

SING FOR PEACE— Waiata mo te Rangimarie

We gathered at St Andrew’s Church as people from different church communities, blending different voices in harmony in prayerful Songs for PEACE. “*In these troubled times we unite together to sing songs of peace.*” Mike Seawright gave us an insight into life on the ground in Gaza.

Let us witness to unity and harmony in our everyday lives.

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP (ESJ) CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE—DECEMBER 2024

Over Lent, we held four Synodal meetings with parishioners about the Treaty, War in the Holy Land, Climate Change and Poverty and Homelessness. Our reading material was *Te Kahu o te Ora—A Consistent Ethic of Life*, developed by the Catholic Bishops of Aotearoa. Participants were very engaged and from these meetings, we identified several initiatives to support this year on behalf of ESJ (see calendar below for dates).

Treaty

- Develop greater understanding about Te Tiriti and the Treaty.
- Greater engagement with Immaculate Conception, Pakipaki.

War in the Holy Land

- Educate for peace - Pope Francis.
- Provide financial support/donations to aid organisations on the ground.

Climate Change/Integral Ecology

- Consider environmental footprint of our parish and churches – What are we doing? What could we do?

Poverty and homelessness

- Provide greater support and awareness for existing initiatives, such as St Vincent De Paul, Thermals for Children, weekly food donations at Masses.
- Reach out to different cultural groups in our parish to understand how we can connect better.

Date	Event	Action
Mon 22 April	Educate for Peace launch	Sing for Peace (combined with St Andrew’s). ReliefAid talk at Mission Centre.
Weds 5 June	World Environment Day	Environmental discussion at Mission Centre – what Sacred Heart is doing to reduce the environmental footprint of itself and its community, discuss what else could be done.
Thurs 20 June	World Refugee Day	Educate for Peace: Screening of Soldiers Without Guns at Our Lady of Lourdes.
Mon 5-12 August	Youth Peace Week and the anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki attacks. Indigenous Peoples Day and Day of Youth.	Educate for Peace: workshop with World BEYOND War, following by planting a peace pou at Sacred Heart. Invite our Muslim community from Hawke’s Bay Baitul-Mukarram Masjid.
Sun 8-14 September Mon 16-23 September	Social Justice Week. Māori Language Week.	Te Tiriti workshop – 2 x 90-minute video education sessions ‘Belonging to this Land’ by Common Grace Aotearoa. Home (treatyandbelonging.nz)
Tues 5 November	Parihaka Remembrance Day	Educate for Peace: Parihaka commemoration with Caritas resources.
Sun 17 November	World Day of the Poor	Support event for St Vincent De Paul.