

Good morning everybody, can we pause a moment for Morning Prayer.

Global warming is a term that we hear all the time, the earth is getting hotter, the ice caps are melting, there will be more droughts, more forest fires...blah blah blah...you'd be tired listening to it all.

But here's the thing...if we adopt that blah blah blah mindset, keep our heads in the sand and pretend like its not happening there is a real possibility that life on earth will not exist in 100 years.

In October the WWF reported that we humans have wiped out 60% percent of all mammals, birds, fish and reptiles since 1970 and just this week the UN reported that millions of plant and animal species will be lost in the next decade. The sad reality is that if humans disappeared from the planet today, every single other life form would flourish.

It may all seem pretty grim, but the one positive sign of hope is that almost every scientist working on climate change says that it is not too late to fix it. There is still time to reverse the chaos. There is still a chance that we can pull ourselves back from the brink and restore order - but the only way it will happen is if we work together.

It cant happen if one or two people take action, we all need to take action. Don't buy single use plastics, be careful and mindful with recycling, reuse when you can, don't get swept up in fast fashion, speak to your politicians when they come to your door looking for votes. Collectively such small actions add up.

As Christians we are expected to be stewards of the earth - we need to care and protect it for future generations and if you are not doing that then you are not carrying out a basic requirement of the faith. The same goes for Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and Jews. Every world religion tells us that the golden rule extends to caring for each other and the earth we live on.

Today we pray that the world wakes up to the reality that climate change is calling all of us to be stewards, to work together to restore harmony and equality to our common home.

And as our TY students embrace nature today in all it's wet glory we pray they have a safe hike and for the rest of us we pray for a good day. Amen.