



Companions in Action Conference

Thursday 26th September 2019

Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

We ARE Change!

Notes for Students and Parents

The Jesuit Missions Companions in Action Conference is a new initiative for Jesuit Missions UK. It is designed to provide young people from Jesuit and Associate Senior schools with an opportunity to learn more about the key social justice and environmental issues of our day in the context of the Catholic Church's rich teaching in the area of social justice. It also seeks to provide an opportunity to gain new skills that will help young people be voices for positive change in the world.

The conference will welcome the following speakers.

Keynote Address

Fr Leonard Chiti SJ,

Provincial Superior Society of Jesus, Zambia-Malawi Province and former Coordinator of the Global Ignatian Advocacy Network and director of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection in Lusaka, Zambia

Workshops

Philippa Bonella

Advocating for Justice and Peace

Formerly SCIAF's Head of Communications and Education, Philippa currently acts as a consultant in the area of strategy, policy/public affairs and governance for the voluntary sector. She has recently returned to Edinburgh from three months working with the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel where her role was to report on human rights violations, provide a protective presence to local communities, and support Palestinians and Israelis working for peace.

Patricia Coyle

Working for Change: Make the Most of the Media

Since 2005 Pat has served as the Communications Director for the Jesuits in Ireland. Previously she worked as journalist, serving as a producer and presenter for RTE, BBC and UTV. Growing up in Derry during the Troubles awakened in her a keen sense of justice and today she strives to promote social justice and an understanding of the value of each individual.

Dr Shannon Philip**Caring for our Common Home**

Shannon Philip is the International Programmes Officer at Jesuit Missions. He manages the global programmes of Jesuit Missions on various social, economic and political issues in the Global South. He recently finished his doctoral research in International Development at the University of Oxford. He has a keen interest in issues of social and ecological justice and has actively done programming, research and activism around the themes.

There will also be time for networking amongst the school delegation to learn about best practice in social justice and the care of the environment in our schools. We will also have input from our Companions in Action partner schools in the Developing South. The day will finish with a plenary session and liturgy.

As part of the international network of Jesuit works Jesuit Missions is uniquely placed to provide a conference such as this, liaising with partners around the world.

Who is invited

Participation in the **Companions in Action: We Are Change Conference** is open to senior school students from the Jesuit and Associate schools in the United Kingdom. Delegates between the ages of 13 and 18 years of age are welcome to apply through their schools. The Conference is particularly suitable for those who hold leadership roles in their schools or are involved in promoting social justice and caring for our common home.

So that everyone is safe and is able to get the most out of the conference, there is some information, rules and guidelines we need you to know and to follow.

The Venue

The recently renovated Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, has been in existence as a Christian Conference Centre since 1911, providing residential and day conference facilities. It is set in the beautiful Derbyshire countryside. The Centre is well equipped with quality facilities and helpful staff. It has been used by the British Province of the Society of Jesus for meetings and conferences frequently over the years. To find out more about the Hayes Conference Centre please see: <https://www.cct.org.uk/the-hayes/the-hayes-conference-centre> Accommodation is in single en-suite rooms.



The main house and garden of the Hayes Conference Centre

Safeguarding and Safety

The Hayes Centre is a safe place. It is comfortable and well equipped. To make the conference an enjoyable and safe experience for all we ask you to follow these rules:

- You must not go into anyone else's bedroom (whether pupil or adult); socialising must be done in the designated public rooms of the Centre.
- You must not leave the Centre and its grounds.
- You must not bring or use tobacco, alcohol, or drugs (other than prescribed medicines).
- The Centre is fitted with a fire alarm system, smoke detectors, fire doors and emergency lighting. If the fire alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building immediately. Do not take any possessions with you. If the alarm goes off at night, wake others around you and exit the building as quickly and safely as possible. The fire assembly point and evacuation procedures will be posted in your room. It is important that you familiarise yourself with this information immediately upon arrival. Day delegates will be given a safety briefing at the morning session.
- Comply with the rules set forth by Jesuit Missions and your school.
- If at any point you experience behaviour on the part of another participant which you perceive to be inappropriate or which makes you uncomfortable please speak to a teacher, contact your parents/guardians or speak to a member of the Jesuit Missions Team

Consideration for Others

- Arrive on time for talks and workshops
- Bring your delegate folder and pen with you to all sessions
- Participate with energy, enthusiasm and creativity
- Treat all participants and staff with respect
- Leave all spaces in good order when finished using them

Special Needs

If you have any special dietary or access needs, please make sure you let us know by completing the personal information form which will be submitted to the teacher in your school who is in charge of this trip. They will forward the required information to Jesuit Missions.

