

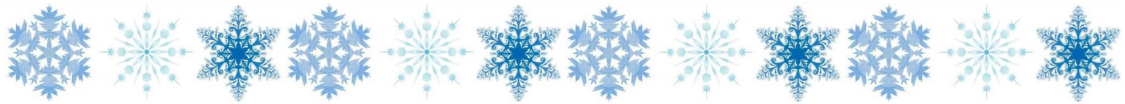
**From:** Christian Climate Action <christianclimateaction@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 13 December 2023 10:02  
**To:** ctcinfohub@gmail.com  
**Subject:** CCA Newsletter December 2023



**Christian  
Climate  
Action**

# NEWSLETTER

December 2023



*Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and the hope of solid action on the Climate Emergency in 2024. Also, a BIG thank you to everyone who has contributed material to the newsletter this year.*



## **CHICHESTER DIOCESE CHALLENGED LIVE ON BBC RADIO**



**On the 29th of November a dozen members of CCA, including clergy, interrupted Evensong at Chichester Cathedral which was being broadcast live on BBC Radio 3. The protesters held a banner reading 'Chichester Diocese funds climate chaos'.**

The activists sang a plainsong penitential chant and read out a short statement explaining their actions before walking slowly back through the central aisle.

This prayerful action was taken in response to Chichester Diocese Synod having voted to continue investing in Shell and BP at its meeting earlier in November. This decision makes Chichester one of only three Church of England (CofE) dioceses still investing in fossil fuels, with the vast majority already divested and the CofE as a whole having voted to divest.

*The Church Times, Premier, and The New Statesman* printed information about the cathedral action. A vigil was held outside the Synod meeting when the decision to continue investment was taken and a letter has been sent to the Bishop of Chichester. CCA would welcome further dialogue with the Diocese.

[More on this story](#)

## FORTHCOMING ACTIONS

### No Faith in Fossil Fuels - 10 Day Lent Vigil 14th - 24th February 2024



**Join us on Ash Wednesday 2024 as we begin a 24/7, ten day vigil outside Parliament to lament the failure of government to take adequate action to address the climate and environmental crisis.**

We will pray that global climate and environmental justice will be at the heart of the urgent action now required.

CCA is working with a number of other organisations on this and throughout the 10 days, a number of services will be held.

[Find out more](#)



**Urging Dioceses to Drop Barclays**  
Starting soon: write to your diocese  
14th April 2024: Day of Action

**Many dioceses across the UK bank with Barclays - the biggest funder of fossil fuels in Europe - and so give social license to an organisation bankrolling climate collapse.**

Help us in demanding that dioceses put their money where their mouth is and move away from this destructive bank.

This two-part campaign will start with Christians writing to dioceses who bank with Barclays, asking them to change their banking arrangements. This will be followed by a day of action on 14th April 2024 at cathedrals in the dioceses that have declined to do so.

[Full details](#)

**See more forthcoming actions under Local Groups below.**

## RECENT ACTIONS

### Holding Vigil Outside MPs' Offices

**Leading up to COP28, Christians held vigils outside their local MP's office and asked their MP to meet them.**

They were urging the UK Government to pay the International Loss and Damage funds that it owes to countries on the sharp end of climate breakdown.



Last year at COP27, world Governments agreed to create the fund to compensate for the severe impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities, but over the last year, many nations have failed to actually commit any finance.

COP28 has brought some progress with many countries now committing sums of money. However, some contributions are woefully inadequate and it is far from clear as yet whether the £60m committed by the UK is new/additional money.

[See the action in pictures](#)



## CCA Joins Global Day of Action for Climate Justice

As world leaders continued talks at COP28, members of CCA joined thousands of others in London and cities across the country to demand governments stop backtracking on climate commitments and deliver climate justice.

The rallies were organised by Global Justice Now. Pictured above: CCA at the rally in Brighton.

## Defend Our Juries



This month, dozens of CCA members joined other activists sitting outside courts across the country in a multi-group action co-ordinated by the Defend our Juries campaign.

