

Mar—Apr
2010

Swindon Catholic Deanery Justice & Peace Group Newsletter

Chair: Julia Starczewski

Website: www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk/J+PGroup.htm

Upcoming Events:

Life Stories 2

**Fri 23rd April, 7 for 7:30pm
St Joseph's Catholic College**

Following a very successful LIFE Stories event last spring, the Swindon Life Group have organised a second event with guests **Bishop Ambrose Griffiths, Dr Carole Collins and Joanne Hill**. Come and hear a lively panel discussion on life issues. Tickets £5 for adults and £3 for concessions, available from your Parish LIFE rep or from Marguerite Holliday on 480611.

Swindon Churches Together Election Hustings for South Swindon

**Mon 19th April, 6:30 for 7pm
Immanuel Church, Upham Rd.**

Chaired by the Bishop of Swindon, Lee Rayfield. Questions to the Chair by 6:50pm, to be posed to South Swindon candidates: Robert Buckland (Conservatives), Damon Hooton (Lib Dem), Jenni Miles (Green Party), Anne Snelgrove (Labour), and Robin Tingey (UKIP). Event will finish by 8:30pm.

Swindon Churches Together Election Hustings for North Swindon

**Date TBC. For further details,
contact ISR office on 491454.**

Deanery J&P Contacts:

Fr Liam Slattery, 01793-535089
Email: Toveyroad@aol.com

- **Holy Rood**
Julia Starczewski (Chair)
Noreen Bint (CAFOD Rep)
- **Holy Family**
Jean Roberts (CAFOD Rep)
- **St Thomas More, Marlborough**
Matthew Devlin (CAFOD Rep)
- **St Joseph's, Wroughton**
Steve Aftelak
- **St Mary's**
Roger Dyson (CAFOD Rep)
- **St Peter's**
Elizabeth & Robert Barrett
John Bennett (CAFOD Rep)
Clare-Marie Burchall
Louise Burke
Gitti & Eric Hayes
Hugo James

Deanery CAFOD Representative:
Mark Donovan, 01793-522709

Next J&P Group meetings:

Next meetings: 13th Apr and 4th May at
Tovey Road Presbytery, 7:30-9:00pm.

Choosing the Common Good

On March 3rd the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales launched their pre-election document: 16 pages of easy reading on some of the key themes of Catholic Social Teaching, discussed in the light of Pope Benedict's recent teachings and of the changed conditions in contemporary Britain.

In this first update of "Choosing the Common Good" since 1996, the Bishops anticipate both the forthcoming General Election and the visit of Pope Benedict XVI in September. They do not offer direction on how to vote, but give a backcloth to the more particular issues which may well dominate the election itself. A PDF copy is available at <http://www.cliftondiocese.com/choosing-the-common-good> - well worth a look!

When the General Election is announced, the Bishops will publish a shorter document, inviting voters to consider particular points of policy.

"If anyone is left out and deprived of what is essential, then the common good has been betrayed"

"The period before a General Election is a time to reflect on what sort of society we live in and how we would like it to be"

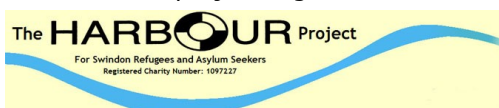


An 8 minute video of Archbishop Nichols on Choosing the Common Good is available from www.catholicchurch.org.uk

The Harbour's Quiz Night Success

125 people attended The Harbour's Quiz Night at St Joseph's College on March 6th, raising a terrific total of £1,250. It was a great night out, with a fish & chips supper, a raffle, a bar, and some fierce competition. The winning team was comprised of members of the Swindon Citizens Advice Bureau (and the J&P Group's team came third last!)

The Harbour Project runs a drop-in service in Broad Street for refugees and asylum seekers in Swindon, and receives funding from a variety of sources including the Borough Council, Refugee Action, and the Anglican parish of Swindon New Town. Details at www.harbourproject.org.uk



Spring Clear-out?

Rather than queuing at the tip, use Freecycle and give things away:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/swindon_freecycle/

Now 10,000 members in Swindon!

