

## Jan-Mar 2018

### Upcoming Events:

#### Social Work in Swindon

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Apr, 7:30pm.

Basil Ferguson, an experienced Social Worker, will talk about his experiences. He has worked for Swindon Borough Council on child protection, families and children with special needs, and fostering and adoption. He now continues to do social work as an independent. For details of the venue, please email [swindon.deanery@me.com](mailto:swindon.deanery@me.com)

#### Harbour Quiz Night

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Apr, 7:30pm

#### St Joseph's College, SN3 3LR

Run by Mastermind quiz setters and featuring Kevin from Eggheads, so brush up your Shakespeare and get your thinking caps on! Book your tickets on the [Harbour website](#). Tickets £10 each – which includes a fish and chips supper or vegan alternative – must be booked in advance to enable us to get your order in! Team size a max. of 8 – we can put you together with others if you're fewer than this. Licenced bar.

#### BBQ for Refugees & Asylum Seekers

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> July, for lunch

#### Lydiard Park, Swindon

Contact Steve Aftelak on 536815 if you can help drive a family to/from the BBQ or help on the day.

#### National J&P Conference 20<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup> July

[www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/)

#### Deanery J&P Contacts:

- **Holy Rood**  
Paul Hatch, Noreen Bint
  - **Holy Family**  
George Timuri
  - **St Joseph's, Wroughton**  
Steve Aftelak
  - **St Mary's Cricklade**  
Monica Potter
  - **St Mary's Swindon**  
Rachel Pryor, Mark Donovan
  - **St Peter's**  
Liz & Robert Barrett, Louise Burke, Phil Dorning, Esther Gueu, Gitti & Eric Hayes, and Sameh Salar
- Deanery CAFOD Rep:**  
Deacon Terry Aspell

#### Next J&P Group meetings:

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> April, Wed 9<sup>th</sup> May, Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June, Wed 4<sup>th</sup> July. Meetings are 7:30-9pm. For venue or enquiries, email [swindon.deanery@me.com](mailto:swindon.deanery@me.com)

## Swindon Catholic Deanery Justice & Peace Group Newsletter

J&P Group Chair: Steve Aftelak

Website: [www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk](http://www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk); select "Justice & Peace Group"

### Romero, the Heartbeat of El Salvador



Rise Theatre brought their latest thought-provoking play—Romero, the Heartbeat of El Salvador - to Swindon on March 16th on its second national tour. They gave three performances: two to year groups at St Joseph's College, and an evening performance to the general public including the Holy Rood Confirmation Group.

All the parts in the play were taken by three actors. Scene and costume changes were managed on stage and the performance had

both pace and impact. A back projection screen kept the audience in touch with historical developments as they occurred. Recordings of real events were played, giving a chilling contact with a history that was only just over thirty years ago.

The play took us from Archbishop Oscar Romero's childhood to his assassination in 1980. It portrayed him moving from a timid man very reluctant to intervene in politics to a man afire with a thirst for justice for the poorest in his society. It was a very moving, inspiring performance.



7th March 2018:  
Pope Francis declared  
that Archbishop  
Oscar Romero will be  
canonised as a saint.



"When all around us is dark what do we do? We become a light, however small, we dare to love, dare to reach out, there is no real choice. Because light always overpowers the darkness. Love wins every time over hatred and violence. It may take a lifetime for us to see it but love will win out. Oscar Romero knew that and he lived it out with every step. He died for love, just as Jesus died for each of us."

*Charley Pinfold, Artistic Director, RISE Theatre*

Rise Theatre is a not-for-profit Christian theatre company that does truly extraordinary work including plays, retreats, enrichment days, and an exciting new programme called "The Mustard Seed Story." [www.risetheatre](http://www.risetheatre)

### Swindon Foodbank helps feed 5,000

A big thank you to our Swindon Catholic parishes who continue to collect food regularly for the Swindon Foodbank.

The Foodbank gave food to around 5,000 local people in 2017, which is a huge number. They operate 7 food centres across the town and surrounding rural areas 5 days a week. They provide emergency parcels containing enough food for 3 days to people in emergency need. People come because they are in crisis, such as being made redundant or receiving an unexpected bill on a low income.

