

## 'Refugee Tales' walks through Our Diocese.

'The telling of stories is an act of profound hospitality', says Ali Smith, Man Booker prize-winner and Patron of 'Refugee Tales', a movement that calls for the end of indefinite detention for migrants.

This year's route went from Runnymede – site of the signing of the Magna Carta – to Parliament at Westminster and took place between the 1st and 5th July.

Over 100 walkers received an extraordinary welcome from parishioners of The Assumption of Our Lady, Engelfield Green. They were well fed and the Jurgens Centre provided the rooms for most of them to sleep in. The parish welcoming team was also joined by a local Islamic Welfare group and the tone was set perfectly before the event began.

Another extraordinary welcome received was from parishioners of Christ Prince of Peace in Weybridge in the afternoon of Day one. Bishop Richard was also present and congratulated the walkers and wished everyone continued success.

Aidan Cantwell, Diocesan Justice & Peace Adviser, helped to organise and also participated. He said, 'We successfully engaged a number of parliamentarians at Westminster at the end of the 5-day walk. I, myself, am a volunteer visitor at Brook House Detention Centre and I remain hopeful that at some point indefinite detention will be ended as it is desperately cruel and appears to serve no useful purpose. One day this message will be heard a lot louder and clearer and 'Refugee Tales' has a very important role to play in ensuring that that happens'.



*Picture - Richmond Park Monday lunch time ©Aidan Cantwell*

