Peace at Christmas

Advent Vigil at Aldermaston, 26 November 2009
More vigils on 10 & 17 December, 1 - 2pm

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2010 - Annus Mirabalis?

Ring out wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out wild bells, and let him die.

We are reaching the end of another year, a decade into the new millennium, the end of the Decade of Non-Violence but a decade of war, violence, economic melt-down and ecological anxiety. That’s the negative side.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells across the snow:
The year is going, let him go:
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

At this time of year we look for the new hope Christmas brings - and there is hope out there: hope coming from the USA in the new presidency, the realisation generally of the futility of war, a real popular movement to save the planet and, as we experienced at the UN last year, real optimism for a movement towards nuclear disarmament beginning at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference next May.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Events are crowding into our new campaigning year. We hope you find what we have outlined in this journal exciting and inspiring. You are needed. We need your prayers always. We need your presence when you can give it. We particularly hope to meet as many of you as possible in Coventry in September to help celebrate our 50th anniversary and to gain strength to continue our journey together.

A blessed Christmas and happy New Year to you all!

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

(From In Memoriam, Alfred Lord Tennyson)
Some years ago Christian CND held its Annual Conference in Plymouth - a delightful town by the sea, full of history and adjoined by the great Devonport naval dockyard. Our event terminated at the Dockyard gate with a liturgical play in which four of us put on mock-up Trident submarine costumes made by Michael Pulham and named HMS Vile, HMS Vainglorious, HMS Vicious and HMS Very Evil. We were joined by local CND people and achieved good publicity.

However, that was way back in 2003 and nuclear disarmers in Plymouth have good reason to feel that their activities often do not receive the back up from other CND groups that they merit. The dockyard is no longer the hive of activity it once was and therefore the local business interests, the council, the press and the population generally are unsympathetic towards any moves that might threaten employment or wealth in the area. And so the local CND group has a hard task in raising awareness and opposition to the presence and dangers of nuclear risks close to their city.

Nuclear powered submarines, including the giant Vanguard class Trident vessels, are serviced and refitted in the huge Babcock Marine sheds although the actual arming and sailing take place from the Faslane base in Scotland. Devonport also stores and decommissions obsolete nuclear submarines and this involves some storage of nuclear waste. The latest move is to extend the decommissioning work by cutting up the vessels now floating in the Tamar and arranging for the storage of medium and low level nuclear waste. The high risk reactor units will be sent to Sellafield in Cumbria.

Hence on Saturday 31 October (Halloween) a few of us from CCND were glad to join with over 300 others in a public demonstration organised by the Plymouth activists to make the town aware of what is happening on their doorstep and the possible dangers involved. It was a very well-organised event that began by the municipal buildings, processed to the central town shopping square for a gathering and then moved on by local public transport to finish at the Devonport dock gates. The banners and costumes were particularly good, making the link between radiation and death and calling for investment in green jobs.

Great credit must go to Tony Staunton, a local trade unionist and peace campaigner, who spoke at several points. Other speakers included Professor Dave Webb and Mrs Rae Street from CND. It was good to have been there. People came from London, Yorkshire, Manchester, Kent, Wales and the South West generally. Reports suggest that considerable publicity was generated and the campaign is having a good local effect.

Bob Russell
Since beginning my time with Christian CND in September as a one year peace worker on behalf of Quaker Peace and Social Witness my work has been both engaging and varied, and I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to receive training to develop my skills and capacity for peace work. I recently had the privilege of attending a training weekend at the Ammerdown Centre in Somerset on ‘Inter-faith dialogue and facilitation skills’. The intention of the course was to gain an insight into how to build inter-faith relationships. This will be a vital component of my work for Christian CND, as an important aspect of my role is to build an inter-faith presence at events such as the Aldermaston blockade in February and our Flame of Hope march for peace at Easter.