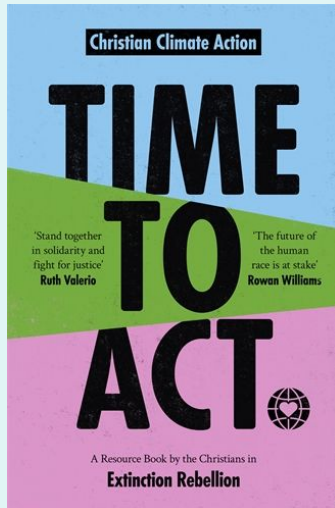
Each protestor held a sign referencing words carved above the doors of the Old Bailey, which enshrine the rights of juries to reach a verdict according to their conscience.

This event was just one in a series of actions which have sought to highlight how the juries trying climate activists have been prevented from fully understanding the case because defendants have been forbidden from explaining the motivation for their civil disobedience. Using words such as "climate emergency", "fuel poverty" and "insulation" has resulted in activists being convicted of contempt of court and imprisoned.

[Read more](#)

## RESOURCES

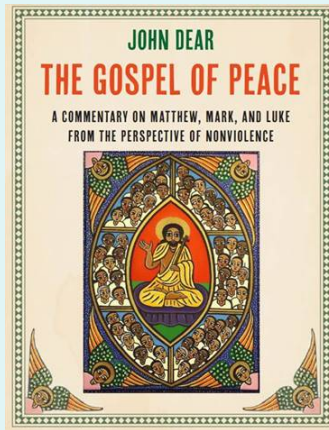
### Books - Great Buys for Christmas



### Time to Act

CCA's book *Time to Act* includes essays, sermons, poetry, and stories from dozens of CCA members and guest contributors.

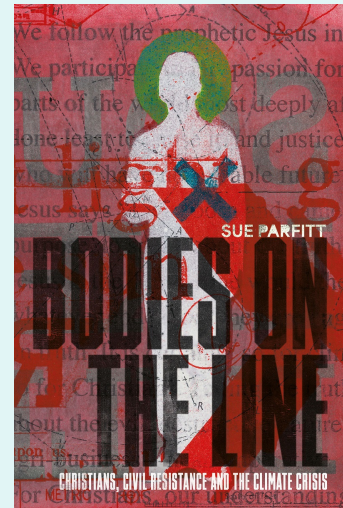
[Available from SPCK](#)



### The Gospel of Peace

This latest book from Fr Rev John Dear is a Commentary on Matthew, Mark and Luke from the perspective of active Nonviolence.

[See author's website](#)



### Bodies on the Line

CCA's very own Rev Sue Parfitt gives a striking rationale for why Christians are engaging in non-violent civil disobedience.

[Available from Labora Press](#)

## CCA CENTRAL EVENTS

Below is a selection of the CCA events scheduled over the next few weeks. A full list of all our events can be found on our [EVENTS PAGE](#)



### Saturday Session

16th December, 11.00am  
End of Year Round-Up

Don't miss our **VERY LAST** Saturday session: a preview of some of the things CCA will be doing in the coming months and your chance to say what you think we should be doing in 2024. [Register here](#).

Although we are saying goodbye to Saturday Sessions, a rich archive of past sessions remains on the [CCA YouTube channel](#). We will be organising ad hoc online events on Wednesday evening where we will explore issues of interest, so watch this space for more details.

## Effective Campaigning

Video: Thursday 25th January 2024

Discussion: Thursday 1st February

Both sessions at 7.00pm

If you missed the live Saturday Session, this is your chance to see a recording of Christian Aid's Jonathan Cox sharing his wisdom on effective campaigning. His campaign successes include bringing an end to the detention of children for migration purposes and wins on the resettlement of 20,000 Syrian refugees.

[See more information and register](#)



## Want a CCA Group Near You?

Wednesday 24th January 2024

7.30pm ONLINE

This is a friendly meeting for anyone who wants a [CCA group](#) near them.

It doesn't matter if you are completely new to CCA. Everyone is very welcome to explore how to get a local group going.

[Register in advance](#)

## New to CCA

Tuesday 31st October

7.00pm ONLINE

If you are new to CCA and want to understand more about how we work and how you can get involved, this meeting is for you.

