

The Catholic Parish of Godalming

From: St Edmund's livesimply group <godalming@abdiocese.org.uk>
Sent: 29 March 2023 11:08
To: The Catholic Parish of Godalming
Subject: Active love



Dear Parish,

As Christians it is our faith which makes all things seem possible, and if we draw on it to truly guide our actions we have the hope and motivation we need to come together as one and **live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with people in poverty**, and to bring about change within our own lives, homes, parish and neighbourhood.

Last week's final IPCC report on the climate emergency, which urges 'an acceleration agenda' and the UK's Climate Change Committee today have both highlighted that we are doing far too little and there is a need for action.

Moving from awareness to action is our constant challenge, especially when the problems seem insurmountable. Many of us don't get beyond the thought, 'I know there is a problem, and I care, but I don't know what to do'.

But next month you can step up and stand up and make sure your voice is heard...



The BIG One

Friday 21 April

You are invited to join CAFOD and many others outside the Houses of Parliament, to show your concern for our planet and urge the Government to stop the use of fossil fuels.

Supporters are gathering at 11.15am at St John's Church, Waterloo, at a Christian service to pray for leaders to take the action needed to tackle the climate emergency and declare we have no faith in fossil fuels. You can register [here](#)

Other charities supporting this event include the Climate Coalition, Christian Aid, Green Christian, Tearfund, Student Christian Movement, Iona Community and many others. The programme of events continues throughout the weekend of 22nd & 23rd April. Please email Jo if you can join our parish group on 21st.

With Holy Week in our sights, here are some excerpts from the **Ecological Way of the Cross** which put the suffering of Christ's Passion in our time by relating it to the suffering of the earth and the poor.

Second Station - Jesus carries his cross

Lord Jesus, just as You embraced the burden of our sins,
we pray for those who will be forced to carry the burden
of environmental disasters caused by our rampant development.

We also pray for those who risk their lives
to embrace the call of social and climate justice. Amen.

[from the Laudato Si' Movement Prayer Book]



The Big Lent Walk – Update

Less than two weeks to go on our parish Lenten walk! Our parish team of 23 walkers, plus the FMDM Sisters at Ladywell, have jointly walked 5,662 kms! On Saturday we did our walk along the river Wey. It was a bit muddy but, hey, the sun was shining, and we ended up at Hector's for tea.

So far, we've raised **£1,665**, which is a fantastic achievement! Can we get to £2,000? If you can help us do so, please sponsor us by clicking [here](#)

As a reminder, the funds we raise go towards **CAFOD's Lent Appeal** to save lives, help families around the world to cope with the climate crisis, and ensure that no one is beyond reach of the love and care they need. CAFOD walker around the world have so far raised over £161,000.



Seventh Station - Jesus falls a second time

Lord, as You have fallen a second time,
so do we fall to our indifferent consumerism.
Help us, we pray, to be conscious of our purchasing decisions,
to choose what is ethically and sustainably made,
and to stand up for those who carry the heavy burden
of unjust economic policies. Amen.

Fund raising for Kasanka



Our annual cake and plant sales raise funds for essential projects at the St Francis Community School in Kasanka.

Please let us know if you can bake cakes for the **Cake Sale**, which takes place after all Masses on the weekend of 15th & 16th April (contact Mary on 01483 428031). For the rest of us – it's buy cake and eat cake!

We also need plenty of plants for **Pete's Plant Sale** on the weekend of 21st & 22nd May, at St Joseph's Church, Milford car park. Now that the weather is warming, please do start to think about plants you could grow or divide for the sale, or seeds you might start sowing now. And if you are able to help with the sale please contact Jo on 07920 180495.

Ninth Station - Jesus falls a third time

Lord, the weight of the cross caused You to fall a third time.

We, too, daunted by unbridled exploitation, fall to anguish and frustration.

Give us the strength to rise again and again
in our fight for social and climate justice. Amen.

