



## Faith in Action Calendar

# 2019 Peace, Justice and Creation Care

**“God cares deeply about how we treat one another. Justice, compassion and peace are central to our understanding of God. Throughout the history of the Church, men and women have dedicated their lives to caring for the hungry, the poor, the naked, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned.**

**“The disciplines of submission and service and simplicity are only sustainable if they are motivated by a genuine heart and a real love for our neighbour.”**

<http://www.renovarelife.org/the-balanced-christian-life/>

### January Peace

'Peace is not just in the hands of politicians and the military. It is in the hands of each one of us. We are all called to work for the common good and universal brotherhood and sisterhood and to open our hearts to those who are different and feel excluded. Thus breaking down the barriers of fear around our hearts.'

Jean Vanier, Founder, L'Arche International

#### 20 Jan Peace Sunday

<http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/peace-sunday/>

#### 27 Holocaust Memorial Day: Theme will be 'Torn from Home'.

<http://www.ccj.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/HMD-Resource-2019-1.pdf>

### February Racial Justice

#### 10 Feb Racial Justice Sunday

<https://ctbi.org.uk/category/witnessing-together/racial-justice/>

<https://www.carj.org.uk/>

### March: Trade Justice, UK Poverty, Child poverty

#### Mon 25 Feb – Sun 10 March Fairtrade Fortnight

<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight>

<http://www.traidcraft.co.uk/churches>

<https://www.shared-interest.com/gb>

Devon is a Fairtrade County and Exeter Diocese is working towards becoming a Fairtrade Diocese with over 140 Fairtrade Churches.

#### Sun 3 March Church Action on Poverty 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/>

### 19 -21 April Easter



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### Perspective: Together for the Common Good

How can we navigate the storm in this political moment? What's going on? People across the churches have a key role to play in building bridges and strengthening society in this critical moment.

'At a time of uncertainty and challenges to our shared values and practices, this is a timely reminder that we are called as the church to seek the common good of all in our communities, whether local, national or global.'

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

<http://www.togetherforthecommongood.co.uk/resources/bible-study-booklet.html>

### May: Christian Aid, Mental Health, Dementia Awareness

**Sun 12 – 18 May** Christian Aid Week [www.christian-aid.org.uk](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk)

**Sun 20 to 26 May** Dementia Awareness Week, Dementia Friendly Church Initiative

How can we help change the conversation around dementia so that people feel welcome and able to continue with their activities? Your challenge this month is to preach or speak on today's fresh understanding of people living with dementia. <https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/>

[Thinking of You by Revd Canon Dr Joanna Collicutt](https://www.livability.org.uk/)

<https://www.livability.org.uk/>; <https://www.livability.org.uk/dementia-friendly-churches-guide/>

[https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/info/20167/dementia\\_awareness\\_week](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/info/20167/dementia_awareness_week)

### May-June Pentecost Thy Kingdom Come

The global prayer movement which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost. Shane Claiborne: ["What does it mean when we pray Thy Kingdom Come?"](#)

### June: Environment Sunday, Open Farm Sunday, Carers Week, Refugees Week

**Sun 2 Jun Environment Sunday:** Become an Eco Church <http://arocha.org.uk/>

**Living Churchyards** <http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>

**Sun 9 Jun 9 Open Farm Sunday** <http://www.farmsunday.org/of12b/home.eb>

**Mon 10 – 16 Jun Carers Week** [www.carersweek.org/](http://www.carersweek.org/) <https://devoncarers.org.uk/>

<https://www.livability.org.uk/carers-perspective-ten-ways-churches-can-offer-support-carers/>

**Mon 17 – 23 Jun Refugee Week**

<http://exeter.anglican.org/resources/faith-action/refugees-in-devon/>

[www.refugeeweek.org.uk](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk)

### July: Sea Sunday, Rural Mission

**Sun 14 Jul Sea Sunday** [www.missiontoseafarers.org](http://www.missiontoseafarers.org)

**Sun 14 Jul Rural Mission Sunday** <http://germinate.net/mission/rural-mission-sunday/>

### August Hope4Summer

"Child poverty is a real issue in Plymouth, with over 11,500 children in the city living below the poverty line.

During the summer holidays, this is made worse for many of them because, unlike term-time, they will not even receive a school dinner. So, we know that, for many families, the summer holidays are a struggle. With children at home 24/7 and no free school meals, the weekly budget has to stretch further for food and there is little left for activities and treats." Transforming Plymouth Together (TPT) Development Worker Chris Forster.

### September Creation Time begins, Ability (Disability) Sunday, Modern Slavery

**Sun 8 (not confirmed) Ability Sunday – formerly Disability Sunday**



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People with disabilities also have vocations and ministry – how can we welcome them?

<http://churchesforall.org.uk/abilitysunday/>

<https://www.livability.org.uk/event/ability-sunday/>

<https://www.throughtheroof.org/>

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:** transforming communities through faith shared in words and action. Use any Sunday in the month to raise awareness of their vision. <http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/>

### 1 Sept – 4 Oct Creation Time

Begins with Sunday 1 September which is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.

“Whether we and our politicians know it or not, Nature is party to all our deals and decisions, and she has more votes, a longer memory, and a sterner sense of justice than we do.” Wendell Berry

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>

<https://ctbi.org.uk/category/spirituality-and-reflection/creation-time/>

<https://ecochurchsouthwest.org.uk/>

### Sun 22 Sep Freedom Sunday/Modern Slavery

At time of going to press, there doesn't seem to be a consensus about the date. Last year, there were 5,145 cases reported in the UK – the highest on record – and 41% involved children under 18. There are resources to help raise awareness of modern slavery and equip the local church and community to get involved. For help and advice call any time on 0800 0121 700. If you think slavery is happening, do not attempt to let the victim know that you have reported it or confront the traffickers. You need to ensure their safety and yours.

<https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/resources>

<https://www.unseenuk.org/>

## October: Mental Health, Housing and Homelessness, Prison Ministry and Community Chaplaincy, International Credit Union Day, Sustainable and ethical finance

**Thu 10 Oct World Mental Health Day** Raising awareness and reducing stigma

<http://www.mentalhealthmatters-cofe.org/>

<https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org/>

**Sun 13 Sep Homelessness Sunday**

<https://www.housingjustice.org.uk/>

**Sun 13 Oct Prison Sunday and 13 – 19 Oct Prisons Week**

Local project providing support <http://www.swcc-pi.org/> [www.prisonweek.org](http://www.prisonweek.org)

**Thu 18 Oct International Credit Union Day**

Two local credit unions offer savings and loans to people in Devon, helping us invest in our local communities and provide sustainable, ethical loans within our area. City of Plymouth Credit Union <https://www.cpcu.co.uk/>  
Westcountry Savings and Loans <https://www.westcountry.org.uk/>

## November: Living Wage Week, Interfaith Week

**Sun 3 – 9 Nov Living Wage Week** <https://www.livingwage.org.uk/living-wage-week>

**Sun 10 – 16 Nov Interfaith Week** <http://devonfaiths.org.uk/>

<https://www.interfaithweek.org/>



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**Mon 25 Nov** International Day for Elimination of Violence to Women [http://www.restoredrelationships.org/  
www.unifem.org/campaigns](http://www.restoredrelationships.org/www.unifem.org/campaigns)

### December: Isolation, Loneliness, Dementia Friendly Carol Services

Almost a million older people say they feel lonelier at Christmas (based on research by Age UK), and half a million older people can go up to a week without seeing or speaking to anyone.

**Tue Dec 10** World Human Rights Day [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)

### 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>



Church and Society,  
Mission and Ministry Team,  
Diocese of Exeter