

Eco Bulletin



March 2025

Time to Fill in the Energy Footprint Tool

The poster features the Diocese of Southwark logo at the top. Below it, the title 'Energy Footprint Tool Training Sessions' is in a green rounded rectangle. Underneath, the text 'Do you want to...' is followed by three rounded rectangular boxes containing the following text: 'Find out your churches carbon footprint?', 'Be eligible for net-zero related grants?', and 'Help with tracking national progress in carbon reductions?'. A central photograph shows a man sitting at a desk with a laptop and a smartphone. To the left of the photo is a lightbulb icon with a leaf, and to the right is a globe icon with a footprint and 'CO2' text. At the bottom, there is a date box for 'March 12th 2025', a list of two session times, and an email address for booking.

The Diocese of Southwark

Energy Footprint Tool Training Sessions

Do you want to...

- Find out your churches **carbon footprint**?
- Be eligible for **net-zero related grants**?
- Help with tracking **national progress** in carbon reductions?

Join us to learn how to fill out the **Energy Footprint Tool**, which is helping churches around the country care for creation through better understanding their energy usage.

March 12th 2025

- 12:00–13:00 (lunchtime session)
- 18:30–19:30 (evening session)

Email JPICadmin@southwark.anglican.org to book a session and receive the Zoom link.

This is your reminder to fill in the Energy Footprint Tool on the [Parish Returns website](#) while you still have last year's bills to hand. The tool calculates your carbon footprint, giving you a useful report to help you better understand your energy usage. It only takes **around 20 minutes** to fill in depending on how many buildings you are reporting on.

Completing the tool will also be necessary to be **eligible for net zero grant opportunities** - **so make sure to tick it off the list as soon as possible**. The data gathered from the tool is vital for tracking carbon emissions on a Diocesan and National level, so we kindly ask

you to join the churches who have already started filling in the tool. Let's push our completion rate up from last year's 58%!

If you would like extra support, join an online training session on **Wednesday 12th March**. To sign up for a lunchtime or evening session, email jpicadmin@southwark.anglican.org.

New Eco Churches & Awards



Congratulations to the churches who have registered or received Eco Church awards since January!

Bronze:

- St John the Evangelist Church, Shirley

Silver:

- St Mary The Virgin Church, Oxted

Registered:

- St Thomas, Old Charlton
- St Andrew's Church, Wimbledon
- St Leonard's Church, Chelsham
- St Christopher's Church, Warlingham
- St Mary the Virgin Church, Farleigh
- St Peter's Church, Streatham
- St Andrews the Apostle Church, Catford

The Eco Church Scheme provides a user-friendly survey for churches to think about how they are caring for God's creation in different areas of church life.

To become an Eco Church, all you have to do is register. Why not spend **5 minutes** registering for the scheme this week if you aren't already? You can then use the survey to find out your 'baseline' and work towards awards.

To find out more head to the Eco Church website: [Eco Church - An A Rocha UK Project](https://www.ecochurch.org.uk).

Climate & Nature News

Rosebank Oil & Gas Field Approval Overturned

In a huge climate win, January brought the news that the approval for new drilling at the Rosebank Oil and Gas Field has been ruled unlawful and overturned!

This was a major win for the climate, driven by people power. The court's decision means that Rosebank cannot go ahead without fully accounting for the significant carbon emissions it would produce.

However, the campaign still needs support to stop the project being reapproved. This decision will set an important precedent as the government considers whether to end new oil and gas drilling for good.

To learn more and explore how we as Christians can engage with the campaign, watch this [webinar](#) co-hosted by Green Christian and other Christian organisations, featuring Bishop Rosemarie Mallet.

Climate & Nature Bill Result



The Climate and Nature Bill had its Second Reading in Parliament in January, where MPs unfortunately decided to end the debate, delaying the vote until 11 July.

While this was not the ideal outcome, there are still reasons to have hope. Jo Chamberlain, National Environment Officer for the Church of England said: "It was disappointing that the Climate and Nature bill was not allowed to proceed to a vote. But despite this, the bill has already had a positive impact. Government ministers have spoken about looking at binding commitments that would make a meaningful difference for climate and nature. It's now our task to keep the pressure on and make sure those commitments are realised."

You can find out about the future of the CAN Bill campaign here:

- [So, what's next for the CAN Bill campaign?](#)
- [What happened, what's next, and why it matters?](#)

New Blog - Faith & Finance: Why Green Banking Matters



Have you ever wondered what impact your bank may be having on the planet?

