

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



**Laudato Si' Action Platform**  
***“Building a Better Future Together”\****  
**Archdiocese of Chicago**  
**Parish Essentials**

\*Vatican Laudato Si' Action Platform

# A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your  
infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.



[1] Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si* (24, May 2015), 246



“bring the whole human family together . . . for we know that things can change” (Laudato Si’ 13)

Laudato Si’ calls us toward sustainability in the spirit of integral ecology. With profound care for each other, our Creator, and all creation, we are building a better future together.



Vatican Laudato Si’ Action Platform

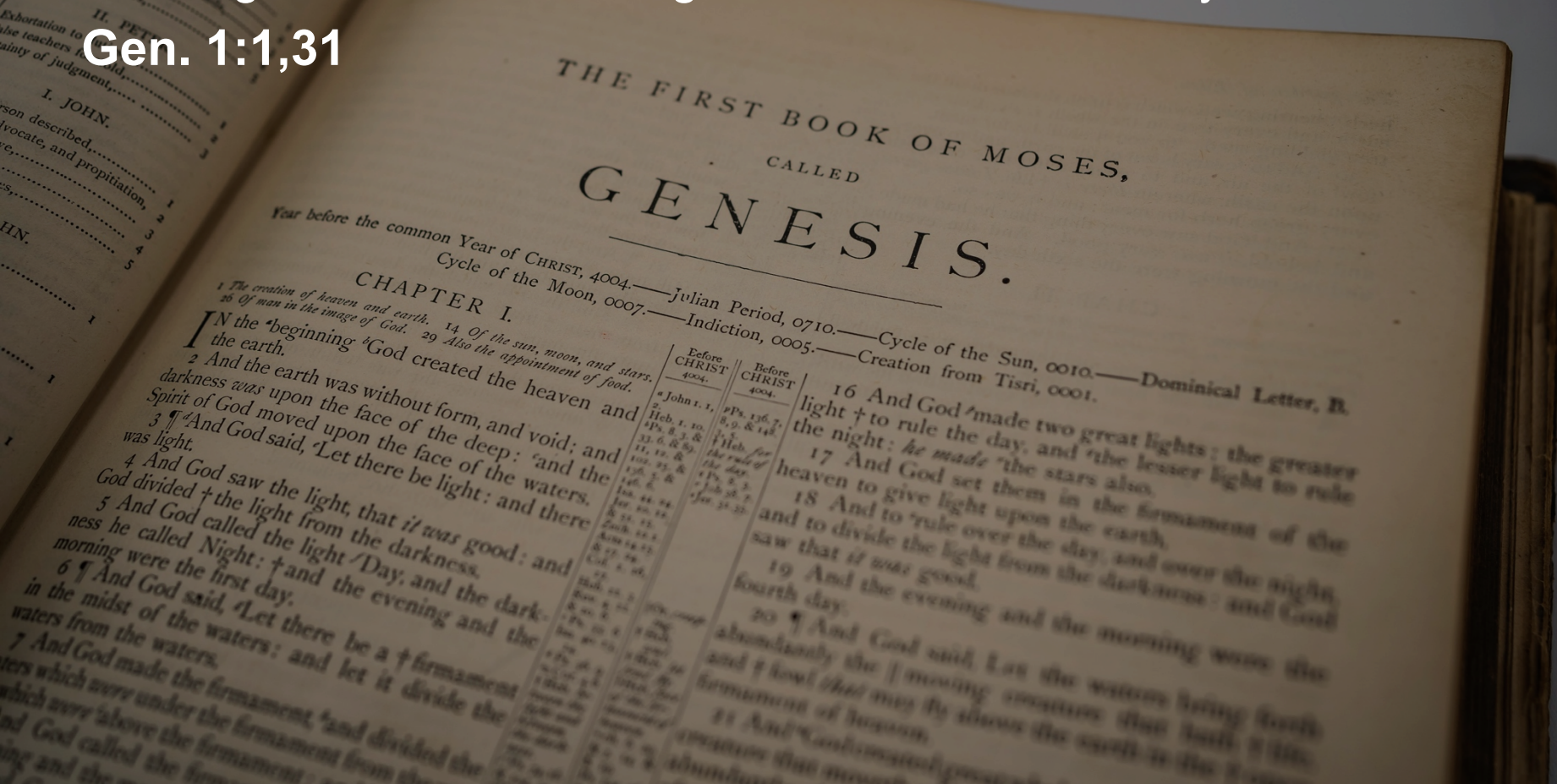






In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth.  
God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

Gen. 1:1,31



# The Gaze of Jesus



Throughout His ministry, Jesus wove creation into teachings, parables and prayers. Jesus often used creation to illustrate how we are called to love one another, and in doing so affirmed the goodness of God's incredible gift that we must care for.

