

Glossop Parish Church of All Saints

Newsletter: Friday, 4th September 2020

Message from Our Priest-in-Charge



In February 2020 members of the General Synod of the Church of England approved a motion calling upon all parts of the Church of England – including parishes – to work to achieve year-on-year reductions in carbon emissions with a target of reaching net zero emissions by 2030.

In approving the motion, the Synod recognised that the global climate emergency is a crisis for God's creation, and a fundamental injustice.

The Bishop of Salisbury, the Right Reverend Nick Holtam, the Church of England's lead bishop on Environmental Affairs, acknowledged that the Synod had set an ambitious target for the Church of England. He admitted that reaching the target of net zero carbon emissions by 2030 would not be easy. However, he believed that:

it is a clear statement of intent across the Church and to wider society about our determination to safeguard God's creation. This is a social justice issue, which affects the world's poorest soonest and most severely, and if the Church is to hold others to account, we have to get our own house in order.

He continued:

There is no serious doubt that climate change is happening, and that people are causing it, so it is very encouraging that Synod is grappling with one of the most urgent issues of our time.

The Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October (the Feast of St Francis of Assisi), dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. It is a time when churches and congregations are called to pay special attention to the responsibility of humankind for the Earth and for all that lives upon it. This year the theme is 'Jubilee for the Earth': a time of rest for the land from exploitation, and a time of restoration for ecosystems and people. This Creation Season, as we celebrate God's goodness to humankind, let us also reflect on our impact on the Earth, the home we share with all God's creatures and commit ourselves to be both 'good stewards' and 'good neighbours'.

The Revd Dr David Mundy

Looking After Our Planet



In his Encyclical Letter [*Laudato Si'*](#), Pope Francis draws on the words of St Francis of Assisi – “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs” – to challenge us about the harm we inflict on the Earth through our irresponsible use and abuse of the Earth. One of the pressing issues is [Climate Change](#): tipping points are being reached, threatening the lives of the most vulnerable and putting the lives of future generations in jeopardy.

Here are some ideas from [Tearfund](#) for changes we can make in everyday life to tackle climate change.

- **Be a reusable champion!** Grab a reusable mask (or even better, [make your own](#)) to keep yourself and others safe without resorting to disposables. And you can still avoid single-use plastic by choosing reusable cups, cutlery and containers instead: they're [safe to use](#) if washed properly.
- **Embrace the staycation** Holidays are important, but they don't have to involve travelling huge distances! Why not explore your local area? Air travel is one of our largest carbon-emitting activities, so choosing not to fly can make a big difference.
- **Journey by bike or on foot** Could you adopt some new cycling or walking habits that last beyond the pandemic? It's a great way to cut down on vehicle emissions, and you'll be doing your health and your bank balance a favour too.
- **Eat your way to a better world** Chop out food waste by planning ahead, creating an 'eat now' spot in your fridge, using up leftovers, and freezing food for later. Food is too precious to be thrown away! And to really reduce your climate impact, reduce your meat intake as much as you can.
- **Run on renewable energy** If you've been staying home more than usual, it's likely you've been using more power there too. Make a [Big Clean Switch](#) to renewable energy to keep your home running green and clean.

Looking After Ourselves, Looking After Others

The [New Economics Foundation](#) has identified that building the following five actions into our day-to-day lives is important for our well-being:

- **Connect ...** With the people around you. With family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. At home, work, school or in your local community. Think of these as the

cornerstones of your life and invest time in developing them. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.

- **Be active ...** Go for a walk or run. Step outside. Cycle. Play a game. Garden. Dance. Exercising makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.
- **Take notice ...** Be curious. Catch sight of the beautiful. Remark on the unusual. Notice the changing seasons. Savour the moment, whether you are walking to work, eating lunch or talking to friends. Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters to you.
- **Keep learning ...** Try something new. Rediscover an old interest. Sign up for that course. Take on a different responsibility at work. Fix a bike. Learn to play an instrument or how to cook your favourite food. Set a challenge you will enjoy achieving. Learning new things will make you more confident as well as being fun.
- **Give ...** Do something nice for a friend, or a stranger. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Join a community group. Look out, as well as in. Seeing yourself, and your happiness, linked to the wider community can be incredibly rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.

Prayers

God of beginnings and endings,
take the past with its memories,
take the present with its activities,
take the future with its uncertainties
and make of all three one whole
that our lives may be in harmony
with your Spirit of peace.

Susan Sayers

O lift up the light of your countenance upon us;
let your peace rule in our hearts,
and may it be our strength and our song
in the house of our pilgrimage.
We commit ourselves to your care and keeping;
let your grace be mighty in us,
and sufficient in us, for all the duties of the day.

Keep us from sin.
Give us the rule over our own spirits,
and guard us from speaking unadvisedly with our lips.

May we live together in holy love and peace,
and do you command your blessing upon us,
even life for evermore.

Matthew Henry (1662-1714)

Services in Week Beginning 6th September

13th Sunday after Trinity – Creation Sunday

10.30am at Glossop Parish Church: Said Eucharist for Creation Sunday

At home:

- A Service of the Word for Creation Sunday to say at home will be sent by e-mail early on Sunday morning and can be downloaded: [Creation Sunday](#). It includes a reflection and hymns / songs.
- A 'family-friendly' Service of the Word for the 13th Sunday after Trinity to say at home can be downloaded: [13th Sunday after Trinity \('family-friendly'\)](#).

Other services for the 13th Sunday after Trinity are available:

- 8.10am Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 FM: 'Heaven is a noisy place'. After months of COVID-19 and confinement, Neil MacGregor and the Revd Lucy Winkett consider how community has traditionally been fostered by close contact with the saints.
- 10.45am Eucharist livestreamed from Derby Cathedral ([@derbycathedral](#))
- 1.15pm Songs of Praise on BBC 1. Claire McCollum visits Cornwall's Eden Project, and JB Gill goes surfing with a Christian who came back to faith whilst catching waves.

Wednesday, 9th September

Said Eucharist at 12 noon at Glossop Parish Church of All Saints.

Still Available

- From Sunday, 23rd August: A '[Songs of Praise](#)'-style service featuring hymns chosen by you with YouTube clips so that you can sing along at home.

Throughout the Week

You can use the Services of Daily Prayer (Morning Prayer, Prayer During the Day, Evening Prayer, Night Prayer) available [online](#) from the Church of England to pray at home.

Keeping in Contact

To keep up-to-date with what's happening in the life of Glossop Parish Church of All Saints you may want to visit [Glossop Parish Church of All Saints](#); if you use Facebook, you may want to visit [@glossopparishchurch](#).