

## Quotes on the Environment – Diocese of Leeds

We must strive for realistic, achievable, incremental goals which are specific to the needs and context of the local environment as well as respectful of the worldwide environment.

**The Rt Revd Marcus Stock, Bishop of Leeds**

‘The whole is greater than the sum of the parts’. Our homes, our schools and our parishes working together towards objective measurable targets can make a significant contribution to the improvement of our environment and in addition to the wellbeing of our communities and our faith.

**Ian Burrell, Formerly Chief Operating Officer, Financial Secretary and Environmental Lead, Diocese of Leeds**

Byzantine Emperor and Orthodox Saint, Justinian said that ‘frugality is the mother of all virtues’, which is something we are all going to have to get used to in a big way! He also believed that ‘the things which are common to all and not capable of being owned are: the air, the running water, the sea and the seashores’.

**Robert Maslen, Parishioner and Chair of School Governors, Bradford.**

What is LAUDATO SI? A simple guide for parishes would go down a treat. And some sermon notes to help hard pressed priests preach about it and link it to our Eucharists. We had a parish week to celebrate CAFOD’s campaign Care for our Common Home to mark the season of Creation in 2019. How about something to mark this year dedicated to Laudato Si’ by Pope Francis? – and how can we be empowered in our dioceses to present the Church’s commitment to the messages of Laudato Si’ to the nations meeting at COP26 in November?

**David Jackson, LSA-UK and Parishioner at St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish, Shipley**

I need the means to ask for the grace to make life choices which will cease to harm creation or the poorest. I need the supporting prayers of my parish community to join with others to ask for the grace of conversion and the courage to act for ecological justice and reconciliation. ‘Lord, we have wounded the world you love. It is sick. Empower us to heal it. Lord we have harmed the most vulnerable peoples you love. They are sick too. Empower us in and through your Body and Blood to become food for the salvation of all peoples.

**David Jackson, LSA-UK and Parishioner at St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish, Shipley**

How is it that active love of God is written into our Catholic DNA but effective love of God's creation is not? We should listen to our young people – they have energy and passion to care for creation. We need them and they need us.

**Parishioner, Bradford**

My Diocese and Parish links its worship, life and mission to practical action and calls us to care for the planet. It calls for an eco-conversion of our hearts. We already have a parish orchard and share the apples out every year. Can we ask our PP to have a bidding prayer for the planet every Sunday? – and can my parish move to install solar panels?

**Parishioner, Shipley**

I believe it needs every member of the clergy, parish council and parish community to adopt some of the simpler options first.

**Parishioner, SS John Fisher and Thomas More Parish, Burley in Wharfedale**

Wherever possible and appropriate, considerations of care and concern for Our Common Home are woven into the warp and weft of our diocesan family life. Actions speak louder than words, so we don't waste time on empty promises, but instead put our energy into stories to win hearts and minds, and initiatives with real impact. Our Laudato Si' Pilgrimages and events are communicated as an intrinsic part of our story; not an add-on or box to tick, neither self-conscious nor self-righteous, but instead (pun intended!) become 'second-nature'.

**Rowan Morton-Gledhill, Director of Communications, Diocese of Leeds**

Bishop Wheeler Catholic Academy Trust is very grateful that the Department for Education has enabled us to install low energy lighting across our schools, through the SALIX carbon reduction scheme. This programme is already reducing the Trust's carbon footprint as well as saving money for use elsewhere in the classroom.

**Giles Nightingale, Chief Operating Officer, Bishop Wheeler Catholic Academy Trust, Diocese of Leeds.**