

Eco Bulletin



March 2026

Eco Church - Getting Started & Going for Bronze Webinar

Join us for a lunchtime webinar with the Diocese of London on **15th April** at **12:30 - 13:30** titled: ***Eco Church - Getting Started and Going for Bronze.***

Whether you're brand new to Eco Church or already on your way to a bronze award, this webinar is to help you build momentum and be supported on your journey. We'll be joined by **Polly Eaton** from **A Rocha UK** who will guide us through the Eco Church framework and explore how the scheme can help churches take achievable steps to integrate creation care into church life.

We'll also be hearing from some churches across **Southwark** and **London** about their Eco Church journeys - including what's worked, tips, and encouragement. Find out more and sign up [here](#).



 The Diocese of Southwark

 A Rocha UK
Caring for God's Earth

 DIOCESE OF LONDON

Eco Church - Getting Started and Going for Bronze

Webinar

Want to explore how your church can take faithful, practical steps to care for creation throughout church life?

Join us for this introductory webinar on the **Eco Church scheme**. Whether you are just starting out, already working towards your bronze award, or just wanting to learn more about Eco Church and how to get involved - this session will support you in taking your next steps.

We'll be joined by **Polly Eaton** from **A Rocha UK** who will guide us through the Eco Church framework: what it is, how it works, and the many ways your church can get involved and work towards bronze across the categories of worship, buildings, nature, community engagement, and lifestyle.

You'll also hear from awarded churches across **London** and **Southwark** about their journeys - including examples of what's worked, tips, and encouragement.

15th April
12:30-13:30
Zoom



Signup:
tinyurl.com/ecochurchwebinar

ECO CHURCH
A ROCHA UK PRODUCT

Great Big Green Week - How to Get Involved



The **Great Big Green Week** is the UK's biggest celebration of climate and nature, with over a million people taking part in events across the country each year.

The week is a great opportunity for churches to care for God's creation on their doorstep while also reaching out to their wider communities. To support churches who want to get involved, we've put together a [resource pack](#) full of ideas for events you might want to run. Events don't have to be new - they can be happening already and registering them on the GBGW platform can help promote them more widely. Head to our [blog](#) and check out the GBGW [website](#) to find out more.

We'd love to see what you are getting up to. Whether you're taking part in Churches Count on Nature, hosting an environmental film showing, or something entirely different - please send us a picture of your event at environment@southwark.anglican.org.



Has your church completed the Energy Footprint Tool?



Has your church submitted your Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) yet on [Parish Returns](#)?

The EFT is now open for churches to complete using last year's energy bill information. The tool helps churches understand their carbon footprint and identify ways to reduce emissions and energy costs. Completing the EFT yearly is an important requirement for increasing eligibility for any carbon reducing grants.

The data gathered is also hugely valuable for both diocesan and national net zero planning, as it helps build a clearer picture of our overall emissions so that support can be better targeted.

We ask that churches aim to fill this in as soon as possible to get it ticked off the list. If you'd like extra support, join a training session on **5th May at 12:30 - 13:30 or 18:30 - 19:30** on Zoom. Find out more [here](#), and email JPICadmin@southwark.anglican.org with your **name, church, and preferred date and time** to book.

Foundations for Creation Care - April Session



On Tuesday 21st April 6:30-8pm, we are running our next *Foundations for Creation Care* training session.

These sessions are ideal for anyone who wants foundation-level environmental training for a church context. We explore why caring for the planet is an integral part of our faith and everyday discipleship, and look at hopeful, practical ways to play our part in our churches and everyday lives.

Whether you're just starting out, looking to restart a paused Eco Church journey, or hoping to deepen your understanding of why creation care is part of our Christian discipleship, these sessions offer a welcoming space to learn and connect with others.

We'd love for you to come along individually or bring a group from your church - find out more and sign up [here](#).

🏆 New Eco Church Awards & Registrations



We're delighted to celebrate:

- St John the Baptist Church, Old Malden for achieving their **Bronze Award!**
- St Luke's Downham, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Tadworth for starting their [Eco Church](#) journeys.

Thanks to the brilliant action taking place in parishes across our Diocese, we are now just **three bronze awards away** from reaching the threshold in the 'church awards' category for the silver Eco Diocese award!

If you'd like support with getting started with Eco Church or taking your next step, our Diocesan Environment Officer would love to visit and speak through ideas with you - simply [email](#) to arrange a visit or coffee catchup near you. Our team of local [Eco Champions](#) are also available to offer support and share insights from their experiences in their own churches.

📢 National Emergency Briefing on Climate & Nature



Last November, leaders from across faith, business, sport and media gathered at Westminster Central Hall for a National Emergency Briefing on Climate and Nature. The event provided the latest insights into how the climate and nature crises are shaping the

UK's health, economy, food systems, and security, and urged stronger action across all sectors.

They are now inviting people to host screenings in communities across the UK to spread the message wider and be a turning point for action. A 45 minute film of the event is being released 7th April, alongside materials to help you host a screening and facilitate discussion with those in your community and local decision makers.

If your church is interested in hosting a screening, head to their [website](#) to find out more and express your interest.

Net Zero Technology Explainer Videos



The journey to net zero carbon will look different for every church, and for most churches it will involve several steps. Many churches will need to explore electrical heating technologies like pew heaters, infrared, heated seat cushions, or even air source heat pumps.

To help churches understand the options, the Church of England has released a [series of videos](#) alongside the [Practical Path to Net Zero](#) guidance for churches. These cover net zero carbon technologies, church insurance, and conservation to support churches with understanding these topics and taking their next steps.

Could your church help build climate resilience locally?



Churches are present in each community across the UK - making us uniquely placed to act as safe havens and help people prepare for and respond to climate impacts.

Groundwork London is offering £1000 micro-grants for creative, community-led projects that help Londoners build climate resilience, as part of the Climate Connected Communities programme. Faith groups are encouraged to apply and spread the word.

The deadline for submissions is **10am on Monday 11th May**. More information on the types of projects they are looking for and grant eligibility can be found on their [website](#), as well as the launch webinar recording.

🌸 **General Synod Backs Sustainable Church Flowers Motion**



In February, the Church of England General Synod backed a motion from a parish in Worcester to encourage the use of church flowers that are both beautiful and environmentally responsible.

The Sustainable Church Flowers movement started as a grassroots initiative in a small rural parish in Harpley, Worcestershire, where volunteers started to explore how traditional flower-arranging methods could help with the church's commitment to care for creation. They have since grown into a national network supporting parishes around the country.

Find out more about the motion [here](#), and look at the Sustainable Church Flowers movement [website](#) to learn more about how your own church could embrace sustainable practices for flower arranging.

🦋 **Churches Count on Nature Week**



Intentionally falling in Great Big Green Week, Churches Count on Nature is running from 6th - 14th June this year - and registrations are now **open**. The initiative is a great way for churches to get people together in the warmer weather, notice the intricacy of God's creation, and help support local wildlife.

Churches can record the species spotted in their outdoor spaces, helping to identify ways to support local biodiversity. It's often popular with children and a great opportunity to involve local schools or youth groups.

Find out more [here](#) and make sure to register by 23rd May to receive your free resource pack.

🌍 Diocesan colleagues unite to care for creation at Connect 2026



Colleagues from all 42 dioceses across the Church of England gathered last week for an annual conference to be inspired in their work to care for creation - through practical workshops, insights from ecumenical partners, and by setting our efforts within the wider national drive to cut UK emissions. Read more about the gathering [here](#).