

Key Environmental Action Points and Events Planned in the Diocese

during 2020 in the lead up to
COP26

“2020 is a critical year for gathering momentum on the climate and other ecological concerns, with a motion at General Synod, the Lent campaign, Lambeth2020, plus a strong faith voice at the COP26 international climate talks. Christians across the country are encouraged to join in and take action.”

The Rt Revd. Nicholas Holtam, The Bishop of Salisbury, Chair of the national Environmental Working Group.

January/February: **4th February: Launch of Archbishop of Canterbury’s Lent book, ‘Saying Yes to Life’** by

Ruth Valerio and accompanying #LiveLent campaign

12th February: General Synod motion Climate emergency and carbon reduction target (GS 2159) to be moved by the Bishop of Salisbury. Target: **net zero by 2045**. If passed, the Diocese will have to report every three years on progress towards net zero.

March/April: **13th: Easter Monday pilgrimage** with theme ‘Treading lightly upon the earth’. Speaker: Jo Herbert-James, Theology and networks manager, Tearfund.

May 10th-16th: **Christian Aid Week** Supporting campaigns for climate justice. 2020 is the **Year of Prayer for Climate Justice**. Prayer, fund-raising and advocacy, workshops on lobbying MPs etc.

June **6th-14th: Love your Burial Ground Week**, a national week of events celebrating the ecology and social history of churchyards. 2020 is the Year of the Burial Ground; the diocese will be celebrating churchyards providing rare habitats (nature reserves) and promoting wild areas in churchyards/church gardens.

July/August **23rd-1st August: Lambeth conference**. Visiting Bishops and their wives will be hosted in our diocese during the week preceding the conference. Climate change and its impacts are expected to be a key part of the discussions

September: **1st-4th October: Creationtide**. World season of prayer, reflection and practical action to protect God’s creation.

18th-20th: Celebration Earth event at St Albans Cathedral. Author and environmentalist Martin Palmer is involved in a multi-faith national environmental project, **Celebration Earth**, which has been planned as part of the build-up to the COP26 climate talks in Glasgow this November.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000cytv>

October: **Regional Eco-church event to be hosted by St Albans Diocese.** Provisional dates: 3rd or 10th October.

November: **9th-19th: COP26 Climate talks, Glasgow**

Please send news about environmental events and action that your parish is planning to: environment@stalbans.anglican.org