



A challenge for the New Year.

The year is over. We stand at a new moment in time. We can choose to go on as before, raping the globe, threatening the planet, making specimens of people. Or we can melt into the grace of the universe, and become what we were created to be. A family in harmony with itself.

Joan Chichister (Order of St. Benedict).

Catholic Social Teaching

Baptism of the Lord Year A, 9 January

In the same spirit we likewise commend collaboration with all believers in God in the fostering of social justice, peace and freedom; indeed we commend collaboration also with those who, even though they do not recognise the author of the world, nevertheless, in their esteem for human values, seek justice sincerely and by honourable means.

Justice in the World, 62, World Synod of Catholic Bishops, 1971.

Asylum

Archbishop Conti makes statement on Glasgow Asylum Housing Crisis

Archbishop Mario Conti has joined the First Minister Alex Salmond and some of Scotland's foremost writers and artists to support the campaign to reinstate Glasgow City Council's Contract to house 600 refugee families. Read Archbishop Conti's statement, First Minister Statement, and the latest news and links on the campaign to reinstate Glasgow City Council's Contract to house 600 refugee families on the national Justice and Peace website. (justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk)

"The human cost of this decision is horrendous, and will involve children being uprooted from schools where they are flourishing, a return to the anguish of the unknown for people already bearing a heavy burden of fear and the wanton destruction of communities which have grown up in recent years as Glasgow has successfully welcomed asylum seekers and refugees."

Archbishop Mario Conti

Poverty and Homelessness Action Week; 29 Jan-6 Feb 2011

The week highlights the people who are 'discounted' by our society. Organised by Scottish Churches Housing Action, Church Action on Poverty and Housing Justice, the theme this year is 'Who Counts?' This is linked to the 2011 census which will not include those who are 'discounted' - the homeless and asylum seekers. You can give your support through a donation or by following the prayer calendar online at www.actionweek.org.uk. You can also phone Scottish Churches Housing Action on 0131 477 4500.