

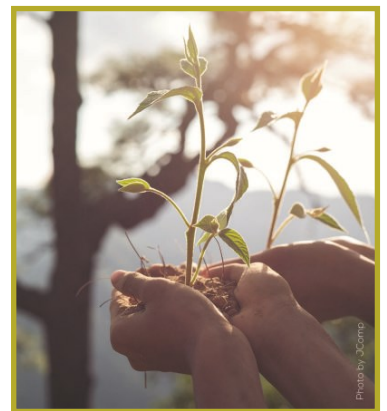
In 2020, we honour five years since Pope Francis brought to the world his prophetic encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, in which he cries out to each one of us to change our ways, to become guardians of creation and to lead the way in caring for our common home.

On this important anniversary, we wanted to share with you the tremendous work that has been done to bring us to the point where nearly all the parishes in England & Wales, and in the Diocese of Westminster, are using green energy, including green gas.

Much has changed since 2015

Climate emergency is talked of daily. Courageously, our children have taken to the streets, amplifying the call of Pope Francis to protect the earth, its resources and our global brothers and sisters.

And most recently, during the extremely difficult times of coronavirus, from which we have all suffered in our different ways, we have glimpsed a simpler world where birdsong soars, wildlife dares to come closer and the air is cleaner.



DELIVERING

100% renewable
electricity
&
70% green gas
to
4000 parish
sites

How has the Church responded?

- As people of faith, it is our duty to lead the way to change. The Church in England & Wales is doing this.
- In 2016 two Catholic buying groups combined: the northern energy buying group, run by the Catholic Mutual Interdiocesan Fuel Management, and the southern energy buying group, run by Churchmarketplace.
- The size of the group meant that the cost of green energy was slashed. Overnight, all 3000 sites switched from brown energy to 100% renewable electricity.

What about schools?

Schools want to go green, but the financial barrier can be prohibitive. Working together, we can remove this barrier. Indeed, work is already underway. Modelling the strategy on the successful parish approach, we have started to build the National Schools Energy Buying Group using brown/mixed contracts; then, when the purchasing power is strong enough and hence the price affordable, the whole group will go green for good. This is envisaged to be in four years' time. Diocese of Westminster Trustees have committed all their schools to achieving this.



When can you join us?

Parishes The vast majority of parishes in the Diocese of Westminster are already with us and we thank you! If a parish has yet to make the move, they can join the scheme at any time. Just get in touch with us.

For schools If a school energy contract is up for renewal from September onwards, while this is a very busy time of change, now is a great time to start the process since prices are very good at the moment! Schools can lock in now even though the contract might not be due for renewal for another six or twelve months.

Contact us at CMP

joannehill@churchmarketplace.org.uk
admin@churchmarketplace.org.uk



Mission

The endeavour to go green for good is a joint mission; a family mission. What has been achieved so far has only been possible by working together. We, as a Church, are leading the way – no other national organisation delivers as high a percentage of green gas as us! **Together, we can achieve even more!**

Final word

"I am grateful for the work of CMP and IFM in helping thousands of our parishes to reduce their impact through the purchase of renewable energy...I would now urge all our Catholic schools to pursue the option of purchasing renewable energy together."

+John Arnold

Bishop of Salford

Lead Bishop for the Environment

Further information:

To find out more about the service run by our energy partner, IFM, or for an application pack, please use the links below or contact us at CMP:

- **Parishes** - Download an info and application pack [here](#)
- **Schools** - Download an info and application pack [here](#).
- For the Official Guide to the Schools National Energy Framework [click here](#)

