



St Marylebone Parish Church

Environmental Policy

Preamble

Through the Eternal Word, God has created all that is, sustains everything that has been made in being and draws creation ever deeper into the heart of perfect Love and Life we call Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ, has redeemed all that is through his death, and by his resurrection from the dead a new Creation has begun.

As a local parish church community, we aim to take the practical steps necessary to realise the *Anglican Consultative Council's*, Fifth Mark of Mission, expressed in 1984, "*to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain the life of the earth*".

Objective

As a local parish church community, we will take environmental concerns into account in our mission, worship, study, education, training, pastoral, administrative and other projects and programmes.

St Marylebone Parish Church recognises that its operations and activities have an impact on the environment.

Realising that the Fifth Mark of Mission is "*to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain the life of the earth*", the Parish Church recognises that it has a responsibility to minimise any adverse impacts and maximise the positive impacts of its operations and activities.

To achieve this, the Parish Church will:

1. In all its activities, aim to make a positive contribution to protecting and enhancing the local and global environment by taking into account environmental concerns in our mission, worship, study, education, training, pastoral, preaching, teaching, administration, building, maintenance and other projects and programmes.
2. Endeavour to meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.
3. Take note of and, where appropriate, act upon, Synodical environmental directives issued from time to time by the Church of England and the Diocese of London.

4. Regularly update and improve policies in the light of increased understanding and knowledge.
5. Prepare, implement and monitor environmental action plans for the Parish Church.
6. Minimise the consumption of all resources used in its operations and consider the lifecycle impact of all purchases.
7. Reduce the use of single-use plastic wherever possible.
8. Minimise waste in all activities.
9. Recycle and reuse waste materials wherever possible.
10. Provide facilities for recycling and composting where possible.
11. Dispose of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
12. Minimise energy use and emissions to air by encouraging team members to turn off lights, computers and other equipment when not in use.
13. Use renewable energy sources as far as possible.
14. Ensure the appropriate use of recommend energy conservation technology wherever applicable (including insulation, low energy light bulbs, low water use toilets).
15. Work with and support other parishes and the diocese to implement wider scale environmental initiatives.
16. Encourage community-led initiatives where appropriate.
17. Support initiatives that encourage sustainable transport through providing places for cycle parking and encourage all employees to use public transport in coming to and leaving work.
18. Encourage use of the London Cycling Campaign (www.lcc.org.uk) to help encourage and build confidence in new and returning cyclists.
19. Discount the parking fees of environmentally-friendly vehicles parking at the parish church.
20. Respect and protect natural resources through conservation and good management.
21. Wherever possible conserve and reuse water from the Parish Church and check/protect external taps in winter.
22. Encourage our two schools to enhance biodiversity to encourage wildlife and plant-life where appropriate and to engage in on-site composting.
23. Ensure that cleaning fluids, polishes and glues, etc., are as environmentally the least-damaging as possible, avoiding the unnecessary use of bleach and solvents harmful to the environment when it is possible to do so.
24. Where possible use contractors and suppliers who have an environmental policy which meets best practice and is updated regularly.
25. Where possible use contractors and suppliers who are local, thus minimising transportation and supporting the local economy.
26. We will mitigate, wherever possible, the impact of a changing climate on the fabric, contents and use of the Parish Church.
27. Through preaching, prayer and study give prayerful and informed advice regarding sustainable lifestyle choices, including how people use transport, purchase consumer goods, how food and drink is grown, transported, sold and consumed; how practical love for our neighbours at home and overseas who labour to produce the food which we enjoy is manifested.

28. Participate in the national Eco Church scheme, working towards Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

The Five Marks of Mission:

The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Anglican Consultative Council, 1984 (ACC-6)

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