

Thousands of UK churches ditch fossil fuel electricity

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More than 3,500 churches across Britain have moved their electricity supply to renewables, or are planning to do so. About 2,000 churches belonging to 16 Catholic dioceses are running entirely on renewable energy.

John Arnold, bishop of Salford, called on other churches to follow suit in moving to renewable power: “There are many ways in which we respond to the threat and reality of climate change. Adopting renewable energy for our church buildings must be a priority [and by doing so] we will directly help people threatened, and already most severely affected, by climate change.”

The new day of prayer for creation has been designated as the start of the [“Creationtide”](#) season, running from 1 September to 4 October this year, which will incorporate the traditional - and more familiar to many - festivals to celebrate the harvest, which often involve gifts of farm produce to the poor in parishes throughout the UK.

Nicholas Holtam, bishop of Salisbury, and the lead for the Church of England on environmental issues, said: “Celebrating Creationtide marks a shift in the Christian understanding of our relationship to creation under God. The consequences of teaching over recent centuries that humanity has been given domination over creation are clear in the complex environmental crises we now face. It is important that Christians rediscover older traditions of a godly relationship of humanity to the wider created order.”

He called on people to consider using renewable energy in their homes, schools and communities at large.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/01/churches-salvation-army-fossil-fuel-electricity>