

New Care for Creation role in Hallam Diocese.

‘Good custodianship of the environment is a cornerstone of our faith and we should make our voice heard.....’ (Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, Environmental Advisory Group).

‘The care of Creation is contemplation of God’. Saint Augustine.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have asked all dioceses to appoint an environmental lead to support the Catholic community’s efforts to protect God’s creation. Two members of the Hallam Diocese Justice and Peace Commission have volunteered to work together on this, and been entrusted by Bishop Ralph with developing the role.

(Angela Powell and Columba Timmins. contact email: [environmentalleads@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:environmentalleads@hallam-diocese.com))

We will try to support parishes, schools and diocesan institutions with resources and practical ideas for individual and community action. Many such resources can already be found on the Diocese of Hallam website under ‘Bishop’s Commissions - Justice and Peace.’

(<https://hallam-diocese.com/about-doh/>)

From January next year, we shall start contacting all parishes in the diocese to introduce ourselves.

Of course you don’t need to wait to hear from us: we think there is already a groundswell of Care for Creation growing across the Diocese, whether in liturgy or through practical action, and we can derive much hope and encouragement from each other.

We may feel small and insignificant at times, but we are not alone - the movement to care for Creation is very much a global one. The Laudato Si Movement counts 220,000 parishes in the worldwide Catholic family. Think what can be accomplished with our combined faith and hope!

The Vatican is promoting a 7 year action plan we can embark on together and the recently launched Laudato Si’ Action Platform ([laudatosiactionplatform.org](http://laudatosiactionplatform.org)) provides an online resource for institutions, communities, and families to develop their learning and consider such a plan. Check it out for a sense of the worldwide community. Registration with the platform can establish a broad support network for action, while Cafod’s well established Live Simply principles tie in perfectly, and are an excellent starting point for parishes and schools.

(<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Livesimply-award>).

This global call to come together as a faith community to examine our relationships within God’s creation, finds echoes in the global call to journey together in Synod. Both provide hope through facing up to our mistakes and challenges. Both ask us to pause and contemplate. Both urge us to leave behind our assumptions and preferences whatever they may be, and open our hearts to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

***Please contact us if you feel inspired to join us as a team. Bringing together ideas across each deanery would enrich the work, and availing of the thoughts and energies of people of all ages is vital.***

