



PARISH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

JUSTICE & PEACE NEWSLETTER

No 29 - January 2026

The Justice and Peace Group meets to *pray*, educate ourselves, and to raise awareness that we may all act on Catholic Social Teaching. You are welcome to join us. We meet at 8pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in PNL Centre Redhill. Details from pnljandp@gmail.com

ST CATHERINE'S HOSPICE

We launch our new PARISH CHARITY with the invitation to be
"Ambassadors for St Catherine's Hospice"



The Community Fundraising Coordinator at St Catherine's Hospice, Frankie Goodall spoke to members of the PNL community on Dec 10th in St Joseph's café. She outlined some of the history of the hospice, explained the role of the team, their ambitions and frustrations, and she inspired us to be active. Although fundraising will be an important part of our work over the next two years, there are many different ways in which we can support St Catherine's.

St Catherine's Hospice in Crawley has been providing specialised end-of-life care since its establishment on Malthouse Road in 1983. In November 2023 the hospice moved to a new purpose-built facility at Pease Pottage.

The new hospice comprises Meadow ward and Woodland ward which each has 12 rooms with individual bathrooms and a door onto a small patio which is part of an inner garden. The decoration and décor of each room is joyful in a natural way and clinical equipment is concealed as much as possible so that patients and visitors can be welcomed in a friendly and unintimidating way.

The reception area with its coffee area is also calm and welcoming and there are family meeting areas where privacy and comfort are offered. The well-being centre is light and bright, as are the four consulting rooms. Frankie explained that the average stay for a patient in the hospice is about 10 days and it is their mission to make the last days of life as happy and comfortable as possible for each patient in the way that suits them and how they prefer. The age of the patient can range from 18 to 100+ years.

Very sadly, in spite of there being 24 beds ready for use there are only 16 (at time of writing) being used for patients, with 4 of those currently funded for only 6 months. There are simply insufficient funds available to employ the required number of nurses and other carers. Patients are being refused the dignity of dying in a place devoted to care, free of the restrictions and limitation of an NHS hospital ward. Surely we can do something to help remedy this anomalous situation!

For the last **40 years**, our hospice has been there for people living in West Sussex and East Surrey, offering both physical and emotional support to those living with a life-limiting or terminal condition and their families.

From caring for people at home, in our Wellbeing centre and on our wards, our expert teams are on hand to support those facing death and loss. We not only care for those who are living with a life-limiting or terminal condition, but offer bereavement and carer support to their loved ones.

Our vision is a future where everyone approaching death and those who love and care for them can access compassionate, specialist palliative and end of life care.

We are incredibly proud of our specialist team, and the care that we deliver on a daily basis; in fact, the Care Quality Commission has rated our care as 'Outstanding.'

How can we support St Catherine's ?

What can we do for the Hospice?

Here are some ideas!

Attend or volunteer at the many fun-packed fund-raising events that are happening frequently in the south-east. Here are a few:

Choose your walking level in The London Winter Walk 24-25 January 2026

[London Winter Walk 2026 - St Catherine's](#)

Participate in Mission Inquizzical on 11 Feb 2026

[Mission Inquizzical - Feb 2026 - St Catherine's](#)

Take the family to the Lego Walk at Crawley's Broadfield Stadium on 6th March 2026

[Lego walk 2026 - St Catherine's](#)

Make St Catherine's Hospice charity shops your first choice for donating or buying second-hand clothes and other items

Volunteer at one of St Catherine's Hospice charity shops or use your skills as a volunteer in their kitchens, their gardens or in their administration sector. There are many possibilities. [Become a Hospice Volunteer](#)

Propose an individual fun-raising idea - run, cycle, walk, abseil, skydive, grow plants, wash cars, walk dogs, leave a legacy, or anything else you can think of...

Get creative!

Then tell the parish through the weekly newsletter, and, with the help of the Justice and Peace group you can find sponsors and support.

[St Catherine's Hospice - hospice care in West Sussex and East Surrey](#)

Finally read more about

St Catherine's Hospice for yourself [About Us - St Catherine's](#)... in their own words.

www.stch.org.uk

Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group

The small charity [Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group](#), GDWG, supports people affected by immigration detention. There are two detention centres right next to the runway at Gatwick Airport with space for 600+ men. Some members of the Parish visit the centres on a regular basis to give support and friendship to those held.

When people are detained under immigration powers, they are held for administrative purposes in prison-like detention centres.

THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT. NO REALLY!

Detention is inefficient, expensive and harmful: it damages the lives and mental health of people detained, and harms families and communities.

Since people are frequently brought to the centres at Gatwick with very few possessions there is always a need for good quality clothing for young men; trousers, T-shirts, pullovers and jeans. New underwear and socks are always welcome.

If you have a donation and would like it collected please email John Barrett on pnljandp@gmail.com
There is no demand for suits or formal clothing.

