

DECEMBER 2020

ECONOMY OF FRANCESCO

The 'Economy of Francesco' is a worldwide movement of young people, economists, entrepreneurs and change-makers, who seek to give life to the idea of a different economy, one that is more attentive to the weakest members of society and not focused exclusively on the gain of material wealth. It seeks to forge a new fair, sustainable and inclusive economy that leaves no one behind.

More information - <https://francescoeconomy.org>

The Economy of Francesco 19-21st November

"Pope Francis invites young people to a shared commitment, a process of global change, inspired by the spirit of St Francis".

Our parishioner Veronica Towers writes:

This event "***The Economy of Francis: young people, a commitment, the future***", was to have taken place in Assisi but the pandemic led to it being an online gathering of young people from 155 countries. They were invited to participate by Pope Francis who wrote: "*The effects of our actions and decisions affect you personally. Therefore you can't remain outside the places that are shaping the present and future. You're either part of them or history will pass you by*".

The programme included artistic contributions and one of these, '***The Return of the Little Prince***', ends with a song, '***Learn to Share***', in which I am singing. <https://tinyurl.com/y6kvl3fo>

I am also privileged to have worked with Gen Verde for many years, and they produced an exceptional song and video for the event, '***Turn Around***' which you can hear on this link https://youtu.be/vKGYU_gxbEU

These examples of engagement and commitment inspire me with hope and challenge me to consider how to truly live simply and to be part of the change that we all want to see.

COUNTDOWN TO COP 26

CAFOD held their online conference, **Faith into Action**, on Saturday 14th November. The focus was on the world we want to create after the pandemic, using Pope Francis' 'Fratelli Tutti' as a guide to what all of us need to change in our lifestyles for the sake of justice and equality.

You can easily look at some of the presentations on the CAFOD website - by speakers from here in the UK and from projects abroad and experience our inter-connectedness and recognise how our living simply means that others can simply live. [CAFOD link](#)

INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY ISSUES?

- A local branch of **Parents For Future** have been actively showing their determination to be part of living sustainably for the sake of future generations. They presented their ideas online at Wandsworth Council's Climate Summit (November 14 - 20) and their website reflects their creativity and understanding of how all the family can be involved. www.parentsforfuture.org.uk
- There are some fantastic books that inform, explain and inspire in very accessible ways. If you'd like to browse or borrow a book please get in touch* for a list of available titles. We'd like to add some films too!
- If you haven't already, do consider watching David Attenborough in 'Extinction: The Facts' on BBC iPlayer and on Netflix in 'A Life on Our Planet'

*Contact: maryehar@aol.com for books/films to borrow

DECEMBER & NATURE

- The first week in December marks **National Tree Week**. This time of year is the best for putting in new saplings so think about what you might add to your garden. Small living fir trees (with roots!) can be replanted so worth considering for Christmas...?
- Look out for **winter bird visitors** on the Common. You might be lucky enough to see the first arrivals of fieldfares or redwings; similar to our own thrushes but giving themselves away by their greyish head or white stripe above the eye.



- Gardens are a refuge for wildlife, so don't be too tidy! Leave some space for insects and smaller creatures to find shelter in decaying leaves, vegetation, logs and empty flower pots.
- This is an ideal time for planting tulip bulbs which are happier to be planted this late.

