

THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1197384

Details

Other names THE ECG

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-01-06

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Website www.theecg.org

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:• PROMOTING AND CREATING ONLINE RESOURCES FOCUSSED ON INTEGRAL ECOLOGY, FOCUSED ON BUT NOT LIMITED TO MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH;• PROVIDING AND ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF RESOURCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS, PRIMARILY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM;• PROMOTING THE HOLISTIC ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OF PEOPLE OF ALL AGES IN SUCH WAYS AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES THINK FIT, INCLUDING BY:- DELIVERING TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS AROUND THE KEY TEACHINGS OF POPE FRANCIS' LAUDATO SI' AND INTEGRAL ECOLOGY;- CREATING ACCESSIBLE ONLINE RESOURCES ON THE SUBJECTS OF SUSTAINABLE LIVING, INCLUDING SCHOOL RESOURCES.THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CATHOLIC RELIGION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC MAINLY, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY:• PROMOTING THE TEACHINGS OF POPE FRANCIS' LAUDATO SI' ON CARE OF OUR COMMON HOME, THE PROMOTION OF ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION AND INTEGRAL ECOLOGY;• DEVELOPING THE CAPACITY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND RESPOND TO THE ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CRISES AS LAID OUT IN POPE FRANCIS' LAUDATO SI'.TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY PROMOTING THE KEY MESSAGES OF POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL LAUDATO SI'.TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH, IN THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:• PROMOTING THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE LIVING THAT INDIVIDUALS CAN UNDERTAKE SUCH AS SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT, RECYCLING AND COMMUNITY GARDENS• ENCOURAGING GRASSROOTS ORGANISATIONS, SUCH AS CATHOLIC CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS, TO MAKE SUSTAINABLE BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Activities: We work to help the Church and its wider communities hear both 'the cry of the Earth' and 'the cry of the poor'. We help people respond in an integrated way, motivating through faith, education and awareness raising, as well as encouraging creative solutions for long lasting, transformative, social and ecological change.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£82,769	£37,466	-	-
2024-03-31	£13,965	£39,054	-	-
2023-03-31	£71,456	£30,190	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
John Paul de Quay	Chair	2022-01-06
Claire O'Sullivan		2022-01-06
Edward de Quay		2022-01-06
Michelle Auger		2024-09-28
Olivia Lavery		2025-10-20
Rev Ayodeji Fadoju		2022-01-06

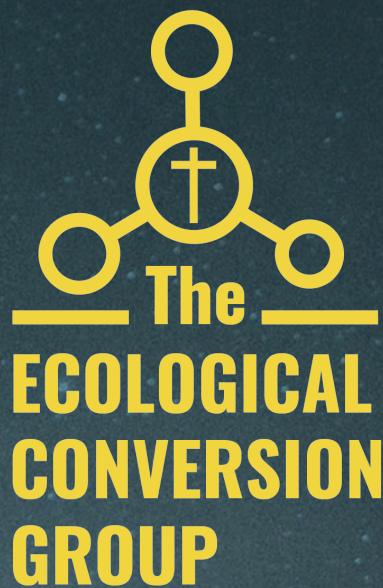
THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1197384

Accounts

Our mission is to help our church, motivated by faith, to respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

THE JOURNEY TO
2030



ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

The Ecological Conversion Group, Registered Charity No: 1197384 in England and Wales

INTRODUCTION

"Another year has passed, and another COP meeting has brought a high degree of disappointment. The final documents offered no encouragement or insistence on the phasing out of fossil-fuels. But, in some ways, COP30 was a great success in focussing the demands of the young and indigenous peoples that actions are urgently needed. The ground swell of concern about repairing the damage of climate change and providing for the future is a global reality and politicians and industry must listen and act. It is so encouraging to see groups and organisations working at local, community and national level, making their own impact and educating people for change and benefit. In this way, the Ecological Conversion Group is an important voice."

Bishop John Arnold, lead bishop for the environment at the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales.



We are delighted to share with you our latest annual report. This year has been a chance for us to step back and evaluate our strategy and begin some important new projects for the Jubilee Year. We also welcomed a new trustee to our team, Michelle Auger, who has been supporting the charity with her extensive operational and financial experience.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters, friends and collaborators. It is an exciting time to be doing the work we do and would not be able to do it without you!
John Paul, Edd, Fr Ben, Claire, & Michelle

info@journeyto2030.org

YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2024–2025 year has been a demanding one. With diocesan pastoral planning taking up much of the Church's focus, it has been increasingly difficult to highlight the environmental and social dimensions of parish mission within the deaneries. Caring for our Common Home has remained a pressing need, yet the constant shifts in structures and priorities have made this work more challenging.

In response, much of our energy this year has gone into research, consultation, and preparation for the year ahead. For the first time, we now have confirmed funding for the coming year, which allows us to go deeper; examining not just surface challenges, but also the root causes behind the Church's struggle to fully embrace its environmental and social mission, even as suffering continues to grow in these areas. Polarisation within the Church remains a key issue. Financial constraints and the shortage of priests mean that environmental and social concerns often slip further down the list of priorities. Yet these challenges also underscore the urgency of our mission.

This Jubilee Year offers a timely and much-needed opportunity to bring Care for Creation back to the heart of the Church's mission. Through the lens of Jubilee, we hope to build bridges between Catholic organisations, while also helping the wider community connect the themes of Christian mission, Jubilee, ecological conversion, and integral ecology.

As *Laudato Si'* reminds us, Christians are called to move beyond a worldview shaped by immediate desires and self-interest, towards an integral ecology; one that embraces God's creation as a whole. Integral ecology is not an optional add-on to mission; it is the lens through which the Church is called to see and act. It is both a faithful response to the challenges of our globalised world and a profound return to our ancient Christian tradition.

As many dioceses do not have a budget for ecological educational resource, the ECG continues to support the Church in meeting this need.



John Paul
Director



Ellie
Co-founder and
part-time support



Fr Ben
Trustee



Edward
Co-founder & Trustee



Michelle
Trustee



Claire
Trustee

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS & COMMS

20/05/2024 Talk at St Boniface's School and Cathedral, Plymouth

Total event attendees: 839

19/07/2024 Plater Trust awards ceremony & networking event

MAILCHIMP:

Number of mailers 11

Total number of clicks 462

Total email opens 3914

Total recipients 730

13/09/2024 Talk at St Gregory's School, Southwark

14/09/2024 Portsmouth Diocese Care of Creation event

02/10/2024 Leeds Trinity

05/10/2024 Boarbank Hall Retreat

19/10/2024 Tiverton Deanery Day, Plymouth

23/10/2024 Wimbledon Newman Circle

24/10/2024 Arocha roundtable on The Role of the Church and Climate Resilience

08/11/2024 Talk at St Gregory's School, Southwark

13/11/2024 Journey to 2030 Network Meeting – Jubilee

04/12/2024 Catholic concern for environment roundtable with NJPN and CAFOD

09/12/2024 Southern Dioceses Environment Network – In the Beginning talk

16/01/2025 Diocesan Environmental Leads Meeting

21/01/2025 Launch of Jubilee Mural and Calendar

10/02/2025 Southern Dioceses Environmental Network – Jubilee Special

26/02/2025 Pilgrimage Roundtable, Diocese of Salford

11/03/2025 Journey to 2030 Network Meeting – Community Resilience

19/03/2025 Together for the Common Good, questions with David Cayley



“Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope.” Laudato Si’

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Workshop & Events Highlights

Seeds of Hope with Plymouth Diocese

We were delighted to be invited to work closely with the Diocese of Plymouth on a number of events this year. Together with Caritas Plymouth, we delivered workshops to the Cathedral parish where many members of the diocesan staff attended, as well as a talk in the local school.

In May, our workshop at Plymouth Cathedral focused on the theme of hope: "How can we respond to the climate crisis?"

This has resulted in being asked to collaborate on a further event in 2025 on the links between migration and climate.

In October 2024, together with Caritas Plymouth, we delivered a workshop to the Tiverton deanery. As a part of our Let us Dream deanery day project, these workshops use our Building a Caring Community poster pack to build local network to:

- Help participants realise the potential of our communities to make real change in the world.
- To encourage them to dream about and share the world they would like to see.
- To help form a deanery network of people keen to make a change.
- To give training on using Journey to 2030 resources, so that by the end of the session you will have the confidence to run these activities in your own parishes, schools and communities.



Photo courtesy of Tanya Trevena



John Paul delivering one of the talks



Some fantastic ideas for action

Workshop & Events Highlights

Dreaming of Sustainability at Leeds Trinity University

On 2nd October, we were invited by Leeds Trinity University and SPARK Social Justice to deliver a workshop on the theme of dreaming of sustainability. John Paul worked with participants to challenge them to imagine a better future for our society, not only in the immediate community, but politically, globally, and personally. Using our [‘Let us Dream’ workshop](#) format, students explored the links between faith, sustainability, and hope; getting creative in re-imagining what the university might look like in 5 years time. This was a collaboration between Spark Social Justice and Leeds Trinity University, with Staff from the Diocese of Leeds and the Leeds Trinity present and engaged. This collaboration led to another event with Leeds Trinity University Education Network in the next year.



Workshop & Events Highlights

Care of Creation retreat at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria 5th-12th October 2024

We were very happy this year to start hosting our first in-person retreats in partnership with Boarbank Hall, Cumbria. We have been running these retreats over Zoom since COVID and it was wonderful to get to experience it in person in the beautiful Lake District. The talks delivered by Sr Margaret Atkins and John Paul de Quay aimed to make accessible themes of the social doctrine of the Church on care for creation, making it relevant and applicable to our personal lives, the life in our parish communities and beyond.

There was time to share ideas and discussion, as well as allowing time to slow down and making room for Christ in our busy lives, and finding joy in the little things. Following the success two more were planned for the next year.

If you are interested in attending future retreats please email Sr Margaret Atkins: margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk



Action planning



Learning about wildlife from experts



Admiring beauty



Sharing ideas, creativity and imagination



Getting our hands dirty



Building lasting friendships

Roundtable discussions

Pilgrimage Roundtable



The Diocesan Environmental Leads Network in England and Wales noted that pilgrimage was a huge topic of conversation concerning faith and environmental matters. The Ecological Conversion group helped plan and deliver with Salford Diocese an anonymous roundtable discussion on the purpose of pilgrimage, and what it means to be a pilgrim in a time of ecological crisis. There were a large and varied group of participants, including major tour operators, diocesan pilgrimage directors, diocesan environmental leads, religious orders, walking pilgrimage enthusiasts as well as guardians of our heritage and shrines.

There were three key areas identified in need of further work:

- Environmental policy guidelines for pilgrimage
- Formation documents for help with catechesis on pilgrimage
- Interdiocesan/International pilgrimage coordination

We will be following up these avenues of action into 2025. The overall findings were that the act of pilgrimage is a journey of transformation, rather than an earthly destination. It therefore matters how we get there.

We focused on Pope Francis' message for World for the 2019 World Youth Day:

"Do not be like superficial sightseers, blind to the beauty around you, never discovering the meaning of the roads you take, interested only in a few fleeting moments to capture in a selfie. Tourists do this. Pilgrims, on the other hand, immerse themselves fully in the places they encounter, listen to the message they communicate, and make them a part of their quest for happiness and fulfilment. The Jubilee pilgrimage is meant to be the outward sign of an inward journey that all of us are called to make towards our final destination."

Community Resilience

Community resilience was a topic suggested by a number of people for discussion in our Journey to 2030 network meetings. These are informal online get-togethers where we can pray and discuss our efforts in implementing Care of Creation in the Church. You can read a summary of our discussion and reflections on the topic. <https://journeyto2030.org/the-role-of-the-parish-in-community-resilience/>

Make sure you sign up to our mailing list to hear about upcoming meetings and suggest topics for discussion.