The participant group consisted of about 30 people, with six Muslims, one Buddhist, and one person of a Jewish background with the remainder of the group consisting of people of various Christian denominations. With there being no Hindus, Jains, or people of the Baha’i faith the group was somewhat monolithic, but nonetheless there was enough diversity of belief and practice to create some stimulating conversations. The weekend opened in a spirit of curious enquiry by which it would be characterised: the group had to choose an item from a collection of spiritual artefacts and then go around the group talking about the item we had selected and asking others about their items. I chose an Islamic prayer mat: its beautiful and intricate design and vivid colours attracted me immediately, and I learnt more about the Islamic tradition of prayer from others that I spoke to. It was both exciting and encouraging meeting so many inspirational people working upon such a range of interesting projects. There were hospital chaplains, prison support officers, and dance workshop trainers all working where God had placed them to bring mutual understanding and right relationships between peoples of faith.

My thoughts turned to how I could apply these insights to my work for Christian CND? What had I learnt about inter-faith dialogue that could be applied to galvanising communities behind nuclear disarmament? My main reflection from the weekend was that the first step on the road to peace building is to listen and to understand. An exercise that really stood out for me was when we had to sit in a group of three with one person asking questions about our work, another answering them, and the third person just listening and affirming non-verbally the dialogue taking place. The role of being quiet and focusing on the conversation before me was a humbling experience, revealing that of the divine in others; I realised that why should I expect someone to listen to me talking about nuclear weapons if I wasn’t prepared to understand their dilemma over the choice of curtains for a community hall, for example.

Building peace amongst people is fundamentally interpersonal: it is about how we relate to one another as human beings with dignity and respect, and is cultivated through mutual dialogue and listening to what someone has to say. It is my hope that the experiences that I have gained so far, building relationships and connections in the peace movement, and learning from those around me, will help bring a focus and a firm grounding for the work ahead. These thoughts bring me back to the words of Jesus when addressing the crowd in Galilee: those who hear the words of Christ are like those who build their houses upon the rock - they will not blow down because they stand on firm foundations. Thus, we can stand together against nuclear weapons with confidence, not fearing those who oppose us as we proclaim Jesus message of peace and hope. I look forward to standing with those I have met in the coming months, at a demonstration or a march, to say that there is no place for nuclear weapons in God’s plan for creation.

Christopher Wood
2010 - A year of Campaigning!

2010 will be an important year for anti-nuclear campaigners - this could be the year the world starts to get rid of its nuclear weapons. How can people be involved?

**Aldermaston Big Blockade 15 February**

There is now a lot of info on the Trident Ploughshares website at: http://www.tridentploughshares.org/article1577 or phone them for a copy of the briefing: 0845 45 88 366.

As usual, the event is planned within affinity groups, and each group is responsible for training, travel to Aldermaston, overnight accommodation and organising legal observers, etc. In addition, each gate will have a specialist focus. We are involved in helping organise Faiths groups at Tadley Gate and we’ve been in regular contact with other organisations to facilitate maximum publicity and participation. This is a blockade, and there is a risk of arrest, but there are roles people can take on which do not risk arrest, including being a legal observer, providing refreshments, keeping an eye on arrestees’ belongings and passing on news and information between the gates. The blockade will start at 7am.

**Christian CND supportive actions**

We will once again be holding an all-night candlelit vigil at the Tadley Gate. This will begin with a short service at 9.00pm on Sunday, 14th February, and finish in the same way at 7.00am the next morning. The Prayer for Peace will be recited on the hour during the night.

Come for all or part of the night (well-wrapped up and waterproof!). Last time we were able to provide space in vigillers’ cars for breaks to rest and warm up.

We will also be organising the major Interfaith Liturgy, probably at about 11.00am. Rumour has it that there may be more than one Bishop present!

Any of our clerical members, or members of Religious Orders are encouraged to wear clerical dress - it helps draw the attention of the media.

**Embassies Walk**

On 1st March we will be visiting each of the Nuclear Weapons States embassies in London, plus the embassies of the New Agenda Coalition, as part of our preparation for the NPT Review Conference in May.

