

Our Live Simply Action Plan
Summary of activity in parishes of St Mary Immaculate (SMI) and St Charles Borromeo (SCB) 2018-20
 (last updated 9.3. 2020)

Action	Date	What we have done so far	Next steps	Evidence
Living Simply				
Encouraging parishioners to reduce food waste at home	2019 onwards	Monthly Tips and ideas in the parish newsletter – eg. sharing excess food with others.	On-going	newsletters
Global Healing film and evening	9 Nov 2018	Attended by 16+ parishioners – helped start Live Simply plan. Also attended elsewhere by 2 parishioners, Sept 2019	Lobby the Supermarkets Plan a parish Live Simply evening event in 2020	poster
Web Explorers - website set up by parishioners of SCB in response to Laudato Si, to help people become aware of climate issues	Sep 2016	Letting parishioners know about this resource, at meetings and via newsletter. Website extensively reviewed October 2019	Promote in newsletter and at Live Simply events	Major change to website – see document
Soup Lunches in SMI parish – each Advent and Lent, raising money for charity	From Advent 2018	Donations sent to Emmaus UK (homeless support) and Cafod	On-going	Report
Living Sustainably				
Walk to church Month – publicising this event in both parishes	From June 2018	This is now an annual event Raffle ticket for small prizes for all who participate	Continue as annual event	advert for this event
Reducing waste – particularly single-use plastic.	From 2019	Coffee grounds from hall are composted when possible Parish office coffee cups are recycled	Seek alternative to single use cups in parish Parish events – use jugs not plastic bottles of water	
Encouraging recycling in parish.	From Oct 2019	Parish groups using the SMI Hall are encouraged to take their recyclables home to recycle. SCB parish hall collects recyclables Recycling containers now in SMI church for ‘difficult’ items (crisp packets, toothbrushes and tubes, biros/felt pens etc) This recycling supports local charities	Encourage other users of the Hall to recycle waste and/or have a separate bin for all recyclables in the Hall kitchen	See newsletters Info on recycling
Growing food – parish allotment in SCB parish.	Begun 2019	5 vegetable beds 1 herb bed 1 flower bed – self-sustaining Soft fruit area and potatoes	On-going Aim to keep involvement with youth Would like to improve access to include	Photos and reports

What will the produce be used for?		Small greenhouse Parishioners from both parishes are involved in this. Parish youth group have helped with planting out and returned to pick beans. Value of awareness raising and education. Encouraging parishioners to grow own food at home. Produce from allotment available in Parish – voluntary donations	people with disabilities	
Focus on energy use in St Mary Immaculate and St Charles Borromeo parishes	2019 onwards	SMI: all lights in church and Martyrs Room now low energy, and considering replacing lighting in hall. New carpark lighting - lower energy. Heating in Martyrs' Room changed to 'on demand'. Looking into a new, lower energy, heating system for church. SCB have updated lighting to lower energy.	Does the parish use a Green energy Provider? Parish Audit on Energy use – who can carry this out?	
Parish avoiding waste	2019 onwards	Parish house and office getting milk delivered in glass bottles.	On-going	
Litter Picking walk	June 2019	Parishioners of SCB	Another walk to be planned 2020	report
Tree planting in school grounds	Spring 2020	Primary school pupil-led project to plant endangered trees in school grounds. Appeal to parishes Jan/Feb 2020 raised over £1000. School council chose and sourced trees, working with Warwick tree wardens and local Garden Centre. Planting started 2 March 2020		Poster Article for parish magazine
Working with other churches in Warwick on living sustainably	2020 Onwards	Our action has been seen by other churches. Quakers have asked to work with us on a joint future project	To be agreed	
Living in solidarity with the poor				
Promoting Fairtrade products within the parishes – ensuring that everyone knows they need to use fair trade goods in the church hall if possible Working with local Fairtrade steering group		SMI has been a Fair-Trade Parish (since before 2000) Fair Trade education and activities take place annually in the primary school during Fair trade Fortnight Fair Trade stall sells products regularly after Mass. SCB parish has been a Fairtrade parish for over 15 years. Members of both parishes have been involved in Warwick Fairtrade steering group.	Continue Fairtrade sales at parish events	Reports from both parishes
Soup Lunches – each Advent and Lent, raising money for charity	Advent 2018	Donations sent to Emmaus UK (homeless support) and Cafod	On-going	Report