Jubilee Roundtable

One key piece of work was to use the Jubilee as an opportunity to get Catholic organisations talking together and recognising the role environment plays within their work, whether in shaping or alleviating the suffering they aim to address. We teamed up with the NJPN Environment group and were hosted by CAFOD to ask the following questions to the 20 organisations present:

- What are your priority areas for 2025?
- How does environment in the broad sense feature in your work?
- How do you aim to address your priority areas?
- Where do you need help?

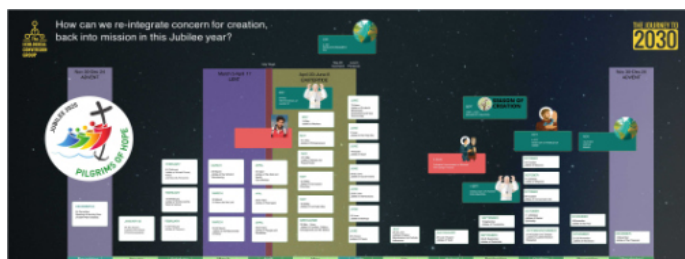
Bishop John Arnold led with an opening prayer and John Paul delivered a reflection on Jubilee to frame the conversation.

The reflection on the Biblical foundation of Jubilee can be read here:

<https://journeyto2030.org/biblical-foundations-of-jubilee/>

The writeup of the discussion can be found here: <https://theecg.org/download/3813/?tmstv=1760627226>

We also created a Jubilee timeline that included key environmental dates (see below).



Ongoing Collaborations



Caritas Brentwood

Siân Thomas-Cullinan of Caritas Brentwood, in partnership with the Diocesan Education Department, has created a highly successful student leadership conference for head boys, head girls, and their leadership teams. Since 2022, this conference has been rolled out across all 18 diocesan secondary schools. Its main aim is to affirm student leaders in their roles and to help them develop action plans inspired by Laudato Si', the Building a Caring Community resource, and the Let Us Dream workshop.

The programme is built around the Building a Caring Community framework, focusing on four core themes: "The Cry of the Poor", "The Cry of the Earth", "Sustainable Lifestyles", and "Community Resilience and Empowerment", with "Spirituality" woven throughout.

The main conference takes place in the Summer term, followed by an Autumn term gathering where students reflect on their achievements and consider the legacy they want to leave. The cycle runs over two years: one cohort works with Laudato Si' for two years, then the next with Christus Vivit for two years, ensuring variety for students while complementing both the CSI framework and the school curriculum.

Headteachers usually attend the start of the conference to show their support. Afterwards, student leaders present their action plans to their headteacher, who commits to enabling at least one of their proposed projects. Thanks to the Let Us Dream workshop, Siân has seen many of these initiatives come to life in schools, demonstrating the programme's real impact. Examples include improved school meal systems, new approaches to student mental wellbeing, vegetable patches, prayer gardens, fundraising projects, bike sheds, and student-led eco and litter-picking groups.



Brentwood leadership conference. Photo courtesy of Siân Thomas-Cullinan

Southern Dioceses Environment Network (SDEN)

As part of the SDEN planning team, we have continued to collaborate in organising monthly Zoom gatherings. These sessions provide space for diocesan updates, guest speakers, reflections, and the sharing of new environmental action resources. Participants consistently highlight the value of these meetings in fostering community and inspiring practical action.

In February, we hosted a Q&A with Bishop John Arnold, who spoke candidly about both the joys and challenges he has encountered in his work to care for creation.

The group warmly welcomes all who wish to join. Further details, including how to get involved, can be found on the new website: environmentsouth.org

Lancaster Justice and Peace

Sue Grubic has been continuing to run our 'Let Us Dream' workshops in schools around the Lancaster diocese. She has been doing amazing work in adapting the resources to help in her work as Justice and Peace Co-ordinator for the diocese. So far, she has worked with 22 schools.



Thought Leadership

A new direction for our work

We are for the first time in a fortunate position to have secured some multi-year funding. This has allowed us to expand our work to tackle some of the root causes for inaction or apathy in the Church on social and environmental matters. While we continue to provide the normal talks and workshops, for the next two years we are developing three separate, yet inter-connected workstreams.

These projects address how the world we live in shapes our moral imagination and subsequent action.

They have grown out of years of grassroots interactions and observations across all levels of Church life, as well as research into academic literature, and Catholic Social Teaching.

The purpose of these projects, and the varying outputs on each theme, is to serve the Church's mission by identifying barriers to action and suggesting pathways forward which help us to recognise the spiritual, social, and ecological dimensions of mission as inseparably connected.

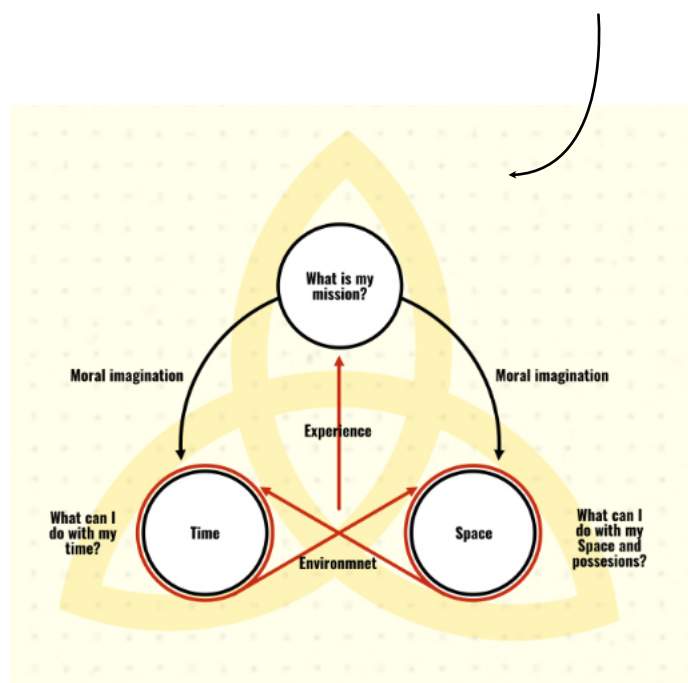
We approach these barriers from three angles:

Theological: how our understanding of God shapes our perception of mission and spirituality.

Temporal: how tensions between the 'economy' and spirituality influence our use of time.

Physical: how space, resources, and their stewardship enable or constrain our ability to live out mission.

Together, these projects understand stewardship as a relationship that weaves together imagination (purpose), time, and space; put simply, imagination and experience.



Finally, we acknowledge that the technocratic paradigm Pope Francis identifies as a central enemy of Christian thought remains a dominant vision (or driving imagination) within the Church.

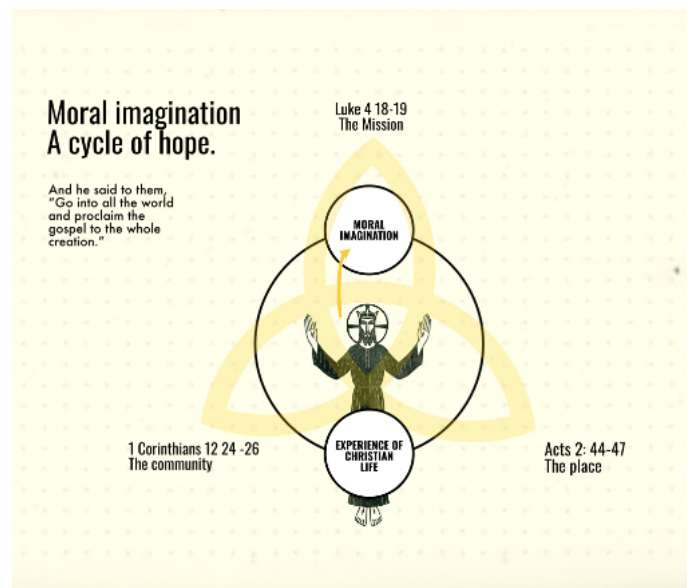
In an article called, "The rise of the nones", Phil Davignon states that the decline on our church is not to do with transmission of doctrine, or redoubling efforts in this matter he regards as "doing the wrong thing righter". It is he says, that people lack an experience of what a Christian life looks like.

"Do young people envision the Catholic faith as the foundation of their parents' lives, or is the everyday life and imagination of their family governed by the logic of the market, education system, and national politics, with a thin gloss of (mostly) privatized religion?"

How then do we build a Church that exemplifies purpose, helps a good use of space and belongings and a good use of time?

Our work seeks to help the Church to build a moral imagination of the big picture, of Integral Ecology.

At the time of writing this report, Pope Leo XIV states on the 10th World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2025; "may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow."



Continued on next page...

Thought Leadership



Continued from the previous page, we give some more details of the three workstreams.

MISSION

The first key area is concerned with theological understanding, and moral imagination of our mission. How does a renewed vision of a Creator and creation, and being in right relationship with that creator, shape our view of the meaning of life, redemption and salvation? What is it that we are called to do with our lives? These questions give meaning and narrative to the more technical aspects of space and time. One intended output is a document aimed at the everyday person that can be an aid in catechesis and formation, restoring care of creation into the main conscious mission of the Church.

PRAYER AND WORK (Time)

The second area looks at how people are responding to imagination of mission in spending their time to shape the space around them to that vision. Making the invisible visible. But how much does a GDP based economy shape what we value in life, work and leisure? How much does our faith shape that use of time? This document looks at a vision for the Church's role in a different kind of economy, and how we can help our Church going, and non-Church going parishioners alike a greater freedom of their time in fulfilling their true vocations. We have made good progress on a document already, which will serve as an initial output.

PLACE (Space)

The third key area looks at how we use space to both create a meaningful sense of place, manifest the vision in the concrete stuff of matter around us, and how this concrete manifestation both allow people a better use of their time, and a better vision of reality, than the 'worldly economy' driven by GDP, growth and technological progress. We aim to help the Church to become a better steward of its physical property, and the physical world in general, and in doing so enable others to live in greater freedom to contribute to the building of the kingdom and living their true vocations. One output in very early stages of planning is a symposium on the strategic planning of the Church's property.



PLACE

THE CHURCH AS ENVIRONMENT
The crucial use of the physical assets in mission.



We are also looking for donations to help with extra costs associated with these projects, such as conferences and printed materials. If you would be able to donate towards these projects or provide gifts-in-kind please contact Chee: chee@theecg.org.

"Really I just wanted to thank you for the work you are doing. I had a look at your website because you are giving a talk at our Cathedral next month. Tbh – I won't normally attend talks on environmental stuff because I believe (like you!) that the issues are much deeper and it's interior conversion that is required. In my experience and most certainly in this diocese, "saving the planet" is high profile but is never linked to personal transformation.

Thank you so much, I am delighted with your proclamation and particularly the graphics you use. I am refreshed and relieved to find some people that really get it and know how to communicate this important Gospel key. I am very looking forward to your talk."

Michele Thompson, Officer for Evangelisation Diocese of Plymouth

"I find the "Building a Caring Community" incredibly useful in focusing on the Laudato Si Action Platform goals in a way that is relatable to adults, children and young people of all ages. I also find the packs visually engaging and a perfect tool to reflect on what schools and parishes are doing well now in our efforts to care for creation, and what we could do even better in the future. This essentially ties into the strategic development of a Climate Action Plan that all educational establishments are now required to produce."

Sue Grubic, Faith and Justice Worker of the Diocese of Lancaster, to schools of the diocese.

"Thank you for a most stimulating session this afternoon - I had never thought of pilgrimage in these terms before."

