

Migration

“Migration is a global phenomenon, touching all regions, crossing all ecclesiastical and national boundaries and it affects millions of human beings.” (Bishop Lynch). The UN estimates there are 150 million migrants around the globe, many doing menial work in order to send a remittance home, World Bank reckons that these remittances are worth between \$300b-\$400b annually.

Among the migrants are those who are seeking sanctuary in a host country as they flee from persecution, injustice and violence. The term “**Sanctuary seeker**” is much more acceptable in the UK as the word “Asylum” has become demonized.

REFUGEE WEEK

June 14-20th

Prayers will be sent to each parish from the Office of Refugee Policy, Bishops’ Conference. Please use them and remember that those coming here seeking sanctuary have lost so much: home, family, language, culture etc. and yet have contributed much to this country over the generations.

We must welcome the stranger in our midst.

Norwich is a City of Sanctuary and the J&P group there has done much to befriend and assist migrants.



CAFOD

Go to www.cafod.org.uk/policy-campaigns/action-pack for action on poverty, or order action cards from: 020 7095 5692
Can your parish have a card signing weekend for this urgent cause?

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Poverty and housing

The new government faces a challenge in meeting the commitment to protecting those on low incomes at the same time as cutting spending.

Go to Church Action on Poverty entitled "Hear the Cry of the Poor" www.church-poverty.org.uk/news or Alastair Murray of Housing Justice, "Where are the homes we need?"

www.ekklesia.co.uk/node/12243

Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's

pro-democracy leader and Nobel Peace laureate, symbolises the struggle of Burma's people to be free. She has been in and out of prison or under house arrest since 1990. It will be her 65th birthday on June 19th. Please pray for her and for the suffering people of Burma. She has called on people around the world to join the struggle for freedom in Burma, saying "**Please use your liberty to promote ours**".

National Justice & Peace Network Conference

Spaces are still available for this conference in Swanwick July 16-18 entitled "Our daily bread: food security, people and planet" with eminent speakers, workshops, a debate on sustainable agriculture and an opportunity to network. Booking forms and comprehensive information including the latest Vocation for Justice on food at www.justice-and-peace.org.uk or 020 7901 4864

SIGN UP TO A BULLET PROOF ARMS-TRADE TREATY

Did you know that there are international agreements to control trade in bananas and dinosaur bones, but not yet a world-wide treaty to regulate trade in products designed to kill and injure: conventional arms and ammunition?

15 states have voted to develop a "Strong and robust "treaty" with the highest possible common international standards", but some states want to water this down.



But lobbying is paying off.

At the UN preparatory conference in July we can make our new government demand this "Strong and robust" treaty.

The People's Arms Trade Treaty must be bullet-proof Every minute, one person dies as a result of armed violence. Thousands more each day are injured, raped, brutally repressed, traumatised or forced to flee their homes. At the end of 2008, 26 million people were internally displaced due to armed conflict. Families are torn apart and millions of men, women and children live in fear.

An AK 47 can be exchanged for a chicken in some markets in Africa and will cost as little as \$12 in many poorer, war torn countries.

To add your name, go to:

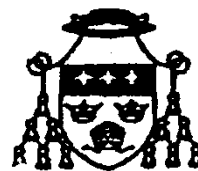
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/appeals-for-action/demand-bullet-proof-arms-trade-treaty>

J&P Commission:

Chair:
Sister Pat Robb CJ 01223 473806 E par.cj@ntlworld.com
Secretary:
Bernard Shaw 01223 240207 E bshaw98uk@yahoo.co.uk

Justice & Peace Newsletter

Diocese of East Anglia
Justice & Peace Commission



Summer 2010

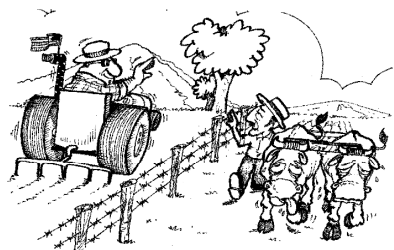
The summer season, with its bright blue skies (sometimes) and its wonderful array of colour in the plants and animals about us, must surely make us more aware of our precious and wonderful environment: a gift from God: "All things in this world are also created because of God's love and they become a context of gifts, presented to us so that we can know God more easily and make a return of love more readily. As a result we show reverence for all the gifts of creation and collaborate with God in using them so that by being good stewards we develop as loving persons in our care for God's world and its development. But if we abuse any of these gifts of creation.....we break our relationship with God and hinder our growth as loving persons." (Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola; Principle and Foundation. Fleming translation)

"...in our care for God's world and its development..." What should we do now? **BE AWARE!**

LAND GRABBING: Land and inshore waters are purchased by rich states from poor states, mostly in Africa. The money does not benefit the poor local people and they also lose their land.

(More information: www.ifad.org/media/press/2009/26.htm)

1 This land can be used to grow flowers, fruit and vegetables for purchasing countries e.g Saudi Arabia has purchased large swathes of land from Ethiopia, displacing peasant farmers. This land is used to grow flowers, fruit and vegetables for Saudis.



Unequal partners

- 2 More land is used for growing timber and bio fuels forcing indigenous populations off their land and leaving them destitute.
- 3 Land is grabbed by rich companies for mining and drilling for oil. People are forced off their land, wars often erupt as gangs try to control the minerals and the soil is poisoned by chemicals such as arsenic associated with gold mining. (e.g. Democratic Republic of Congo)
- 4 No-one seems concerned about water tables.

More Information: [www.bccn-ng.org/pdf/2ND SPECIAL SYNOD OF BISHOPS ON AFRICA.pdf](http://www.bccn-ng.org/pdf/2ND%20SPECIAL%20SYNOD%20OF%20BISHOPS%20ON%20AFRICA.pdf)

- 5 Selling off fishing rights to other states so depriving local fishermen of their livelihoods

The recent Synod of African Bishops expressed deep concern about "Exploitation of local resources by international agents with connivance of local leaders."

WHAT CAN WE DO IN OUR CARE FOR GOD'S WORLD.....

- L Buy locally sourced products as much as possible
- O Buy organically grown goods as much as possible
- A Respect the treatment of the animals of God's creation
- F Buy Fairly Traded goods as often as you can.

USE YOUR LOAF!



Take action: Grow some fruit, vegetables or herbs in your garden, on your patio or windowsill and so feed the bees and other insects. You can then enjoy the very special flavour of home grown (hopefully organic) food.

Write to your MP to express your concerns about "Land Grabbing", and ask your MP to inform Rt Hon Caroline Spelman MP, Secretary of State for DEFRA.

See www.progressio.org.uk/progressio/internal/98811/illegal_logging_it_s_got_to_stop/ for information on impending EU legislation on illegal logging, including a sample letter to Mrs Spelman valid until 25 July. To keep abreast of developments, sign up to receive the Progressio campaign newsletter, PROactive www.progressio.org.uk/progressio/Internal/90405/96363/subscribe_to_proactive_e_news/ 020 7354 0883