

# A Greener Christmas ....

St James Eco Church would like to suggest a few ideas for you to make your Christmas more eco-friendly, without losing the true spirit and meaning of Christmas—celebrating God bringing Jesus into the World.

## Gifts

**Give an experience / activity** instead of a physical gift. This could be a meal or afternoon tea, a theatre/ cinema voucher to a thrill-seeking day out, or the gift of a magazine subscription (paper or digital) or a membership to a group or annual pass.

**“Christmas Cheque”** making your time the gift – promise to babysit, share an afternoon walk together, promise of breakfast in bed, etc.

### Quality Vs Quantity

Akin to the debate on “fast fashion” consider the quality of your gifts rather than looking at the quantity of your gifts. Are they made to last? Will they give years of joy or are they a “flash in the pan”!

The giving and receiving of gifts at Christmas is a very special part of Christmas. Whether you are wanting to be an eco-warrior or you are buying for family and friends who are trying to live sustainably, ethically or just living lighter without detracting from the emanating behind the sharing of gifts here are a few ideas of more eco-friendly or sustainable gifts this Christmas

**Gift of a Book ...** on sustainable Living, reducing plastic waste, etc. There are 100’s on the market and a physical book can be shared after it’s been read by the recipient.



**A sustainable gift:** to help cut single use items such as a reusable water bottle, reusable coffee cup, tote or jute bag, lunch caddy, etc.

**Gift of Charity** show your thoughtfulness by giving a gift that will grow such as sending an animal (goat, chicken, piglet, beehive) or sponsoring a child—Compassion, Action Aid, Rocha Gifts with a Difference, Salvation Army Just Gifts,



**Handmade gifts:** handmade nibbles, jams, jellies or chutneys to something knitted, a crafted a wreath, or sewn gifts such as Christmas tablecloth and napkins, veg bags.



**Ethically / Environmentally sourced gifts.** i.e. if giving smellies—look at ones made from natural ingredients, cruelty free (not tested on animals) maybe vegan ingredients, made locally or within the UK.



**Remember little changes go a long way!**