (*J&P have already had a workshop to help our understanding of Caritas in Veritate before the Popes recent visit*) Working as a network with diocesan & parish catechists, the Youth Mission Team and Catholic education policy-makers etc.

School

- There is great potential for working with diocesan RE teams who would perhaps welcome interaction in this dimension of their work.
- Whole schools working towards becoming justice and peace communities. (*Potential partners are diocesan RE teams, school chaplains, RE teams in individual schools; CAFOD and Pax Christi etc*)

Footnote

The J&P community, enlightened by the Gospel vision of God's Kingdom, seeks a world in which:

- *there is respect for the integrity of the whole of creation and for the dignity and freedom of every human being*
- *people live in peace seeking non-violent ways of resolving conflict*
- *all have access to food, clean water, shelter, health, education and a livelihood*
- *there is justice for those who are displaced, are in debt or are enslaved by their work*
- *development and the use of resources are sustainable*
- *inspiring through prayer, celebration and a spirituality that informs our whole lives*
- *we sustain each other in prophetic witness and in working for change*
- *we raise awareness of J&P as central to the life of the Church*
- *providing training, workshops and conferences*
- *seeking collaboration over resources, ideas and good practice*