Stephen Garsed on the Pilgrimage roundtable a workshop participant.

"I thought you and Emma did a fantastic job yesterday with the roundtable, what a brilliant group to get round the table. It was quite inspiring to imagine the possibilities, and even just to honestly confront the challenges."


Francis Stewart, CAFOD Theology team

"The ECG's graphic representations of Ecological Conversion - both as a process and as a model of the God-human-creation relationship - have been extremely useful in helping me to prepare various interventions over the past few months. It's especially useful to have a visual representation of the discernment process for helping individuals and communities to imagine how they can live ecological conversion. I've used it particularly in preparing a lecture and workshop for practitioners in Christian finance. I do anticipate making use of the graphics in future presentations. I consider these representations quite original and potentially important in developing a workable and scale-able model for ecological conversion.

Additionally, John Paul has offered invaluable assistance in thinking through the application of ecological conversion to the disposal of material assets - his advice, guidance and resources have given me crucial support as I think this through myself."

Dr Carmody Grey

Resources



**The
ECOLOGICAL
CONVERSION
GROUP**

Registered charity no: 1197384 in England and Wales

www.theecg.org

The ECG aims to reintegrate the social and environmental into the conscious mission and vision of the Catholic Church (integral ecology), in order to respond to the "cries of the earth and cries of the poor". Christians are all called to an ecological conversion "whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them."

Putting Jesus, the source and summit of ALL creation back into the centre of all our relationships with the earth and our neighbours, bringing interior peace.

We Provide...



Talks and Workshops

We provide talks and workshops on Laudato Si' and care for creation.



Resources

We create resources to help individuals and communities to bring the Good News to all creation.



Consultancy

We work with partners on all matters relating to care of creation including resource creation.



NEWSLETTER
Sign up

THE JOURNEY TO 2030

www.journeyto2030.org

The Journey to 2030 project seeks to help our communities to dream of and build a better future for all. Allowing our Church property to be the hubs of building the kingdom, integrating environmental, social and spiritual needs.

'Building a Caring Community' Activity Poster Pack

This poster activity pack is specifically designed to be a starting point for a school, parish or community in addressing pastoral planning and community consultation in an holistic lens. It is designed to help bring concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace, in an integrated, synodal, community response.



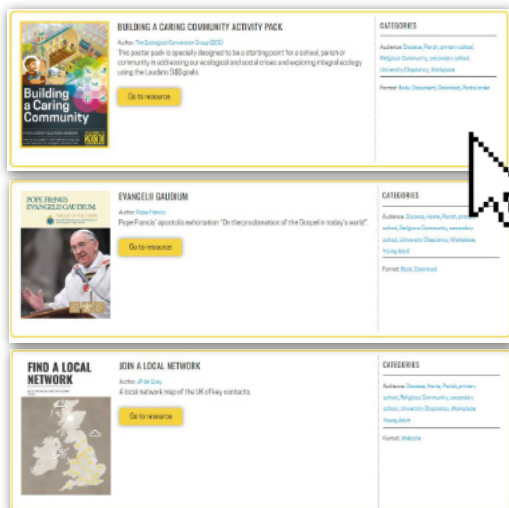

ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME
Looking at life through the lens of Laudato Si'
Sixth Form Syllabus

Resource Sorter

Our new Resource Sorter is a searchable, filterable repository of key resources for parishes, schools, and individuals seeking to engage with the themes of Laudato Si' and ecological conversion.

The tool collates over 70 carefully-selected resources, including publications, partner materials, videos, books, and external websites. Users can filter resources by, for example, audience, format, theme, and Laudato Si' Goal. We plan to regularly add and curate new content as part of our ongoing work.

Visit www.journeyto2030.org/resources to learn more.



'Let us Dream' Creative Challenge

As a part of our vision for building a better future, we have been inviting parishes, schools, and communities to get creative and dare to dream! Our Let us Dream resource is a place where we invite individuals and groups to share their creative dreams for a world that enables flourishing for all of Creation!

The Let us Dream activity is a simple one where you prayerfully reflect on your hopes for the future with Christ at its centre and what this practically looks like– and use any creative medium you like to share this dream.

We are building our online gallery of these dreams and are always looking for new submissions.

There are materials to help get your imagination flowing on the website: <https://journeyto2030.org/let-us-dream/>, including an excellent reflection on the 'dream school' by Sr Margaret Atkins: <https://journeyto2030.org/the-dream-school/>

KEEP IN TOUCH



Sign up to our Newsletter to keep up to date with our latest news and resources as well as taking part in our projects and network meetings. These meetings are a chance for the Church at all levels to build community and work together. It is intended as an informal and safe forum for Integral Ecology. It is intended for the UK but proud to welcome everyone.

Sign up to the newsletter here: tinyurl.com/464ursd2

PLEASE SUPPORT US

Could you help support us financially in our mission?

Our work is currently primarily financially supported by grants and charitable activities. In order to build a more sustainable financial base, so that we can plan ahead more effectively with our project work, we are looking for donations. Any donations big or small are greatly appreciated,

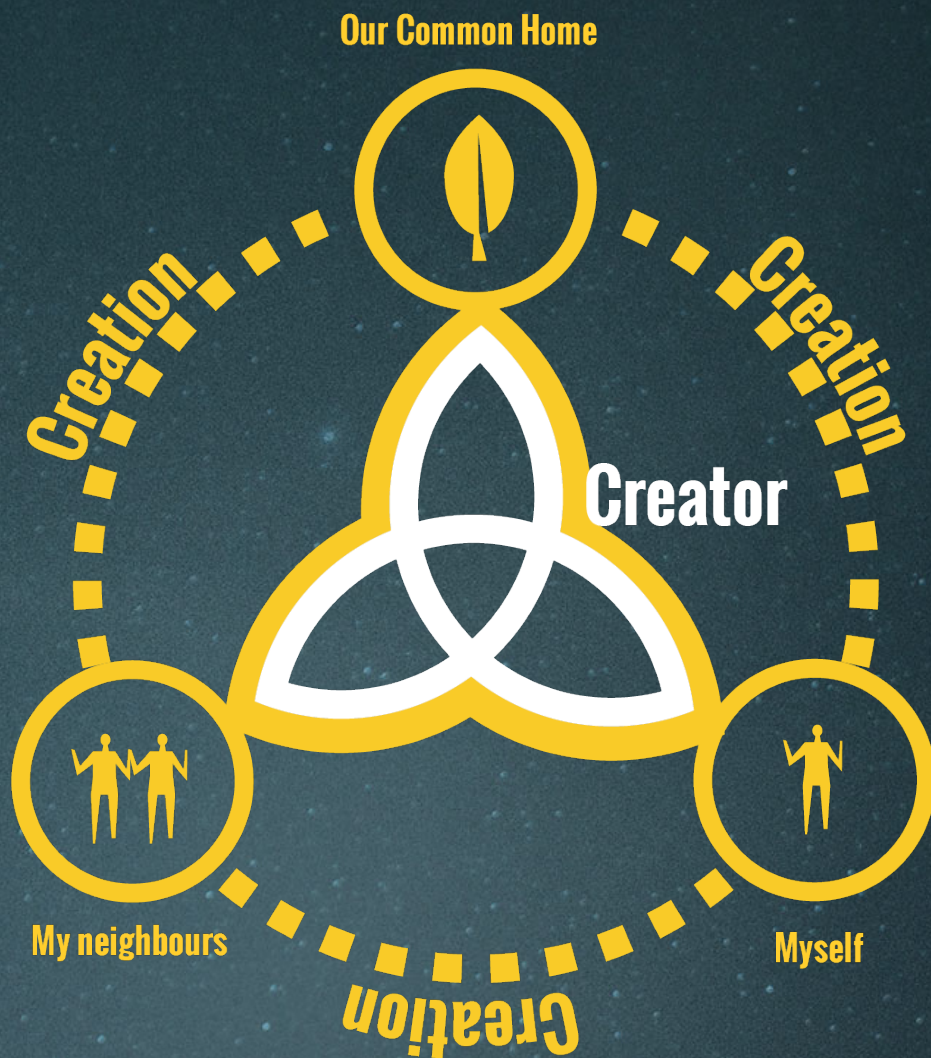
On our donation page you can give one-off or setup regular giving: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/the-ecological-conversion-group>

On this page you can also become a fundraiser and run your own fundraising campaigns.

If you would like to leave a larger donation or legacy in your will, please contact Chee for further information: chee@theecg.org

Many thanks!

Thank you to all of our friends, trustees, colleagues, partners and supporters for making this great work happen.



www.journeyto2030.org/donate



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
The Ecological Conversion Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/03/2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1197384

Set out on pages

2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025^{YY}.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: E N Hudson

Date: 05/11/2025

Name: Emily Hudson

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

CIPFA

Address:

18 Folly Path, Hitchin, SG4 9DU

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION GROUP

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
GRANTS	57 974	20 000	-	77 974	10 680
DONATIONS	377	-	-	377	19
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3 699	-	-	3 699	2 992
LOANS	-	-	-	-	-
INTEREST ON BANK ACCOUNT	719	-	-	719	274
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	62 769	20 000	-	82 769	13 965
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	62 769	20 000	-	82 769	13 965
A3 Payments					
SALARIES	26 668	6 224	-	32 892	32 140
TRAVEL COSTS	941	-	-	941	1 012
POSTAGE	29	-	-	29	107
COMPUTER EXPENSES	421	-	-	421	4 742
EXPENSES	3 004	-	-	3 004	-
WORKSHOPS MATERIALS	31	-	-	31	52
PRINTING	93	-	-	93	-
ACCOMODATION	55	-	-	55	-
REPAYMENT OF LOANS	-	-	-	-	1 000
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	31 242	6 224	-	37 466	39 053
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	31 242	6 224	-	37 466	39 053
Net of receipts/(payments)	31 527	13 776	-	45 303	- 25 088
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	31 527	13 776	-	45 303	- 25 088

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

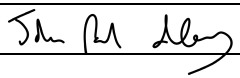
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	NATWEST	58 909	20 000	-
	PAYPAL	872	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	59 781	20 000	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	


Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		John Paul de Quay	22/01/2026

THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1197384

Accounts




The
ECOLOGICAL
CONVERSION
GROUP

OUR MISSION IS TO HELP OUR CHURCH, MOTIVATED BY FAITH, TO RESPOND TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH AND THE CRY OF THE POOR.

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

The Ecological Conversion Group, Registered Charity No: 1197384 in England and Wales

FOREWORD

“Despite continuing warnings from environmental experts, and the clear evidence of climate event damage on every continent and in the oceans, the sense of urgency has still not impacted on governments and industry. COP29 was clearly influenced by its host nation, Azerbaijan, which flourishes on fossil fuel production. Both the positive action and the growing protest must come from ground level, from people of Faith and no-Faith who recognise the reality. It is in this way that we will insist on change and show, by changes in our own ways of living, that change must happen and disasters be avoided. The work of the Ecological Conversion Group is an important voice and advocate for the change that is essential.”

Bishop John Arnold, Diocese of Salford

INTRODUCTION

After another exciting year, we are delighted to share with you our latest annual report! This year has been packed with all sorts of interesting things including deanery days, international visits and many fruitful collaborations.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters, donors, friends and participants; all who make our work possible.

John Paul, Ellie, Edd, Claire, Rosie & Fr Benedict

info@journeyto2030.org

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TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS 3
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TESTIMONIALS 16



Ecological conversion' is a commitment, inspired by faith, to change our lives so as to help heal the threefold rupture caused by sin, with God, with other human beings, and with the natural world.

It is the process of change towards living in a right relationship with Creator and creation. Recovering a God centered life, living in communion with all that surrounds us.