Behaviour

We expect your behaviour to be of the highest standards during the conference and when travelling to and from the event. We expect you to be considerate of others, respectful of their contributions, helpful to the conference leaders. We expect you to follow, with good grace, the instructions of the conference leaders.

To get the most out of the conference we ask you to participate in a positive and constructive way at all times. As always, the more you put into the conference, the more you will get out of it.

As young adults participating in a conference of this nature with international speakers, we expect a high level of interest and involvement. We do not expect any problems with behaviour. However, if your behaviour is not good or is disruptive of the conference, arrangements will be made with your school for you to go home.

Lights Out

We do expect you to observe 'lights out' at the time we tell you. This means being in your room after lights out, getting some sleep, not visiting other rooms.

Medicines, etc.

If you are on medication, we expect you to bring and administer your medication for yourself. But we do ask that you let your teacher and us know what your medication is on your personal information form. If you feel unwell, please make sure that you inform your teacher immediately, even if that means waking the him/her up during the night.

Mobile Phones

You are welcome to bring your mobile phone to the conference but during the sessions we ask you to switch it off or leave it in your room so it does not become a distraction.

Personal Data

Your data will be used to organise and run the Companions in Action Conference. This may include contacting you before and after the event with relevant information. It will not be used for any other purpose. Should you wish to receive information about Jesuit Missions please inform a member of the Jesuit Missions Team and we will arrange for your name to be added to the Jesuit Missions mailing list.

Our full privacy policy can be viewed at <http://www.jesuit.org.uk/privacy-policy>

What to Bring

The dress code is smart casual. Participants are asked not to wear jeans, football strips or any type of branded clothing which might be seen as inappropriate. If you are staying overnight, you will need to bring your own toiletries.

Everything you need for the conference sessions (pens, paper, etc.) will be provided.

Caring for our Common Home

Participants are encouraged to be respectful of the natural environment by turning off lights when not in use, by using resources in a considerate manner, by avoiding use of plastics and by making certain to not waste food.

Conference Organiser

The Conference is being organised by Jesuit Missions UK. Jesuit Missions is the international office of the Jesuits in Britain. For over 50 years it has supported vulnerable communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Jesuit Missions exists to support Jesuit works with poor and marginalised people around the world. We do this by promoting social justice, building bridges between communities and accompanying those working on the missions. We promote a vision of a world in which the dignity of all people, especially the poor and marginalised, is defended; and where generosity of spirit, compassionate service and justice are proclaimed in witness to the Christian faith.

Conference Centre Address

The Hayes Conference Centre
Hayes Lane Swanwick, Swanwick, Alfreton DE55 1AU
www.cct.org.uk

Arrival and Departure

Depending on travel distance delegations from the different schools across the UK may be arriving either on the Wednesday evening or on the Thursday morning. Staff of the schools are asked to provide Jesuit Missions with an estimated time of arrival by contacting Lynn McWilliams at lynn@jesuitmissions.org.uk

Emergency Contact Number

Should it be necessary to make contact in the case of an emergency the first point of contact is the lead teacher from your child's school. Should it not be possible to contact them, please contact Lynn McWilliams, Outreach Coordinator for Jesuit Missions, on her mobile number: **07305927754**. You can also contact Jesuit Missions on 0208 946 0466 during business hours.



*Welcome to the Jesuit Missions
Companions in Action
We are Change Conference*

Be Agents for Change!

Registered Charity number: England and Wales: 230165 Scotland: 40490