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GOOD NEWS

FAIR TRADE

£30 million in Fair Trade Premiums is being invested in local led community projects.

In 2023, 30,000 people took action in Fair Trade campaigning for more equal global trade rules. 20,000 signed petitions for trade and climate justice, writing to MPs and sharing messages from poor farmers. This showed politicians that grass roots support for climate justice can't be ignored.

40 universities are working towards Fair Trade status.

600 Schools have been awarded Fair Trade Status.

THE NORTH OF IRELAND

Last year was the first year since records began in 1969 that there were no security related incidents recorded.

NEURODIVERGENT ADULTS

Only about 30 % of adults are in work.

Job prospects should improve as special employment centres are to be set up.

TESCO'S WINTER FOOD COLLECTIONS

saw nearly 38,500 meals donated to make a difference in their community

FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

PEACE SUNDAY

January 14th is the 57th International Peace Sunday.

The Pope's Message for this Peace Sunday concerns especially developments in Artificial Intelligence which are already having worldwide effects in communications, public administration, education, health and other areas of everyday life. His message is detailed and worth reading.

His prayer is that AI will be used for the common good of all nations and not for destructive and unethical purposes.

(This week I read that the first artificial womb being developed will be able to nourish and grow an embryo).

UK HEALTH SECURITY AGENCY

warns that Dengue Fever and other diseases transmitted by Asian tiger mosquitos could become established across England in the 2040s because of climate change. Warmer conditions have allowed the biting insects to spread over much of Europe in recent years.

OECD

reports that one in 40 adults in the UK are taking a class A drug and we are the world's second largest user of cocaine.

ACTIONS FOR THE WEEK

So much to pray for in this new year.

Focus on one area of need close to your heart today, and on one blessing you have received this day

May each day bring a ray of God's sunlight to some one in need.

Mary Bradley