*(catholicclimatecovenant.org/teachings/jesus) Image: "Hope on the Horizon" by Greg Olsen. Used with Permission. [www.gregolsen.com](http://www.gregolsen.com)*



# The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you  
and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

*(Matthew 5)*



# The Eucharist, the Holy Trinity and Creation



“The Eucharist joins heaven and earth; it embraces and penetrates all creation. It is also a source of light and motivation for our concerns for the environment, directing us to be stewards of all creation.

**The Father** = Source of everything

**The Son** = God’s reflection united to Earth via Mary

**The Holy Spirit** = Infinite bond of love, at the very heart of the universe

*Everything is interconnected, and this invites us to develop a spirituality of that global solidarity which flows from the mystery of the Trinity...impelling us to find new ways forward.”*

*(Laudato Si’ 236-245)*



# Message of His Holiness Pope John Paul II for the Celebration of the World Day of Peace



*1 January 1990*

**Peace With God the Creator,  
Peace With All of Creation**

“... I should like to address directly my brothers and sisters in the Catholic Church, in order to remind them of their serious obligation to care for all of creation. The commitment of believers to a healthy environment for everyone stems directly from their belief in God the Creator, from their recognition of the effects of original and personal sin, and from the certainty of having been redeemed by Christ. Respect for life and for the dignity of the human person extends also to the rest of creation, which is called to join man in praising God (cf. Ps 148:96)”



# The Light Offered by Faith

“Can we remain indifferent before the problems associated with such realities as climate change... ?

Humanity needs a profound cultural renewal; it needs to rediscover those values which can serve as the solid basis for building a brighter future for all.

Our present crises – be they economic, food-related, environmental or social – are ultimately also moral crises, and all of them are interrelated.

They require us to rethink the path which we are traveling together.”

## **Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI**

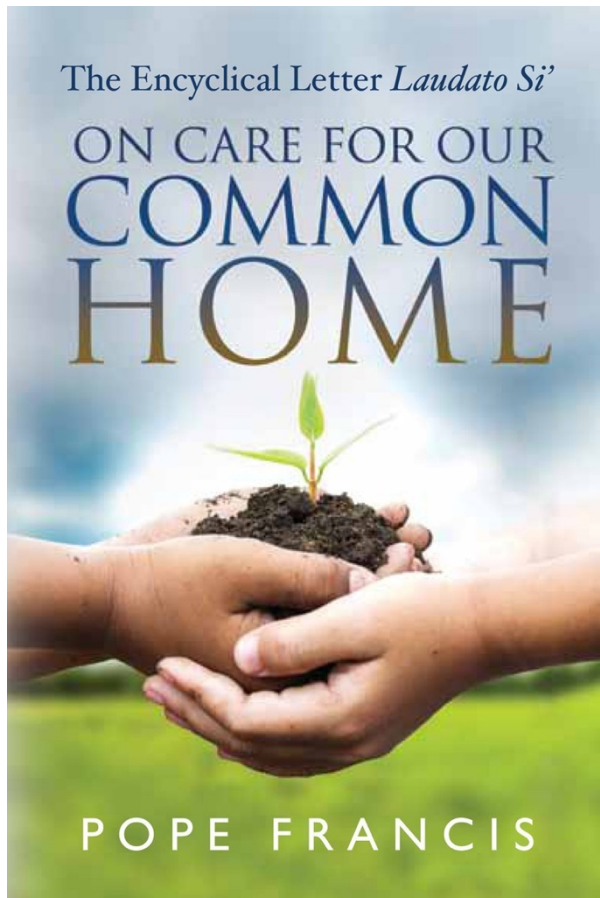
*If You Want to Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation* 2010

World Day of Peace Message, nos. 4, 5.





