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THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

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Catholics and COP27, new Director of Education Services sought, workshops, retreats and lectures

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Catholic voices support COP27

Bishop Stephen Wright and bishops from other dioceses met with Catholics for Christian Climate Action in Leeds ahead of the plenary meeting of the English and Welsh Bishops' Conference in Leeds on Monday.

The group held a banner reading 'Loss and Damage is a Pro-Life Issue' referring to the effects of the harm caused by human-generated climate change.

Bishop John Arnold, CBEW Spokesperson for the Environment, said: "We must all take our part in facing a crisis which is global and we all have a part to play in repairing the damage and living in hope as Christians using the gospel values to promote a healthy future in which everyone may prosper."

At the start of COP27, Bishop John challenged the UN climate summit attendees to develop solutions to the "defining challenge of our generation".

Parishes and Communities

Parishes and communities are taking action around COP27: Our churches in Worcester joined an [ecumenical Walk of Witness](#).

Romero MAC schools [hosted an eco-conference](#): the academy-wide forum was set up to address climate change after pupils wrote to the senior leadership team at Romero Catholic Academy to ask what they planned to do in response to the challenges raised at COP26 in Glasgow last year.

At St Peter's, Bromsgrove is a Live Simply notice board in church with a prayer poster for success of COP 27

and that we will be good stewards of God's creation

Nearly 100% of Schools Registered for LiveSimply

Nearly 100% of Diocesan schools have now registered for the LiveSimply Award – would you like to start this in your parish?

Please contact climateaction@rcaob.org.uk if we can help with this.

42 Heat Decarbonisation Plans Created

The Birmingham Diocesan Education Service (BDES) secured nearly £1m of funding for heat decarbonisation plans.

42 school plans have now been completed- these are very detailed documents which include an action plan and a number of outcomes for schools to help themselves and the environment. The BDES is encouraging behavioural change in schools such as habitually turning lights off and not leaving equipment on standby.

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/environment



Director of Education Services

The Archdiocese is seeking a visionary Director of Education Services to serve its 237 schools.

Catholic Education is vital to the Archdiocese, which has placed young people and families at the heart of its vision. The schools will play a significant role in building even closer relationships and co-responsibility between parish, school and home.

Archbishop Bernard Longley said: *"The person we are looking for will thrive on change and have the energy and communication skills necessary to transform structures and reimagine the relationship between all partners."*

Could this be you, or someone you know? **Apply by Monday 28 November.**

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs

Workshop: Supporting the Imprisoned

Would you like to find out more about how you can support our brothers and sisters who are affected by imprisonment? If so, Pact (Prison Advice & Care Trust)'s JustPeople workshops may be for you.

The workshops are free to attend, come with no strings attached, and offer an opportunity to reflect upon Scripture, Church Teaching and Catholic Social Teaching, through the lens of people affected by imprisonment.

An online JustPeople Workshop is taking place on **Thursday, 1 December, 9.00am – 1pm**, via Zoom.



www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/events



"In Defence of the Soul"

On **Wednesday 23 November 2022 at 4pm**, Dr Ralph Weir will deliver the seminar "In Defence of the Soul" in the Chapel of Pusey House, St Giles, Oxford.

This event is free and open to the public.

As part of the Recollection Series at Pusey House, Dr Ralph Weir of the University of Lincoln will ask what a culturally and scientifically informed person should think about the idea of the soul, discussing a number of commonplace misconceptions, and reflecting on why the idea of the soul evokes such intense hostility in today's intellectual climate.

He will conclude by explaining why he thinks the idea of the soul is here to stay.

www.ianramseycentre.ox.ac.uk



SVP 18-33 Retreat

25-27 November, The Briery Retreat Centre, Ilkley Yorkshire.

An opportunity for students and young adults, a weekend retreat of prayer, reflection and mission in the Vincentian Spirituality.

During the weekend, there will be talks by inspirational speakers, moments of prayer and reflection as well as a visit to Leeds Community Support Project where we will experience some of the vital work of the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP).

Cost: £35

To book, email: youngvincentians@svp.org.uk



Final November Data Protection Course Dates

Following the success of the previous Introduction to GDPR and Working Safely sessions, more dates have been released.

Debbie Jones, our Diocesan Data Compliance Manager will be hosting online sessions on:

7:30 pm Wednesday 23 November

10:30 am Thursday 24 November

The sessions will run for approximately 45 minutes, including time for questions, and will provide guidance, such as where to find useful GDPR resources, what you should do if you think there has been a data breach and much more.

They are ideal for parish secretaries, new parish staff members, parish safeguarding reps and all others who handle personal data in our parishes.

If you would like to sign up to a session please contact Debbie on 0121 230 6271 or via email:

debbie.jones@rcaob.org.uk



Annual Mass for Deceased Permanent Deacons

Annual Mass for the Deceased Permanent Deacons of the Archdiocese will be held at **12 noon on Wednesday 23 November 2022**. St Thomas More Church, Coventry, CV3 5DE.

Fr Harry Curtis will be the Celebrant.

The Mass can be watched online via the parish live stream link.

<https://stmcov.org/>



Supporting your parish

You have asked us how you can continue giving to your parish.

Parishes still greatly need your support.

We do though recognise that many parishioners may be struggling financially, and there is no expectation to give where you are unable to do so.

You can donate via standing order or single donation.

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work



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Our accounts are being used more than ever before to share news, events and information.

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It's great to see information coming into us which we can share with others, please keep it coming!

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