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

- 02/05/2023 St Anthony Forest Gate talk on CST and Common Destination of Goods
- 17 Oct - Together for the common good conference
- 25/05/23 - Parish rep catchup
- 20 oct - Blackfriars conference
- 31/05/2023 Panel speaker at COMECE European Skills Conference
- 6 nov - Jesuit Missions podcast
- 10/06/2023 Worthing Deanery Day
- 15/11/23 LSM Animator training
- 27/06/2023 Cathedral deanery catch-up
- 16-19/11/2023 ELSiA Spirituality and Ecology Workshop, Taize
- 28/06/2023 Trustee Claire talk to Sussex and Brighton University Chaplaincy on Laudato Si'
- 30/11/23 Las Casas lecture
- 28/06/2023 World Youth Day A&B pilgrims integral ecology
- 06/12/2023 Online Parish rep meeting
- 05/07/2023 Jesuit Provincial Ecological Conversion Retreat
- 16-19 /01/2024 Real farming conference
- 01/08/2023 Bishop of Christchurch, New Zealand interview, poster activity at integral ecology catechesis session WYD
- 27/01/2024 A&B Justice and Peace Assembly
- 02/09/2023 Our Lady of Martyrs, Aberystwyth
- 28/01/2024 Worth Parish Talk
- 02/09/2023 Panellist at Ecumenical Q&A Aberystwyth
- 30/01/2023 Ellie talk at CAFOD APPG
- 06/09/2023 Talk with Year 9 Worth School
- 07/02/2024 Talk at Mayfield Parish
- 16/09/2023 Journey to 2030 Our Lady of Margam
- 21/02/2024 St George's, Hove, Care of Creation online talk
- 23/09/2023 Woking Deanery Day
- 02/03/2024 Brighton deanery day
- 25-26/09/2023 St Gregory's Talks (Y12 + 13)
- 09/03/2024 Let us Dream workshop at Liverpool Environment Conference
- 28/09/2023 Environmental Leads retreat – Let us Dream
- 16/03/2024 Eastbourne deanery day
- 02/10/2023 St Gregory's Talk (Y9)
- 03/10/2023 Cardinal Pole school talks
- 07/10/2023 Care of Creation workshop, Lancaster
- 11/10/2023 St Gregory's Examen Exercise Year 8s
- 11/10/2023 St Gregory's Year 9 talk

Total number of workshops/talks: 27
Total number of people attending talks and workshops: 1923

HIGHLIGHTS - PARISH VISITS

Welsh Martyrs Parish Aberystwyth

Together with our advisor Sr Margaret of Boarbank Hall, Cumbria, John Paul visited the Welsh Martyrs Parish in Aberystwyth (Diocese of Menevia) to talk with the Laudato Si Group, as well a supporting panellist for an Ecumenical Talk and Q&A Session as a part of the parish open day. The parish has been working hard on their Laudato Si' project; running a community garden building vital links to serve the surrounding community.

You can learn more about the parish's journey in a blog by Nick Howells, the project leader here: <https://journeyto2030.org/grow-fruit-and-vegetables-for-me/>



Worth Parish Talk

John Paul was invited by Worth Parish, near Crawley in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton. He shared a talk on the teachings of Laudato Si', integral ecology and ecological conversion with the 50 parishioners who attended.

HIGHLIGHTS - WORLD YOUTH DAY

"I am grateful for having experienced WYD, on one hand the grand of the scale of it, and the other the bonds with my small group of fellow pilgrims that I shared my days with. It highlights the care for my local community back home against the backdrop of the urgent need to care for our global family and common home. The relationships I form with God, neighbours and planet; influence my direction and method of travel from A to B in the web of interactions and relationships of our pilgrimage in a modern world."

You can read the full reflection in our blog here: <https://journeyto2030.org/wyd/>



With Integral ecology being one of the key themes of World Youth Day (WYD) in Lisbon, there was a huge opportunity to help people understand the aims of the Ecological Conversion Group.

In preparation for world youth day, we ran a session for participants and leaders of the Arundel and Brighton WYD pilgrimage.

John Paul travelled to WYD with the Brothers of St John Group, for his holiday, but had to put both his work, and sun hats on to help lead the integral ecology session for an English speaking group St John group from Taiwan, New Zealand, New Jersey and the UK.



As well as being grilled in a Q&A with + Michael Gielen, Bishop of Christchurch, New Zealand, on integral ecology, we led a session using our examination of conscience activity posters. Luckily John Paul thought it wise to bring them, just in case...

It was a wonderful experience to help each of us recognise ourselves as a global family, and that this encounter should leave us as brothers and sisters and not simply statistics, or pictures on a screen.

The session on integral ecology on a sweltering basketball court in Lisbon.

HIGHLIGHTS - WORKSHOPS

LET US DREAM Deanery Workshops

Workshops to make community dreams for a better future a reality

Realise the potential of your community to make lasting change

Imagine a better world together

Form a local network to put your dreams into action

Learn how to use Journey to 2030 resources, and have the confidence to use them in your community

Who is it for?

Any parish, school, or deanery community wanting to get talking and acting about social and environmental issues.

What does it involve?

A 3-hour workshop, filled with inputs and activities designed to get you dreaming of and planning the changes you want to see in your community.

How does Journey to 2030 support?

We will help you organise and advertise the event, and of course run the workshop for you! After the workshop, we will support you in setting up a local network to put your dreams into reality.



Want to find out more?

visit www.journeyto2030.org

or email Ellie Margetts at ellie@theecg.org



Since 2022 we have completed 11 deanery workshop training days using the Building a Caring Community poster pack to build local networks. The days are designed to:

- Help participants realise the potential of our communities to make real change in the world.
- To encourage them to dream about and share the world they would like to see.
- To help form a deanery network of people keen to make a change.
- To give training on using Journey to 2030 resources, so that by the end of the session you will have the confidence to run these activities in your own parishes, schools and communities.

We will be continuing to run these workshops in deaneries going forwards – let us know if you would like one!

This year, we completed workshops in:

- Worthing (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton)
- Woking (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton)
- Brighton & Hove (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton)
- Liverpool Environmental Conference (Archdiocese of Liverpool)
- Eastbourne (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton)



We are very grateful to the Plater Trust for awarding us a small grant to help in the planning and ongoing support for these workshops.



Northern Dioceses Environmental Group

John Paul was invited by the Leeds Justice and Peace Commission to run a 'Let us Dream workshop at the Northern Dioceses' Environment Group on 8th June. He invited the group to discuss what a flourishing community should look like, and to dream of how we can get to that position. Using our 'Let us Dream' activity, he invited people to draw their hopes and share with the wider group.

Lancaster Diocese

Thank you to Lancaster Diocese Faith & Justice Commission for their invitation to participate in their 'Let Justice and Peace Flow' Care of Creation day. Together, with Sr Margaret Atkins, Dr Stephen Garsed, and Dr Paul Kelly, we were delighted to talk about the Journey to 2030 and participate in the panel discussions.

HIGHLIGHTS - PARTNERS IN ACTION

People around the country are using resources and adapting them to their needs. Here are a few examples of our work being delivered by other organisations.



Lancaster

We were also delighted to hear that our friend Sue Grubic, Faith and Justice Worker, has been busy delivering our 'Let us Dream' workshops in schools across Lancaster Diocese. She has spoken at 16 schools, visiting some of them multiple times. Well done Sue!

Hexham and Newcastle

Minnie Fraser, environmental lead for Hexham and Newcastle diocese with her son Simon at their care of creation stand at the Diocesan family festival.



Brentwood

As part of the diocese of Brentwood student leadership conference, Siân Thomas-Cullinan, Director of Caritas Brentwood "led a series of sessions based on the Papal document Laudato Sí, with the support of members from the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. The students focused on the practical responsibility of care for our common home, including what could be done in terms of leaving a legacy to future students, by using the 'Let Us Dream' task from Journey to 2030." You can read more [here](#)



HIGHLIGHTS - CONFERENCES

Grounded in the Present, Skilled for the Future

John Paul was invited by the Commission of the Bishops' Conference of the European Union (COMECE) for their "Grounded in the Present, skilled for the Future" summit in Brussels. The event was in response to, and attended by, the European Year of Skills Initiative, which aims to address the shortage of skilled labour across the continent. The event offered an opportunity for discussion around the dignity of work and how economic forces devalue some kinds of jobs, and being mindful of how technological progress can lead us in the wrong direction.

John Paul's role was to offer reflection on the 'skills needed for ecological conversion'. How do we create the 'right kind of people' to apply their technical knowledge, rather than simply training people in technical skills in order to compete.

He talked of the support needed for informal skills learnt in the family and vocational settings. "In the family we first learn how to show love and respect for life" (Laudato Si' 213). And the need to recognise childcare, caring, and working with the land as

critically important to forming our society and world, so that we may use technical skills with wisdom. John Paul's presentation focussed on the need to reframe our notion of 'skills' away from competition to a structure of care.

You can read more about the event, as well as watch back the recording [here](#) (John Paul's presentation starts at 40 minutes into the video).

There was also a write [here](#) up by Don Bosco International.



Climate Emergency - An Ethical Challenge for Humanity

Hosted by Las Casas institute in association with the European Union's Committee of the Regions at Blackfriars Hall, Oxford. Attended as participant.

Some startling climate predictions for the UK.

Real Farming Conference - Oxford

Participated to learn more about Agroecology and the links between community cohesion, health and wellbeing. Some great ideas that could work in parishes.

ACTION RESULTING FROM CONFERENCES

Calling Out Greenwashing

An exciting new branch of our work this year has been the decision to publish a briefing document in the build up to COP. Following a number of conferences to do with climate and biodiversity, this document aims to reveal an elephant in the room; the apparent lack of distinction between the carbon cycle and carbon stored in fossil fuels in the timescales by which we are measuring progress on climate.

"Calling out Greenwashing" warns of the dangers of relying heavily on carbon offset schemes to solve the climate crisis, by conflating these two stores of carbon. We have received a lot of feedback telling us that it is a thought-provoking and useful read, so do have a look and share.

This aims to be a document to help develop thought on the topic of carbon offsets, and more specifically for nature based solutions. It is aimed at organisations, dioceses, and communities to read, reflect on and use in their planning, to stress the dire need to reduce production and use of fossil fuels, and increase efforts on biodiversity, but... don't fall into the trap of indulgences by thinking you can negate the impacts of burning fossil fuels by planting trees.

