

## SEASON OF CREATION 2021

The Season of Creation is an annual celebration uniting Christians in prayer and action for the protection of our common home. The season runs from September 1 to October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with our God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

A recent UN report makes clear that urgent action is needed now. All Christians can live out their faith by advocating for our common home ahead of COP26.

Free resources and ways to celebrate the ecumenical and global event are available at [seasonofcreation.org](http://seasonofcreation.org); our Diocesan website <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/the-diocese/how-we-work/environment/season-of-creation/> and CAFOD resources <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Season-of-Creation>

Weeks before world leaders convene the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, Pope Francis has called on all Catholics to repent and take action for our common home during the ecumenical and global celebration of the Season of Creation. In a Sunday Angelus, he warned that “the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor are becoming increasingly serious and alarming.” He called all Catholics to take “decisive, urgent action to transform this crisis into an opportunity.”

The recent [United Nations climate report](#) makes clear that the climate crisis is already affecting members of God’s creation, and that humankind is running out of time to avert the worst effects of the ecological crisis and climate emergency. “Human influence has warmed the climate at a rate that is unprecedented in at least the last 2000 years,” the report stated.

In the Video for September, Pope Francis asks us to reflect on the way we live and turn “towards lifestyles that are simpler and more respectful of the environment.”

[\[More: Watch the Pope Video on YouTube\]](#)

### Upcoming events

Saturday 11 September, 11am-4pm CAFOD Faith in Action Day - an online day of talk and prayer to learn more about this year’s climate talks and Pope Francis’s call to action  
<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Faith-in-Action-Day-2021>

Tuesday 14 September 5-6pm – an online Diocesan event to discuss our new environment policy and hear the views of parishioners. You can register here  
<https://forms.office.com/r/ZeQdn4ee2D>

Friday 1 October - Livesimply Workshop from 10am to 3pm with a simple lunch and refreshments provided. Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay TQ2 6RQ.  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/154195696479>

A range of online events are also being offered by the Laudato Si’ Movement [Events - Laudato Si Movement](#)

### **Season of Creation 2021 Prayer**

Creator of All, we are grateful that from your communion of love you created our planet to be a home for all.

By your Holy Wisdom you made the Earth to bring forth a diversity of living beings that filled the soil, water and air.

Each part of creation praises you in their being, and cares for one another from our place in the web of life.

With the Psalmist, we sing your praise that in your house “even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young.”

We remember that you call human beings to keep your garden in ways that honour the dignity of each creature and conserve their place in the abundance of life on Earth.

But we know that our will to power pushes the planet beyond her limits. Our consumption is out of harmony and rhythm with Earth’s capacity to heal herself.

Habitats are left barren or lost. Species are lost and systems fail.

Where reefs and burrows, mountaintops and ocean deeps once teemed with life and relationships, wet and dry deserts lie empty, as if uncreated.

Human families are displaced by insecurity and conflict, migrating in search of peace.

Animals flee fires, de-forestation and famine, wandering in search of a new place to find a home to lay their young and live.

In this Season of Creation, we pray that the breath of your creative Word would move our hearts, as in the waters of our birth and baptism.

Give us faith to follow Christ to our just place in the beloved community.

Enlighten us with the grace to respond to your covenant and call to care for our common home.

In our tilling and keeping, gladden our hearts to know that we participate with your Holy Spirit to renew the face of your Earth, and safeguard a home for all.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ.

Amen