



JPIIJC – Newsletter No. 5. August-December 08

FAITH DOING JUSTICE

Dear friends and collaborators: PEACE!

Training in Catholic Social Teaching (CST)

Workshops in order to strengthen the capacity of **parents** (Families) in the building of a just, peaceful and reconciled nation are going on in nineteen Catholic Dio/ Archdioceses of Uganda with special attention given to Gulu and Lira.

Training in Catholic Social Teaching has been done for the **Catechists** in Mityana-St. Matia Mulumba Catechetical Center and Kasese- St. Augustine Catechetical Centre. Catechists are protagonist in evangelization and their contribution in the making of a “better Uganda” is irreplaceable.

JPIIJC one year anniversary 10/11/08
We celebrated one year since the official inception of the Centre. We thank God for the achievements, challenges and failures from which we are learning to map out new strides

Open Forums

1. Responsible leadership and good governance for the Seminarians in Ggaba National Seminary



Questions posed:

What is governance?
What is good governance?

The term “**Governance**” is as old as human civilization, referring to **the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented)**.

Good governance has 8 major characteristics:



Good governance assures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.

2. The Challenges of Peace and Reconciliation after violence and war.



An open forum was facilitated by Dr. Carol Rank and Andrew Rigby from Coventry university – Center for Peace and Reconciliation Studies- UK.

Questions posed:

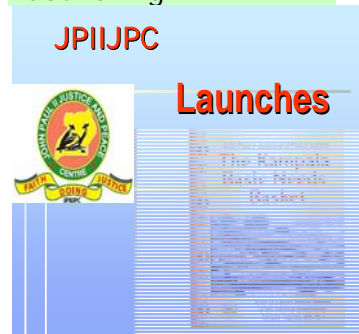
1. How to create an environment where we can talk about our painful past?
2. How to trust ones neighbour once again after violence and war.
3. What kind of education do we need if we are to build a peaceful, just and reconciled nation?
4. Are we so prone to violence that we believe in the gun as the only means to resolve conflict or to coming into power?
5. Who leads the struggle that leads to justice, peace and reconciliation?

The gun is no longer the means to come to power. Democracy and

active non-violence should be the means. Given the prevailing violence, we need a revolution of non-violence.

Reflecting on the situation of Kenya and Zimbabwe, how is Uganda preparing for the forth coming political election in 2011?

Laouncing



The event was marked twice. The first launching took place at Namuwongo informal settlement officiated by the Minister of Lands, housing- Hon. Daniel Omara Atubo.



Considering the importance of the research, the minister proposed for another launching in the presence of other government officials and church leaders.

In the 2nd launching the minister underlined the following:

1. The Ministry is collaborating with UNDP towards development of a slum upgrading strategy as a means of realizing the MDG (Millennium Development Goals) goal 7 which aims at improving the conditions of living of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.
2. The ministry is undertaking community led slum upgrading initiatives through creation of saving groups and construction of demonstration houses.
3. The ministry is in the final stage of developing the Landlord-Tenant's Bill which seeks to develop the interests of the landlords and tenants.
4. The ministry is engaged in the implementation of the condominium property act which enables the ownership of condominiums or joined properties.
5. Urban regeneration

He concluded saying: "My ministry is ready and willing to work with those that are focused on helping the urban poor escape their plight... I wish to commend John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre for the efforts made towards helping us as policy makers towards drawing up policy conclusions that match the facts on the ground. You have played your role as partners by providing us with information on the social economic factors that are associated with the problem of poverty within the slums of Kampala. You are also carrying out your duty of social responsibility by helping us educate the people through this survey on how to draw an appropriate scale of preference and to empower them so that they can join the fight against poverty. I thank you for that and promise to work even more closely with you in future in the fight against household poverty."

The Challenge of Urban Poverty



The Local Council one (LC1) Who attended the launching highlighted the pains and suffering due to poverty in the slums. Urban poverty is different in nature from rural poverty. There is a concern that the approaches to poverty reduction developed for rural areas may not work in cities and towns. Three dimensions of poverty: lack of income, lack of access and lack of power. Policies are urgently needed to enable the development of effective and sustainable urban poverty reduction.

The urban poor need better conditions for their work, including in the informal sector, better infrastructure and services, including inside the slums, and good urban governance to make the local decision processes inclusive, participatory, accountable and transparent.

