

## Guardian Angels for Climate Sunday (GACS)

### Talk - Lent 2021

Prayer, Good deeds and Fasting.

These pillars are at the heart of and match perfectly the principles "Caring for our Common Home", " Laudate Si, and Climate Sunday.

In the Climate Sunday national project, we pray and express solidarity with the peoples who already suffer climate catastrophe, we act to bring about wider awareness about these issues, and we hope to change our own behaviour in terms **of learning to go without or having less**. And this is a "Fasting" bit.

What have members of our GACS group given up for Lent? Ania for example, has given up meat, not only on Fridays but the whole Lent season.

What is the reason for this? Because reducing meat consumption can help with climate change. How?

The production of 1 kg of meat, such as beef generates 27 kg of greenhouse gases emissions. In contrast, 1 kg of potatoes causes 2.9 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> while 1 kg lentils generates less than 1 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>.

**30% of the earth's land surface** is currently used for livestock farming which requires water and grain for feeding. To produce one kilogram of beef, the cow needs to consume **25 kilograms of grain** – and roughly **15,000 litres of water**. Consider how many families in poor countries could be fed for the equivalent of two beef stakes.

It is worth mentioning that limiting number of meat meals in a week is one in the long list of suggestions that individuals can do to help the planet.

This particular Lenten pledge has been taken by the members of the Holy Apostles and Martyrs catholic church in Wallasey, which is our sister church in this UK Climate Sunday project. We communicate with them to exchange ideas.

Our GACS group now have an Action Plan that takes us to our Climate Sunday **Mass on the 27th June 2021**. We have contacted other churches in Bermondsey about their involvement. We hope to meet up with the Southwark councillor responsible for climate issues to find out what has been done since the Councils' declaration of Climate Emergency two years ago.

At the moment our group meets through internet on zoom, and we have a WhatsApp group and hope to be posting information on Facebook page. We will also have a church webpage from April 2021.

If you are interested in what we are doing or want to join the core GACS group, we have a contact book at the back of the church. You can leave your name and telephone or otherwise write to our email address which is **gacs5150@gmail.com**

We encourage you to pray for the success of our cause.

Ania Manser. For GACS group,

March 2021