8th-12th July - Sussex / Hants Coast Walk

The 2026 **Refugee Tales** walk supporting of GDWG will this year be from Angmering to Portsmouth along the Sussex Hampshire coast. As always this involves walking, listening, music, the stories of those detained and much more.

Details are available on the [Refugee Tales](#) website from the middle of January.

Come for a day walk.

Come for an evening event.

Details of the work of GDWG and many other ways to support them can be found on their website. gdwg.org.uk

RENEWED HOPE TRUST



Shrewsbury Chapel on Shrewsbury Road in Redhill is the headquarters of Renewed Hope Trust. A team of dedicated specialists and many volunteers work to support and help homeless people and those suffering hardship in our locality. Their Christmas letter shared the following details:



Over the past year over 300 individuals have been helped, at least 158 of whom were homeless.

There have been 315 drop-in sessions at Shrewsbury Chapel. These take place Monday to Saturday 11am – 3pm. There were a total of 4,900 attendances from guests.

The Winter Night Shelter opened at the beginning of December.

On six Tuesday nights from 27 January 2026 the night Shelter will be hosted at **PNL St Joseph's Church Hall**. There are three different times - evening night and morning - when volunteer shift assistants, kitchen helpers, sleepers and drivers are needed. Please contact the PNL Parish Office for details of how to volunteer.

Practical and financial help is invaluable to RHT and to all the guests at Renewed Hope.

Please spread the word and if you would like find out more about fundraising, volunteering or anything else about the trust, please get in touch on 01737 886997 or email info@renewedhope.org.uk

CAFOD 2026 - The Big Lent Walk

200KM IN 40 DAYS
FOR LIFE-SAVING WATER

Are you ready for a challenge this Lent?

Walk anytime, anywhere for 40 days – raise funds for life-saving water.

Step up this Lent to help our neighbours.

You can sign up to do the Big Lent Walk yourself, or join in with your school or parish. Then put your best foot forward with the biggest group of Big Lent Walkers yet!



[Sign Up
Here!](https://walk.cafod.org.uk)

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk>

CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME



“We must pray for the conversion of many people, both inside and outside the Church, who still do not recognize the urgency of caring for our common home,” – Pope Leo XIV.

As with his predecessor, Pope Leo laments the many natural disasters that afflict people around the world, which are “often caused—at least in part—by human excess and our way of life.”

So can we challenge ourselves to ask the question “do I need it or do I just want it?” before making a purchase? That would make every purchase a conscious act. It becomes a moral decision. The pace and demands of ‘modern life’ can easily skewer our response, but every little action helps and practising habits makes them easier to become part of a new way of engaging with our responsibility.

Modern Slavery Workshop at Merstham Community Hub



The Merstham Churches Together against modern slavery group recently organised a workshop for volunteers and staff to understand how modern slavery could affect people who come through the doors of the Merstham Community Hub. The Hub supports a food bank, library and



various other social enterprises for the benefit of local residents. Liz Braines, a local wellbeing champion, at the Hub, invited Chris Elliot and Jennifer Hyde, Modern Slavery Advisors to the Anglican Diocese of Southwark to engage with the volunteers, trustees and staff who operate there. 19 people attended and they learned a lot from the event. Many had not realised the extent to which modern slavery may be happening locally and were surprised by the statistics. Posters will be displayed around the Hub and Jennifer and Chris have been invited back to the Hub to talk to residents further. They have also been invited back to talk to users of the food club and food bank that operate from the Hub on Wednesdays.

Shop local, support your local farmers and reduce food miles

Nutfield Dairy & Brays Farm are run by tenant farmers Matthew Elphick and Betsy Edge. They are dedicated and passionate about producing and selling good quality milk and dairy products from happy cows grazing on their farm in Nutfield on a beautiful patch of the Surrey Hills. They run their farm on behalf of the Countryside Regeneration Trust (CRT). The CRT promote nature friendly farming to help reverse the biodiversity decline, improve wildlife habitats, and combat climate change. You can buy milk, cheese, yoghurt and eggs directly from their farm on Monday (9.30 am to 12.30 pm), Wednesday (12.30 pm to 6.30 pm) and Saturday (10 am to 4 pm). The milk is sold in glass bottles which are yours to keep and bring back for future refills - £1 for the bottle and £2 for a litre of semi or full cream milk. It's a win-win situation as you're reducing plastic waste, purchasing a high quality locally produced product and supporting a local



family. Their farm and sales point is on Bower Hill Road Nutfield RH1 4EH – just down the road from Priory Farm.

Check out their website for more information nutfielddairy.co.uk or their social media (Facebook & Instagram) and support your local farmers. If you and everyone spent £5 in a local business rather than a corporate firm, you would be helping to support a local family and doing your bit for the environment – the milk is superb.