Your first visit to a slum? Welcome!



What is needed?
Enhancing productivity and

- employment
- Supporting the informal sector
- Upgrading informal settlements
- Empowering the poor
- Good urban governance

Workshop on Traditional wisdom



JPIIJPC is in the process of designing a manual for civic education. Under each topic there will be a section highlighting the traditional approach of various Ethnic groups to the topic. Uganda is composed of more than 52 ethnic groups each with a remarkable repertoire of wisdom in form of songs, proverbs, taboos, poems etc. Unfortunately this wisdom is gradually getting lost.

A new kind of leadership for a global world.

The President elect Barack Obama Has brought an incredible new hope and enthusiasm in USA and around the world. There is a growing belief that we need a new kind of leadership-governance: a more just, peaceful, participatory, pro-poor and based on ethical values. Most human suffering and impoverishment is caused by human hands! Even the present financial crisis is about a crisis of human and Christian values. The recent gathering in Rome between Christian and Muslim leaders is yet another sign of the times calling for new kind of leadership.

Building JPIIJPC premises

We are happy to inform you that the building of JPIIJPC premises has started. We are very grateful to the Archdiocese of Kampala for allotting this plot of land to the centre here in Nsambya. Hopefully the new premises will be ready for Christmas 09. The Comboni G.C. has been very generous indeed and we are deeply grateful. We are still a long way from the target.

National slum upgrading strategy and action plan

The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development has invited JPIIJPC to participate in a national consultation forum in order to develop a more effective strategy regarding the families living in the slums of our cities. This follows the launching of our own research: K.B.N.B. in the slums of Kampala.

Advent Radio broadcast at Radio Maria 30/11-21/12/08

JPIIJPC is again broadcasting justice and peace issues in relation to advent every Sunday from 8.30.pm- 9.30 pm.

To each one of you

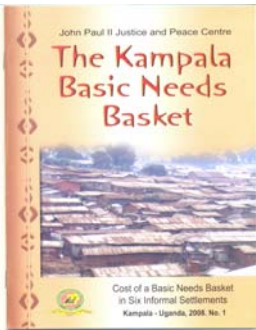


And HAPPY NEW YEAR FILLED WITH HOPE, PEACE AND JUSTICE

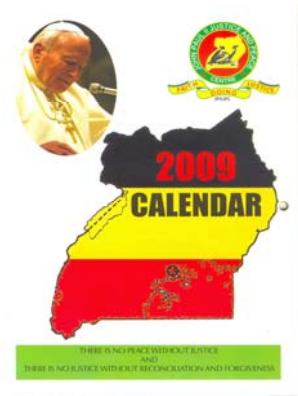
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. New JPIIIPC email address:- jp2justice@sat.signis.net
2. JPIIIPC Website: www.jp2jpc.org

3. The research on The Kampala Basic Needs Basket in the six informal settlements is on sale at Ugsh. 3000



4. A calendar highlighting issues that impinge on justice, peace and integrity of creation for 2009, published by JPIIIPC is now on sale at Ugsh.2000



JPIIIPC E-Newsletter Feedback Form

Kindly take some minutes to fill this feed back form .
Is the JPIIIPC- News letter relevant? Please give your reasons.

.....
What kind of information would you like to see in our newsletter next year 09?.....

What is your general impression about JPIIIPC's work as an institution that promotes justice, peace and environment sustainability in Uganda?

Please send feedback form to jp2jpcjustice@sat.signis.net
Jp2justice.director@sat.signis.net

Or JPIIIPC office
Block 15, Plot 1853, Kabega Road- Nsambya
P.O. Box 31853, Kampala, Uganda.

Or our Website: www.jp2jpc.org

Upcoming Events

- National consultative forum about the slums strategy: 19.12.08
- Peace week in Gulu: 16-20.1.09
- Reconciliation gathering in Burundi: 13-16 Jan.09
- A JPIC week session for the Renewal centre in Namugongo: 23-28 March 09
- Trocaire meeting in Rwanda: 24-1 Feb.09
- New Research to be carried out in Feb. 09 by our centre in the slums.
- Presenting the analysis of the Curriculum with an outline for the new Ethics Manual in SSS to the Minister of Education on 17.1.09