

# A PRAYER FOR OUR COMMON HOME

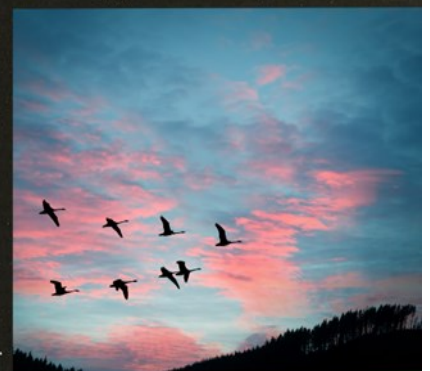
All powerful God,  
you created all things,  
and you are present throughout the universe  
and in every creature,  
You embrace with your tender love all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
so that we may have the strength and courage  
to protect all life and the beauty of our world,  
preserving it from pollution and destruction.

Fill us with your peace, that we may live  
as brothers and sisters, harming no one,  
And caring for the Earth, our common home.

Teach us to discover the worth of every creature on this earth,  
Let us protect those at risk and in danger,  
Encourage us as we seek justice, love and peace.  
Stay with us each day, with the power of your grace.

Through Christ our Lord  
Amen



## What is plastic free July?

Plastic free July is about taking time to think about all the single-use plastics that we use in our lives each day. This will help us to reduce plastic pollution so we have cleaner streets, parks, rivers and oceans

## What is single use plastic?

Single-use plastics are made fully or partly of plastic and are used once or for a short time before being thrown away.

## What can we do at school and home to reduce single use plastics?



You might want to try all of these ideas or just one or two. (*Remember to check with an adult first*).

**Idea 1. Take a look at the snack or lunch you take to school.**  
Can you swap an item that is wrapped in plastic? Instead of using cling film, can you put the food in a reusable container or use beeswax wrap?

### **Idea 2. Swap single-use plastic bottles for a refillable bottle.**

Encourage others in you class, school and family to use a refillable bottle!

**Make sure you remember to take it out with you!**

### **Idea 3. Having a party or celebration?**

Everyone enjoys going to a party. Next time you have a party, think about the decorations—swap plastic banners and bunting for paper, card ones. Swap plastic—party bags for paper bags.

Can you reuse the decorations for your next party?



### **Idea 4. Shopping.**

Go shopping with your grown up and encourage them to buy products that use less single-use plastic. Avoid tins wrapped in shrink wrap, try to use reusable shopping bags to pack fruit and veg in, also take your reusable shopping bag rather than buying plastic bags.



### **Idea 5. Teach others!**

Make posters or videos to share with your school community on simple changes we can all make to go plastic free.

You might want to try one of the ideas or one of your own! It would be great to hear about what you are doing for **Plastic Free July** or any other environmental projects you are involved in, maybe you could ask an adult to send some pictures or you could write about what you did and send to [laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)