

Justice and Peace News & Prayer

December 2020



1 We Give Thanks For:

- The new Corona vaccine now being rolled out in Cornwall.
- The ability of relatives to visit and touch their loved ones in some care homes for the first time in many months, due to the 30 minute Coronavirus test.

This quotation gives us hope that all our little actions taken in the pursuit of Justice together can have a powerful effect, when we stand up for what is right and just instead of passing by on the other side – Mary Bradley

You just need to be a flea against injustice. Enough committed fleas biting strategically can make even the biggest dog uncomfortable and transform even the biggest nation.

Marian Wright Edelman

American Activist

QUOTEHD.COM

2 Care Home Ministry in a Pandemic

December is traditionally a hectic time for care homes, with many visiting groups providing seasonal entertainment. As this extraordinary year comes to a close, celebrations will no doubt be more muted, although the prospect of a family member visiting and a vaccine in the offing will bring some comfort and cheer. This is normally one of the busiest times for the Care Home Team, squeezing in eight or more carol services, singing from room to room in a nursing home, eating mince pies and handing out Christmas cards. This year we've been equally busy, but in a different way.



The pandemic led to innovative ways of keeping connected to the homes we've not been able to visit. We ventured into the world of YouTube and have provided a monthly video, which has been shown on communal televisions and iPads (see <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGYmw3RRK8T1jTSYU5Z2Hgg>). Residents have been able to see familiar faces, enjoy well-known hymns and hear a relevant message from the Bible. For the Christmas video we were able to include some socially-distanced carol singing and the whole recording was put onto a DVD for each home. We've also given a CD of carol tunes specially recorded by one of our pianists, Nicki Tumbridge. Recently we've been circulating "The Monthly

Link”, an illustrated article, which some homes include in a regular newsletter or copy for all their residents. This year the decision was taken to give a Christmas card to every resident in the Falmouth care homes – that's 160 cards!

Peter Richards



3 Fairtrade and Christmas

Need some ideas for Christmas presents this year? Why not put Fairtrade gifts on your Christmas list? You will find a variety of Fairtrade gifts from specialty teas, delicious chocolates, wine, pure honey, flowers, jewellery, clothing, beauty products and much more. A selection of Fairtrade goods can be bought from local supermarkets and high street stores.

Spread the love. Support Fairtrade farmers. Buy a Fairtrade gift for someone you love.



4 Christmas in Palestine

This year thousands of Olive trees have been burnt, uprooted or cut down. Please help to replace these by sponsoring olive trees through “Trees for Life”:

https://zaytoun.org/plant_a_tree.html



Graffiti of Peace in Bethlehem on Apartheid Wall by Street Artist Kis-Lev / Wikimedia Commons

Let us remember as we pray the people of Bethlehem, who are imprisoned by a wall, and who since the birth of Jesus have upheld their faith through many wars, conflicts, and struggles.



PRAYER FOR PEACE

The peace Jesus gives us
Is a peace for today and for the future.
May the Lord give us this peace
Full of hope
That makes us fruitful,
That makes us communicate with others
And that always looks forward to the peace of Heaven.

5 Prayer for the Persecuted

O God, who in your inscrutable providence will that the Church be united to the sufferings of your Son, grant we pray, to your faithful who suffer for your name's sake a spirit of patience and charity, that



they may be found true and faithful witnesses to the promises you have made. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

“The blood of our Christian brothers and sisters is a testimony which cries out to be heard...It makes no difference whether they be Catholics, Orthodox, Copts or Protestants. They are Christians! Their blood is one and the same. Their blood confesses Christ.” —Pope Francis

5 Jesus is the Light of All Nations



Depiction of the Holy Family as an Inuit family in the Arctic by Canadian artist William Kurelek.

Peruvian crib (photo: Roger Mills)



Black Madonna





African Crib

(photo: Wikimedia Commons)



Justice & Peace News and Prayer is compiled by Mary Bradley on behalf of the Justice & Peace Action Group, Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together. Any comments or items for inclusion may be sent to mary@corisande.plus.com.