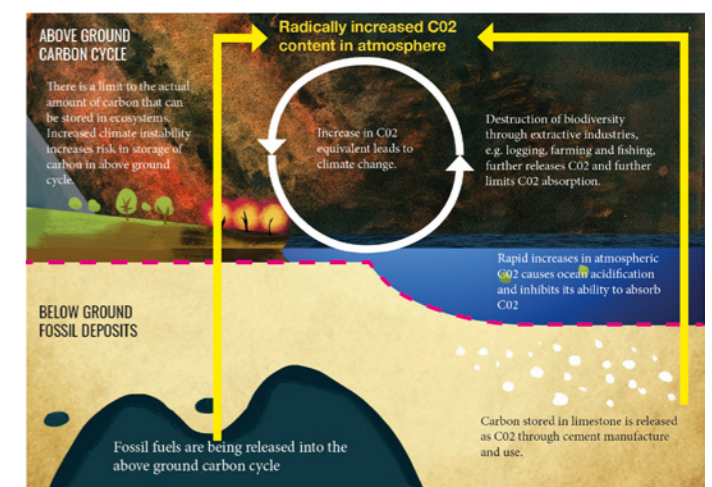
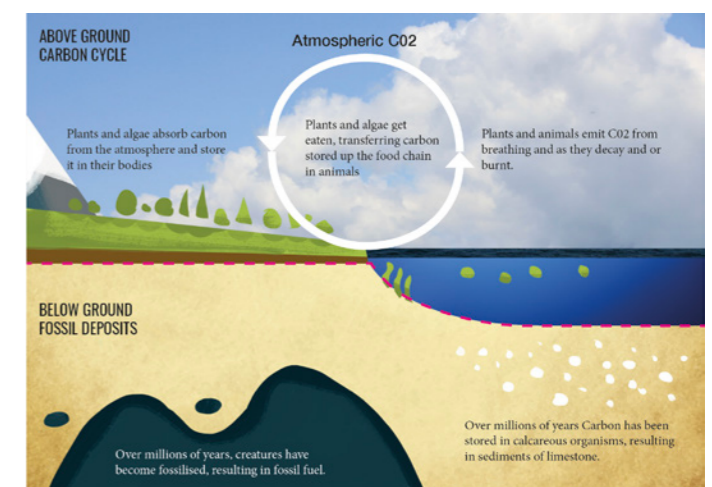
You can download the full document here <https://theecg.org/download/3663/?tmstv=1701184325>

If you want to learn more about carbon offsetting and greenwashing, there is an interesting panel debate by the University of Oxford that you can watch here <https://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/videos/carbon-offsetting>

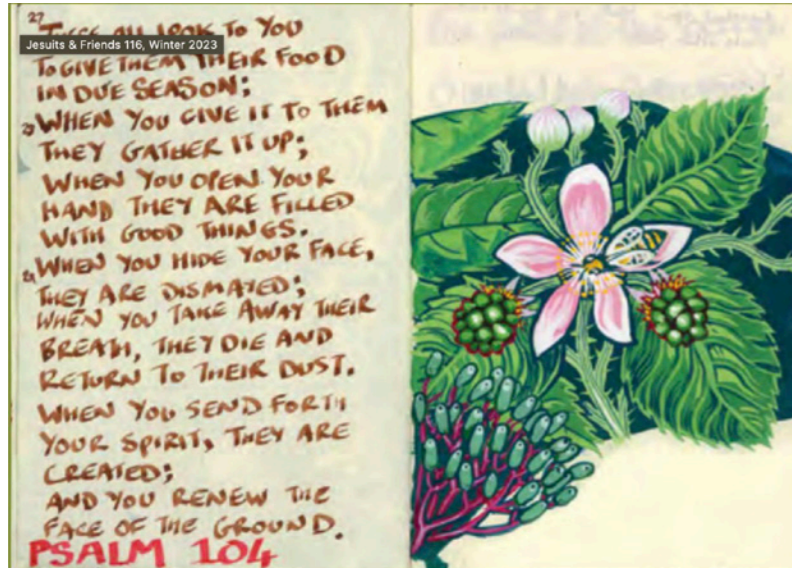


CALLING OUT GREENWASHING:

The dangers of relying on carbon offsetting to compensate for continued fossil fuel emissions.



HIGHLIGHTS - RETREATS



Jesuits in Britain

Fifty Jesuits and coworkers gathered at St Beuno's for a special province retreat. The aim was to see where the Lord was calling the Jesuits in Britain on the path of ecological conversion. John Paul was very grateful to have been invited to participate.

You can read about it in Jesuit and Friends magazine [here](#):



National Environmental Leads Retreat

The diocesan environmental leads retreat was an opportunity for collaboration and conversation around some common themes facing dioceses. The ECG delivered a talk and workshop session. The retreat took place in The Franciscan Spirituality centre, where we were reunited with Sr Shirley, a good friend of the ECG from it's infancy.



European Laudato Si' Alliance Spirituality and ecology Workshop

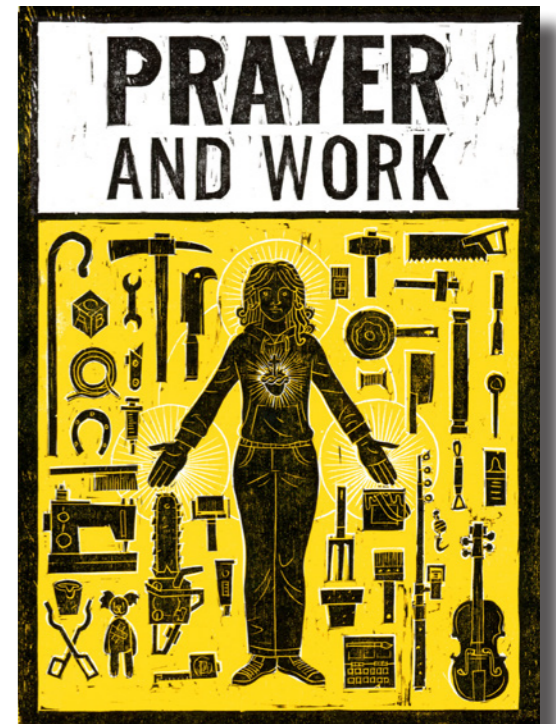
Following the conference in COMECE for the European Year of Skills conference, John Paul was invited back to further expand on this theme with members of Catholic organisations from around Europe forming the European Laudato Si' Alliance (ELSiA). The ECG led a workshop exploring skills for ecological conversion, taking inspiration from the monastic practices of "Ora et labora" (prayer and work), addressing the question of why we do not use our hands today?

The 4-day event in Taize explored how manual work and spirituality can be brought together for the good of our common home. John Paul led the opening session, focussing his discussion on spirituality being the way we frame our relationship with God, neighbour, and planet. He emphasised that it is in recentring our focus on God that we are then able to address our relationship with prayer and work in a way that allows us to live out an integral ecology.

You can read more about the event in this post by Pax Christi <https://paxchristi.net/elsia-spirituality-and-ecology-workshop-2023/>

Action resulting from retreats:

The subject of work will form one of our thought leadership pieces that will be published next year. Prayer and work coming soon...





Southern Dioceses Environment Network (SDEN)

As a part of the planning team for the SDEN, we have continued to work together to plan monthly Zoom meetings which cover updates from each diocese, guest speakers, reflections, and sharing of new environmental action resources. Attendees have found these meetings very helpful in both building community and giving ideas for action. The group is open to anyone who would like to attend. You can find more information, including how to join, on the Westminster Justice and Peace website [here](#).

Archdiocese of Liverpool

We were delighted to work with the Archdiocese of Liverpool on their on-year Care of Creation Plan (which was recently published and can be downloaded [here](#)).

Laudato Si' Movement

We provided training for this year's cohort of Laudato Si' Animators from all around Europe. John Paul gave an introduction to Catholic Social Teaching and what our faith tells us about how we should behave.

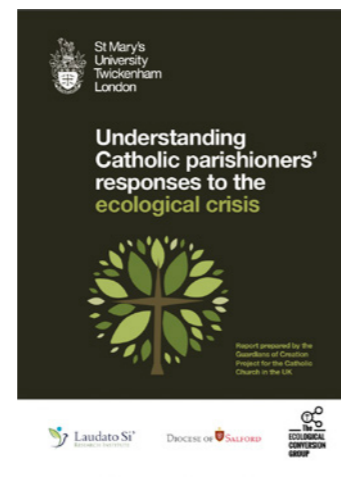


Welcome to week 2

Today our live speaker, John Paul de Quay, will tell us how our faith is connected with creation care and I encourage you to come and to ask questions about it! I believe we all have some about the Catholic Church and the faith aspect on environmental protection. Please, join us, get to know other course participants and learn something new with us! 🌱❤️

Guardians of Creation

We have continued on the advisory board of the Guardians of Creation Project, run by the diocese of Salford and St Mary's university. We have also been collaborating to address barriers and recommendations from the "understanding Catholic Parishioners' Responses to the Ecological Crises".



Read the report and other Guardians of Creation works on the St Mary's university website [here](#).

Jesuit Missions

John Paul was invited to talk on the Jesuit Missions Podcast to discuss action in combatting climate change, faith and the environment, and the goals for COP28. You can listen [here](#).

NEXT YEAR

Thought leadership

Thought leadership pieces that look at our moral imagination and try to help overcome barriers to action that are time or resource dependant, and also how our theological understanding of mission can also be a barrier.



The Church as an environment. The importance of place as an enabler of time well spent.



Prayer and work. What do we do with our time? Why do we have a lack of it?



Who am I? A look at the theology of creation and our continued role as co-creators.

Boarbank Hall.

After many online retreats, John Paul and Sr Margaret have been planning some in-person retreats. Watch out 2024.



Meanwhile, the apple trees that we delivered around Sussex and Surrey Parishes at the end of lockdown continue to bear fruit.



TESTIMONIALS

“Great to meet you last week at the COMECE conference. Thanks for your presentation – really hit the right points of creation, humanity and God. A trinity we don’t hear enough of in Brussels policy making circles.

Thomas Kaye, Young Elected Politicians Team for the European Committee of the Regions.

“It’s great to know something of your work, and to see how the journey into sustainability is synonymous with a journey into deeper Christian conversion. I hadn’t recognised that connection as clearly until hearing your material - thank you.”

Fr Matthew Roche-Saunders, Parish Priest for Our Lady of Martyrs, Aberystwyth

“The input Sr Margaret gave in her talk and that you then concretised in your material about journeyto2030, was actually about the Christological nature of creation - that all things have existence through Christ, and that therefore all creation points back through Christ to the Father. A right relationship with creation is a right re-ordering of our own being created in Christ, and how our worship belongs to Christ alone. I don’t think I’d heard it explained like that before. It’s easy and painful to hear caricatures of papal teaching in this area of environmental awareness, but to recognise that stewardship, sustainability and the environment remind us of the very roots of God’s creation through Christ, is so much more attractive than simply to be reminded to recycle (which doesn’t require following Jesus to think it’s a good idea)...this whole area of ‘Laudato Si’ can be an opportunity to preach the kerygma and reorder the world back to its Creator God - amazing.

A priest.

“Building a Caring Community is an excellent resource we have used in our parish. Highly recommended!”

A workshop participant.

As part of the preparation for World Youth Day, we were asked to reflect on a few different topics with our pilgrims in the run up to the pilgrimage. JP very kindly delivered the session on Integral ecology. It was an incredibly interesting and eye opening talk which helped us to really understand the interconnected nature of everything. One participant commented that his presentation really helped her to understand this subject in a whole new way. As the Youth Adviser for the Diocese, I continue to call on JP’s expertise in this subject, in particular I am consulting with him as I write reflections for the upcoming Jubilee year looking at the themes of Care for Creation, food poverty, modern slavery, managing debt, forgiveness, and rest & worship.

