

Procession & Lighting of Climate Justice candle (read by  
Noreen Gillies at wooden lectern)

As we celebrate the beauty of God's creation and Earth's abundant harvest, we are also called to be mindful of the threat that creation is currently facing. In his ground breaking encyclical, 'Laudato Si', Pope Francis has emphasised that climate change and environmental degradation are now having disastrous effects on the lives of some of the world's poorest. We, as stewards of creation, are called to 'Shine a Light on Climate Justice' – to act in solidarity with the world's poorest - and to bring a focus on this, we are hosting during our mission the 'Climate Justice Candle,' which has been travelling to congregations around Ireland since 2015. This candle reminds us that we should pray and take action to ensure that God's creation is protected and cherished for ourselves and for future generations.

You are invited to say a prayer at the candle anytime during the week and to take as a gift a lovely prayer card which has a prayer from Pope Francis about creation care, and also take a prayer card featuring St Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan Order, and Patron Saint of ecology.

We now bring forward and light the candle, and end with the singing all together of 'Christ, be our light'.

{End. Noreen steps away}