

Caring for Creation

As Christians we are grateful for the gift of Creation and want to play our part in caring for it, not least so that we can leave it in good order for future generations. Indeed, the Five Marks of Mission highlights the specific importance of this work: *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.*

There are many ways in which we can embrace this work as a positive part of our church life. Examples include:

- Switching to a green energy supplier. Options include The Big Church Switch promoted by Christian Aid and Tearfund, Ecotricity. or the Parish Buying Energy Basket.
- Participating in the Living Churchyards scheme.
- Installing renewable energy systems where possible, and ensuring that energy is conserved through good levels of insulation and maintenance.
- Encouraging parishioners to review their household energy use, and to share lifts to church where possible.
- Reviewing the energy efficiency of church buildings
- Working towards an Eco Church award
- Sign up for daily reflections and resources for the Season of Creation (1st September – 4th October each year).

The Diocesan Environment Group is available to support parishes with these and other initiatives. The Group works with the local Arocha coordinators and in partnership with others through Ecochurch Southwest, ensuring that the support and information you need can be identified and made available.

Some resources and ideas are available elsewhere on the Diocesan Website and at EcoChurch Southwest.

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Stinsford Parish Church; PV panels are cleverly hidden behind the parapet.