

# RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION - JANUARY 2023

A NEWSLETTER INSPIRING AND ENABLING CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

## NEW YEAR, NEW YOU, NEW HOPE

As we start this new year, it is a great opportunity to challenge yourself to make meaningful changes to your lifestyle to live more simply, more sustainably and in solidarity with others to create a new hope for the protection and restoration of our common home.

## FACT

**2022 was a year of extremes**, demonstrating the very present impacts of climate change. Over the last 12 months the UK experienced record-breaking temperatures and droughts as well as three named storms in one week for the first time ever.

Fact Source: *Environment Agency*

## NEWS, EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

**The Convention on Biological Diversity COP 15 ended on the 19th December. By 2030 members have promised to:** protect 30% of Earth's lands, oceans, coastal areas, inland waters; reduce by \$500 billion annual harmful government subsidies; and cut food waste in half. Find out more at [cbd.int](https://cbd.int)

**Get involved in climate action in your parish.** See if a climate action group exists that you can join and if not get in touch to see how we can support you to create one.

**Get involved with campaigning.** Look online for opportunities to start or continue campaigning for meaningful change. Stuck for where to start? Visit <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns> for more information about CAFOD's latest campaigns.

## LIVE SIMPLY

**Say no to fast fashion.** Textile production contributes more to climate change than international aviation and shipping combined. Challenge yourself to not buy any new clothing in 2023. If you are in need of new clothes try to buy second hand items from charity shops. Remember, the most eco-friendly clothes are those that are already in your wardrobe!

Fact Source: *House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee, 2019*

## LIVE SUSTAINABLY

**Avoid single-use plastic.** Set a box aside to monitor how much single-use plastic you use over the year. To reduce your consumption of single-use plastic try to buy non-perishable goods in bulk, choose products in recyclable packaging instead and use your nearest zero-waste shop where possible.

## LIVE IN SOLIDARITY

**Volunteer to help your local community.** Look for opportunities to volunteer regularly throughout 2023. For example, you could: help at your local foodbank or homeless shelter; volunteer your time to your local Wildlife Trust to improve the local environment; help at a charity shop or even simply go litter picking once a fortnight in your local area.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, PLEASE CONTACT [CLIMATEACTION@RCAOB.ORG.UK](mailto:CLIMATEACTION@RCAOB.ORG.UK)