



If all the cans
were recycled,
we would need
14 million less
bins.

This week in Sacred Time we are looking at **recycling**. The purpose of this week is to make people aware of what happens if you don't recycle, what you can recycle and how it helps you and the environment.



5 out of 6
glass bottles
are thrown
away

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Sacred Time: Recycling

What can I recycle?

Recycling is an important factor in conserving natural resources and greatly contributes towards improving the environment. Below are some helpful hints about recycling in and around the home.

Recycling in and around the home can be easy when you know how. By thinking carefully about what products you buy at the supermarket and how to recycle them is the first step towards efficient recycling.

Find ways of recycling different materials

Many materials can be recycled, such as paper, plastic, metal and glass. Other items such as furniture, electronic equipment, building material and vehicles can also be recycled but many people don't often think to do so.

Buy products that can be recycled.

When shopping at the supermarket, buy products that can be recycled easily such as glass jars and tin cans.

Buy products that have been made from recycled material.

You can tell if a product is eco-friendly by looking at the label on the packaging.

Recycle bins.

Make sure you have a recycle bin in your home. Keep it in an obvious place so you won't forget to use it. Your local council should be able to provide you with a recycle bin that can be used for materials such as glass, paper, aluminium and plastic.

[Watch this clip](#) to find out more.

In the beginning there was no earth or sky or sea or animals. And then God spoke in the darkness: "Let there be light!" And right away there was light, scattering the darkness and showing the infinite space. "That's good!" said God. "From now on, when it's dark it will be 'night' and when it's light, it will be 'day'." "The evening came and the night passed and then the light returned. That was the first day. On the second day, God made the earth and over it He carefully hung a vast blue sky. He stood back and admired His creation. "That's good too!" said God and the second day was over. The next morning God looked around and thought, "The earth needs to be a bit more organized." So, He put all the water in one place and all the dry land in another. When He had finished that, God made plants to cover the land. Dandelions and daffodils appeared. All sorts of trees and grasses began to grow. "It's looking great," said God and that was the end of the third day. On the fourth day, God looked around and thought, "The daylight still needs a bit more work and the night is just too dark." So, He made the sun to light the sky during the day and the moon and stars to add a bit of sparkle to the night. He hung them in the sky and stepped back to look at his work. "This is coming along very well," said God. The next day, God turned his attention to the water he had collected in the oceans. "I want these waters teeming with life!" As soon as He said it, it was so. In no time, there were millions of small fish darting through the shallow water and huge fish swimming in the ocean. God made birds, too. He sent them soaring through the air. "Ahh, that IS good!" said God. The dusk fell over the water and the sky grew dark and that was the end of the fifth day. On the sixth day, God added creatures to the land. He made lions and tigers and bears. He made rabbits and sheep and cows. He added everything from ants to zebras to the land. But He still felt something was missing. So God added Mankind to enjoy and take care of all that He had created. God looked around and was happy with all He had made. After six days, the whole universe was completed. On the seventh day God had a nice long rest and enjoyed looking at all He had made.

This is the story of how God created the world. This means the world is a gift from God, and therefore we should not damage it. Instead we should be looking after it by recycling everything we can.

Prayer

Creating God, teach us to use carefully the good gifts of this planet, our first home. Let us be mindful of the hundreds of generations that might yet come, to minimise waste, and to recycle all that we can.

We also pray for a recycling in our personal lives. By the grace of your Christ and the rejuvenation of your Spirit, recycle in us those gifts and virtues that may have become ragged or been cast aside.

Recycle our faith, that we may run and not be weary, walk and not faint.

Recycle our hope, that we may rise up from pessimism like the flight of eagles.

Recycle our love, that justice may roll on like a flood, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Loving God, let us model our approach to recycling on your grace which regards no gift as trivial and no person as redundant.

For Christ's sake. Amen!



1 recycled tin
can save enough
energy to power
a TV for 3 hours.

Find out more at
www.recyclenow.com

If everyone in
Britain recycled
10% more paper,
5 million trees
would be saved
each year.