Whilst money was one of Jesus's most spoken about topics, we may not always think about how our faith and finance go hand in hand. Check out our newest green blog post on [Faith & Finance](#) to learn more about choosing an ethical bank to safeguard God's planet and people.

Upcoming Events

There are lots of fantastic events to get involved in during the coming months.

A Rocha Webinar - The Green Heart of Mission



March 11th 14:00 - 15:00

Do you see caring for creation as an integral part of your faith, and core to the mission of the Church? Perhaps you do, but meet others who are less convinced that caring for the earth is a key part of missional work.

Join the team from A Rocha as they discuss these themes, with Paul Kunert, author of [Jesus Died to Save the Planet](#), stories from Eco Churches and others. They'll explore how creation care is at the heart of mission and how a **newly refreshed Eco Church survey** helps put this into practice.

[Click here for details and to book your free place.](#)

Ash Wednesday No Faith in Fossil Fuels Service - St John's Waterloo

NO FAITH IN FOSSIL FUELS

LET'S STOP NEW OIL AND GAS IN 2025

Join us

>>> Ash Wednesday Service
11am on 5th March

St John's Church,
Waterloo London, SE1 8TY

Christian Climate Action, Operation Noah, Laudato Si Movement, Christian Aid, Student Christian Movement, Tearfund, JUST LOVE, AND MORE

As part of the No Faith in Fossil Fuels campaign, a simple service of reflection, repentance and hope will be held at St John's Waterloo on **March 5th at 11:00**.

Operation Noah, Christian Climate Action, Christian Aid, Laudato Si Movement, the Student Christian Movement, Tearfund, Just Love, Eco-congregation Scotland and Green Christian are joining together for this movement and event. The service will be an opportunity to connect our traditional Ash Wednesday observance with the harm that our reliance on fossil fuels is causing.

Learn more and get your ticket [here](#).

London Diocese - Climate Justice & Discipleship

DIOCESE OF LONDON

LENT 2025, 5-week online offering
for churches and individuals

Climate Justice & Discipleship

Reflections and contemplative practices to explore Climate Justice and our individual and communal responses.

WAY OF LIFE
STAY • SHARE • SERVE

WWW.LENT2025.WAYOFLIFE.LONDON

CONFIDENT DISCIPLES

SCAN TO FIND OUT MORE AND TO REGISTER

Following Jesus, responding to the climate and ecological emergency, and renewing our faith and discipleship aren't rival projects. They may turn out to be the same thing.

For Lent 2025, our friends at the Diocese of London have invited us to join them to reflect on five significant moments in Jesus' life and ministry, to reflect on how we can seek climate justice through our discipleship.

The sessions will take place online on Tuesdays during lent, 19:30 - 20:30. Register [here](#).

