

ROSEBANK - A PARISH FOR JUSTICE & PEACE

What is J&P about? |

Justice & Peace is a faith-based movement and ministry inspired by the Gospels and the Church's social teachings (CST), rooted in the message and way of life of Jesus: *"The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, and God has anointed and sent me to bring the good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to the captives, to the blind give new sight and set the downtrodden free and to proclaim the Lord's year of favour."* (Luke 4:18-19/ Is 61: 1-2)

Pope Francis says in *The Joy of the Gospel*: *"From the heart of the Gospel we see the profound connection between evangelisation and human advancement... Accepting the first proclamation, which invites us to receive God's love and to love him in return with the very love which is his gift, brings forth in our lives and actions a primary and fundamental response: to desire, seek and protect the good of others."* (*Evangelii Gaudium*,178)

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF! LOVE ALL OF GOD'S CREATION!

Our faith is lived out in our relationships with God and with other people. **Inescapably this involves moral and social responsibilities.** Moral responsibility isn't only about our immediate personal relationships - though that's where our first duties are. Our responsibilities lie in concentric circles: in our families, and in our wider society: wherever there are people in need who suffer or are marginalised; as employers and employees; as citizens and voters; as decision-makers with the capacity to shape our societies; as part of the human community responsible for God's creation here and now, and as custodians for future generations.

"It is a special duty of lay Christians to become involved in politics, society and commerce in the spirit of the gospel: in charity, truth and justice". (Vatican II)

What does our J&P group do?

Our Rosebank group works around a small number of themes. Currently these include:

- **Raising awareness** that social responsibilities are inseparable from our faith - we do this through the liturgy, J&PNews in the Bulletin, publicising CST and statements on current events, and other activities including our annual St Francis programme in October
- **Care for the environment** (e.g. water resource issues, acid mine drainage and radioactive pollution in Gauteng)
- Promoting a **culture of life** (all life from birth to death , not only the abortion issue!), with a special focus on family life, and homeless people
- **Good governance** and justice at various levels in our Church and society
- **Responsible citizenship** and democracy
- **Business issues** and our faith (with special focus on corruption)
- Helping to build a sense of community in our parish, the Northern Deanery, and ecumenically.

Are you interested in any of these areas? Would you like to become actively involved? Would you like to suggest other issues we should take up?

We meet monthly, on the evening of the first Monday in the month.

'Associate friends' needn't attend meetings but may be asked to help with various activities from time to time, when possible.

WE INVITE YOU TO BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER (OR AN ASSOCIATE FRIEND) OF J&P

Please contact -

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