

**Subject:** Praying for COP27 and courage for our world leaders

**Date:** Friday, 4 November 2022 at 11:21:16 Greenwich Mean Time

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

**To:** Parish



Dear Parish,

As the United Nations climate conference, COP27, starts this weekend in Egypt we are reminded that this is a crucial moment where our world leaders need to take bold action in recognition of the urgency of the climate emergency.

The outlook is bleak but as people of faith we know that God doesn't give up on this world and that we need to be at the heart of the response – as it's impossible to be a Christian and not take responsibility for this world.

Our prayers are important and during COP27 (which continues until 18th November) we can take time for daily intercession – and there are prayer suggestions from CAFOD below. It's also a time for action, with an opportunity to join [a march in London on Saturday 12th November](#).

God of blessings,  
the universe sings of your glory.  
Deepen our gratitude for all you have made  
and awaken in us a renewed commitment  
to care for the earth and each other.  
Inspire world leaders at COP27,  
with openness to listen to those most affected by climate change  
and with courage to act urgently and wisely,  
so that our common home may be healed and restored  
and all people, and generations to come, may delight in it.  
Amen

We pray for the Church -

may we speak and act together as we urgently work towards good stewardship of our creation and God's presence in all living things.

We pray for the world -

the interdependence of all living things; the beauty and flourishing of the planet plundered and misused for generations by human activity;  
may we all, through our actions, help repair the harm we have caused.

We pray for the peoples already facing droughts, floods and storms -

that God may grant them strength and hope for the future as they work to adapt to the changing climate.

We pray for our parish and our local community -

that through the grace of God we may examine our environmental impact and make choices for the common good.

*Prayers from CAFOD*

## **COP27 Action on the climate crisis**

### **Sign the petition to our Prime Minister**

By signing the petition you put pressure on our government and ensure they know how much we care about the need to take drastic action to reduce climate emissions. There is a ready email for you to send to the PM by clicking [here](#)

You can join a **webinar hosted by CAFOD on Monday 7th November at 7pm** to find out about what's happening at the COP27. Register [here](#)

And you can join a **[COP27 Global Day of Action](#)** in London on **Saturday 12th November**, organised by the Climate Coalition to raise awareness of COP27. Meet outside St John's Church, Waterloo, SE1 8TY at 11.30am for prayers from different faith traditions, before joining the main march outside the Shell building at noon. The march route ends at Trafalgar Square, where there will be a rally from 2.30pm until around 4.00pm.

You can register to join the march [here](#)

For more information on CAFOD and COP27 <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/COP27>



'The Letter' was premiered a few weeks ago. It's a film about the climate crisis and how it is affecting life on Earth, and features Pope Francis. Described as a 'Message for our Earth', it is from Pope Francis to YOU!

The documentary tells the story of four 'champions' who each receive an invitation from Pope Francis to come to Rome to talk with him about the Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*. Those invited represent four voices: the voice of the poor, of indigenous peoples, of the youth and of nature and wildlife.

The film has had an amazing reception, with 8 million views in three weeks. As the film powerfully explains, the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are growing increasingly desperate. Droughts, floods, wildfires, hurricanes, deforestation - they all keep getting worse and worse.

Screened in halls of power - ranging from parliaments all the way to the COP27 UN climate summit and COP15 biodiversity summit - the film demands politicians to do better, and by touching many hearts and opening new horizons in the Church's ecological conversion, it is hoped it will strengthen people's resolve to bring about climate and ecological justice.

The film is free to watch online: <https://theletterfilm.org/> and in January we will be arranging a **parish Live Simply screening** with an opportunity for discussion afterwards.

You can read Pope Francis' Encyclical letter *Laudate Si* in full [here](#)



[St Mark's Foodbank](#) supports families with food parcels throughout the year, and during the Christmas period also sends **special Christmas food parcels** to families at four local schools. It's an opportunity to spread love and good cheer at a time of extra need and difficulty...

To support this appeal please buy some extra items when you are shopping, such as:

- Christmas puddings**
- Christmas cakes**
- Fancy biscuits/Selection boxes**
- Mr Kipling cakes: eg Angel/Unicorn slices**
- Stuffing mix**
- Mince pies**
- Cranberry sauce**
- Christmas crackers**
- Foil**
- Mince Pies**

There are collection boxes at our churches for your donations. Please drop off by **11th December** latest. For more information contact Jo Pomeroy on 07920 18049.

## Recycle – Reduce - Reuse

A recent national survey has shown that many of us are still not even recycling basic items such as cardboard, food and plastic, and many feel they are not well informed. But that's obviously not the case around here, as Surrey County Council tells us that Surrey achieved the 3rd best recycling rate in England!

