

ECO NEWS

ST NINIAN'S & ST CLEMENT'S

12 NOV 2023

Thank you to Canon Kevin Golden who joined us at 9.30 Mass to present our Silver Eco Plaque awarded by Eco Congregation Scotland, a Christian environmental charity which addresses issues involving climate change. We were delighted to win the silver, but we realised we still had much more to do if we wanted to go for gold!



First on the list of improvements to be made was to overhaul the outdated heating system and replace it with a new state-of-the-art, eco-friendly system. This has now been up and running for several months and we are indebted to Jim Hampton, Chairman of the Parish Council, for the tremendous amount of work he put in to bring the plan for the pioneering system to fruition.

“There is no doubt it has reduced our carbon footprint and we are saving money. It was estimated we will save £2000 to £3000 a year on heating and lighting.”

“From start to finish, it has taken around 18 months. We, as a parish, are over the moon with the way things have gone. It is definitely the way ahead and we would recommend it to other parishes. Save money, save the planet. It’s a win-win situation.”

THE GARDEN GANG

Our Gang have been hard at work over summer producing a variety of fruits, vegetables and flowers. The fruits of their labours, are being used in our ever-popular CC's Cafe and the flowers frequently decorate our altar. Healthy, organic food, feeding local people, and no huge carbon footprint from imported goods. Another win-win!

Over the past few weeks, they've been clearing the leaves and tidying up the grounds before the winter-not a pleasant job on a rainy Thursday! Thank you gang for your hard work and dedication.



CC'S JUNIORS



Louise, the green-thumbed guru of our Garden Gang, has been busy cultivating a new generation of gardeners with her monthly Junior Gardening Club. Our youngsters have been getting their hands dirty, planting seeds, bulbs, and even crafting homemade bird feeders to keep our feathered friends well-fed through the frosty months. Not only are we nurturing our little ones' love of nature, but also their faith and understanding of the beauty of God's creation and our shared responsibility to protect it.

CC'S

Our Afternoon Tea events were a hit in the summer, but now that the colder months have arrived, we offer soup and toasties, as well as monthly soup'n stovies. We are very fortunate to have a wonderful group of volunteers who make this community event possible.

Over the past six months, we have donated £1000 from our café's profits to both local and international charities so a big thank you to our regular customers!



Your dedication to collecting the blue Tesco tokens paid off! We were able to receive a Tesco grant, which allowed us to give CC's a fresh new look with a set of chic and vibrant chairs. Thank you!

REDUCE AND RECYCLE



As part of our plan to raise awareness of our need to reduce and recycle, *Jillian Crabb*, who runs **The Little Green Larder** offering a plastic free shopping experience, gave a most informative and inspirational talk. She said, “I have always been conscious of the environmental impact we are having on our planet. Sustainable living is important to me, but I struggled to find shops who shared my views, so I decided to open one myself.”

As part of her ethos of sharing Jillian runs a pay-forward scheme which is used to help those less able to pay. In addition, once a week she opens her door and generously gives food away which would otherwise go to waste.

Do pop in to see her, taking your containers and fill up plastic-free!

Recycling Blister Packs

Unfortunately we had to discontinue the collection of medicine blister packs in the church because Superdrug, now only collects from individuals. However the good news is that Perth & Kinross are collecting and recycling the packs in their new grey bins from November.

So, start bringing them along, as some of our helpful P&K parishioners will deposit them in their personal bins.



HOW ARE WE DOING? Green Survey Results Are In!

We recently conducted a survey among parishioners to gauge our eco-friendly habits. All responses were kept anonymous, and the survey documented the various changes people have made to help protect our fragile planet. Find out the results on the website [or here](#)



RECENT STORMS HAVE HIT OUR AREA, WITH SOME OF OUR PARISHIONERS, WHOSE HOMES WERE FLOODED, EXPERIENCING AT FIRST-HAND THE DAMAGE CLIMATE CHANGE IS DOING.

SPIRITUAL LIVING

Here in St Ninian's and St Clement's we are trying to do our bit to protect our common home, not only in practical ways, but spiritually.

Our prayers are a hugely important element of our effort, as manifested in our Candlelight Service for Creation in October at which we reflected on the beauty of God's world and asked his forgiveness for the harm we are causing to his wonderful creation through greed, exploitation and destructiveness.

May we continue to do our part, in whatever way we can, by the way we live our lives, to protect the earth's resources, to protect the poor, who so often are the unwitting victims of environmental damage, and to ensure that our children and our children's children can inherit and enjoy the glories of God's creation.

*LORD, FATHER OF OUR HUMAN FAMILY
MAY OUR HEARTS BE OPEN TO ALL THE
PEOPLES AND NATIONS OF THE EARTH.
MAY WE RECOGNISE THE GOODNESS AND
BEAUTY THAT YOU HAVE SOWN IN EACH OF
US AND THUS FORGE BONDS OF UNITY,
COMMON PROJECTS AND SHARED DREAMS.*

AMEN

(POPE FRANCIS)

