



## Eco Newsletter May 2022

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> Newsletter reporting Eco Activity at KPC. Check the Eco Page on the church website for more information. This edition has information on recycling, news of current activities, and a reflection on how protecting our planet fits theologically.

### Two quotes from Francis of Assisi:

"All things of creation are children of the Father and thus our brothers and sisters. God wants us to help animals if they need help. Every creature in distress has the same right to be protected."

"A cat purring on your lap is more healing than any drug in the world, as the vibrations you are receiving are of pure love and contentment."

*St Francis is here pictured in the stained glass in KPC's south aisle.*

Have you twinned your bin yet? **Bin Twinning** is a fantastic way to directly help those most affected by the problems of waste. We are close to our target of 100 bins & a few more could make a difference. See [Bin Twinning](#) or pick up a leaflet. Spread the word.

### MOWING IN MAY?

If you're weighed down by the thought of mowing your lawn all summer, do not despair! It's **NO MOW MAY!** when we're encouraged to leave lawns untouched to allow hidden wildflowers to bloom as a way of helping bees and butterflies. This is an annual campaign by many environmental organisations and details can be found at [No Mow May \(plantlife.org.uk\)](http://plantlife.org.uk) So if you're asked why parts of the church grounds are suddenly full of bees & butterflies you can tell them how it happened. And there ought to be a prize for spotting rare wildflowers!

**GREEN FAIR:** Thanks to all who took part and created such a great evening. A full report and lively photos will be in the next edition of the KPC Parish Magazine.

**May 24<sup>th</sup> "Why Climate Change Matters."** A talk by **Dr. Ruth Valerio**, Environmentalist and Theologian, currently working for Tearfund. An in-demand speaker, her first book, *L is for Lifestyle*, is a bestseller on sustainable living. Her talks will be live in Birmingham, at St Martins in the Bullring at 12.30 pm & again at 7.30 pm at Millenium Point (Tickets: lunchtime £6.50, evening £9.75 using the discount code KPC1), or you can live stream it from home (Free but must book). Details on [Home - Science and Faith in the Second City](#)

### Prayer:

Let the wilderness sing your praises, O Lord, and the wild places show us your majesty.  
 We thank you for the rocks and mountains, for the high cliffs and rocky islands.  
 May the wild birds sing your praises, and long grasses bow down before you.  
 We thank you for the majesty of creation and the wild places nearby and far away.  
 Christ, we come into your presence to worship you in this sanctuary called Earth.  
 God, reveal yourself to us in this place and show us your face in all creation.

*From the Episcopal Church of Australia Creation Season Liturgy*

## What's the priority: heaven or earth?

*A Theological Reflection by Peter Lewis*

There is a misguided belief (more common in the USA perhaps) suggesting that the earth doesn't matter because we are heading for heaven! "The earth is not meant to last, but heaven is forever!" I don't think it's an exaggeration to describe this as dangerous heresy. This belief ignores all the many indications in scripture that our task is to bring about heaven on earth. The task of the Christian community is not to turn our back on the earth, but rather to transform it. We pray daily that God's kingdom **might come on earth**, as it already has in heaven.

John's gospel reminds us that "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son". Note: God loves the **world** – not just human beings. Indeed the word used in this gospel is the word we might translate as "cosmos" – in other words **everything that God has created**. As St Francis realized, God's kingdom comes when human beings, inspired by Christ, care for those around them – both the poor **and** the animals and plants. "God saw all that he had made and it was very good". Then he entrusted all that he had made to human beings to look after and take care of. This is the responsibility we have: to bring about the kingdom of God here on earth as God intended it to be: "very good".

## ECO Tips:

At the recent **KPC Green Fair** it was clear that many people wanted to do more to reduce and recycle plastic, but were still confused about what goes where for recycling. So this month, we have a reminder of what can go in the recycling bin at home, and next month, we will list

what can go in the Soft Plastic recycling bins at supermarkets.



## Brown Recycling bins:

- newspapers, magazines, telephone directories, catalogues
- junk mail, envelopes, greeting cards
- cardboard food boxes and egg boxes
- toilet or kitchen inner cardboard rolls
- corrugated card
- food and drink cartons such as juice, milk and soup
- household plastics such as drinks bottles, shampoo bottles, cleaning bottles, make-up cleanser bottles and washing up liquid bottles
- food and drink cans/tins
- food trays and tubs (e.g. fruit punnets, microwave meal trays)
- yogurt pots
- aerosol cans
- clean foil
- wrapping paper (Not plastic or foil)

## No thank you:

- shredded paper
- plastic carrier bags
- newspaper supplements still in plastic packaging
- crisp packets
- cellophane/bubble wrap
- greasy food packaging ( pizza boxes)
- polystyrene
- plant pots
- food
- glass
- tissues and kitchen roll
- household waste
- cards with glitter or foil
- hard plastics i.e. CDs, DVDs, toys
- wallpaper
- plastic film and flimsy plastic