The walk is split into at least two, or more likely, three groups as the embassies are too far apart to be done in one go! All are welcome to join us. You won’t necessarily need to walk between all the embassies so don’t let that put you off! Buses will be used as and when needed. You could join us for just a couple of visits if you like. Don’t worry if you feel you’re not an expert on nuclear issues, or on the country’s embassy we are visiting; we can offer briefings, but you won’t necessarily need to say anything ‘expert’ and indeed, sadly all too often, the person we meet with is not an expert either! However, many embassy staff are very welcoming, often offer refreshments and are very pleased to see us. Sometimes there’s a photo opportunity as well!

Full timetables and lists of embassies and the contacts will be available soon. Please contact the office to register your interest in coming along.

**C C N D South Coast Walk**

Fancy a walk for disarmament on the south coast? See page 8 and join us with the Flame of Hope!

**Aldermaston at Easter**

Easter at Aldermaston is a bit of a tradition, and who are we to break with tradition? So there will be an event at Aldermaston at Easter! On Easter Monday there will be a vigil and a walk round the base. More details later.

**Conscientious Ob jectors’ Day**

CCND will be supporting CO Day on 15 May.

**Greenbelt**

CCND is arranging for Bruce Kent to be a main stage speaker at Greenbelt in August - to our surprise we think it’s the first time he has spoken there!

**Our 50th Anniversary**

Join us in Coventry, 17 - 19 September. See page 9.
“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid” John’s gospel 14:27 (RSV text).

About The Bible

The Christian canon of the Old and New Testaments is a unique compilation of stories, books and documents. I draw attention to two respects in which this is true. First there has been virtually no dispute since the second century as to what should be included in it and secondly, the Christian church, in all its diverse manifestations, has always held that it only makes sense as a coherent whole. Thus the Christian faith (as Islam) is firmly rooted in the promise made to Abraham — “In thy seed will all the families of the earth be blessed” (Genesis 28:14).

While that which constitutes “Holy Scripture” is not a matter of dispute; what these writings mean is. They have been used to justify some of the most barbaric acts in history as well as many weird fantasies that conflict with our day to day experience. Holy Scripture is not The Catholic Faith. However, it is within the perspective of the faith once delivered to the saints that this strange, complex and often literally sophisticated collection of writings begins to make sense, renewing the mind (nous) in Jesus Christ. (Nous is a good Scots word as well as a Greek one, e.g. “Hae you nae nous?” In Scots the word nous might be translated as rational common sense). The remainder of this essay is an examination of scripture, seeking an understanding of God’s purpose of peace in Jesus Christ.

Oxford, The Gospels, Conflict and Ethics

At the time of the Vietnam War I was a theology student at Oxford. There I had the privilege of attending G.B. Caird’s lectures on the Gospels and the apocalypse of St. John. Those lectures, in Mansfield College dining hall, left a deep impression. Caird did not so much lecture as preach. The dining hall was packed with students sitting on the floor at the front. There was something sacramental about it. The Gospel was being proclaimed from faith to faith as every nuance of meaning was displayed with delight.

The starting point of his gospel lectures were the accounts in Mark and Luke of the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. - Mark 13, Luke 21: verses 5ff. (c.f. the current destruction of Gaza).

Christianity was born at a time pregnant with looming conflict; a situation typical of recorded human history. But as is stated in Luke’s gospel (Lk. 11:13), we all still know how to give good gifts to our children. That is to say, we are all born with the illumination that it is wrong to hurt and destroy.

So how is it that we can understand God’s good creation - for “God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was very good” Genesis (1:11) - when we live in a world of conflict and struggle? Let me return to Mansfield college dining hall and Caird’s exposition of the Revelation of St. John.

Angels, Principalities and Powers

Here we have to get to grips with the power of angels. Understanding this language of heavenly powers, that permeates the Bible, is most illuminating. Caird’s little book, Principalities and Powers, is key reading. The Apostle Paul writes to the Ephesians: “For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of the present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places”. (Eph 6:12).

An understanding of this language goes something like this. Heaven and earth are created as a single entity. The heavenly or angelic powers sustain the earth in all the diversity of its processes and set the parameters within which human life and domination take place. Creation is not event but dynamic process within which the angelic powers, good and bad, are in conflict. In this struggle human beings are also participants, being made “a little lower than the angels” (Psalm 8:5).