### Stop 'wish-cycling'!

Here is a list of the most common 'wish-cycled' items **which shouldn't go into your recycling bin:**

- Takeaway coffee cups - usually have a film of plastic
- Greasy pizza boxes can't be processed (so only recycle the clean covers of pizza cardboard boxes – not the greasy bottoms)
- Polystyrene and bubble wrap
- Used kitchen roll or tissues
- Crisp packets and salad bags
- Dirty takeaway containers
- Toothpaste tubes - made of hard-to-recycle plastic

### Recycling tips

**Rinse all items before recycling** as food and liquid can contaminate and risk potential recycling being sent to landfill.

Remember – glass bottles/jar should be recycled without **lids off**, and plastic bottles with **lids on**.

**Broken glasses** – even though you can put glass jars and bottles in the recycling, broken glass goes into the black bin. Nor can light bulbs, though seemingly made of glass, go into recycling.

**Numbers in the plastic triangle** – these indicate if something can be recycled. Numbers 1,2, 4 and 5 are “generally” recyclable, while 3, 6 and 7 are not.

**Borough Hall recycling point has now closed** The closest collection point for oral/dental care products is in Guildford:

<https://www.zerocarbond.guildford.org/terracycle> (scroll down to Philips Dental).

**Crisp packets** – recycle these at soft plastic collection points at supermarkets such as Sainsbury's, Tesco and the Coop - along with a wide range of other soft plastics used in food packaging.

**Compostable and biodegradable products** should be composted not recycled.

**Tetra Pak drink and food cartons** – from orange juice to soup cartons – you can recycle these cartons in your blue wheelie bin.

**Recycle your old mobiles** 80% of the phone is recyclable, as they contain precious materials such as gold, silver, palladium and other recyclable components - which, if not recycled from old products, have to be mined. If your old phone is still working then charity shops will take them and make money by selling them on; if it's broken take it to a collection point such as WRC at Witley.

**Recycle your old clothes** 921,000 tonnes of used textiles end up in our general waste every year, which is then either incinerated or sent to landfill. Have you thought of repurposing old items into new items? There are various groups around that can help with repurposing, such as <https://reconsidered.co.uk/> or Sojo App <https://home.sojo.uk/>

**Recycle your plastic bottles by using them for refills** at [The Yard Market](#) off Godalming High Street, where you can buy a wide range of eco products for house cleaning and personal care.

### **Green matters locally**

Surrey County Council have an informative page about strategies to tackle climate issues locally – such as walking, cycling and tree planting initiatives. <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing>

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November 19th  
7pm at St John's  
**Parish Quiz Night**



Tickets on sale now!



Please join us for our **annual parish quiz night in aid of CAFOD**, on Saturday 19th November at 7pm at St John's Farncombe church room.

Tickets are £10, which includes a jacket potato supper.

There is space for another team, as well as some spaces left in other teams.

Contact Jo asap to secure your ticket! [jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com)

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### Live Simply News Round-Up



#### 'Rubbish Talk' in September

Our parish contribution to Great Big Green Week. Thanks to Ian who informed and entertained us! It was a fun evening and an opportunity to learn more about how to avoid landfill, reduce carbon emissions and do our bit for the climate crisis.



#### Knits to Charity

See pics below for our recent deliveries to charities.

If you're interested in knitting or crochet and would like to **join EdsKnitters**, please get in touch via the parish office.



Warm woolly hats knitted by Jan and gratefully received by the **Stella Maris** charity to keep seafarers warm on board ship.



Baby clothes knitted by Juliette for the baby unit at the **Royal Surrey Hospital**; *'they will be cherished'*.

### Season of Creation posters

Created by pupils at St Edmund's School on display at St Edmund's church during the Season of Creation.



### Rewilding project at St Joseph's

These stunning hollyhocks have made a big impression on visitors to St Joseph's, offering a cheerful and colourful welcome all through the summer months. Now it's November



they are sadly on their way out... But Sr Shirley has lots of plans for next year, so watch this space!

## Prayer to the Holy Spirit

O Holy Spirit, you hovered over the deep at the dawn of creation.

You fashioned time and space itself in the initial magnificent flaring forth.

You breathed life into all beings and you continue to dwell and work in all creation to sustain that life.

Be with us now at this critical moment of our history.

Open our ears to the cry of the earth, suffering the effects of human exploitation and unbridled consumption.

Open our ears to the cries of our brothers and sisters living in the midst of extreme poverty and hunger.

Give us a deeper awareness that we are part of all that you have made, that we are intimately connected to all that has been, all that is and all that will be.

Grant us a spirit of awe and wonder as we contemplate the marvels of your creation, recognising and giving thanks for your presence within and around us.

Give us a deep respect for all life and help us to renew our commitment to foster life wherever we are.

Give us the courage to denounce all that disfigures your creation and to commit fully to caring for our earthly home and for all the created beings we share it with.

May we live lives characterised by compassion and service and may we embody your love in our relationships with one another and with all Creation.

Amen

*Sr Gemma Corbett/CAFOD*

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If you would like to join our next Live Simply meeting  
on Thursday 1st December **at 7.30pm on Zoom**, please email Jo:  
[jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com)

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



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