

Faith in Action

Special Sundays, festivals and awareness weeks during 2018

✓ Worship, liturgy and or sermon resources

These special Sunday, festivals and awareness weeks, provide an opportunity to learn more about engaging with our wider community and concerns. National campaigns and local projects explain the underlying causes as well as provide opportunities to respond to needs.

We are featuring these days and weeks to represent current areas of particular interest, concern and work for parishes and Mission Communities with the Church and Society, Exeter Diocese. (Please note that some of the more recent initiatives sometimes change their dates but these are correct at time of going to press – we will update this schedule during the year.)

January

15	Peace Sunday	http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/peace-sunday/
27	Holocaust Memorial Day	✓ http://www.ccj.org.uk/ccj-ctbi-liturgical-and-homiletic-material-for-christians-on-hmd/ http://hmd.org.uk/
28	Homelessness Sunday	✓ http://www.homeless-sunday.uk/ ✓ https://www.housingjustice.org.uk/

February

11	Racial Justice Sunday	✓ https://ctbi.org.uk/category/witnessing-together/racial-justice/ ✓ https://www.carj.org.uk/
11	Church Action on Poverty Sunday (transfiguration Sunday)	✓ http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/sunday Raising awareness of people in the UK struggling on the margins, with welfare reform, homelessness, food poverty and more https://www.trusselltrust.org/
14 Feb	Ash Wednesday	The beginning of Lent There are a range of Lent course resources considering social justice as part of our discipleship. ✓ https://ctbi.org.uk/category/spirituality-and-reflection/lent-courses/
Mon 26 Feb – Sun 11 March	Fairtrade Fortnight	✓ http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight ✓ http://www.traidcraft.co.uk/churches Devon is a Fairtrade County and Exeter Diocese is working towards becoming a Fairtrade Diocese with over 130 Fairtrade Churches already.

		✓ http://exeter.anglican.org/resources/faith-action/fairtrade-food/
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March

Sun 4	Tearfund Sunday	✓ https://www.tearfund.org/
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30 March Good Friday

1 April Easter Sunday

April

7	United Nations World Health Day	www.who.int/world-health-day/
28	International Workers Memorial Day	www.tuc.org.uk/wmd2017

May

13	World Fairtrade Day	http://wfto.com/events/world-fair-trade-day ✓ http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight ✓ http://www.traidcraft.co.uk/churches
Sun 13-19	Christian Aid Week	✓ www.christian-aid.org.uk
14-20	Mental Health Awareness Week	✓ http://www.mentalhealthmatters-cofe.org/ ✓ https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org/ http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/mentalhealthawarenessweek/
21-Sun 27	Dementia Awareness Week	Dementia Friendly Church Initiative ✓ https://www.livability.org.uk/ ✓ https://www.livability.org.uk/dementia-friendly-churches-guide/ https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/info/20167/dementia_awareness_week

June

3	Environment	Become an Eco Church ✓ http://arocha.org.uk/
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	Sunday	Living Churchyards http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/
10	Open Farm Sunday	http://www.farmsunday.org/ofs12b/home.eb
12-18	Carers Week	www.carersweek.org/ https://www.livability.org.uk/carers-perspective-ten-ways-churches-can-offer-support-carers/
19-25	Refugee Week	http://exeter.anglican.org/resources/faith-action/refugees-in-devon/ www.refugeeweek.org.uk

July

8	Sea Sunday	www.missiontoseafarers.org
15	Rural Mission Sunday	http://germinate.net/mission/rural-mission-sunday/

August

September

Sun 9	Ability Sunday – formerly Disability Sunday	The Church benefits when disabled people participate fully in Church life ✓http://churchesforall.org.uk/abiltysunday/ ✓https://www.livability.org.uk/event/ability-sunday/ ✓https://www.throughtheroof.org/ ✓http://exeter.anglican.org/resources/faith-action/disability/ User-led charity championing needs in Devon https://www.livingoptions.org/ https://www.new-wine.org/network/accessible-church-ministry
1 – 30	Church Army Month	✓ http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/ Church Army have asked for any Sunday in the month to promote Church Army during September.
1 Sept – Oct 4 th	Creation Time Begins with Thursday 1 September is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	Helping the Church respond to climate change and environmental concerns ✓http://www.greenchristian.org.uk/ ✓https://ecochurchsouthwest.org.uk/about-ecochurch-southwest/ https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change

		✓ http://www.ctbi.org.uk/295
10	World Suicide Prevention Day	https://iasp.info https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/family-life/bereavement-support/bereaved-parent-support/a-deliberate-death-suicide

October

7-13	Prison Sunday and Prisons Week	✓ www.prisonsworld.org
Sun 14-20	Good Money Week	Looking at sustainable and ethical options in banks, pensions, savings, and investments http://goodmoneyweek.com/ https://www.shared-interest.com/gb City of Plymouth Credit Union (now available to all in Devon) https://www.cpcu.co.uk/ International Credit Union Day is Thu 18 October
10	World Mental Health Day	Raising awareness and reducing stigma ✓ http://www.mentalhealthmatters-cofe.org/ ✓ https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org/ https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/world-mental-health-day
21	Freedom Sunday	Resources to help raise awareness of modern slavery and equip the local church and community to get involved. ✓ https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/resources https://www.unseenuk.org/support-us/ambassadors/faith-ambassadors ✓ https://freedomundayglobal.org/ www.stopthetraffic.org/campaign/freedomunday https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/advice/threat-assault-abuse/modern-slavery/

November

Sun 4 - 11	Living Wage Week	https://www.livingwage.org.uk/living-wage-week
Su 11	Interfaith Week	http://devonfaiths.org.uk/

- 18		http://exeter.anglican.org/resources/faith-action/faiths/ https://www.interfaithweek.org/
Sun 25	International Day for Elimination of Violence to Women	✓ http://www.restoredrelationships.org/ www.unifem.org/campaigns

December

10	World Human Rights Day	www.amnesty.org
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Further helpful resources and links

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views/poverty-welfare-and-financial-inclusion>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action>

Churches Together in England <https://www.cte.org.uk/>

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland <https://ctbi.org.uk/>

Joint Public Issues Team <http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk>

Church Urban Fund Web of Poverty <https://www.cuf.org.uk/web-of-poverty>

Church Urban Fund Poverty Look up tool <http://www2.cuf.org.uk/lookup-tool>

Sally Farrant, Church and Society, November 2017

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