

Land

The churchyard around our village church is managed very sensitively for the encouragement of biodiversity and we undertake annual biodiversity counts.

We have bird and bat boxes, a bug hotel, hedgehog shelter, brash piles and leave water for wildlife to drink. Our churchyard is managed organically.

The churchyard is surrounded by dry stone walls which are good for birds, insects, moss and lichens.

We have a very careful mowing regime in which swathes of wild flowers and grasses are left uncut through the spring and summer.



Benches are provided for people to enjoy the space.

We are very happy to support other churches who are wanting to progress on the Eco Church journey. Please get in touch via our vicar:
Marion.Russell@leeds.anglican.org

St Mary's Embsay with Eastby Gold Eco Church



We were delighted to be awarded the Gold Eco Church award in May 2023.

This leaflet outlines some of the work and activities with which we have been involved, in the five award categories.

More information about our Eco Church work is available on our website.

Worship

Creation and the environment are strongly embedded in our Worship.

Creation and social justice are often included in our prayers and sermons regularly refer to environmental themes.



Services throughout the season of Creationtide, in September to October have an Eco theme.

We held an outdoor service to launch our carbon zero work.

Lifestyle

We have a strong Eco Group which meets regularly and an active Parish Environment Officer.

Our church newsletter always has an Eco Tip and we have monthly Eco Themes.

We often discuss how our individual lifestyles could be more eco friendly.

We offer a recycling point for a number of items in the church porch.



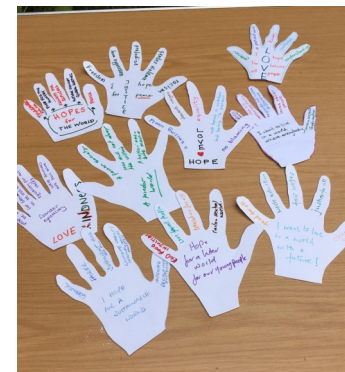
Community and Global Engagement

We have been a Fairtrade Church for many years. Our toilets, taps and bins are twinned. We are a collection point for the local food bank.

We have switched our bank account to an ethical provider.

We try to use Local, Organic, Animal-friendly and Fairtrade (LOAF) products when providing food at events.

We take part in national campaigns concerning environmental issues, such as the Hands of Hope, and promote Eco Church to others.



Buildings

We are currently working towards a target to be net carbon zero by 2025 by changing from gas to electric person-centred heating.

We have ensured that our roof and windows are sound to reduce draughts.

We use recycled toilet paper and eco-friendly cleaning products.