

Parish of St. John Vianney: **LiveSimply reflection and action**

SEASON OF CREATION: 1st SEPTEMBER – 4th OCTOBER

Our LiveSimply Prayer: Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for the world You created for us to share. We ask you to give us the grace to work together, to live more simply, more sustainably, and in solidarity with the poor. *Through Christ our Lord.* Amen

1st SEPT: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Pope Francis encourages us to pray and act for our common home. The day is inspired by his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls on "every person living on this planet to care for our shared Earth". The Pope's theme for 2024 is *"Hope and Act with Creation"*. He reminds us how the Holy Spirit "keeps the believing community alert and calls it to conversion in lifestyles, to resist human degradation of the environment". We are called, with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, to seek to live **"a life that becomes a song of love for God, for humanity, with and for creation, and that finds its fullness in holiness"**.



SEPTEMBER ACTION: participate in parish celebrations, *Laudato Si'* reflections and prayer for this year's Season of Creation

Reflection

We are aiming to be recognised as a LiveSimply parish. None of us can do everything, but as families and as a church community we can all do something **'to live sustainably with creation'**. This month, the Season of Creation, we are ALL invited to share in God's creation at home, through our personal actions, during our weekly Masses and in moments of collective prayer.



Above: Martin and Fr. Yemane with one of four fruit trees planted by the Laudato Si' garden team at IHOM - could you help to look after them?

Turn over for details of what's happening this month. Please note 22nd Sept. How can we **'Hope and Act'** in the Season of Creation this year?

To help achieve the [LiveSimply Award](#), contact: tony.obrien@hotmail.com

Our Hopes and Actions for Creation



SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER: Fr. Kevin Firth will **bless the fruit trees which have been planted in the grounds of the Immaculate Heart church** after the 9.30 Mass, marking the creation of our parish *Laudato Si'* garden.



TUESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER: The *God for Grown Ups* and Christian Meditation groups will meet in the IHOM hall for a period of quiet prayer and reflection on the theme **"Hope and Action in Creation"**, 7.30-8.30pm.



WEDNESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER: **Outdoor mass** in front of the "Calvary" at Immaculate Heart church, at 12.00 noon.



THURSDAY 19th SEPTEMBER: The parish Divine Mercy Prayer Group will hold **prayers and reflections on Creation at IHOM church from 6 – 7 pm** (before evening mass). All parishioners are invited to attend.



SUNDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER: Everyone is invited to bring a 'Gift of Creation' to Mass. These may be **flowers or cuttings, plants, packets of seeds, pictures or photographs etc which articulate the beauty of God's Creation in our lives**. Offerings should be placed at the entrances to IHOM and St. Paul's before each mass begins. They will be taken to the altar as symbols of our parish *Hopes for Creation*. They will later be distributed to the housebound, St. Gemma's Hospice, displayed in church, or planted.



Personal Action:

Could we become more attuned to God's creation by holding an image of it in our minds, or by taking a photo and sharing it? ***What photo would you choose*** for a phone 'screen saver' during the Season of Creation to prompt you to 'live a song of love with and for creation'?

You can Google ***Hope and Act with Creation*** to access the Pope's message or click on this QR code.



Please take this leaflet home to share with family and friends