



# St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church - CWL

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Justice & Peace Commission

11 April 2019



# Justice & Peace Commission

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## VISION STATEMENT

*To work towards a just and peaceful society.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*We, the Justice and Peace Commission of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston and the Anglican Diocese of Ontario, united by the Holy Spirit in our common commitment to the social imperatives of the Gospel, promote the understanding and practice of Christian social teaching, as we work and pray for the coming of the Kingdom.*



# Historical development:

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- The Justice and Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Kingston was established in 1987. The inaugural meeting was held on 17 November 1987.
- In the early 1990s John Gomes, Coordinator, was instrumental in obtaining the approval of the Catholic Archbishop and the Anglican Bishop to have representatives from the Anglican Church sit on the Catholic Archdiocesan Commission.



# History

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- After several years of working together, the relationship of the two faiths became more formalized when Bishop George Bruce, Anglican Diocese of Ontario, agreed to become an ex- officio member of the Commission in 2003.



# History

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- Formal recognition of the relationship of the two faiths on the Commission was confirmed in 2005, when Archbishop Meagher, Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston and Bishop Bruce, Anglican Diocese of Ontario accepted the adoption of the Mission Statement of the Justice and Peace Commission.



# Composition of Commission

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- Meet every second month, during the day, at the Chancery Office (2 hours)
- Active Members: Mary-Jo Mackinnon-Simms, Nadia Gundert, Bronek Korczynski, Blaine Barclay & Leigh Smith, Rev. Sharon Dunlop, Rev. Valerie Kelly, Coordinator
- Ex-officio members: Archbishop of Kingston and Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Ontario





# Committees/Groups of the Commission

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- • Development & Peace
- Primates World Relief and Development Fund
- Prison Ministry (Sharon Dunlop)
- PeaceQuest (Bronek Korczynski)
- DOORS: Diocese of Ontario Refugee Support (Bronek Korczynski)
- Roman Catholic parishes liaison (Rev. Blaine Barclay)



# Contributing Groups

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- • Kingston Faith and Justice Coalition (Leigh Smith)
- Green Group (Leigh Smith)
- Youth Ministry (Nadia Gundert)
- Religious Education (Mary-Jo Mackinnon-Simms)
- Human Trafficking (Rev. John vanStone)





# Areas of Action and Support:

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- Affordable Housing (Spring 2019)
- Journeys to Justice Panel Discussion (Nov 2018)
- Prison Farms advocacy
- DOORS: Refugee Sponsorship events and support
- Correctional Services of Canada Chaplaincy advocacy



# Action and Support

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- PeaceQuest participation & support
- KAIROS: blanket exercise
- Green Group: supporting events
- Human Trafficking



# Recent & Current Projects

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- In October 2018 the Commission agreed to host a “day” on affordable housing in Kingston for its Spring action
- At the January 2019 meeting of the Commission, a member of the Social Planning Council, Alice Gazeley, spoke about the Social Planning Council (SPC), which was planning a Spring forum on affordable housing
- The SPC and the Commission agreed to partner on this event



# **Journeys to Justice** – social justice responding to the call (Nov 2018)

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- Evening session with three panelists and presenter Joe Gunn
- Joe Gunn's book, Journeys to Justice - share stories of social justice struggles across Canada. How did Christians from varied ecumenical backgrounds work together to help end apartheid, admit refugees from Chile and Indochina, defend Indigenous Peoples' rights, promote economic justice, and more?
- Panel: Human Trafficking, DOORS, (Affordable) Housing



# Housing Action Forum – May 15, 2019

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- Planning has been underway since February for this event
- Builders, providers, politicians, people with lived experience
- SURP students
- St. Luke's Anglican Church – 236 Nelson St.
- Eventbrite \$20-\$25; registration capped



# ***Justice & Peace Commission - Mandate***

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- *To understand and apply Christian Social Teaching*
- *To advocate for the vulnerable in society: locally, provincially, globally*
- *To make statements on behalf of the Dioceses*
- *To support like-minded groups seeking social justice*





# Specific Responsibilities of Coordinator

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- Coordinate and support meetings
- Keep membership informed when necessary
- Communicate with the Archbishop and Bishop as required
- Bring forward new recruits to the Archbishop and Bishop for approval
- Act as a resource person for the commission by conducting research, writing, and presenting on behalf of the commission as needed



# Coordinator's Responsibilities

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- Network with other groups on behalf of the Commission
- Doing the follow-up work necessary to carry out the specific decisions of the Commission



# Connecting and Sustaining Relationships

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- Networking: Fr. Lloyd Cummings instrumental in fostering relationships at the Parish level – Christian Social Teaching
- School Boards
- Diaconate: Deacon Blaine Barclay
- Personally
- Social Media

# Thank you!

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