And so to St. John’s vision on the island of Patnos. In chapter 12 verse 7 we read: “And war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought the Dragon. The Dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great Dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the Deceiver of the whole world - he was thrown down to earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.” It is as if these evil powers are like drivers who have lost their licences in God’s time but are still motoring in our time. Moving fast forward to Chapter 20 (but please get a Bible and read the intervening bits - it is gripping stuff) we read, as John’s vision moves on towards the end of our time (chapter 20, verse 7) “When the thousand years are ended Satan will be released from his
Christian witness to peace

prison and will come out to deceive the nations at the four corners of the earth ……in order to gather them for battle:…….(v 9)They marched up over the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from heaven and consumed them. And the Devil who had deceived them, was thrown into the lake of fire where the beast and the false prophet were and they will be tormented, day and night, for ever and ever And so to the vision of the consummation of God’s purpose. Chapter 21 - “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away and the sea was no more.” The disappearance of the sea signifies the absence of the last remnants of primeval chaos.

In the discussion above it is important to understand that heaven and earth are the one reality. Events described in heaven are events on earth. Events on earth are events in heaven. The heavenly powers are the powers of our earthly experience and perception. The language is useful to express the view that it is within the totality of the created order mortal men and women can find themselves aligned with God’s purpose of love, salvation and reconciliation and, ipso facto, at peace with themselves.

Peace In Our Time - Via, Veritas, Vita*

Turning to our mortal part in this world of conflict and in which many sons and daughters are brought to glory. Having the nous renewed in Jesus Christ it becomes our task to sus out these angels. As the apostle Paul says, “Do you not know that you should judge angels?”

The angel of the nuclear bomb is a very bad angel indeed having the potential to destroy all life on earth. He has in thrall ten regimes deploying nuclear weapons (USA, Britain, Russia, Israel, France, NATO, China, Pakistan, India, North Korea). In CND we struggle to defeat this evil angel. We are aided by that moral sense that lightens every person that comes into the world. We look to Jesus whose call for the establishment to repent led to his passion and crucifixion - lifted up on a cross, even as Moses lifted up the serpent, for the healing of the nations. Even so is the Gospel of salvation proclaimed.

The Gospel

Thus we continue in this and other struggles for, as the Apostle puts it: we are “convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38).

The whole dynamic created order of our experience is not a place of peace but a place of conflict. Jesus did not bring peace but “cast fire upon the earth”- (see Luke 12:49ff.) (This is self evident whether seen from an evolutionary, a historical or a religious point of view.) Visions of all pervading peace belong to a realm beyond this one. Michael, with flaming sword, stands firmly at the gates of Paradise. (N.B. Do not confuse paradise, or the “New Jerusalem” with heaven. - see above).

Pax Domine Sit Semper Tecum

So we go forward in that serenity that we call the Peace of the Lord Jesus to judge the angels but not the persons. The latter judgement we must leave to a merciful God. -”Enter not into judgement with thy servant O Lord, for in thy sight no person living shall be justified” (Psalm 143.2). As far as our fellow human beings are concerned our task is to love each other - to share together the bounty of the good earth, the bread the wine and the oil, in solidarity with the saints of all ages.

And What Of The Things The Nations Seek?

“And the Devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the Devil said to him. “To you I will give all this authority for it has been given over to me and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” And Jesus answered him. “It is written. Worship the lord your God and serve only him.”” (Luke4.5-8)

For the rulers of some states today the temptation of dominion is deeply intertwined with the temptation of nuclear arsenals. Such temptations we pray to be spared. “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One.”

* The motto of Glasgow University

Jim Taggart
Flame of Hope

Flame of Hope is an initiative of Abolition 2000. The Flame of Hope will end up in New York for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, and will be joined by a Flame from Hiroshima. George Farebrother, World Court Project UK Secretary, is organising the South Coast feeder march from Dover to Southampton, and CCND will be participating on 4 April.