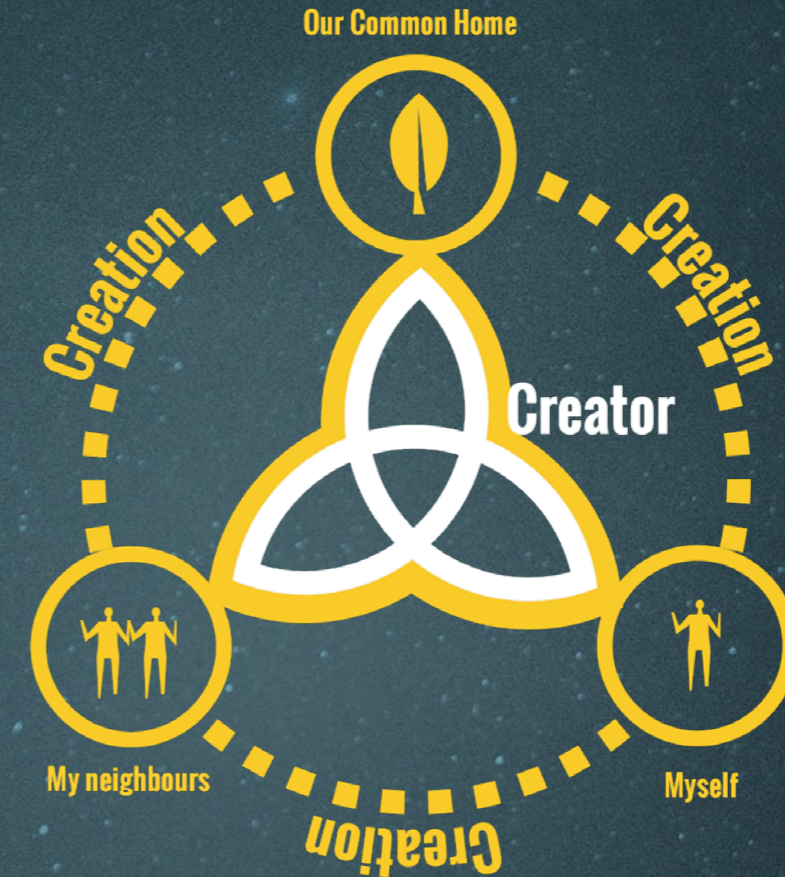
Lizzie Wakeling, Youth Advisor, Arundel and Brighton

The Ecological Conversion Group have been integral in providing support and resources for our current environment plan for the Archdiocese. We hope to work with them further as we develop our thinking and actions.

Pablo Guidi, Catholic Social Action Coordinator,, Archdiocese of Liverpool



Thank you to all of our friends, trustees, colleagues, partners and supporters for making this great work happen.



“The divine Persons are subsistent relations, and the world, created according to the divine model, is a web of relationships. Creatures tend towards God, and in turn it is proper to every living being to tend towards other things, so that throughout the universe we can find any number of constant and secretly interwoven relationships. This leads us not only to marvel at the manifold connections existing among creatures, but also to discover a key to our own fulfilment. The human person grows more, matures more and is sanctified more to the extent that he or she enters into relationships, going out from themselves to live in communion with God, with others and with all creatures. In this way, they make their own that trinitarian dynamism which God imprinted in them when they were created. Everything is interconnected, and this invites us to develop a spirituality of that global solidarity which flows from the mystery of the Trinity.”

Pope Francis, referencing St Thomas Aquinas, Laudato Si’ 240



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION GROUP

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/04/2023

To

31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
GRANTS	10 680		-	10 680	59 111
DONATIONS	19	-	-	19	100
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2 992	-	-	2 992	12 245
LOANS	-	-	-	-	1 000
INTEREST ON BANK ACCOUNT	274	-	-	274	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	13 965	-	-	13 965	72 456
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	13 965	-	-	13 965	72 456
A3 Payments					
SALARIES	32 140	-	-	32 140	22 123
TRAVEL COSTS	1 012	-	-	1 012	322
POSTAGE	107	-	-	107	40
COMPUTER EXPENSES	4 742	-	-	4 742	557
WORKSHOPS MATERIALS	52	-	-	52	244
PRINTING	-	-	-	-	1 865
ACCOMODATION	-	-	-	-	135
REPAYMENT OF LOANS	1 000	-	-	1 000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	39 054	-	-	39 054	25 286
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	39 054	-	-	39 054	25 286
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 25 089	-	-	- 25 089	47 170
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 25 089	-	-	- 25 089	47 170


Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	NATWEST	21 209	-	-
	PAYPAL	872	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	22 081	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1197384

Accounts



The
ECOLOGICAL
CONVERSION
GROUP

OUR MISSION IS TO HELP OUR CHURCH, MOTIVATED BY FAITH, TO RESPOND TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH AND THE CRY OF THE POOR.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS**
1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023
The Ecological Conversion Group, Registered Charity No: 1197384 in England and Wales

FOREWORD

“The urgency of the impact of climate change has never been clearer. Every continent, the icecaps and the oceans have all seen the impact of the damage being done and the threat to human life, wildlife and biodiversity. But there is a growing voice among people of faith and no faith, among the young, that radical measures are required. It is important that each and every one of us takes our part in caring for our common home, as stewards of creation. The Ecological Conversion Group is making an important contribution to raising the level of awareness and offering practical measures that we can all put into practice. Working together we will make an impact.”

RC Bishop John Arnold, Diocese of Salford

“I welcome the Ecological Conversion Group’s Annual report and the charity’s continued success both in our diocese, and others in England and Wales. Pope Francis calls on us all to ‘care for our common home’, with the Journey to 2030’s vision of the Church, as a vehicle of environmental and social justice, one that people across our community of faith are being galvanised by. I wish all those working as part of this initiative for the flourishing of the natural world, and the safety and security of our brothers and sisters across our global family, every success in the coming months and years.”

RC Bishop Richard Moth, Diocese of Arundel and Brighton



Ecological conversion’ is a commitment, inspired by faith, to change our lives so as to help heal the threefold rupture caused by sin, with God, with other human beings, and with the natural world.

It is the process of change towards living in a right relationship with Creator and creation. Recovering a God-centred life, living in communion with all that surrounds us.

INFORMATION

Charity Name and structure:

The Ecological Conversion Group (registration number 1197384) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered on 6th January 2022. It is represented by the following board of trustees:

- John Paul de Quay (Chair)
- Claire O’Sullivan
- Edward de Quay
- Rosie Read
- Fr Benedict Fadoju
- Dr Emma Gardner (served 01/04/22 - 07/11/22)

As laid out in the constitution, apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of two years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Address:

25 High Street,
Dormansland,
Lingfield,
RH7 6PU

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OBJECTIVES

Taking Pope Francis' Laudato Si' as our guide, our aim is to rebuild social fabric through positive, engaging resources that weave together involvement from all aspects of community, ensuring a holistic approach that integrates environmental and social action.

We help the Church and its wider communities hear both 'the cry of the Earth' and 'the cry of the poor'. We encourage people to respond in an integrated way, motivating through faith, education and awareness raising, as well as encouraging creative solutions for long lasting, transformative, social and ecological change. Our charitable objectives as laid out in our governing document are:

To advance the education of the public, in particular but not exclusively by:

- promoting and creating online resources focussed on integral ecology, focussed on but not limited to members of the Catholic Church;
- providing and assisting in the provision of resources for environmental education in schools and other educational establishments, primarily in the United Kingdom;
- promoting the holistic environmental education of people of all ages in such ways as the charity trustees think fit.

The advancement of the Catholic religion for the benefit of the public mainly, but not exclusively, by:

- promoting the teachings of Pope Francis' Laudato Si' on care of our common home, the promotion of ecological conversion and integral ecology;
- developing the capacity of the Catholic Church to acknowledge and respond to the ecological and social crises as laid out in Pope Francis' Laudato Si'.

To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting the key messages of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si':

- To advance the education of the public, particularly but not exclusively members of the Catholic faith, in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in particular, but not exclusively by:
- promoting the principles of sustainable living that individuals can undertake such as sustainable waste management, recycling and community gardens
- encouraging grassroots organisations, such as Catholic churches and schools, to make sustainable behavioural changes in their communities.

We meet our purposes through the following activities:

- Creation of resources – creating opportunities for churches, schools and religious communities to engage with environmental and social issues.
- Consultancy – helping organisations both national and international to integrate ecological and social issues, making scalable and cost-effective ready-made solutions.
- Talks and workshops – educating schools, parishes and communities on the interconnectedness of social and ecological issues and of our interior motivations.
- Network support – directly engaging with our communities to motivate and encourage action. Giving people the opportunity, capability and motivation to come forward as change makers within their local communities.
- Communications and engagement – sharing of good news stories to inspire others through participation in networks and through our blog.
- Journey to 2030 website – The Journey to 2030 website (www.journeyto2030.org) is key to our vision of creating resources that are accessible to all. It is a hub for people to see and contribute to positive visions of the future for their communities.

TIME LINE OF KEY EVENTS

09/05/2022 Presented on biodiversity for the Southern Diocese Environment Group. <https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/southern-dioceses-environment-network/>

09/06/2022 Journey to 2030 delivered a biodiversity talk to the Care of Creation group at the Association of Catholic Chaplains in Education Conference, Leeds.

27/06/2022 Delivered three workshops to Sixth formers for their ethics day.

22/07/2022 We launched our Let us Dream posters at the National Justice and Peace Conference and ran a mega workshop with the whole conference (more on this below).

01/10/2022 Our first 'Let us Dream' workshop in Launceston Deanery, Plymouth.

22/10/2022 'Let Us Dream' Deanery workshop in Bamber Bridge, Salford Diocese, as part of the Guardians of Creation research project. <https://journeyto2030.org/let-us-dream-activity-workshops-begin/>

09/11/2022 We delivered an assembly on discipleship to St Gregory's Year 7s (Archdiocese of Southwark).

12/11/2022 Delivered a workshop using the 'building a caring community' activity posters with the Poole deanery of Plymouth diocese for their World Day of the Poor.

16/11/22 Took part in a round table discussion on behaviour change as part of the Guardians of creation project.

03/12/22 Our second deanery day in Salford diocese for the St John Southworth deanery.

09/01/2023 Presented Journey to 2030 resources at the Northern and Southern dioceses environmental meeting.

13-15/01/2023 In partnership with Boarbank Hall, we delivered an online workshop about Laudato Si' in your parish. With input from Bishops

David Oakley and Terry Draine.

28/01/2023 Delivered talk to Arundel & Brighton's Justice and Peace Assembly

04/02/2023 Conducted 'Let us Dream' workshop in York deanery, Middlesborough Diocese.

07/02/2023 Delivered talk to Chichester parish, Diocese of Arundel & Brighton.

13/02/2023 Presented at Southern Dioceses Environmental Network.

17-19/02/2023 In partnership with Boarbank Hall, we delivered an online workshop about Laudato Si' in your parish. With Input from Bishops Patrick McKinney and Ralph Heskett.

07/03/2023 Conducted 'Let us Dream' workshop in Cathedral deanery, Diocese of Arundel & Brighton.

08/03/2023 Attended Guardians of Creation research paper launch (more on this below).

24/03/2023 Delivered talk to Sixth Form students at Cardinal Pole school, Homerton.

25/03/23 Participated in Integral Ecology farming conference at the Laudato Si' Research institute, Oxford.

27/03/23 Participated in the School for Synodality Conference event.

Total number of workshops/talks: 22
Total number of people attending talks and workshops: 1178

RESOURCES

The Journey to 2030 website

Since launching last in 2021, we have been working hard on building and expanding The Journey to 2030 website to show the vision of the Church as a vehicle of environmental and social justice, springing from our faith. It serves as a useful resource to any communities of individuals wanting to transform the world.

In the last year, we have been consistently adding new content; resources, blogs, and good news stories from our global community – sharing expertise, tools, and support to enable our Church to work together to make a difference. Check out our new section for schools.

As the website grows and reaches new audiences, we are adding and adapting based on your feedback and ideas – so please let us know what you'd like to see and, importantly, if you have any good news stories to share in our blog.

Visit www.journeyto2030.org to see what we have been up to.

THE JOURNEY TO 2030 SCHOOLS

Helping school communities dream of, and build a brighter future for all

Your school journey to 2030

HOW CAN BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE START WITH OUR SCHOOLS?

For each community, progress in building the Kingdom of God will look different, as it meets different needs and embraces and encourages different gifts. To encourage your school community in this, We have some activities to offer

IN THIS SECTION YOU WILL FIND

- Our 'Let Us Dream' creative activity
- 'Building a Caring Community' activity poster packs
- Other resources.

THE JOURNEY TO 2030

helping our communities to dream of, and build a better future, for all.

