

Events and training

More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events

Tewkesbury Festival of Lights 2 to 5 November, 6pm to 10pm

An immersive walking journey featuring a spectacular sound and light show at Tewkesbury Abbey, produced by Luxmaralis. Tickets can be booked for 20-minute segments from tewkesburyfestivaloflights.co.uk

Engaging with school life 6 November, 9.30am to 1pm

Our local schools provide a wonderful mission field for us to engage with families, and yet sometimes the activities we offer can seem tired and worn-out.

Come and spend a morning with others involved in school – teachers, governors, parents, volunteers, clergy, youth ministers, young people. Look again at our programmes with a fresh perspective. Led by Jo Wetherall and Barrie Voyce.
gloucester.anglican.org/event/engaging-with-school-life

Have your say

Visit Facebook [f/Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/@glosdioc), view videos on YouTube [Diocese of Gloucester](https://www.youtube.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester) or visit our website gloucester.anglican.org

Enneagram Quiet Days 6 November, 9.30am to 1pm

The Enneagram is a guide to the spiritual journey. When we find ourselves in the Enneagram, we see the stuck record that goes round and round inside us – the motivations and compulsions that seem to control us and the buttons that get pressed again and again. But we are not left there.

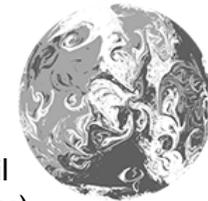
This guide helps us clean our lenses, to see past the self-destructive habits and to recognise the 'slow work of God' that is happening within.
gloucester.anglican.org/event/enneagram-quiet-days/

Eco Church Zoom Seminars – The next steps 11 November 12-1.30pm or 7 to 8.30pm

If you've got stuck in the Eco Church process, come for advice and discussion on how to move forward. Book your place here <https://bit.ly/3BB8kg4>

COP26 special edition

What does COP26 mean for Christians?



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

World leaders are meeting in Glasgow until 12 November, at COP26 (Council of Parties) in what is considered the most significant climate change conference since Paris 2015. We need leaders to make significant commitments to change and to quickly put decisions into practice.

In church, as well as considering our relationship with God, we consider matters concerning our relationship with others. We are taught to consider the vulnerable and to be grateful with enough rather than indulging greed. The global poor are currently suffering the most, particularly those living close to the equator. There is an impact on wildlife worldwide who are finding their habitats changing due to the warming temperatures, with many losing territory and therefore struggling for survival.

Our current government and local MP have the power to make the decisions at this point. We should pray that their hearts and minds may be open to right choices, and that they may have the courage to do and say what is needed.

Pray for those representing us at COP, your MP, and our government that

- their hearts and minds will be open to see what is needed
- they may have the courage needed to do and say what is right
- that God's wisdom will guide the whole proceedings
- that blockages will be freed for progress to be made.

More prayer resources at <https://greenchristian.org.uk/pray-for-cop26>

How can I make a difference?



Home

Make a commitment not to turn the heating on until everyone in the house is wearing 3 layers (remembering to consider the needs of any vulnerable people in your home).

Take it further... complete a carbon footprint assessment for your home.

www.climatestewards.org/offset or

<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/questionnaire>

+ Church

Register with Eco Church at <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk> (there is a similar scheme available for schools at eco-schools.org.uk).

Pick one action from the 'buildings' section and complete it – perhaps

- switching the church onto a green tariff for energy
- swapping the loo roll to recycled paper
- noting the energy efficiency rating of your boiler or
- checking for double glazing or LED lightbulbs.

Share what you've done with others and plan for the next step.



Community

Add your voice to one or more of the campaigns below

- Christian Aid's template letter for you to send to your MP

www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/engage-your-mp-cop26

- Sign Christian Aid's climate justice petition

www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/climate-justice-2021

- Sign Tearfund's open letter

<https://bit.ly/2ZXbfBV>



Abby Button is a young Christian who wants to challenge us all to make small changes towards a greener life.

"I remember beginning to feel overwhelmed by what was happening to the earth; feeling fearful about the future, and so ashamed about what we were doing to God's beautiful creation. I felt I couldn't possibly do any good as one individual. But I realised that it's more about our hearts and our attitudes than anything we can practically achieve.

"In my family, we've started making a lot of small lifestyle changes. We go to a refill shop for pasta/rice, buy loose fruit and veggies at the supermarket, have milk bottles delivered, and use reusable water bottles and coffee cups. We've also made changes to our toiletries, such as bamboo toothbrushes, shampoo bars, bars of soap rather than 'squirty' ones, reusable feminine products, and makeup wipes etc. We've been trying to reduce waste by installing a water butt to harvest rainwater, having a 'wonky' vegetable box delivered, and buying clothes second hand. We've also been trying to be more nature-conscious in the garden, by building a wildlife pond, letting the grass grow long, planting native flowers, and providing food and homes for birds and hedgehogs.

"The most encouraging posts I read about living sustainably are the ones that say you don't have to do it perfectly or change *everything* about your lifestyle, but to do something little is better than nothing.

"Thankfully we don't have to fix this problem by ourselves, but in partnership with God, whose power is greatest in our weakness. An encouragement from Mother Theresa is that 'not all of us can do great things, but we can all do small things with great love,' and I believe that you can't love like God without loving his creation."