Eco action

Love the Stranger presents a humane and caring response by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' Department for International Affairs to refugees and migrants, and articulates our Christian duty to look beyond labels and see the person who has left their homeland in search of a better life. You can read Bishop Paul McAleenan's statement on the behalf of

the CBEW conference [here](#)

Please write to our MP Jeremy Hunt (email: huntj@parliament.uk) if you have concerns about the proposed illegal migration bill, which seeks to make provision for the removal from the UK of persons who have entered or arrived in breach of immigration control. Points to make could include:

- The best way to ‘stop the boats’ is to provide safe and legal routes for people to claim asylum, which will remove the need for illegal boat crossings
- Many refugee charities have urged the Government to do this, but nothing has changed.
- The UN has forecast that migration will increase due to the impact of climate crisis, which the UK has contributed to over many decades. So, we have a moral responsibility to support those whose livelihoods and homes are devastated because of floods, droughts and rising sea levels.
- Only desperate people who feel that they have no future in their own country risk their lives to cross the channel in a rubber dinghy!

Mensuram Bonam ('A Good Measure')

A guide for Catholic Investors.

Mensuram Bonam is a recently published Vatican document which provides Catholic investors with a series of faith-based criteria that can be taken into consideration to ensure investments promote the common good. Bishop Richard, Chair of the Bishops' Conference's Department for Social Justice, commented: *"I commend Mensuram Bonam to all Catholics involved in the world of finance, whether they are individual investors working for institutions or they are managing the investments of dioceses, religious orders, other Catholic organisations or Catholic investment funds."* To read more click [here](#)

IPCC Report on Climate Change

The final part of the IPCC report was published last week with a message of action, rather than despair: *'It's not too late... it is possible to limit global warming to 1.5C with rapid and deep emissions reductions across all sectors of the global economy...[there are] many feasible, effective and low-cost mitigation and adaptation options to scale up across sectors and countries.'*

The world can still avoid worst of climate collapse with genuine change is **the** positive framing of an otherwise grim report, and this was also taken up by the UN secretary-general, António Guterres. He called for countries to adopt an “acceleration agenda” involving all of the G20, the world’s biggest developed and developing countries. To read the Guardian article click [here](#)

Spread the word about Pope Francis's climate crisis film

It was agreed at our recent parish screening that '**The Letter**' needs to be watched as widely as possible - in families, schools and groups – as it’s so powerful and a great starting point for discussion and action on how to care for our planet. It’s free to watch - and after watching please consider who else you can encourage to watch it too <https://www.theletterfilm.org/>

Standing in solidarity with small farmers

Sign the petition to the World Bank and add your voice to the call for small farmers to have control over their seeds. CAFOD is working with farmers across the world as they lead the way in creating a sustainable food system. You can sign [here](#)

Tenth Station - Jesus is stripped of his clothes

Jesus, You were stripped of Your clothing and dignity. So, too, the earth is stripped of its minerals and nutrient rich topsoil. Help us to seek and develop a just transition to renewable forms of energy and to restrain our consumption so that the earth may be restored to its glorious bounty.

Amen.

Recycle Reduce Reuse - tips for taking action!

Single use plastics – it take a single use plastic water bottle 450 years to decompose in a landfill. Visit worldenvironmentday.global and follow #BeatPlasticPollution

Take your soft plastics to supermarket collection points (for example at Sainsburys, Co-op). All plastics which don’t scrunch like foil and paper (ie if it bounces back after you scrunch it) can be recycled, including cellophane, all

light plastic packaging, bubble wrap, crisp and biscuit wrappers. If you're recycling your soft plastics you should find your blue bin is full and your black bin almost empty!

Eco-gardening – avoid using chemical pesticides, buy organic and peat-free matter, and buy bare-root perennials/ biennials (sold without soil or compost) rather than potted plants. And plant trees!

Biodegradable cleaning products - use plant-based cleaning products and remember standard bleaches etc contain chemicals which contribute to the runoff in rivers/seas, which destroy natural ecosystems.

Recycling foil – collect up small bits of foil (eg milk bottle tops) and squash them into a tennis ball size of foil, as small bits slip through the conveyor belt at recycling centres.

Small electricals – take them to the repair shop (last Saturday of each month at the Wilfred Noyce Centre) or book a slot with Waverley BC who collect small, broken or unwanted electrical items and textiles from your home. More information [here](#)

Don't let food go to waste Food and drink forms 23% of the carbon footprint of a citizen of Godalming, and 70% of food waste comes from our homes. More on this, plus ideas on how to use up unwanted food, at: www.lovefoodhatewaste.com

Zero Carbon Guildford This thriving project has links to many local projects. <https://www.zerocarbondguildford.org/>

Support the [Godalming Community Store](#) Urgently needed items are: Vegetable Instant Noodles, Tinned Sardines, Gravy Granules/Stock Cubes (All Types), Crisps (multipacks welcomed), Mayonnaise, Kitchen Roll. Standard stock items that the Store is constantly in need of are: Anti-Bacterial Spray, Kitchen Roll, Toilet Rolls, Washing Detergent, Washing Up Liquid, Tinned Meat Meals, UHT Semi Skimmed Milk. The Community Store now has its own bank

account. Email Godalming Town Council for the details: finance@godalming-tc.gov.uk or phone 01483 523575.

Sign up to Green Matters - Surrey County Council's climate change newsletter [here](#)

Eleventh Station - Jesus is nailed to the cross

Lord Jesus, our misguided models of progress have blinded us to the wonder and sacred destiny of Your creation. Conflict over natural resources are the nails with which we crucify You over and over again. Forgive us our greed and awaken Your abiding presence in us. Amen.

Ten More Steps
to 

Step 2 Reduce Screen time

A hard one, but really worth it. Have a screen-free day at the weekend. Eat supper without a TV or your phone. Spend less time watching videos about nothing in particular. You cannot get that time back – what else could you be doing with it? Don't turn screens on in the morning as the default. Avoid watching TV adverts - if you don't see it, you can't want it!

Step 3 Enjoy your local area

Getting out in to the real world and in to nature is scientifically proven to be good for you. Go for a walk with your family or explore a nature trail. Or go for a cycle. These things are free, or almost free, and so much better than staying at home watching the world through an electronic window.

Twelfth Station - Jesus dies on the cross

Jesus, by dying on the cross You surrender Your will to the Father so that we may have life. Help us, we pray, to surrender our indifference to the

plight of people displaced from their homes by climate-induced floods, famine, and war. Amen.



Warm socks, woolly hats and balaclavas delivered to the Stella Maris charity for seafarers. 'Thanks to the EdsKnitters 👍 🧣 😊'. The latest consignment arrived safely. Loved the socks. What greater luxury!' Special thanks to Annie.

Chicks knitted for Francis House hospice. The fundraising team have written to Juliette to thank her for the 'lovely colourful chicks, all filled with a Creme Egg. Much appreciated!' Thanks to Juliette and to Sue for supporting this.

Concluding Prayer of the Ecological Way of the Cross

Lord Jesus, open our eyes and hearts to Your passion and death still going on around us. Help us to see that You are condemned to death again in the extinction of species, that the weight of the cross You still carry is our consumerism and throwaway culture; that You are still dying with the victims of extreme weather, war, conflict, and our indifference. As Your passion continues throughout history and the world, give us the confidence and courage to be like those who comforted You on Your way to the cross – Veronica, Simon of Cyrene, Joseph of Arimathea, and Your most Blessed Mother.

(by Br Benedict Ayodi, OFM Cap. Laudate Si Movement Africa Program
Manager. Nairobi, Kenya)

If you would like to join our next Live Simply meeting,
please email Jo: jolewry@aol.com

Thank you for your support
The Live simply team



Copyright © 2019 St Edmund Parish. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you asked to but if you would like to unsubscribe
please email the parish office: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

This email was sent to godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

St Edmund, King & Martyr Parish · St Edmund's RC Church · 19 Croft Road · Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB · United Kingdom

