

**Subject:** Today is World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

**Date:** Thursday, 1 September 2022 at 13:31:41 British Summer Time

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

**To:** Parish



Dear Parish,

Today is **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**, for which Pope Francis has published a special message.

September is a time of new beginnings, and Pope Francis' message at the start of the Season of Creation puts before us the invitation to repent and change our lifestyle.

You can read Pope Francis' message in full [here](#)

All our Masses this weekend will have the theme of Creation and offer special prayers for God's gift of creation. Our **10.30am Mass on Sunday 4th September will be celebrated outside** in the beautiful grounds of Ladywell Convent, with coffee and cake and time for a parish social afterwards. We look forward to welcoming you. *Please bring a chair with you and be prepared for all weathers!*

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### Prayer intentions for the season of creation

Here are some suggestions for prayers during the season of creation, which runs to 4th October, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.

... that we may renew our relationships with God our Creator, and with all creation.

... for our own ecological conversion, and that of all peoples, that we may

open our hearts to hear and respond to the cries of anguish in our world,  
*'so that we and future generations can continue to rejoice in creation's  
sweet song of life and hope.'*

... with thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage that we  
have caused and commit ourselves to take action to protect the earth, our  
common home.

... for the success of COP27, the next United Nations Climate Change  
Conference, due to take place in November in Egypt, and for COP15, the  
UN Convention on Biological Diversity, due to take place in the autumn in  
China; that they can serve to unite the human family in effectively  
confronting the double crisis of climate change and the reduction of  
biodiversity.

... that we may be able to listen. *'If we learn how to listen, we can hear in  
the voice of creation a kind of dissonance. On the one hand, we can hear  
a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished  
plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home.'*

Below are some prayers from CAFOD, and there are more prayer  
resources on their [website](#)

### **Your garden of plenty**

Giver of life,  
From tiny seeds and parched earth  
your gentle hand grows richest fruit.  
Reveal to us, Creator God, the seeds within us;  
moisten the soil that our neglect has made dry.  
For alone we lack the vision of your Kingdom.  
Alone, we fail to recognise the hungry in our midst.  
Alone, we lack the strength to fulfil your purpose.  
With your inspiring love, Redeemer of all,  
may the shoots of our potential break free and our hands,  
voices and spirits toil in communion  
so that your garden of plenty can be shared by all. Amen

*Anna Cronin-Nowakowska/CAFOD*

### **For the love of**

Creator God, You show us what love is through the beauty of the earth  
and the gift of your Son.

For the love of...

animal and plant, mountain and forest, sea and city, woman and man,  
friend and family, those who live far from us, and those yet to be born.

Move us to live more simply, to protect the earth  
and to speak up for those in need. Amen.

*Sarah Hagger-Holt/CAFOD*

### **Praised Be**

Living God, have mercy on us,  
for the times we forget that we belong to each other.  
You call us to be still, to hear the whisper of our Sister Wind,  
to feel the radiance of our Brother Sun,  
and to be nourished by our Mother Earth.  
Renew us in your healing love. Inspire us to water the earth,  
and nurture one another, so all may flourish.  
Together, as one family, may we always sing your praise.  
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*Rachel McCarthy/CAFOD*

### **We see you**

God of light and life,  
we see you in the rising sun,  
the golden fields of new daffodils,  
and the feel of a spring shower.  
Help us to see your light reflected throughout creation.

God of compassion,  
you are there with those people  
who are facing the effects of a changing climate,  
and are affected by floods, droughts and famine.  
Show us how to be there with them too.

God of truth and justice,  
you hear those people around the world,  
who struggle to make their voices heard.

Open our ears and the ears of those in power  
to hear the cries of those living in poverty.

God of hope,  
we see you in people who refuse to give up,  
who will not lose faith and keep on fighting,  
for your earth and for your people.  
Lift us, so that we may never lose hope. Amen.

*Michaela McGuigan/CAFOD*

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## **Rubbish Talk**

**St Edmund's Big Green Week Event**

**Saturday 24th September at 7.30pm at St John's, Farncombe**

You're invited to a shared supper and a 'Rubbish' talk, at which Ian will be sharing his knowledge on the dos and don'ts of recycling and why it's so important. We hope to have a good discussion on green matters and what we can do to make a difference.

Amongst all this rubbish there will be plenty of light entertainment! The evening will include the 'Scrunch Test' and the 'Shoebox Challenge'...and Ian will be performing his not-to-be missed 'Witley Rap' and, of course, it's a perfect opportunity for a quick quiz!

We look forward to coming together as a community and we hope for a full house. Please sign up via the calendar on our [website](#) and look out for the noticeboards at Mass to let us know what you are able to bring to the shared supper.

For more information about **Great Big Green Week** (24th September – 2nd October) click [here](#)

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**Don't forget - Ten Steps to Living Simply**

Step 1: **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

Step 2: **Less is More. Make the most of what you have**

Step 3: **Say Goodbye to Plastic**

Step 4: **Go Natural. Home-grown and home-made is best**

Step 5: **Grow Your Own and Create Green Spaces**

Step 6: **Switch Off and Unplug. Take time out**

Step 7: **Walk & Bike More & Drive Less, whenever you can**

Step 8: **Reduce Your Carbon Footprint**

Step 9: **Be an Eco-Friendly Shopper. Always read the label**

Step 10: **Spread the Word about Sustainability**

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Almighty God, you hear every voice, you know each cry of injustice, and you are attentive to the suffering of the earth: may you teach us to listen. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world you have created and not prey on it. May you reveal to us the ways in which we have failed to hear your voice in how we treat the earth.

We offer this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

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If you would like to join our next Live Simply meeting on **Thursday 8th September at 7.30pm**, please email Jo: [jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com)

**Thank you for your support**  
**The Live simply team**



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