

Dear Parishioners

As you may be aware, COP 26, the United Nations climate summit takes place this November 2021 in Glasgow. These talks are of vital importance. It is possibly one of the last opportunities for the nations of the world to ensure that the Paris Agreement of 2015 results in meaningful and just global climate action, ensuring that global warming remains well below the 2 degrees that scientists say must not be breached.

Recognising the vital importance of these talk, we are planning two ecumenical prayer services at St Anne's Catholic Church in Ormskirk. The purpose of these Prayer Vigils is to give people time to stop, reflect, and pray at a time when crucial decisions are being made. There are four key goals for COP 26 and it is our hope that people will take the opportunity to visit the church and pray for positive progress in each of these areas. They include countries providing more ambitious climate plans, adaptation measures to protect the environment, agreeing on finance to support poorer countries and agreeing a rule-book to guide their future collaboration.

We understand how important these talks are and we desperately want to see leaders and diplomats united in their determination to address these goals and move forwards. In addition to the practical steps we can take as individuals to protect our environment, we also recognise the power of prayer in the successful outcome of the conference. We would very much like to invite you, at your convenience, to join us in prayer. Our prayer service is an ecumenical event and we look forward to coming together as one family.

If you would like to take a moment out of your day to stop, reflect and pray for the success of the talks you can join us at St Anne's Church on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at any time between 3pm and 7pm. There will be a further vigil on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, from 5pm-6pm.

We would also ask you to consider signing the COP26 petition urging our government to be proactive in addressing urgent climate action.

<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/73304/petition/1?locale=en-GB>

As ever, we are so grateful for your support.

With warmest wishes,

God bless

St Bede's Catholic High School Laudato Si Environmental Group.