Grab a cuppa and get comfy as you meet both existing and other new members of CCA.

[Register in advance](#)



## LOCAL GROUPS

We now have CCA local groups across the UK and beyond. Click [here](#) to see if there's a local group near you



## CCA Kent

Email:

christianclimateactionkent@gmail.com

## Prayer Vigil

Saturday 16th December 11.00am  
Buttermarket, Canterbury

CCA Kent meets monthly for a Vigil for the Earth outside the main gate to Canterbury Cathedral. This month, after meeting in the Buttermarket, the Vigil will walk in prayerful procession to join XR Money Rebellion outside Barclays in the High Street. All welcome.

## CCA London

Email: christianclimateaction@gmail.com

## Weekly Vigil Outside Shell HQ

Wednesdays 8.00am - 9.00am

**Shell has know about the devastating effects of burning fossil fuels since the 1980s. Despite this, it continues to expand its oil and gas projects with full force.**

CCA member Judith prays each week (daily during COP28) outside Shell's London headquarter as their employees enter the building. Anyone who can is invited to join her.



## Vigil Outside Parliament Receives Welcome Visitor

**As CCA groups across the country focused their prayerful attention on their MPs offices to express their concern about the UK's failure to contribute to an International Loss and Damage Fund for countries impacted by climate crisis, CCA London participated in this countrywide vigil by joining the weekly Earth Vigil outside the Houses of Parliament.**

Despite extending invitations to MPs to join them, none of them attended the Vigil. However, the group was delighted to be joined by the Bishop of Kingston, who did respond to their invitation.



### **CCA Bristol**

**Email:**  
christianclimateactionbristol@gmail.com

### **Climate Justice Now Vigil**

**At the end of November, members of CCA in Bristol met in silent vigil on College Green.**

About 25 Christians prayed for their local MPs ahead of COP28 and the need for a proper Loss and Damage fund.

Leaflets were handed out to passers-by explaining the action and Canon Jonnie Parkin, from Bristol Cathedral, was on hand to be a listening ear for anyone suffering from climate anxiety.



### **CCA Brighton**

**Email:** christiancabrighton@gmail.com

### **Service of Lament**

**Members of CCA were able to lead a service of Lament for the Climate Emergency at St Luke's, Prestonville.**

The service comprised time in prayer, followed by listening to tracks from Resound's doxecology album (with texts from Rev Jon Swales) at four prayer stations focused on War, Biodiversity Loss, COP28 and Fast Fashion and Finance.



### **CCA West Berkshire**

**Email:** ccawestberks@gmail.com

### **Powerful Vigil in Newbury**

**CCA West Berkshire organised a Vigil for COP28 which was held in Newbury Market Square at the end of November.**

Around 56 people attended from a variety of churches and faith groups, as well as representatives from the Green Party and local councillors. The Vigil received excellent coverage in the local press.

## **PRAYER**





CCA's endeavors to combat the Climate Emergency are underpinned by [daily prayer](#).

**Morning Prayer:** 9am every morning on Zoom.

**Evening Prayer:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, 9.15pm -9.45pm to pray for the Earth and the work we are called to do at CCA, and to replenish our spiritual wellspring at the end of the day.

[Register here](#) for both morning and evening prayer.

**Earth Vigils:** CCA also participates in a number of Earth Vigils. [Find these listed amongst our events](#).

## DONATE

Donations from our supporters help:

- pay a handful of freelancers for a small amount of their time to keep CCA running: answering emails and supporting local groups.
- cover the transport and accommodation of activists where needed whenever we can and buying kit for actions.
- fund this newsletter and many of our meetings which are hosted on a paid-for Zoom service.

If you're not able to get involved in actions (or even if you are!) donating to CCA is a really effective way to help us.

You can make a one off gift, or set up a regular payment to CCA, very easily [online](#).

**THANK YOU**



## KEEP UPDATED!

Do check out our [website](#). We update it regularly with blogs. Also view the [CCA YouTube](#) channel and find us at [CCA Facebook](#), [CCA Twitter](#) and [CCA Instagram](#)

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