

A Year of Action



For the Church of the 21st Century, good ecology is not an optional extra but a matter of justice. It is therefore central to what it means to be a Christian

Archbishop Rowan Williams

www.stmarysnorthmymms.org.uk

Righting the wrongs



These are the principles which, as a Christian community, will guide our actions:

Spiritual

To find time in our worship to wonder at creation, seek repentance for our thoughtless ways and ask for the strength to move forward as individuals and as a Church community.

To raise awareness of children and young people in the parish as what it means to care for creation

To offer opportunities to explore and understand the ethical and spiritual dimensions of 'green' discipleship in order to make a real & lasting difference

Practical

To manage our church premises in accordance with good environmental practice

To manage financial, catering and purchasing matters in ways that show practical care for God's creation

To maintain our churchyard in a way that protects and celebrates the variety of plants & animals that see it as home.

Community

To adopt & advocate a personal lifestyle which is less harmful and more mindful of the needs of all of God's Creation

To work as a part of the local community to promote sustainable living

To act in a way that shows that we care that what we do and say affects the world's most disadvantaged people



Restoring the balance

Commitments lead to action – as we start on this journey of repentance and renewal things to look out for over the coming year are:

- 1. **Worship with a focus on creation**
- 2. **Junior Church will be thinking about creation as a special theme in the Summer Term**
The children will also be involved in developing the Nature Trail
- 3. **We will be starting some challenging discussions**
We will have a series of invited speakers starting in June
- 4. **There will be an energy survey of Church Buildings which will inform the drawing up of an improvement plan**
We will monitor energy consumption in the church buildings
- 5. **We will increase the use of Fairtrade products and move to using ecofriendly cleaning materials**
We will develop a waste management plan based on existing initiatives.
- 6. **We will be seeing what plants and animals we have in our churchyard**
We will then draw up a Churchyard Management Plan and look to launch a Nature Trail in February 2010
- 7. **We will support and promote sustainable lifestyle changes through means such as the Parish Magazine and website.**
- 8. **We will continue to support and promote global programmes such as Christian Aid, World Vision, Water Aid, Fairtrade etc.**

St. Mary's, North Mymms



Creator God

Creator God – maker and shaper of
all that is,
seen and unseen:

You are in the expanse and depth
of Creation, and in the processes
that make life possible.

Yet we are distracted by the gods
we make ourselves and our
lives become fractured and fragmented.

In our brokenness we disturb the
Earth's capacity to hold us.

Instead we find climate uncertainty
and global injustice.

Call us back from the brink.

Help us to choose love not fear,
to change ourselves and not the planet;
to act justly for the sake of the vulnerable
and

make a difference today

for life tomorrow.

In your name

Amen

Martyn Goss, Director, Council for Church and Society, Diocese of Exeter (2008)



Help us right the wrongs and restore the balance

To find out more about what goes on at St. Mary's:

Call **01727 825578**

Visit **www.stmarysnorthmymms.org.uk**

Email **northmymmschurch@btinternet.com**

St. Mary's, North Mymms Park, North Mymms, Hatfield AL9 7TN