Charity donations – from coffee money	Long-term project	2017-19, donations sent to: Loving Humanity, Peter's Place, Leamington Night Shelter, Exquisipan, Welcome Here, Feed a Village in Palestine, Mary's meals, Carriers of Hope.	On-going. Publicise in the parish newsletter Invite speaker from Feed a Village in Palestine	Thank you letters, minutes of meeting
Christmas Giving Tree in each parish	Since Dec 2017	Gifts donated for Leamington Night Shelters	Annual event	photos
Dementia Friends Training	June 2018	Arranged a training and Information session open to all parishioners	Consider running appropriate version in primary school	Report and advertising
Hand in Hand Group	Since 2010	Deanery based, inclusive prayer group for those with and without learning difficulties, meets monthly. Last visited SMI parish 2016 Parishioners taking part in inclusive Easter cantata March 2020	Invite to parishes in 2020?	Photo poster
Christmas Dinner – including Housebound parishioners	Long-term project	Organised by SMI parish team and St Vincent de Paul (SVP) for past 15 years+. Helps address isolation of housebound and improves integration of parish community	Continue as annual event	
Cafod Family Fast Days		Link up with Parish CAFOD rep. Well supported by parish. Increased awareness of international development issues	On-going	
Foodbank Collections		On-going at Supermarkets. Collections in the parish at Christmas and during Lent co-ordinated by parishioners who help with foodbank. Annual foodbank collection at harvest assembly each autumn by primary school.	On-going	See Harvest Photo on school website
Friends of the Holy Land Sponsorship	Since Dec 2018	2 children in Rosary school, Bethlehem, being sponsored – 1 from each parish. Each parish committed to annual fundraising £300 per child Home-made cards made for parishioner to support this. St Charles Borromeo parish held carol service with donations to FHL: Dec 2018	On-going	FHL info
Refugee stations of the Cross	Lent 2019	SMI parish	We aim for this to be an annual event, each Lent.	Prayer Booklet
Toilet Twinning	2019	4 toilets twinned (off Martyr's room, and in parish hall, SMI parish)	Plan to twin toilet in SCB parish hall	Certificates in toilets
'Share the Journey' Walk	May 2018	Will be further walks (see report)	Another in spring 2020	photos

Parish St Vincent de Paul and Minnie Vinnies (Primary School)		SVP annual report 2018. Minnie Vinnies (youth SVP group) meet regularly in school, have raised money and items for charities, sent Christmas cards to those SVP visit.		SVP report 2018 School website
Primary School Actions on 'Living Simply'		See Live Simply page from school website https://www.stmaryimmaculateschool.co.uk/Live-Simply/	Parish J&P reps to lead school assembly on Live Simply in 2020	School website
Writing cards to prisoners of conscience during Advent	Dec 2019	Address lists from both Amnesty and Action by Christians against Torture (ACAT). Both parishes took part in card writing	Agreed to repeat annually, and consider writing cards at Eastertime.	
Working with other churches in Warwick, on Living in solidarity	Jan 2019	Contributed to Churches Together Justice and Peace Service Aim to link with other groups in the local community. Is regular parish link with CTW to look at social justice issues in the area. J&P rep attended meeting on homelessness in Warwick district: 5 Sept 2019	Follow-up: have arranged a speaker from Transforming communities together Dvpt Officer (Stacey Baines) to talk to our J&P group about homelessness (April meeting).	Email and Info sheets from Sept mtg
Youth group activities	2014 2017	Range of activities including: Youth Group sold cups of water after Mass to raise money for WaterAid 'Mile of pennies' raised money for Leamington night shelter. Involvement in SCB allotment	Ongoing. Youth group to link in with Live Simply activities	Report from Youth leader
Promoting world gifts in the parishes at Christmas – alternative to presents.	ongoing	Included as part of regular Traidcraft/Fair trade stall and information available in the churches.	Increase promotion during Advent: Help Traidcraft rep. to promote world gifts	
Craft Sessions at St Charles Borromeo	Autumn 2019	Producing with low technology and items made to be sold to raise money for the homeless in our local areas. Craft sale in Dec 2019 raised £241.40 for night shelter.	On-going	
Christmas Shoe boxes for Samaritan's purse	Every Advent	Both SMI and SCB parishes and the school involved in this	On-going	
Back packs, (project of Mary's Meals)	2018	Backpacks and school materials collected for children in poverty in Africa - SMI school supported this in 2018	Joint parishes/school collection proposed for 2020	
Rosary for Peace & vocations	Weekly 2020	Saturday evenings before SMI parish Mass. Also new parish Rosary group for Peace – different intentions each month	On-going	