JOIN OUR CREATIVE CHALLENGE 'LET US DREAM'

WE NEED TO TAKE DREAMING AND IMAGINING SERIOUSLY IF WE ARE TO CREATE THE HOPE THE WORLD NEEDS TO SEE RIGHT NOW.

[Go to Let Us Dream Page](#)

FIND A LOCAL NETWORK

FIND ONE OF THE MANY CHURCH SOCIAL ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORKS ACROSS THE UK

[Find a local network](#)

'BUILDING A CARING COMMUNITY' ACTIVITY POSTER PACK

A TOOL FOR COMMUNITY MISSION THROUGH THE LENS OF THE LAUDATO SI GOALS

[Find out more](#) [Buy from the Shop](#)

BUILDING A CARING COMMUNITY

A Guide for parishes, schools and faith communities to help care for creation in all its forms.

[EXPLORE PARISHES](#) [EXPLORE SCHOOLS](#)

Resources for community action

To help you choose and maintain your efforts as a community we have selected some useful resources and links. A project should be sustainable in more ways than one.

- IDEAS FOR ACTIONS
- AWARDS AND PROGRAMMES
- PROJECT PLANNING RESOURCES
- GETTING A TEAM TOGETHER

- I've Come Here To Work, Live and Pray
- Building a Caring Community
- Meet a Parish Community
- Meet a Network Community
- Meet a School Community
- Meet a Youth Community

“Building a Caring Community” Poster Pack

Our latest resource, the “Building a Caring Communities” poster activity back, is being used across the country (and world) by groups and individuals to help their communities dream of and build a better future. This is a resource that uses the “See-Judge-Act” framework as a guide to creating a parish or community project tailored to local and global needs. The current version of the pack has been downloaded/printed 49 times; we are in the process of evaluating the resources to improve them based on the feedback of those who have used them.

THIS RESOURCE PACK HELPS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS..



SETTINGS

Suitable for a range of community settings including parishes, schools, religious communities and families.



GOALS

Engages communities in the Church’s Laudato Si’ goals allowing an exploration of integral ecology.



PROJECTS

Can be used to infuse care for creation into any project or program, fitting into the ‘see’ of a see-judge-act-framework.



PRIORITISES AREAS FOR ACTION

Identifies what needs to be done better. Helps identify a direction for action.



COMMUNITY CAPACITY

Builds community and helps form teams.



INTEGRATED ACTION

Helps communities integrate environmental, social and spiritual mission. Centred on love of God.



SYNOD

Integrates ecological and social action into our communities synodality.



RECOGNITION OF EXISTING EFFORTS

Identifies what is already being done well. Calls for celebration.



AWARDS

Developed to be fully compatible with and encourage the use of existing awards and programs.



ASSESSMENTS

Can be used as an ecological and social audit or assessment.



FACILITATOR HANDBOOK

A4 12 page facilitators guide includes:

- Guide to using the posters
- Group discussion guide
- Simple explanations of key concepts: Integral Ecology & Ecological Conversion
- Reflections and guidance on the Laudato Si’ Goals.
- A selection of Prayers

A2 POSTER

Large poster for display and wider community engagement. It can equally be used to engage people who are unable to attend a meeting, draw attention to the mission, and display your parishes findings with pride or a steely determination to do better.

A3 POSTER AND ACTIVITY CARDS

A smaller focus poster and cards for a group activity. This is the same as the A2 poster in a format suitable for group discussions.



'Let us Dream' Creative Challenge

As a part of our vision for building a better future, we have been inviting parishes, schools, and communities to get creative and dare to dream! Our Let us Dream resource is a place where we invite individuals and groups to share their creative dreams for a world that enables flourishing for all of Creation.

The Let us Dream activity is a simple one where you prayerfully reflect on your hopes for the future with Christ at its centre and what this practically looks like— and use any creative medium you like to share this dream.

We are building our online gallery of these dreams and are always looking for new submissions.

There are materials to help get imagination flowing on the website: <https://journeyto2030.org/let-us-dream/> including an excellent reflection on the 'dream school' by Sr Margaret Atkins: <https://journeyto2030.org/the-dream-school/>

Dreams from schools in Lancaster diocese.



A Dream from the NJPN conference



A Dream from a Salford diocese deanery day

ACTIVITIES & UK COLLABORATIONS

Deanery Workshops

In October 2022, we started our first deanery workshops; training days using the Building a Caring Community poster pack to build local network designed to:

- Help participants realise the potential of our communities to make real change in the world.
- To encourage them to dream about and share the world they would like to see.
- To help form a deanery network of people keen to make a change.
- To give training on using Journey to 2030 resources, so that by the end of the session you will have the confidence to run these activities in your parishes, schools and communities.

We will be continuing to run these workshops in deaneries over the coming months.

Read more about it [here](#).



Boarbank Hall Retreats

Having completed six online retreats during the pandemic, we were delighted to run two more in January and February of 2023. In partnership with Boarbank Hall, we ran two weekend programmes with contributions by Bishop David Oakley, Bishop Terry Draine, Bishop Ralf Heskett and Bishop Patrick McKinney. These were a great opportunity to meet new people and reconnect with others who had previously participated in a retreat. These retreats, particularly listening to the challenges faced by individuals wanting to do more, have helped form many of our resources. You can catch up on what the Bishops had to say here: <https://theecg.org/about/what-do-our-bishops-have-to-say-about-care-for-the-planet/>

Sue Grubic, Faith & Justice Worker for Lancaster Diocese has written a lovely reflection on her experience at one of our Boarbank Hall Retreats from earlier this year. You can read all about it on page 4 of the MouthPiece [here](#).



Sr Margaret Atkins focused on the theme of Hope, while John Paul spoke on 'Folly and Fellowship' what we can learn about tackling our ecological crisis from Tolkien.



National Justice and Peace Conference

We had the pleasure of being invited to speak at the annual National Justice and Peace Conference held in Derbyshire, UK. John Paul spoke to the whole delegation about signs of hope in our times, introducing The Journey to 2030 'Let us Dream' activity and inviting people to come with us in re-imagining a better future. We led the final input to the conference, talking of our need to be co-creators, rather than spectators in helping our Church communities to be hubs of the change we would like to see in the world. What does a Christ centred community look like? And how can Justice and Peace flow from it? Arming the participants with art-pens and paper we asked them as groups to sit and discuss practically what this future looks like, as the first step towards getting there on our Journey to 2030.

You can hear his talk here:

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference-reports/john-paul-de-quay-ecg-signs-of-hope-journey-to-2030/>

And read the write up of the conference here:

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/>



Right: Report of the event in the Tablet

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Conference explores concept of hope across various cultures

MADOC CAIRNS

THE NATIONAL Justice and Peace Network's 2022 conference last weekend saw experts, activists and campaigning organisations hosting a series of conversations on the theme "Hope Is A Verb With Its Sleeves Rolled Up".

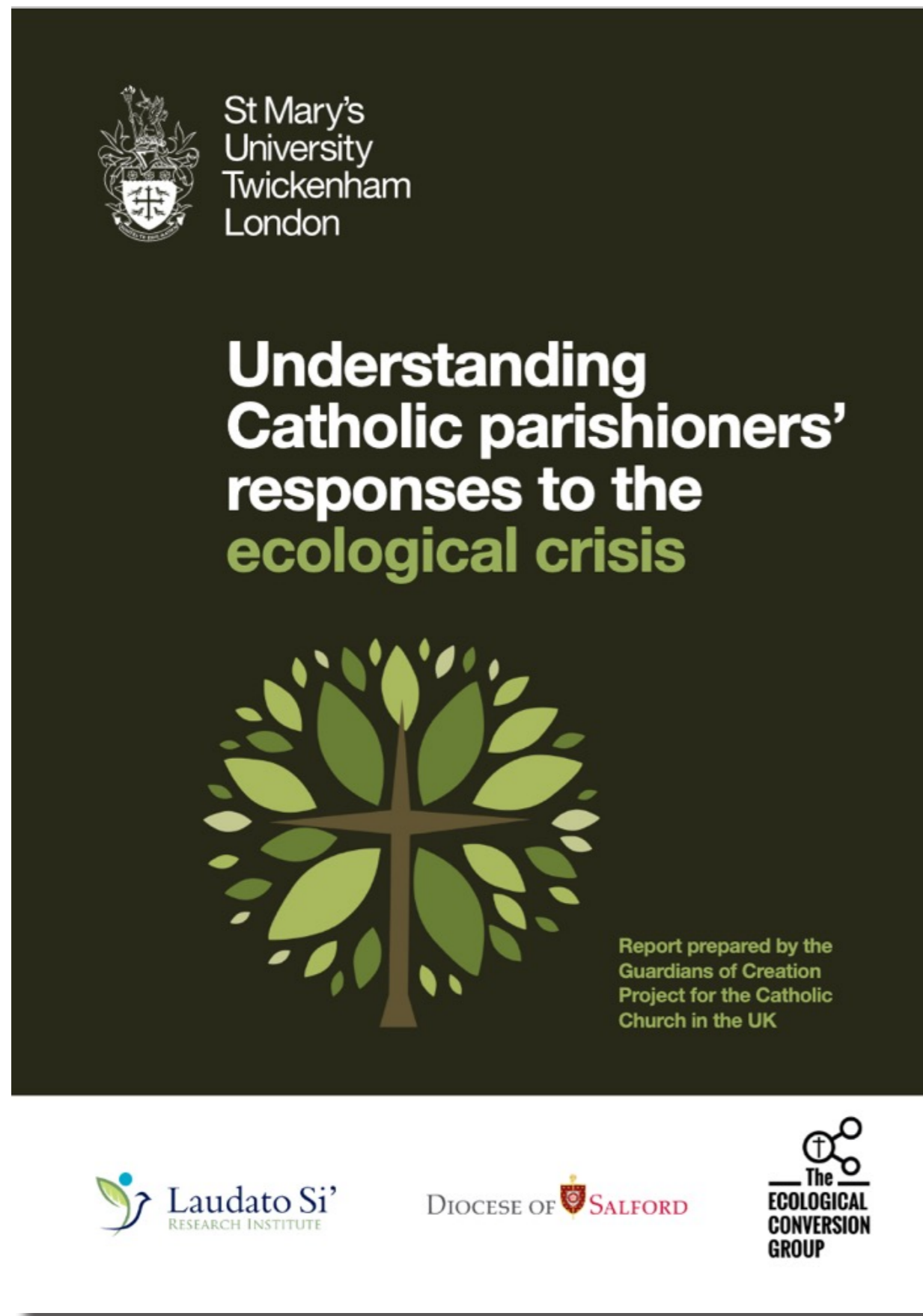
Around 150 delegates listened to speakers including former diplomats, peace campaigners, environmental activists and conflict-resolution experts over the three-day conference, held in Swanwick, Derbyshire.

The keynote speaker, Philip McDonagh, poet, diplomat and academic, gave a talk reflecting on the concept of hope in the encyclicals of Pope Benedict XVI.

Following on from the wartime insights of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien, McDonagh proposed that Christians help formulate "axioms of the historical imagination" that could "provide a common criterion of evaluation across cultures". Such a proposal could create "community even among people and groups who never interact directly".

Other speakers included Patrick Devine, chair of the Shalom Centre for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation, who spoke about his award-winning peace-building work in East Africa. Other events at the conference included workshops on universal credit, prison reform, tax reform and a film about activists opposing the destruction of forests for coal mines in Germany and the UK.

John Paul de Quay of the Ecological Conversion group gave a talk on his organisation's drive to move Catholic parishes and other Christian groups towards ecological and social sustainability.



