

Laudato Si' Care for our common home



Theme 6: Let's cut our energy waste

Pope Francis writes that: 'It is a false notion that an infinite quantity of energy and resources are available.' He says it's essential to reduce our use of energy, particularly fossil fuels, and that we should use energy efficiency to help pay off the debts of those most affected by unequal trade and climate change. Here are some facts:

- In the UK 50% of all the energy we use is from fossil fuels (www.worldData.info)
- 40% of all energy use is through transport, and air transport is 23% of that. We now fly 3 times as much as we did in 1970. (ONS, 2017)
- Energy use by TVs on standby has gone up by 350% since 2003. (www.gov.uk BEIS)
- On average, in the UK each person creates 6 metric tonnes of CO2 from fuel emissions (www.csusa.org), double our 'fair share'.
- Our use of energy (Kwh) doubled from 1962 to 2013, since when it has dropped slightly. (World Bank)

How you can help. Find out more > >

Ideas

How you can reduce your energy use

I used this idea.

1) Turn off home appliances when not in use.

2) Avoid using standby mode for TVs and other equipment.

3) Think about how much you need to use your car, and reduce your mileage. Try cutting one journey a week to start.

4) Buy local products where possible to reduce food miles.

5) Explore using smart technology and timers to control your heating and hot water energy use.

6) Choose 'A' rated energy efficient new products.

7) Share your ideas with family and friends, and on the Parish Facebook site: St James & St William of York Reading

Find out more ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P918zingLjE> James Brew discusses how small changes to your house can make huge differences to the environment.

www.foe.ie/justoneearth/carboncalculator Use this tool to work out your carbon footprint

https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/jan/19/how_to_reduce_carbon_footprint Really useful tips.

<https://www.reading-buses.co.uk/services> Details of local routes and times.

Reflection 6: Since last month, have you been able to make changes to improve the quality of yours and others' lives?