

CARING FOR CREATION

with Compassion, Confidence and Courage



WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of the Caring for Creation newsletter. Thank you for all that you and your teams are doing as Eco Champions in Caring for Creation.

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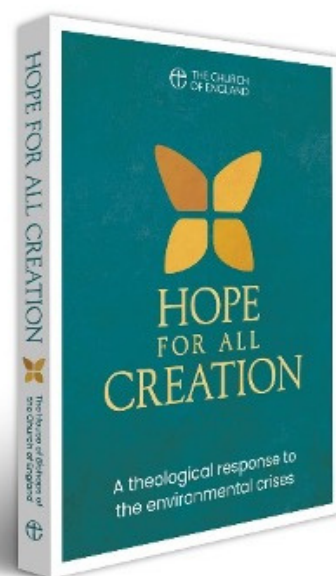
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HOPE FOR ALL CREATION

The House of Bishops has just published Hope for All Creation, a teaching document articulating the bishops' theological response to the environmental crises. A Theological Response to the Environmental Crises, a landmark teaching document authored by the Faith and Order Commission and adopted by the House of Bishops. The document sets out a Christian understanding of the environmental crises facing the world, rooting care for creation in the biblical story of creation, redemption and renewal, structured around the themes See, Reflect, Respond.

The document argues that care for creation is not an optional concern but a core part of Christian discipleship and mission. It presents environmental action as an expression of hope rooted in God's purposes for creation, highlighting the Church's role in responding to ecological crises alongside people of good will across society and around the world.



Bishop Paul has welcomed the document, '**Hope for all Creation offers a guide for how, as disciples of Christ Jesus, we can make a real difference as we live out the promises of God's coming Kingdom with the compelling and pressing need to engage with care for creation and environment. I am encouraged by its relevance to our diocesan vision of bringing God's Living Hope to every community.**'

[CLICK HERE DOWNLOAD THE DOCUMENT](#)

The Dean and Chapter of Southwell Cathedral
invite you to the
Caring for Creation Celebration Service

12th September 2026 | Southwell Minster | 11am

A special service of celebration, thanksgiving and encouragement for all Eco Churches and those working on Net Zero Carbon across the diocese. All are welcome.



Guest Preacher

Canon Dr Ruth Valerio
Environmentalism & Theologian

“Hopes and Opportunities for the World”



ENERGY FOOTPRINT TOOL (EFT)

91% COMPLETION

91% of our churches (270) have completed the Energy Footprint Tool this year. This is well up on last year and matches our best completion rate in 2024.

There were even 2 deaneries (Nottingham South and West Bingham) that reached 100% completion rates.

Thank you to all who have made this happen, especially Parish Treasurers and Deanery Administrators.

This may seem technical but it is an important step on our NZC journey and Caring For Creation and is an enabler for reducing our carbon footprint.

WORKING TOWARD AN ECO DIOCESE

ARocha has 10 categories that must be satisfied for Silver Eco Diocese. These are;



1. **Ownership:** Commissioned a group or working group to coordinate and progress Eco Diocese
2. **Diocesan Office award:** Achieve silver award for Diocesan Office and promote an understanding amongst all staff of Eco Diocese goals.
3. **Eco Church awards:** 40% of local churches registered; 30% of local churches awarded; 10% of local churches awarded silver or higher.
4. **Land:** An environmental policy and a land management plan, with an explicit reference to promoting biodiversity and managing the land for carbon reduction across the diocese
5. **Training and development:** Environmental training is included in standard diocesan training for both lay and ordained ministry, and there are opportunities for training and development for other regional staff/volunteers.
6. **Schools and education:** The Diocesan Board of Education has put in place an appropriate environmental policy.
7. **Carbon reduction:** Agreed carbon reduction targets and developed an action plan to get there.
8. **Finance and investments:** All diocesan funds are invested in line with ethical principles consistent with good environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) criteria and which target 'deep positive impact primarily in the themes of financial inclusion, affordable and safe housing, and the environment.'
9. **Collaboration:** Work with partner church groups both locally and internationally to raise mutual awareness in regard to climate change and species loss mitigation and resilience measures.
10. **Celebrating Creation:** Regular and substantial presence of environmental issues on the diocesan website and through wider communication channels.

We are working hard to meet all of these requirements and be able to submit for Diocesan Eco Silver soon.

THE PEOPLE'S EMERGENCY BRIEFING



People's Emergency Briefing

On the climate and nature crisis

The People's Emergency Briefing is a powerful new film, released on 7 April, bringing together leading expert insights on the climate and nature crisis into a single, accessible narrative.

Designed for community screening, the film presents the national implications of climate and nature breakdown alongside credible, hopeful responses. It combines expert contributions with real audience reactions, helping viewers not only understand the scale of the crisis, but begin conversations about how to respond together.

Across the UK, churches are being invited to host screenings, engage with local communities, and even connect with MPs as part of a growing call for national action. The aim is simple but significant: to help create a tipping point towards the urgent, collective response that is now needed.

"I encourage churches to invite their wider community and show this film – it's a wake up for us all. Its message to care for climate, people, nature is so urgently needed, not least so that we might live and act as Jesus would have us be."

Rt Rev Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich and Lead Bishop for Environment

Further details including about a Church Resource Pack are available [here](#).

CARING FOR CREATION PRACTITIONER COURSE

Watch out for a new “Caring For Creation Practitioner Course” that will be on the Learning Hub soon. This will provide both theological and scientific context and also practical, hands on guidance.

NZC SUPPORT FOR PARISHES

If you require any support with anything related to reducing your carbon footprint, from guttering issues, draught-proofing, and lighting, all the way to solar panels and heating, please contact Sally here:

sally.dunleavy@southwell.anglican.org

DID YOU KNOW?

If you thought a national net zero transition would raise the cost of living, did you know...

Inflation would have been 7% lower if we have decarbonised the power sector before Russia invaded Ukraine, a further 9% lower if our food system wasn't linked to fossil fuels through fertiliser, and 11% lower if we'd switched to heat pumps earlier! (From the People's Emergency Briefing)

NEW ECO CHURCH AWARDS

Congratulations to the following churches who have received an Eco Church award since the last Newsletter!

Silver Eco Churches	Deanery
All Saints Churches, Annesley	Newstead
St Jude's, Nottingham	Gedling

Bronze Eco Churches	Deanery
St Helen's, Stapleford	Nottingham North
St John the Evangelist, Carton-in-Lindrick	Bassetlaw & Bawtry
St Mary's, East Leake	Nottingham North

We now have 143 Eco Churches, 58 Bronze, 34 Silver and 1 Gold.

UPCOMING KEY DATES

1st September 2026

Ecumenical Feast of God the Creator

12th September 2026

Caring for Creation Service, Southwell Minster

21st September - 4th October 2026

Fairtrade Fortnight

1st - 4th October 2026

Creationtide

22nd – 30th Nov 2026

National Tree Week

9th - 20th November 2026

UN Climate Change Conference, COP31 Antalya, Turkey.