

# RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION - SEPTEMBER 2025

A NEWSLETTER INSPIRING AND ENABLING CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

## NEWS AND EVENTS

**The Season of Creation has begun.** Please visit the Diocesan website for ideas. Especially look for Pope Leo's message for this season:

[www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/season-of-creation-aob](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/season-of-creation-aob)

**COP 30** is in Brazil in November. Please pray for the success of this COP.

The report from fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-5.2) taking place from 5 - 14 August 2025 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

**U.N. News August 7: Extreme heat is breaking records around the world**, with wildfires and poor air quality compounding the crisis, according to a report from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released Thursday.

(<https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/08/1165597> for full details).

Extreme temperatures caused approximately 489,000 heat-related deaths annually between 2000 and 2019, with 36% occurring in Europe and 45% in Asia.

**Canadian wildfires:** As Canada experiences one of its worst wildfire seasons on record, with 6.6 million hectares burned, smoke has polluted skies and caused poor air quality across several provinces and northern states of the US in late July and early August. Twice this summer, smoke from Canadian fires crossed the Atlantic, affecting skies over Western Europe from 5–7 August and over Central and Southern Europe in late June.

Elsewhere, France, Cyprus, Greece and Türkiye have battled wildfires that forced evacuations and caused fatalities. In the US, a wildfire in Arizona's Grand Canyon National Park disrupted tourism.

*"Extreme heat is sometimes called the silent killer, but with today's science, data and technologies, silence is no longer an excuse. Every single death from extreme heat is preventable,"* said WMO Deputy Secretary-General Ko Barrett.

## LIVE SIMPLY & SUSTAINABLY

There is plenty of affordable British produce in the shops at present. Eating seasonally offers benefits by reducing food miles, energy consumption, and packaging waste, as well as supporting local farmers and communities.

## LIVE IN SOLIDARITY

Support CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day which is on Friday, October 3. Can you replace a big meal with something simple, (fast) and whatever you save, give to CAFOD.

Could you help organise a soup lunch in your parish? Also, can you help organise a food bank donation for your local food bank. Are you aware of any asylum seekers charities in your area which you could support? Asylum seekers are frequently made destitute. They are deprived of any support. Despite the negative reporting in the media, every one is a brother or sister deserving of our welcome, love and support.

## International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastics Pollution, including in the Marine Environment

The fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment finished on 15th August with no agreement, again!

It seems that oil producing nations insist they will continue to produce plastics, and the remainder of the world wants them to stop. You can find the report of the meeting here:

[bit.ly/plasticsINC5-2](https://bit.ly/plasticsINC5-2)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, PLEASE CONTACT [CLIMATEACTION@RCAOB.ORG.UK](mailto:CLIMATEACTION@RCAOB.ORG.UK)