

RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION - OCTOBER 2025

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

ARE YOU CONVINCED?

A number of populist politicians have been making proclamations such as 'Net-zero is a hoax'; 'global warming is a con'; 'climate change is not man-made' etc. Two years ago this month, Pope Francis published *Laudate Deum*, which is a much more direct condemnation of the inactions of governments when considering climate change; a more direct appeal for us all to respond to the climate CRISIS, and especially world leaders, to take stronger action.

This appeal, repeated by Pope Leo, is based on science. Scientific observations, especially from the Mauna Loa observatory in Hawaii, clearly show how the world is warming because of carbon emissions. Please take the time to research the facts, and do not be taken in by lies and deceit.

The tragedy of today's world is inequality; the huge discrepancy between rich and poor; between countries and within countries. As Pope Francis explained and taught "Everything is connected". So, after researching further: **Are you convinced that you (and I) need to change?** "a broad change in the irresponsible lifestyle connected with the Western model would have a significant long-term impact." (*Laudate Deum* 72).

NEWS AND EVENTS

October 4th is the Feast of St Francis of Assisi and marks the end of the Season of Creation. We hope you have learned something during this past month and ask that you continue to make the changes which you are able to make.

Friday October 3rd: CAFOD Family Fast Day. CAFOD does work with the most disadvantaged in the world. Please support this appeal; and can you give monthly? This is always a big help. Go to cafod.org.uk

LIVE SIMPLY

Take time to observe the changes in autumn; go for a walk and spend time looking, wondering, marvelling at biodiversity. Put up a bug-hotel in your garden.

LIVE SUSTAINABLY

Recycle, re-use; repair. Buy locally grown food, give thanks for the harvest.

LIVE IN SOLIDARITY

Observe CAFOD's Fast Day; organise a parish soup lunch; are there any refugee charities local to you which need support? Organise a collection for your local food bank.

BECOME A LIVESIMPLY PARISH

Archbishop Bernard, and the Diocesan Care for Creation Committee, have called for parishes and schools to take on this Award. Our schools have responded, but not as many parishes have registered.

To achieve this award, administered by CAFOD, you will need a small planning group. You choose your own targets, three each under the headings of Living Simply, Living Sustainably and Living in Solidarity.

Register with CAFOD, who are very helpful with advice, keep records, and when you have completed your chosen actions CAFOD will check. Then celebrate the Award!

<https://cafod.org.uk/campaign/livesimply-award>

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, PLEASE CONTACT **CLIMATEACTION@RCAOB.ORG.UK**