

Living Gently on the Earth

A Strategy to take action on environmental issues

St Columba's Church, Jersey

Our Vision

We believe our everyday choices—how we spend, consume, and use resources—shape the world around us.

We are committed to:

- Living gently on the Earth
- Supporting one another in sustainable choices
- Using our voice to challenge environmental injustice
- Caring for God's creation in practical, visible ways

Our Focus Areas

1. Identify Environmental Issues

We will identify and respond to environmental issues at local, national and global levels.

Actions:

- Review key environmental challenges affecting Jersey (e.g. biodiversity loss, waste, coastal impact, food systems)
- Highlight global issues such as climate change, deforestation and pollution
- Select one or two priority themes each year for focused action
- Identify and support a local environmental charity or project

Useful resource:

<https://www.stcolumbas.je/eco-tips-events/>

(list of local eco and environmental groups, organisations and projects)

2. Communication

We will share information, practical ideas and encouragement to support sustainable living within our church and the wider community.

Actions:

- Provide regular updates through church notices, newsletters and social media
- Share simple, achievable eco-tips (energy use, food, travel, waste reduction)
- Highlight local initiatives, events and opportunities
- Use church events, services and noticeboards to raise awareness
- Create seasonal campaigns (e.g. Lent, Harvest, Season of Creation)

3. Getting Involved & Volunteering

We will encourage active participation in caring for the environment through practical action.

Actions:

- Organise or promote local volunteering opportunities (e.g. beach cleans, conservation work)
- Partner with local organisations and projects
- Create opportunities for all ages to participate

4. Advocacy

We will use our collective voice to support positive environmental change and challenge injustice.

Actions:

- Raise awareness of environmental issues linked to justice and inequality
- Support local and/or national campaigns aligned with our values
- Engage respectfully with decision-makers and public consultations
- Encourage informed, thoughtful action as individuals and as a church

5. Financial Support & Ethical Finance

We recognise that how we use money is a powerful expression of our values.

Actions:

- Promote ethical and sustainable financial choices within the congregation
- Review church spending, banking and investments where possible
- Support organisations and businesses that align with environmental values
- Encourage giving to environmental charities and projects
- Share guidance on ethical investing and responsible consumption