

Interested in supporting the Justice & Peace group? Fill in the relevant form and return to the box in the church porch. Please use an envelope if you are including payment for the 100 Club.

### J&P 100 CLUB - REQUEST FOR TICKET(S)

(new members only - existing members will receive a renewal form shortly)

The St Francis de Sales J&P 100 Club raises funds for our parish charities. There are two monthly prizes - a first prize of £40 and a second prize of £10. Draws are held on the last Sunday of each month.

Request your ticket for a chance to win! Only £12 per ticket for the year (September 2018-August 2019). Please fill in the information below and return slip with your payment to the box in the porch or to the parish office. *Cheques to be made payable to 'St Francis de Sales parish'. If you would like to pay via internet banking / set up a standing order, please contact Judith (parish secretary) on 01635 40332. All other queries to Lucy Tyler: 01635 35462.*

Form/payment to be returned by Sunday 16 September 2018.

Number of tickets required: .....

Name and address: .....

Phone/email: .....

*Your details will be kept securely and only used for the administration of the 100 Club. By returning this form you acknowledge and accept this. You can ask for your details to be removed at any time.*

### J&P Group - I would like to know more / get involved

Name: .....

Email address: .....

Phone number: .....

- I would like to join the J&P committee
- I am able to help out with fundraising events
- I am particularly interested in .....
- I would like to know more about regular giving to the Special Projects Fund

*Your details will be kept securely and only used for the running of the Justice & Peace group. By returning this form you acknowledge and accept this. You can ask for your details to be removed at any time.*

## ST FRANCIS DE SALES JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

Trying to fulfill the Church's mission to uphold the dignity of every human being, particularly the poor and oppressed

### Bulletin August 2018

The J&P Group at St Francis de Sales exists as a 'mission of social concern' within our parish. Our focus is on fundraising for charitable causes, awareness-raising about issues of social justice around the world, campaigning where appropriate, and creating opportunities for people to come together to pray and reflect.

Thank you for your support this year! As a parish group we represent YOU and we would welcome new members and new ideas.

Lucy Tyler, J&P Co-ordinator

Parish office: [washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## Campaigning & Awareness-Raising 2018

- 'Share the Journey', launched by Pope Francis and organised in the UK by Cafod, is a campaign which encourages groups to walk in solidarity with people fleeing war, persecution, natural disaster and poverty. The aim was to walk 24,900 miles - the distance around the globe. On June 17th 2018, parishioners from St Francis de Sales joined members of St Joseph's, St George's, St John's, St Cassian's and the Quakers in a local walk which added a combined 74 miles to the total. The walk included prayers and reflections focused on the experiences of migrants, including families walking from Venezuela to Colombia, from Myanmar to Bangladesh, from Syria to Lebanon and from Sudan to Uganda. *There is still time to add your own miles! Pick up a card from the church porch. 'Mileage' to be presented to Theresa May in September.*
- Our fundraising supports Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), which works to alleviate the suffering of persecuted Christians around the world. In Syria, for example, 143 ACN projects were completed over the past 12 months, including supporting the Archbishop of Aleppo's 'Build to Stay' scheme encouraging Christians to remain in the city - such as Benjamin, who said "*Christians like me want to stay in Syria, the land of our forefathers and the Cradle of Christianity*". In Nigeria, violence against Christians has intensified in 2018, forcing large numbers of families to flee for their lives. It is reported that Boko Haram militants have left 15,000 orphans and 5,000 widows. ACN is supporting projects providing food, counselling and education, and help for pastoral needs. Since 2009 the Diocese of Maiduguri has lost 200 churches, 25 schools, 3 hospitals and 3 convents. Please remember the faithful of Nigeria in your prayers. *Prayer cards available in the porch.*

*Protests in Nigeria on 22 May against repeated killings of Christians. The previous week 19 people, including two priests, were killed during mass at St Ignatius Catholic Church, Ayar Mbalom, Benue state.*



# projects supported by J&P fundraising

**Special Projects Fund: £7316 raised**  
 Sep 2015-Aug 2018, including £3031 in 2017-18

## Thank you

for helping us raise over £3030 in 2017-18:

- two cake stalls
- Christmas Fair
- donations after Lent 'Soup and Stations'
- musical Jamboree evening in May
- regular monthly giving
- 100 Club proceeds

Would you like to give regularly (by standing order) to the Special Projects Fund at St Francis de Sales? Please ask in the office for a form. Or join the 100 Club! Just £12 a year, with £50 prizes to be won every month - see overleaf for the form, to be returned by 16 September.



"Let your hands be rich, giving freely of your abundance"  
*St Francis de Sales*



Torrential rain did not dampen the spirits or spoil the fun of our Musical Jamboree on 12 May, which raised £598 for the Special Projects Fund. A capacity crowd was entertained with poetry, song and music. Sign up for next year! All talents welcome!



Churches were among many buildings destroyed by the earthquake in Mexico City in Sept 2017



InterCare was set up by two UK doctors to support rural hospitals in Africa with donations of medicine and other medical equipment. The health units they support, in Ghana, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia, serve 10 million

people who would otherwise have no access to the medical care we take for granted. Over the years we have sent them about £9000, including £860 in 2018. This funded the provision of 200,000 sterile gloves - an essential part of infection control. A further donation of £360 is to be made in August 2018. We are delighted to welcome a speaker from InterCare to the parish on 12 August.

### Single donations (2016-17 and 2017-18):

- £250 to Chemogiftbags, a local charity supporting women undergoing chemotherapy
- £200 to the Médaille Trust, a Catholic charity which supports victims of human trafficking in the UK
- £337 to the Little Way Association for their Mexico Earthquake appeal, November 2017
- £400 shortly to be sent to Cafod's Clean Water programme (enough to buy water filters for 14 families)

### La Asunción Orphanage, Mexico City



Since 2005 we have sent £11,500 to this orphanage, helping them to meet lots of essential costs like healthcare for the girls and nuns, structural improvements to their buildings, education expenditure and urgent bills. In 2018 we sent £750. Mother María Guadalupe Reynoso Dueñas (Director of the Orphanage) wrote in 2017: "thank you for all the love and

generosity you have shown us over so many years. We firmly believe you are angels that God has put in our path to help our work supporting young girls. These girls have been forsaken, beaten and abused, but have not lost their innocence and purity of heart. It is only a few of us who are with the girls every day, but all who support us share the task of building happy and fulfilled lives. May God reward you for your generosity with health, peace and happiness for you and your families".

**Fair Close Centre, Newbury**  
 We have supported this centre for older people since 2013 and have sent them £2596, including £580 in 2018 which was used to upgrade their kitchen equipment. A further donation of £290 is to be made in August 2018. *Thank you!*



Aid to the Church in Need

In 2018 we have sent ACN £580 to support their work. They wrote to us: "Through such support [as yours] we can sustain the faith and hope of Christians who are in such need at this time. You are working miracles. Please know that you are remembered in Masses and prayers celebrating the hope of Christ we share. Thank you!"

### Dates for your diary...

- J&P Cake stall at the parish AGM - 16 September 2018
- Parish Quiz Night - October/November 2018 exact date tbc
- Christmas Fair - 9 December 2018