# What is Laudato Si'?



***“I wish to address every person living on this planet...” (LS 3)***

In light of today’s ecological crisis, *Laudato Si’* teaches us that “everything is connected.” (LS91) As our relationship with our divine Creator has been severely neglected, human relationships also have faltered, our world has grown hotter, less stable and more lifeless. As a result, we all suffer, and the poorest and most vulnerable suffer above all. We face a “complex crisis that is both social and environmental.”

(Pope Francis, *Encyclical Letter Laudato Si’*, (24, May 2015), 139)

# The Ecological Crisis of “Our Common Home”

## THE CRISIS

Separation of Our Relationship from God and Our Neighbor

Impacts of Climate Crisis, Loss of Biodiversity and Pollution

The Poor are Disproportionately Affected

Widespread Indifference, Selfishness and Greed

Unsustainable Economy and Actions

Unsustainable Habits of Production, Consumption and Waste

## THE SOLUTION

A Universal Communion – Everything is Interconnected

Dialogue on the Gospel of Creation is Grounded in the Bible, Tradition, Witness of the Saints and Catholic Social Teaching

Scientific Research is to be Embraced

Reduce our Carbon Footprint, Pollution, Protect and Preserve Biodiversity

Ecological and Spiritual Conversion is Required to Hear the “Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor”

Global Dialogue, Solidarity, Subsidiarity and Action are Urgently Needed



“Today...we have to realize that a true ecological approach **always** becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both **the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.**”

(LS 49)







“We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God’s creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.”

(See [usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/care-for-creation](http://usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/care-for-creation))

Image: M. Southard C.SJ., Used with permission  
[www. marysouthardart.org](http://www.marysouthardart.org)

# His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

“Our faith dictates that we have to care about and for humankind and we can’t do that without caring for the earth, our common home. In short, we see the assault on the environment as a fundamental matter of right and wrong.”

*Cardinal Cupich, 2015*



# His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich



(CNS photo/courtesy Catholic Extension)

“As such, *Laudato Si'* needs to be understood as a renewed call to conversion, to respond to the Jesus' invitation to think differently about human beings, life, society and our relationship with nature (LS 2 215):

The first conversion involves a shift that affects our politics by moving from an economic model of development to one that emphasizes integral human development (cf., LS 13).

A second conversion leads us to become more aware of the interconnectedness of creation and the need for global solidarity through ecological education that is both informational and formational and a third conversion, which is fundamentally spiritual (LS 220ff.), provides us both passion and motivation in taking up the challenges we face.”

*Cardinal Cupich, Laudato Si' Creighton Conference, July 13, 2021*



# Everything is Interconnected

## INTEGRAL ECOLOGY

- Environmental Ecology
- Economic Ecology
- Social Ecology
- Cultural Ecology
- Ecology of Daily Life
- The Principle of the Common Good
- Justice Between the Generations

Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter Laudato Si  
(24, May 2015), Chapter 4

**“We are part of nature, included in it  
and thus in constant interaction with it.”**

(LS 139)



Spiral Speak by Sam Brown Art. Used with permission. [www.ceruleansam.com](http://www.ceruleansam.com)

# Laudato Si' Integral Ecology





“We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with **one complex crisis** which is **both social and environmental**.

Strategies for a solution demand an **integrated approach** to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded and at the same time protecting nature.”

(LS 139)





“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come behind us, to children who now are growing up?”

(LS 160)





The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development's Laudato Si' Action Platform is a space for institutions, communities and families to learn and grow together. You are warmly invited to join this community. Your unique "culture, experience, involvements and talents" are needed on our journey towards greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share.

(LS 14)





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE OF  
**ATLANTA**

ARCHDIOCESE  
OF BRISBANE

ARQUIDIÓCESIS  
DE MONTERREY  
EN MISIÓN PERMANENTE

ARCHDIOCESE  
OF BOMBAY

Diocèse de  
*Saint-Jean-Longueuil*

Diocesi di Assisi - Nocera  
Umbra - Gualdo Tadino

ARCIDIOCESI DI  
**FERMO**

SACBC  
Justice And Peace

Nine diocese from around the world have been chosen to lead the Laudato Si' Action Platform Diocese Encyclical Working Group. They will be the models for the Vatican and will inspire all other diocese to participate.

