

**Subject:** The Season of Creation

**Date:** Wednesday, 15 September 2021 at 10:36:52 British Summer Time

**From:** St Edmund's livesimply group

**To:** Parish



Dear Parish,

The **Season of Creation Mass** at Ladywell Convent at the beginning of this month was a special occasion in so many ways, with lots of highlights – blue skies and beautiful surroundings, Fr Jonathan's joyful liturgy, being able to socialise and sing for the first time in ages, the children presenting their huge prayer card from children's liturgy, and wonderful hospitality of the FMDM Ladywell Sisters, including loads of delicious cakes!



It was also a chance to celebrate that we are officially a 'Live Simply' parish and to share some future plans.

Thank you to everyone for your support, and for your generosity in contributing £120 to the **CAFOD collection for Afghanistan**. If you would like to donate to the Afghanistan Appeal please click [here](#)






We hope you have placed the **Season of Creation prayer card** (see below) somewhere visible at home or in a prayer book as a prompt to prayer and action, and if you would like another copy please pick one up when you are next at Mass.

**LAUDATO SI'**  
ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME



## Live Simply prayer

Compassionate and loving God,  
You created the world for us all to share,  
a world of beauty and plenty.  
Create in us a desire to **live simply**,  
so that our lives may reflect your generosity.

Creator God, You gave us responsibility for the earth,  
a world of riches and delight.  
Create in us a desire to **live sustainably**,  
so that those who follow after us  
may enjoy the fruits of your creation.

God of peace and justice,  
You give us the capacity to change,  
to bring about a world that mirrors your wisdom.  
Create in us a desire to **act in solidarity**,  
so that the pillars of injustice crumble  
and those now crushed are set free.

Amen

# My actions



TO LIVE SIMPLY ARE





TO LIVE SUSTAINABLY





TO LIVE IN SOLIDARITY  
WITH PEOPLE IN POVERTY



If you would like to join our Live Simply group or receive our monthly email please contact: [jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com)  
St Edmund's Parish, Godalming



## Pope Francis' message for September

*'Let us pray that we all will make courageous choices, the choices necessary for **a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle**, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this. It makes me very happy to see that young people have the courage to undertake projects for environmental and social improvement, since the two go together. We adults can learn much from them, because in all matters related to care for the planet, they are at the forefront. Let us take advantage of their example and reflect on our lifestyle, especially during these moments of health, social and environmental crisis.*

*Let us reflect on how the way we eat, consume, travel, or the way we use water, energy, plastics, and many other material goods, is often harmful to the earth.*

*Let us choose to change! Let us advance with young people towards lifestyles that are simpler and more respectful of the environment.'*

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## Counting down to COP26

The UN Climate Change Conference starts in **47 days** and Pope Francis has confirmed it is his intention to attend if his health is good enough, and that his speech is already being prepared.

### Support the Relay to COP26

A group of young people are walking between the G7 in Cornwall and COP26 in Glasgow, to ask the UK government to use its role as host to ensure no country gets pushed further into debt by climate change; and to put pressure on the UK to work with other developed nations so that \$100bn is on the table ahead of COP26. The failure to meet a decade-old promise of \$100bn for climate finance by 2020 has been a major sticking point for these negotiations.

The Relay is organised by the [Young Christian Climate Network](#) and is supported by churches across the UK. Alok Sharma has recently stated how important meeting this target is: 'We need a big push, to get us over the line, to show that promises made are promises kept, and to create the best possible conditions for those crucial negotiations in Glasgow'.

Please add your voice to their campaign by emailing our MP Jeremy Hunt using

the form on their website: <https://www.yccn.uk/add-your-voice>

### **Take Action - Sign the petition**

[Sign the petition to Rishi Sunak](#), the Chancellor, to urge him to show leadership ahead of COP26

[Sign the petition to Boris Johnson](#) to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26

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### **Litter Pick 18th/19th September**

We invite you to have a go at helping us keep our neighbourhoods tidy.

We are meeting after Mass at:

- St Edmund's at 10am on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>
- St John's at 9.30am on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>
- St Joseph's at 11.30am on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>

Please bring gloves and a bag. We look forward to seeing you!

For more information email Jo: [jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com)

To find out about other Green events during #GreatBigGreenWeek visit <https://greatbiggreenweek.com>

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## **Ten Steps to Living Simply**

Our Live Simply group has compiled a **Ten-Step Guide to Living Simply**, to help us focus our actions, inspire us and remind us of the different ways in which we can have an impact by making simple changes.

### **Step 1 for September is: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

*'The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God'*

[Laudate Si' 84].

Keeping the 3Rs mantra in mind will remind us to do our best to reduce waste, repurpose what we no longer use, and recycle what is left over - and the result of that is sustainable living!

## **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Focus**

### **Putting the 3Rs into practice**

**Re-use and refill your plastic containers** at the [Yard Market](#) All your household needs are provided for here – laundry powder, washing up liquid, cream cleaner, loo cleaner, hair shampoo, body wash, hand wash, and much else.