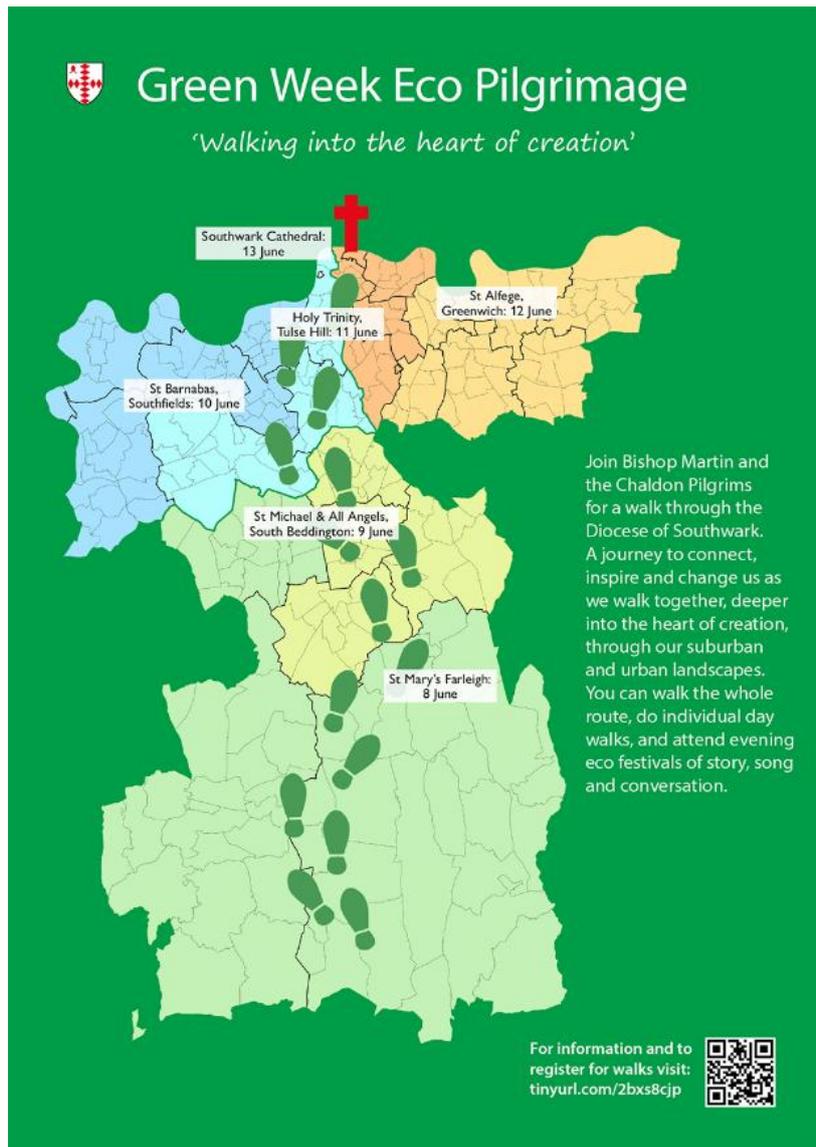
Lent Prayer - Ripple Project Prayer for Climate Change in Rural Africa



We know that prayer makes a difference. That's why this lent, the Ripple Effect are asking people to pray for families in rural Africa on the frontline of the climate crisis.

Download all the resources you need [here](#) to set up a prayer station or host a lent lunch - and to learn more about the challenges farming families are facing.

Green Week Eco Pilgrimage



Join Bishop Martin and the Chaldon Pilgrims from **8-13th June** to walk through the Diocese of Southwark. This will be a journey to connect, inspire, and change us as we walk together through creation.

You can join for the whole route, do individual day walks or attend evening eco festivals of story, song and creation. See the link [here](#) - more information on how to book will be coming out soon.

St Augustine's College - Life Above: Birds, Ecology & Us

DISCIPLESHIP FOR A PLANET IN CRISIS

Life Above: Birds,
Ecology and Us

PROFESSOR COLIN BEALE

University of York



📍 St John's Waterloo
📅 9th May 2025
🕒 17:00 Arrival
17:30 Lecture
18:45 Drinks reception



Come and hear **Professor Colin Beale**, a world expert in ecology, as he shares a lifetime of research and discipleship amongst the birds of East Africa. This event will bring together friends and colleagues from **St Augustine's College of Theology** and **St John's Waterloo** as they launch their new project - **Discipleship for a Planet in Crisis**.

Everyone is welcome to join at St John's Waterloo on **Friday 9th May** from **17:00** to learn more about why ecology matters for Christians. The talk will start at 17:30 and last around an hour, followed by questions and discussion.

Find out more and register [here](#).

Kew Eco Fair

KEW ECOFAIR
ST LUKE'S CHURCH, THE AVENUE
SAT 22ND MARCH 2025
10AM - 3PM
*Bringing the community together to
inspire action on climate change*

Inspiring talks	Repair Cafe
Free bike health checks	Eco shopping
Kids craft & nature activities	Lunch & treats

WITH OUR PATRON, BROADCASTER JEREMY VINE!

CONTACT: kewecofair@gmail.com [@KewEcofair](https://twitter.com/KewEcofair)

Following the huge success of 2023, the award-winning Kew EcoFair will be back on **Saturday 22nd March 2025**.

Join this event for inspiring talks, free bike health checks, free children's activities, a repair café, ethical shopping, music and more! See their [Eventbrite](#) for more details and to grab your space.

March Awareness

Earth Hour



22nd March, 20.30 - 21.30

Earth Hour is an annual event organised by WWF to raise awareness of climate change.

The idea is to switch off lights for 1 hour, and instead spend that time doing something - *anything* - that has a positive impact on the planet.

To learn more and for ideas, head to the [website](#). Why not come together as a church or small group to pause for just 1 hour, and do something to care for God's earth?