



The Brighton & Hove Interfaith Contact Group



An Easter Update

Easter came late this year, and then we arrived at a significant moment. Very sadly we have lost Pope Francis (Jorge Mario Bergoglio) over Easter, a rare soul with a real commitment to honourable change. It's a sad time for members of the Catholic Church. A Tribute to the Pope from the Brahma Kumaris is included in this newsletter.

Also... as April departs we have come to witness more terrible scenes of war and devastation in the Ukraine, more tragedies in the Israel-Gaza war and now a terrible civil war in the Sudan, which has escalated — 14 million people have been forced from their homes in the past two years and the risk of famine increases every day.

Bearing these tragedies in mind, and the current world-wide uncertainty, the Interfaith Contact Group is inviting you to join us for a Peace Vigil on May 1st at The Peace Statue on the border of Hove and Brighton. This silent Vigil starts at 6.30pm and will include a walking meditation.

Other dates for the diary in this news update include our AGM on Sunday April 27th which promises to be extremely special this year, also an event at The Modern Funeral and a Refugee Event at Community Base hosted by Faith in Action, taking place this coming Wednesday.

Enjoy the coming days of spring. Let's hope with the sunshine brings optimism and real hope.

A Call for Peace on May Day

Peace Vigil

May 1st 2025

Join the
Interfaith
Contact
Group at
6.30pm at
The Peace
Statue

Thinking
peace and
being peace:
a silent vigil
for peace,
and a walking
meditation



A silent call for peace for people of all faiths and none. Join us at 6.30 pm on Thursday May 1st at our City's Peace Statue - The Angel of Peace.

This silent vigil will also feature a silent walking meditation conducted by Elizabeth Archer of [The Pebbles Sangha](#) of Brighton.



Members of the Druid, Sufi, Jewish and Franciscan Communities...

... Will be talking about their own spiritual practice at our AGM on Sunday, April 27th from 2.30 pm at The Friends Meeting House

Members and Friends of the IFCG are warmly invited to this special interactive discussion. Everyone is welcome to discuss spiritual practice with additional input and ideas from our inspired speakers. The entire event (with minimal time spent on the AGM process) is followed by a delicious tea with a selection of cakes and savouries.

Spiritual Practice Revealed

A Journey of Discovery

The Interfaith Contact Group
invite you to an inspirational
open discussion... guided by
members of the Sufi, Jewish
Franciscan and Pagan
Communities...

Then join us for a delicious
tea and a chance to meet
friends both old and new

Sunday
April 27th
from
2.30pm

The Friends
Meeting
House
Ship Street
Brighton
BN1 1AF
The IFCG's
Annual
General
Meeting

www.interfaithcontactgroup.com



SEVENTY-EIGHT THANK YOUS

tales of mother and son
of love and laughter
of suicide and a slice of Battenberg



**"Exactly the magic to be found at the Edinburgh
Fringe, a rare beauty ... it warrants all five Stars."**

Sarah Gardiner

The Modern Funeral, 19 Station Rd, BN1 6SF
Thursday 8th May at 7pm; doors open 6.45pm
Tickets £15/£10 concs via link on www.jamespretlove.com

HELPING REFUGEES : WHO? WHY? HOW?



WEDS 23RD APRIL - 10AM-2PM - COMMUNITY BASE

**A DAY OF TRAINING AND EQUIPPING FOR FAITH LEADERS AND COMMUNITIES
HOSTED BY BRIGHTON AND HOVE FAITH IN ACTION AND REFUGEE RADIO**

 [Helping Refugees: Who? Why? How? – Join Us!](#)

 **Wednesday, 23 April 2025**

 **10:00 – 14:00 BST**

 **Community Base, Brighton**

Join us for a fantastic day of training for faith leaders and congregants seeking to play their part in helping people on the move. Led by our friends at [Refugee Radio](#), we will be exploring:

- ◆ Who refugees are and the challenges they face
- ◆ Why faith communities play a vital role in supporting them
- ◆ How we can take meaningful action to make a difference

This in-person session is **designed for faith leaders and communities** looking for practical ways to support refugees. Plus, enjoy a **light lunch on us!**

This event is part of BHFA's '**Commitment to Welcome**' project, helping faith communities become certified **Places of Sanctuary** under the national **Cities of Sanctuary** programme.

--> [Helping Refugees: Who? Why? How? Tickets, Wed 23 Apr 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#) <--

 Have questions? Contact info@bhfa.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you there! ✨



COMMITMENT TO WELCOME

BRIGHTON AND HOVE FAITH IN ACTION



BRAHMA KUMARIS
WORLD SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY



Tribute to HH Pope Francis

We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis, a soul who showed humanity that love and compassion are alive in this world.

His Holiness was a symbol of hope and healing for our fragmented world. His deep faith in God and the demonstration of his faith in serving the poor, the marginalised and those who society seems to have left behind, is a legacy that will live on for people of all faiths.

The remarkable encyclical Laudato Si shows how much His Holiness cared for all creation and teaches us of the intimate connection between the state of the human spirit, our Earth and all living beings.

In particular, our brothers and sisters of the Brahma Kumaris had the profound honour of meeting His Holiness at interreligious gatherings. His Holiness truly embraced people of all faiths as his brothers and sisters. We deeply appreciate his commitment to understanding and dialogue. For His Holiness, the world was truly one family.

Our sincerest condolences to the Church and all those whose lives have been touched by His Holiness.

We are comforted in knowing that the soul of His Holiness is with the Father, in His love.

BK Mohini, Administrative Head

Sister Jayanti, Additional Administrative Head
Brahma Kumaris



Peace Prayer

We pray that...
The door is opened
To peace

May peace walk abroad
In accursed places

We pray that...
The commands
To set the machinery in motion
And the places
Where earth and flesh
Are dishonoured
Are healed

Let us nurture gardens
Plant orchards
Grow flowers
Hear the bees buzz
Listen to birdsong
And the sweet sound
Of butterflies in flight

May we open the doors
To peace
Let the sun shine in
Bringing warmth to the soul
Compassion to the innocent

Let us pray for peace
And greet peace
Like an old friend
And let love prevail
Amen

www.interfaithcontactgroup.com