**Re-use and refill your store cupboard containers** at the Godalming Deli and Secrett's Food Shop. Bring along your containers for dry goods - such as herbs, spices, pasta, lentils - and you are charged by weight for the refill. It often works out cheaper too.

**Revive shop at Witley Recycling Centre** – Re-opened this month, the shop sells pre-owned items for the home and garden, reducing waste and donates 10% of revenue to supporting local charities, as well as offsetting the running costs of the community recycling centres.

**Up-cycle old and worn out furniture** Visit [Changing Perceptions](#) on Godalming High Street to see how they transform bits of old furniture, prevent stuff from going to landfill, and raise funds for the Meath charity.

**Check before donating to charity shops** If the shop can't sell your old stuff it may be sent to landfill as shops haven't the resources to re-route unwanted stuff. So always check first. Oxfam clothes banks guarantee to reuse or recycle textiles.

**Oxfam's Second Hand September** Oxfam are running this campaign to encourage people to say 'yes' to second hand as a way of living a more sustainable lifestyle. Their online shop has a [20% discount offer](#) on their ethically sourced and second-hand items for sale, including men's and women's clothing.

**Offer your unwanted items to others on Freecycle**

<https://www.freecycle.org/> or **Freegle** <https://www.ilovefreegle.org/>

**Rinse clean items before recycling** – this is really important as dirty items may contaminate the recycling collection and result in it being sent to landfill instead. For example, a greasy pizza box goes into the black bin and not into the recycling.

**Don't be a 'wishcycler'** – are you someone who adds an item to the recycling bin (such as a coffee cup or used paper towels) in the hope that this item might slip through? Wishcyclers tend to be committed recyclers who feel so guilty about sending rubbish to landfill that they hope for the best and throw soiled food containers and polystyrene into their recycling bins. The most common contaminant is food, such as remnants of crust in pizza boxes and yoghurt in unwashed pots. If you're not sure whether you can recycle an item, you can check online using [Waverley's recycling checker tool](#)

**Add more recycling bins around your home** if you have space – for example in the kitchen, bathroom and garage.

**Keep lids on bottles** and remove labels where possible before recycling.

**Recycling Lateral Flow Devices/LFD test kits** – and PPE – these items necessarily end up at landfill. However, we can do our bit to reduce the amount that goes into the black bin from our home kits by segregating any recyclable material, such as the cardboard packaging, tube holder and paper instruction booklet.

**Recycling coffee pods** Sainsbury's has just announced a partnership with coffee pod manufacturer Dualit and On-Pack Recycling Label Ltd to produce aluminium pods that can be recycled at home if empty of coffee grinds. Their own brand pods will now be labelled as recyclable and with a reminder that they need to be rinsed clean before going into the recycling bin. Other aluminium pods are also most likely recyclable.

**Soft plastics are now recycled at the Co-op** Any bits of plastic which ping back when you scrunch them up qualify - including plastic film lids on yoghurt pots, soft fruit punnets and ready meals, as well as plastic crisp packets, pasta bags and chocolate or biscuit wrappers. See what you can and can't recycle [here](#)

**In-store recycling points for plastic packaging and bags** Remember to



bring these with you when you go shopping as most of the bigger supermarkets – from Sainsbury's to Waitrose to Co-op – will recycle plastic packaging.

**Recycle crisp packets and oral care products** at the Borough Hall where there are bins just inside the door of the building.

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**Save the date!** Our annual parish CAFOD Quiz Night takes place on 12th November, 7pm-10pm, St John's Church Room. More details to follow.

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**Thank you to our parish knitters** for producing some fantastic knits for our two chosen charities: the [Royal Surrey](#) and the [Stella Maris](#) charity to support seafarers. Here are some pics all the colourful hats, scarves, blankets, balaclavas, twiddlemuffs and pairs of warm socks, and of the knits being presented to the wards at the RSH. If you would like to join the knitting group please get in touch with Sarah in the parish office.





### CAFOD's Go Green Challenge

This autumn, leading up to the COP26 climate talks in November, you can 'Go Green' by taking on a climate-related fundraising challenge. How about a cycling challenge, going vegetarian or plastic-free? You can sign up [here](#), start collecting sponsors and raise money to help fight the climate crisis and tackle poverty caused by the climate crisis.

It's one more way we can shine a light on some of the causes of the climate emergency while doing our bit to guard God's creation and protect our common home.

#### A Prayer for CAFOD's Family Fast Day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Walk beside us, Lord,  
in the cool of the day,  
in the garden you have created  
as our common home.

Walk beside us, Lord,  
as the cries of the forest  
pierce the dawn,  
and flames rip through  
our common home.



Grant us courage, Lord,  
as we walk beside all those  
who struggle to protect  
our common home.

Grant us hope, Lord,  
and the vision to walk dark paths  
in the light of a single sunbeam.

Grant us grace, Lord,  
to put the flourishing of all people  
and the wonder of your creation  
at the heart of all we do,

as we strive to be guardians  
of our common home.

St Francis, pray for us.

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If you would like to join our next Live Simply meeting on Thursday 7th October  
please email Jo: [jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com)

**Thank you for your support and we hope you stay well.**  
**The Live simply team**



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