Standing together against UK aid cuts – an update

In February 2025 the UK Government cut its aid budget to the lowest level in 25 years. Thousands of CAFOD supporters wrote to their MP to oppose this, recognising that this decision puts hundreds of thousands of lives at risk. As Catholics we believe that aid is not charity – it is justice. What is CAFOD's position on the aid cuts issue now, 10 months on?

For decades, UK aid has saved lives, supported communities, and upheld our shared responsibility to care for our global neighbours. But UK aid spending will fall from **0.5% to less than 0.3% of national income by 2027**, a £6 billion cut.

These cuts come at a time when families in the world's poorest countries face hunger, climate disasters, and crushing debt. Women and girls are among the hardest hit, losing access to vital health services and protection from violence.

Furthermore, in 2023, 28% of the aid budget was spent on refugee costs in the UK, leaving less for poverty reduction overseas.

These decisions mean less support for communities in crisis, fewer resources for climate resilience, and a retreat from the UK's global responsibilities.

CAFOD's response

We recognise aid delivery is changing. That's why CAFOD is stepping up advocacy, working directly with Parliament and civil servants, to ensure countries in the Global South have the tools, resources, and decision-making power to stand on their own and shape their futures.

Our debt campaign this year is calling for action to reduce the debt burden on low-income countries, so that they can invest more in public services rather than paying huge sums to rich institutions. The legislation we're calling for would cost the UK taxpayer nothing and be a hugely positive step, particularly in the light of the aid cuts.

We are also speaking out against these cuts and calling on the UK government for:

- **A return to 0.7% aid commitment** and honouring climate pledges.
- Aid that **reaches local communities**, especially women-led organisations.
- Climate finance that **protects frontline communities** and does not create new debt.
- **A transformed food system** by leading the way in a shift away from industrial agriculture towards local, sustainable farming that prioritises food security and resilience.
- **Protection for gender equality** funding and ensure women-led organisations receive direct support.
- **Multilateral reform** so global institutions are more inclusive, transparent, and responsive to the needs of the Global South.

Alongside our advocacy, CAFOD is working on the ground with local communities to:

- Measure the **impact of UK aid cuts** and share evidence with decision-makers.
- **Empower local voices** by supporting communities to engage with their governments and influence policies.
- Facilitate **participation of partners in regional and international spaces**, ensuring those most affected by poverty and climate change have a seat at the table.
- **Strengthen resilience** through long-term partnerships that prioritise local leadership and community agency.

These actions are rooted in our belief that real change happens when communities lead the way.

Our faith calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are poorest and most vulnerable. These cuts are not just numbers – they represent lives, dignity, and hope.

This article is from a longer paper on UK aid cuts that CAFOD has been using in our direct advocacy work with the UK government, as well as with embassies, high commissions and UN systems in countries throughout the world via the Caritas network that we are part of.

It is still good for you to let your MP know if you oppose existing and further cuts to the aid budget, as we aim to build the political will for returning to higher spending in the future. We'll update you more in 2026. Keep up to date by visiting cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025

The Jubilee Year began with the opening of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome on Tuesday 24 December 2024.

The last major official events of the 2025 Jubilee were the closing of Rome's four Holy Doors, accompanied by the solemn closing rites and the celebration of Mass.

The first to close was the Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major on December 25th at 6:00 pm. The Cardinal Archpriest of the Basilica, Rolandas Makrnickas, presided over the rite and Mass.

This was followed by the Basilica of St. John Lateran on December 27th at 11:00 am, with the rite and Eucharistic celebration presided over by Cardinal Vicar of Rome, Baldo Reina, with music from the Rome diocesan choir, directed by Monsignor Marco Frisina.



On December 28th, at 10:00 am, the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls was closed, with the celebration presided over by the Cardinal Archpriest James Michael Harvey.

The Holy Year officially concluded with the celebrations of the Feast of the Epiphany. Pope Leo XIV presided over Holy Mass in St Peter's Basilica for some 5,800 faithful. The Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica was closed. This gesture marked the end of months in which many pilgrims of hope crossed the threshold of the Basilica, journeying toward what the Pope described as "the new Jerusalem, the city whose doors are always open."

As this Jubilee Year has come to a close may we reflect on its impact on us all.

It has been a time for over 1,000 Catholic schools to take a 'Jubilee Pledge' with pupils and teachers committing to be 'Pilgrims of Hope' and to live out Catholic School Teaching. Pope Leo blessed the school Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope banner taken by a group of pupils and teachers who went to Rome to take part in the Vatican's Jubilee for Education celebration.

Many people set up or increased their monthly gift to CAFOD so that more work could be done to overcome poverty and injustice.

Every diocese in England and Wales hosted the Jubilee icon from Ethiopia, the icon visited 53 churches!

35,000 people in parishes signed a Jubilee debt petition calling for action on the debt crisis, helping us take one step closer to a better world.

The Church's next Jubilee Year will be in 2033 — The Extraordinary Holy Year of Redemption — marking 2,000 years since the passion, death and Resurrection of Jesus.