Guardians of Creation research project

Working in partnership with The Diocese of Salford, St Mary's University (Twickenham) and The Laudato Si' Research Institute, (Campion Hall, Oxford), we were delighted to collaborate on The Guardians of Creation research project. Edward (ECG trustee) co-led the project, whilst John Paul consulted on the education and behavioural change work streams.

We were very happy to be contributors to the Guardians of Creation's (Diocese of Salford) research paper Understanding Catholic Parishioners' Responses to the Ecological Crisis, which was launched alongside 3 other reports at the Salford Cathedral Centre in March 2023. As well as supporting Jakub Kowalewski, the writer of this paper, we took part in the round table discussions and, the paper took 2 of our deanery days as case studies to look at the different barriers that people face in "living life to the full" through ecological conversion in their communities.

Read all about the launch here:

<https://laudatosicentre.org.uk/general/guardians-of-creation-launches-decarbonisation-guidance/>

The Guardians of Creation resources can be found here: <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/research/areas/theology-and-ethics/guardians-of-creation-project/about.aspx>

Right: Jakub Kowalewski presenting the study.

Below: The Guardians of Creation team with Bishop John Arnold.



Lancaster Diocese Justice and Peace commission

The team at Lancaster Diocese are positively running with the 2030 resources. Read about their work in schools [here](#):

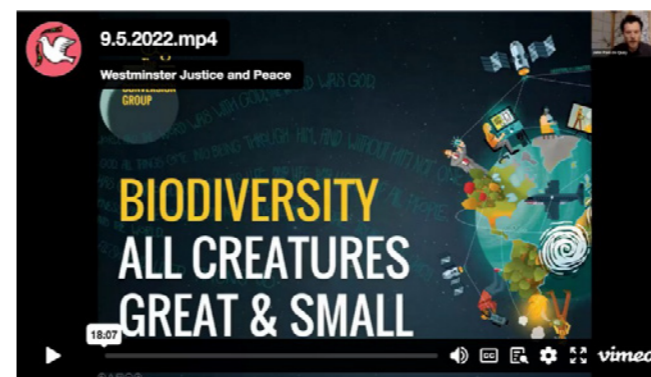
Middlesbrough Diocese environment group

Barbara Hungin, Justice and Peace lead for Middlesbrough diocese has been talking at a range of events around Middlesbrough and has distributed many of our activity packs. As well as running 'Let us dream' workshops in her diocese. We were very pleased to run a workshop for the diocesan environment group and help form a network.



Nottingham Diocese

Nottingham Diocese have created their own programme for ecological action called 'Pioneer Parishes'. We were very pleased to help create their own web page linked to the Journey to 2030 website. We also partnered with them to help create the 'Ethical Consumption' and 'Awards' pages on the 2030 website. <https://journeyto2030.org/pioneer-parishes/>



Southern Dioceses Environment Network (SDEN)

As a part of the planning team for the SDEN, we have continued to work together to plan monthly Zoom meetings which cover updates from each diocese, guest speakers, reflections, and sharing of new environmental action resources. Attendees have found these meetings very helpful in both building community and giving ideas for action.

We also exhibited the Journey to 2030 materials at the SDEN mass of Creation at Farm Street Church, Mayfair.

World Day of the Poor – Plymouth Diocese

We participated in Plymouth Diocese's World Day of the Poor event. John Paul led a presentation exploring the concept of integral ecology as well as sharing some of our resources. You can read more about the event [here](#).



Photos courtesy of Tanya Trevena

Leeds Diocese

Consulted in formulating a DRAFT diocesan Strategy for Communicating Laudato Si' and encouraging engagement with the environment.

East Anglia Diocese

Together with Paul Maddison, we have worked on parish audits, which have helped us develop our own poster packs and reflections on the Laudato Si' goals.

Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Justice and Peace Conference

We were key members on the organising group for planning and delivery of the conference, ensuring that the theme of integral ecology was used as a narrative. John Paul delivered a talk on getting closer to producing food as a means of understanding our place in God's creation.

Laudato Si' Research Institute

We took part in the [Integral Ecology and Sustainable Agriculture Conference](#), run by the Laudato Si' Research Institute, Campion Hall, Oxford, which looked at the Church's role in bringing us closer to God, people and land.



INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

The European Laudato Si' Alliance (ELSIA)

The poster packs being used on a Taizé retreat. Our 'building a caring community' activity packs have been demonstrated at the European Laudato Si' Alliance retreat in Taizé by our friend of the ECG and ELSIA member Prof. Mark Charlesworth.



Laudato Si' Action Platform

The ECG have continued working as members of the parishes and diocese working group for the [Laudato Si' action platform](#), run by the Vatican's Dicastery for integral human development. We help bring our experiences of working in parishes and dioceses to the project, as well as discussing our experiences globally and exchanging resources and expertise with the other members. The ECG was involved in helping run a 1st year evaluation of the program as well as having input on the formulation of the Laudato Si' Goal: 'Ecological Spirituality'.



Caritas Internationalis

We have attended the 'Together we' conference on integral ecology projects. Caritas Internationalis have been incredibly helpful in feedback on our 'building a caring community' activity packs, which we hope will be useful for bringing an integral ecology lens to social action projects in a range of settings.



TESTIMONIALS

"Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si' both inspired and galvanised a group of us within the Middlesbrough Diocese Justice and Peace Commission. Having produced an Environmental Policy for the Diocese we were then considering the most effective way of helping parishes and communities to engage with the Laudato Si goals. The NJPN conference in July 2021 was our first encounter with the Journey to 2030 material created by the Ecological Conversion Group. It was immediately evident that here was a brilliant resource, artistically created which not only captured the imagination but also used the concept of integral ecology through the Laudato Si goals as a focus for parish and school mission.

Each goal has a written reflection to focus and encourage the group. The idea of a Journey is a good one and the material accepts that each group will be in a different position on that journey and that many are already engaged in activities which promote the care of our common home. The material has a wealth of practical suggestions for both individual and group action. Within the Middlesbrough Diocese we have both used the material and distributed packs at various Diocesan meetings. John Paul facilitated our Diocesan Justice and Peace meeting in February this year – from which we established a networking group to take the material into their own parishes. We were also able to promote the sixth form syllabus within the Diocesan Education Service. Most recently I have given a presentation to a group of nuns at their annual meeting who took packs home and were enthusiastic about the possibilities of use in various settings. We have appreciated working in partnership with the Ecological Conversion Group through John Paul, whose advice, creativity and encouragement has been fundamental to our own Diocesan journey."

Barbara Hungin, Justice and Peace worker for Middlesborough Diocese, sharing her thoughts on our resources.

"The Ecological Conversion Group material on the Journey to 2030 material has also published 'Building a Caring Community' pack for parishes and schools to help with this process so please access the link below if you are interested in purchasing this resource. The website is also a fabulous resource and provides information on the Laudato Si goals/ CST links so please do use it to assist in curriculum objectives."

Sue Grubic, Faith and Justice Worker of the Diocese of Lancaster, to schools of the diocese.

"It was a pleasure to meet you and hear your brilliant presentation. I can't thank you enough for your work spreading the Laudato si' mission. Your approach regarding the role of the dioceses seems nothing short of revolutionary... (a XXI Century continuation, I suppose, of the teachings of Vatican II...)"

A workshop participant.

"It was inspirational working with you, thank for all your encouragement and support."

Fr Paul Maddison

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2022-2023 has been The Ecological Conversion Group's first full year as a registered charity; we have ended the year with a total income of £72,456, of which £25,286 has been spent. Cash funds for the year end are £48,170.

Reserves Policy

It is the Ecological Conversion Group's policy to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds (if possible) which equates to one years unrestricted payments equivalent of at least £60,000, to cover emergency situations and allow security and forward planning of the delivery of our objectives.

Receipts and Payments (1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023)

RECEIPTS	£
Grants	59,111
Donations	100
Charitable Activities	12,245
Loans	1,000
SUB TOTAL	72,456
PAYMENTS	£
Salaries	22,123
Travel Costs	322
Postage	40
Computer Expenses	244
Workshop Materials	557
Printing	1,865
Accommodation	135
SUB TOTAL	25,286
TOTAL FUNDS THIS YEAR END (all unrestricted)	47,170
Liabilities: Loans	1000
PAYE	4904

EXPLANATION FOR ANY DISCREPANCIES

See reserves policy. Our reserves balance has yet to be realised.

TRUSTEE DECLARATIONS

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



John Paul de Quay

Trustee

Date: 20/01/2024

The Ecological Conversion Group have chosen Costanza Tognini to independently examine the accounts. She is a supporter of The Ecological Conversion Group and has a long-standing career in institutional fund-raising.

Independent examiner's statement

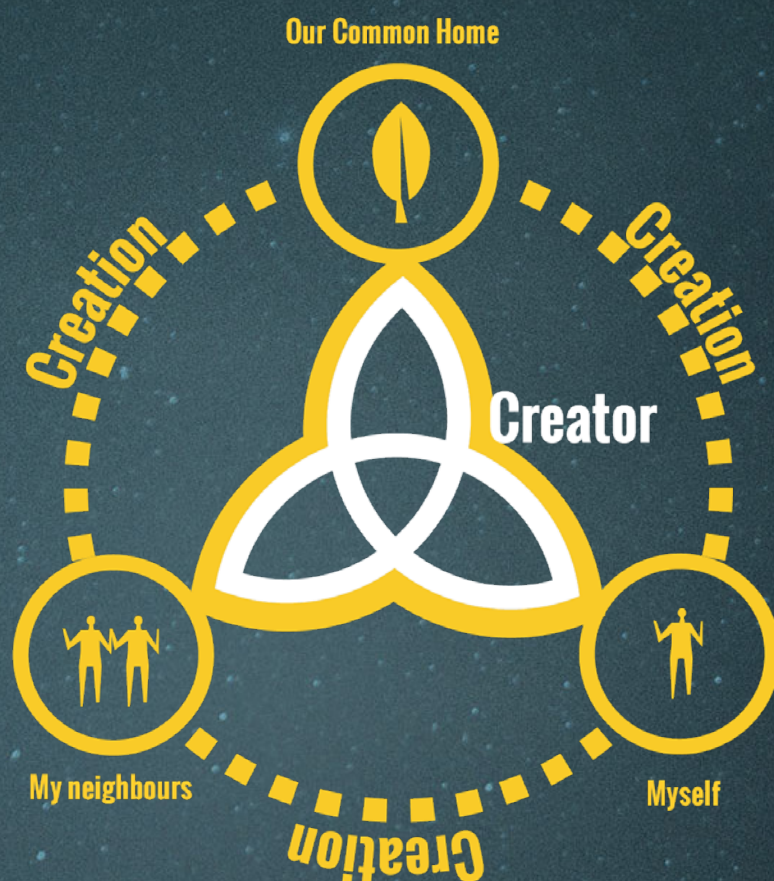
I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act, or that the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Costanza Tognini
costanzatognini@gmail.com

Thank you to all of our friends, trustees, colleagues, partners and supporters for making this great work happen.



“The divine Persons are subsistent relations, and the world, created according to the divine model, is a web of relationships. Creatures tend towards God, and in turn it is proper to every living being to tend towards other things, so that throughout the universe we can find any number of constant and secretly interwoven relationships. This leads us not only to marvel at the manifold connections existing among creatures, but also to discover a key to our own fulfilment. The human person grows more, matures more and is sanctified more to the extent that he or she enters into relationships, going out from themselves to live in communion with God, with others and with all creatures. In this way, they make their own that trinitarian dynamism which God imprinted in them when they were created. Everything is interconnected, and this invites us to develop a spirituality of that global solidarity which flows from the mystery of the Trinity.”

Pope Francis, referencing St Thomas Aquinas, *Laudato Si'* 240