We will be walking from Lydd to Hastings (about 23 miles in total though lifts will be available!). You are welcome to join us for some (or all!) of the walk.

We will pause where we can see Dungeness nuclear power plant and the Wind Farm at Camber, pass through the ancient towns of Rye and Winchelsea and stop at Wesley’s tree, where he preached his last outdoor sermon. We will wonder at Creation as we enjoy beautiful countryside and breathtaking cliff-top views.

The walk route is mostly off-road, but stopping-places every 2-3 miles will enable walkers to take lifts when they need them.

We hope to leave Lydd at 9.00am and arrive at Hastings Old Town, via the Country Park, at about 6.00pm to be met by the Hastings group to hand over the Flame and finish with a party!

There’s a full timetable for this day - contact the office for a copy or download from the website.

If you’re not available on that day, you could join in on other days:

- 2nd April Dover to Hythe
- 3rd April Hythe to Lydd
- 4th April Lydd to Hastings (CCND’s section)
- 5th April Hastings to Eastbourne
- 6th April Eastbourne to Seaford
- 7th April Seaford to Brighton
- 8th April Brighton to Worthing
- 9th April Worthing to Littlehampton
- 10th April Littlehampton to Chichester
- 11th April Chichester to Portsmouth

See also World Court Project website with more details of the Flame of Hope and contacts for the other days of the walk: http://tinyurl.com/qucqvr or http://tinyurl.com/yhelwda

NPT Review Conference

Christian CND will be sending a small group to New York for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference at the UN. The conference will take place on 3 - 28 May 2010. We will be there for the first week, and will be organising our usual early morning prayer vigil opposite the UN building. We will be involved in an interfaith liturgy at the Churches Center. We will be meeting up with our disarmament campaigning colleagues in a variety of events, including those organised by Reaching Critical Will, a project of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, and many other fringe meetings.

Our group will be small again this year as the Conference is held in New York rather than Vienna or Geneva, due to our wish to keep down our carbon footprints. However, if you would like to join us in New York (if, for example, you could combine the visit to the NPT with visiting family like the Pulhams did in 2009), please get in touch. We may be able to help you find accommodation but will need to know as soon as possible if that’s the case. You will be responsible for your own costs (sorry!). If you can help sponsor the cost of sending three CCND delegates to New York we would be very grateful.

But there will still be things you can do in the UK!

We are collecting together ideas for activities at home which will raise awareness of the NPT, focus members’ actions and prayers, and help support our team at the UN. If you have any good ideas please get in touch. We will be producing a briefing early next year, so look out for that.
Jubilee Journeys (working title!)

Using Christian CND’s 50th Anniversary as a catalyst, we are planning a special peace festival at Coventry Cathedral from 17th - 19th September. The concept is a pause, an oasis, in our journey for peace.

The 17th will be for remembering where we have journeyed from. We hope that people will come in the spirit of pilgrimage from places that are significant to them (their Jubilee Journeys). There will be a social evening with a speaker.

The 18th is for reflection and thanksgiving with a major liturgy in the main Cathedral and afternoon workshops.

The 19th is dedicated to recommitment as we leave the Old Cathedral to continue our journey for peace. This event has already taken on a life of its own! Canon Paul Oestreicher, David Porter and Ann Farr have already given us invaluable help. We want to involve all Christian peace organisations, and any Christian peace activist.

More details to follow as events take shape. In the meantime, please think of places that are or have been significant to you. Let us know if you could represent them in some way.

How to join CCND

Annual membership subscriptions are:

- Waged, individual: £12 (£15 household)
- Unwaged individual £6, (£8 household)
- Group affiliation: from £10
- I/we wish to be a member of CCND
- Please send a standing order form
- I enclose a cheque/PO (payable to CCND) to include the following:
  - Membership: £
  - Donation: £ (Thank you!)
  - TOTAL: £
- Denomination/church position: .................................................................
  (Optional)
- To help with local campaigning, I agree that my contact details can be passed on to other CCND members.

