

OLOTV Laudato Si meeting, 25th May, 2021

Present

Mark Wiggin (Chair)
Anthony Brown (Secretary)
Sheila Shore
Betty Collinson
Bob Turner
Grace Fellow
Andy Brown
Suzanne Brown
Olga Jackson
Joan Leeming

Apologies

Zoe Mabbott
Clare Halstead

Agenda

1. Opening prayer and welcome
2. Actions from last meeting
3. Schools work and links
4. Laudato si updates
5. Live Simply
6. National events
7. Actions
8. Next meeting

1. Opening prayer and welcome
Meeting opened with introductions and the Laudato Si Prayer
2. Actions from last meeting
Carried into the agenda
3. Schools work and links
Olga shared the environmental work of Thorneyholme School with its Forest School, outdoors work that is integrated into the life of the school. Awareness of environmental issues are very much alive there. Bob Turner is back visiting schools not with Cafod but with Global Catholic Climate Movement. He has visited 3 schools in Hyndburn and one in Urmston where he has delivered a refresher quiz on Laudato Si ,COP and CO2 plus a session on our carbon footprint which is available for all schools and ecogroups. A Green Energy v Fossil Fuels project complements these which are all available for OLOV schools if desired
4. Laudato si updates
Emma Gardener appointed to the Laudato Si work of the Diocese of Salford and Bishops Conference. Aims are to reduce the carbon footprint of all diocese by 2030 and encourage the take up of environmental action in schools and parishes through modeling good practice through the Laudato Si Centre in Wardley and raising awareness.
Rooted in Faith is a new initiative for schools and parishes through a partnership between the diocese, Caritas and Youth Service. In the meeting we discussed the need for the parish

to have a 'wilding' policy to allow some areas of parish land to be allowed to develop naturally and create a haven for wildlife.

5. Cafod and Live Simply

Grace share the Thought for the Week which has been very well received in the parish. She has been on the Global Catholic Climate Movement animators course and is linking the work of Cafod in the parish to the Laudato Si programmes.

The Live Simply award is available to schools as well as parishes.

6. National events

Excellent pastoral letter for Pentecost by the Bishops including one for schools use.

Major international events are the G7 meeting in Cornwall (President Joe Biden is reactivating the USA commitments on climate change and honouring the Paris Agreement. Also COP26 in November in Glasgow – there are high hopes for the meeting to agree reductions in carbon emissions.

7. Actions

- Olga to invite the group to Thorneyholme school to see the forest area and the work the school is doing.
- We need to reestablish links with other primary schools
- Bob to send through his power-points
- Raise awareness of our group with CCP and consider an event to bring churches and schools together.
- Explore the idea of borders at Sabden to provide an environment of frogs and hedgehogs

8. Next meeting

To be agreed

Note: before the meeting Sheila Shore made an interesting suggestion which we omitted to raise in the meeting proper. We will explore her suggestion as an additional action point. Arising from a recent Country File programme and the [Plant Britain](#) initiative Sheila suggested use of Parish grounds for community gardens and also perhaps for greenery for flower arranging for the Church.

Anthony will explore with Jane Brown ([Flower Team](#)), Arnold Marsden (allotments) and Zoe Mabbott.

Addendum

This is Cafods parish campaign pre COP which Bob, forgot to mention

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns>