

*"The effects of our **encounter** with **Jesus Christ**...*



*...becomes **evident** in our relationship with the **world** around us"*

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 217

• POVERTY •



One in 275 people in Reading are homelessⁱ



The average life expectancy of a man sleeping rough is 47 and for a woman even younger age 43 (instead of 76.1 and 80.9)ⁱⁱ



There were 4.3 million children living in poverty in the UK in 2019-20ⁱⁱⁱ



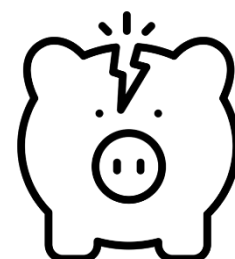
19% of pupils are known to be eligible for free school meals in Reading, on average 1 in 5 students^{iv}



Readifood currently (as of May 2021) deliver an average of 191 parcels every week to families in need^v

"We must examine our lives and acknowledge the ways in which we have harmed God's creation through our actions and our failure to act. We need to experience a conversion, or change of heart."

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE
A New Earth – The Environmental Challenge (2002)



- caring for creation -

• STANDING FOR CHANGE •

Your daily life:

- ✓ Could you add something to your weekly shop to donate?
- ✓ Could you make a point to talk to someone who is homeless? Offer them a drink or a sandwich, or even, just have a friendly word with them.
- ✓ Teach your children the importance of caring for our common home

Ongoing change:

- ✓ Is there a way of supporting charities such as CAP, Readifood, CIRDIC, Launchpad or New Beginnings?

In the Parish:

- ✓ Tell someone what you are doing & encourage them to join in

• FIND OUT MORE •

<https://www.cirdic.org.uk/>

<https://launchpadreading.org.uk/>

<https://readifood.org.uk/>

<http://www.greenusesforwaste.co.uk/>

<https://www.newbeginningsreading.org/>

ⁱ <https://www.readingchronicle.co.uk/news/18109393.shelter-report-reveals-estimated-593-people-homeless-reading/>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.ons.gov.uk>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://cpag.org.uk/child-poverty/child-poverty-facts-and-figures>

^{iv} <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/>

^v <https://readifood.org.uk/how-many-parcels/>