CCND will never pass members' details to anyone who is not a CCND member.

Please return form to: Christian CND 162 Holloway Rd, London, N7 8DQ
Recently Patricia asked me to suggest the names of Peace People who have died so they could ‘accompany’ Christian CND in their procession of Witness around AWE Aldermaston on Easter Monday.

Between us, we came up with such well known names as Philip Berrigan, Thomas Merton and Dorothy Day, all of whom were included in the Liturgy beautifully composed by Patricia.

But it set me thinking and I realised how many of our own membership, many of them well known to all of us, have died and are now with us all the time.

Strangely enough I could not think of many men, apart from Edward Charles, Canon of St Albans Cathedral, my husband Morris, better known as a Morris Dancer (!) and Joy Mitchell’s husband who founded St Aidan’s Peace Church in Berwick on Tweed, which many of you may have visited - but then a woman’s name crept into my mind - Helen Traske - and I was away! First of all of course, our dear first coordinator, Barbara Eggleston, taken from us far too soon but who accomplished so much in her short life. Then there’s Rosalind Rusbridge, Janet Bloomfield, Pauline Condon, Margot Hutchison, Sister Mary Lampard, Judith Dawes, Peggy Preston, Judith Schmidt. Who else? All these women in varying degrees gave service and inspiration to those of us in CCND.

I feel it is important that they should be remembered and that perhaps some of you could help us to do so.

If you feel you knew any of these women well, could you write down what you know and remember? Short biographical details might be useful, i.e. family, place of birth, education, occupation, work done for the peace movement. Send us all you remember. I notice that the women in my list are all Quakers or Roman Catholics apart from Rosalind who was a Baptist. Interesting!

Perhaps we could then publish a book of the inspirational lives of our wonderful women? At least we could compile a file of memories to pass on to the next generation of CCND members or to whoever succeeds us. Their names must live forever.

Barbara Sunderland

CCND-Kenya

CCND-Kenya writes: “We had a meeting with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, following our request to meet the prime minister to open a dialogue on the entry in force of the CTBT.

CCND-KENYA is campaigning to support this treaty by asking non-aligned countries to support our petition.”

http://www.cndkenya.org/

African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty

On the 15th July 2009 Burundi became the 28th African state, which include Kenya, to ratify the Treaty of Pelindaba, bringing the Treaty into effect and officially establishing Africa as a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone and reaffirming the status of the whole Southern Hemisphere as a NWFZ.

It confirms the commitment of Non-Nuclear Weapons States (NNWS) under the NPT which is being reviewed in New York next May, not to acquire nuclear weapons, and therefore puts pressure on the Nuclear Weapons States (NWS) to hold to their side of the bargain and disarm. There is also the potential that negative security assurances of the NWS not to launch a nuclear attack upon NNWS will be strengthened, and so far Britain, China and France have all ratified their commitments to this under the Treaty of Pelindaba.

If it can be shown in the case of Africa that not possessing nuclear weapons enhances security, this may undermine the incentive of other NNWS to acquire nuclear weapons under the ‘deterrent’ banner. In becoming a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Africa has taken the lead on global nuclear disarmament, and African states have an important role to play if next year’s NPT Review Conference is to be successful.
All the major churches made statements in 2006 against the renewal of Trident. We will encourage similar statements in support of the implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The Churches in Scotland have already shown the way. CCND will send letters to all the Synod members of the Anglican Church, meeting in Westminster on 8 - 12 February. We will be there with our leaflets and placards, drawing attention to concerns other than women bishops!

If you would like to join us in leafleting at Synod, please get in touch.

Prayer Diary

Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:6 (TNIV)

December
7th to 18th: Copenhagen Climate Summit.
Let us pray for world leaders to find peaceful, just and workable solutions to climate change. We must ask ourselves are we caring for creation as we should and are we doing to other as we would have them do to us?

28th: Holy Innocents Day
As we think about the children murdered at King Herod's command, we think of children killed for political reasons. We campaign against nuclear weapons because they are indiscriminate.

January
CCND will be 50 years old this year.

