

Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Maryhill, Glasgow

Feedback from CST Session 3: Peace

Local

Nurturing behaviour – from infancy up – leading to respect for others, despite differences.

Children should experience non-violent parenting and schools

The links between churches should be more visible through more emphasis on ecumenical work to promote peace and remove anger and suspicion. Bring people from different denominations with a facilitator if necessary

Justice and Peace groups are a good starting point for people to learn about peace issues

At Mass, the pass keepers need to be very welcoming but it is for everyone to speak to other parishioners and strangers and welcome them

Invite people to get involved with something specific. It often takes a personal invitation to take someone out of their comfort zone

Build cooperation and reduce prejudice

Promote hope not apathy

Promote tolerance of differences

Don't judge people because they are different – accept and respect them as they are

Promote willingness to meet halfway and compromise to build a consensus

Promote community activism to fight against greed, lack of care and stereotyping

Make it known that poverty contributes to violence and bad feeling in communities

More activities between factions in community and promoting common activities

National

Identify the causes – perceived injustice, greed, selfishness, human nature – and trying to balance needs with wants.

Fair sharing of material resources and power

Pay more tax to alleviate poverty not spent on armaments

In terms of national leadership, it is necessary to hold politicians to the account and ensure they work for the common good

Communities need 'levelling up' by acting to promote more equality

Fewer – or no – denominational schools

Persuade the media to talk about migrants and asylum seekers in a more human way as the media are responsible for a lot of the fear that dehumanises the 'Other'

Promote tolerance of differences

Don't judge people because they are different – accept and respect them as they are

Promote willingness to meet halfway and compromise to build a consensus

Defend democracy and the right to protest against injustice

'Let our voices be heard' through signing petitions, participating in marches for peace and reconciliation and write letters to both Parliaments regarding war and peace issues

International

Both sides must want peace in a war and consent to a truce and begin independent mediation

Good options must be found through international negotiations for people who face climate change and war

Promote the work of the International Criminal Court and the United Nations to help end wars

Bring pressure to bear on governments to increase their foreign aid budgets

Promote tolerance of differences

Don't judge people because they are different – accept and respect them as they are

Promote willingness to meet halfway and compromise to build a consensus

Resolve conflicts in a mutually respectful way

Promote exchanges of children from one country to another

Support international organisations promoting peace and culture (UN, UNESCO, UNICEF)