

# TIME TO ACT FOR JUSTICE, PEACE & ECOLOGY

OCTOBER 2021



A passion for justice, a desire for peace and a concern for the integrity of God's creation are all essential to the living out of the Gospel. They are not optional extras, but core components of Christian faith.

Pope Francis is expected to speak at the Glasgow Climate Summit. He will call on human society to listen to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor, as he did in his famous environment encyclical Laudato Si. Catholic parishes are becoming better equipped to address the climate crisis as part of their discipleship and mission and to make a significant contribution to civil society efforts to secure adequate national and international action at COP26.

Sometimes poverty and environmental problems seem insuperable. But let us remember the words of St Francis: "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."



## ***SIGN THE HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALTHY PLANET PETITION***

Call for climate and biodiversity action ahead of the UN Summits on Climate in November and Biodiversity next April. It is our responsibility as Catholics to lift up the voices of the most vulnerable and advocate on their behalf. The petition asks that the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis be tackled together.



## ***ENCOURAGE MPS TO SUPPORT THE CLIMATE BILL***

This Bill is a ground-breaking blueprint for serious climate and ecological action in the UK. Its aim is to make climate targets into law so that government is bound to them. Resources including 'A Faith Response to the CEE Bill' at Green Christian: <https://greenchristian.org.uk/the-climate-and-ecological-emergency-bill>.



## ***COLUMBAN SCHOOLS' COMPETITION***

Young people 13-18 years are asked to consider: Who in the world today is doing something about inequality, injustice, exclusion and environmental degradation? What can they teach us? How can we draw on our own faith and personal experience to be changemakers? Please encourage young people to enter.

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. Amen