Review

Justice is a new 68 page full colour bi-monthly magazine from the publishers of The Universe Catholic weekly newspaper.

It includes articles from a wide range of contributors covering issues such as the environment, migration, the world of work, the economy, poverty and conflict. There is also a ‘life-style’ section with articles on fair-trade food and fashion.

The first issue featured an article by Bruce Kent and the current one has as its main headline, ‘Scrap Trident’.

Although it is particularly aimed at the Catholic community, it would be attractive to any Christian concerned with social justice.

You can find out more on www.justicemagazine.co.uk or write to: Gabriel Communications Ltd. 4th Floor Landmark House, Station Road, Cheadle Hulme, SK8 7JH Cheshire.

Why not get a sample copy for your parish?
10 & 17 December: Advent Vigil Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment. Join us in Advent Vigil at the Tadley Gate. 1 - 2pm. Aldermaston AWE is off the A4 between Reading and Newbury. Tadley Gate is on the A340, parking opposite. Lifts from Reading Station or from Aldermaston Station (2.11 train from Reading arr.12.45)
Contact: Caroline 01865 241 290 maasgilbert@hotmail.com

15 - 17 January: Peace News Winter Gathering in Nottingham. Workshops, building for the February action at Aldermaston, feedback from Copenhagen and more. Ending with an action! promos@peacenews.info. www.peacenews-gathering.info


14 February: CCND all-night vigil at Aldermaston. Page 5.


16 February: Musicians Against Nuclear Arms (MANA) Concert for Peace. With: Ruth Underwood, flute and Margaret Lion, piano. Hinde Street Methodist Church. Details: 71 Greenfield Gardens, London NW2 1HU. 020 8455 1030. admin@mana.org.uk www.mana.org.uk


27 February: “Polling Day Plus One - Where next for the peace movement?” How will a future Conservative government affect the peace movement? With Professor Dave Webb (CND Vice-chair) and Lindis Percy (Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases). Network for Peace AGM at the Friends Meeting House in Huddersfield. Business meeting around 1.30pm. Speakers session starts around 2.30pm. All welcome whether NiP members or not. Join us for a ‘bring and share’ lunch at noon. 07794 036 602 www.networkforpeace.org.uk mail@networkforpeace.org.uk

1 March: Embassies Walk. Join CCND as we visit each of the London Embassies of the Nuclear Weapons States, and the New Agenda Coalition countries. Join us for some or all of the walk, which will be split into two or three separate walks (embassies being too far apart to do them all in a day!). 020 7700 4200 christians@cnduk.org

2 - 7 April: Relay along the South Coast from Dover to Portsmouth to carry a Flame of Hope for abolition of nuclear weapons. See page 8. To register online go to http://tinyurl.com/yhelwda or contact George, 01323 844269.

4 April: Flame of Hope. Christian CND will be walking along the south coast from Dungeness to Hastings. See page 8.

8 April: Vigil and walk round Aldermaston. Details TBA.


5 - 11 June: Pax Christi ICON of Peace at St Ethelburga’s Centre of Peace and Reconciliation, City of London. Daily meditations, schools workshops on themes of reconciliation and peacemaking, evening meetings. See website for details. Pax Christi, St Joseph’s, Watford Way, London, NW4 4TY 0208 203 4884 www.paxchristi.org.uk

4 July: Annual ‘Independence FROM America’ day at Menwith Hill. Organised by Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases (CAAB), 9 Swarcliffe Road, Harrogate, HG1 4QZ. Tel no: 01423 884076 http://www.caab.org.uk

6 August: Hiroshima Day Commemorations. The London event will be at Tavistock Square, 12noon. Contact London Region CND. 0207 607 2302 http://www.londoncnd.com/


CCND goods

Pack of 24 A4 sheets of Interfaith quotations on peace as used at the Creation Conference £1 a pack
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Churches’ pack Free
T-Shirts £12 each.
Cotton bags £3 each.
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Other CCND items available: badges, enamel brooches, window stickers, pens and a history of CCND.
See your membership insert for details and an order form.

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