## Sectors Served



# Embarking on a Seven Year Journey

## *“Building a Better Future Together”*



**The Parish Laudato Si' Action Platform** gives a structure to enact Laudato Si' across the parish community and an inclusive way to build the Kingdom of God.

The Parish Laudato Si' Plan is unique to each parish's dynamics and needs. It allows flexibility and creativity in establishing and nourishing the path it will follow.

It gives clarity about what specific actions you'd like to take, and resources to support you on this journey. It is a collaborative effort across the parish in the spirit of Laudato Si'.

This journey is supported by parish-to-parish networking across the Archdiocese of Chicago bringing to life the Church's principles of synodality, solidarity and subsidiarity



# Elements of the Laudato Si' Action Platform

## **Laudato Si' Plans**

As we delve into this Laudato Si' journey, the effects of our encounter with Jesus become evident in our relationship with the world around us. (LS 217) Laudato Si' Plans support your community's journey to integral ecology.

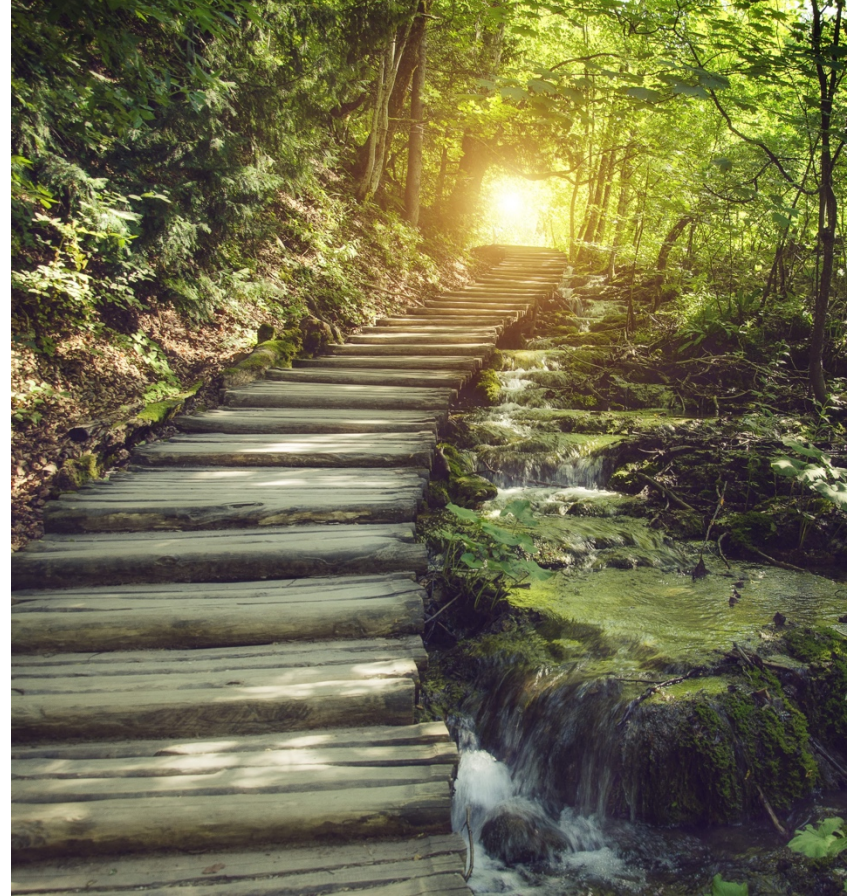
## **Practical Guidance**

The Creator of all calls us to practice a new way of living, one that is "good, true and beautiful." (LS 205) We commit to take action together because it is "urgent and necessary." (LS 57)

## **Community**

This road will challenge us, and the ideas and support of our sisters and brothers in Christ will strengthen us along the way. "We were made for love," and deeper relationships will nourish us wherever the Holy Spirit leads. (LS 58)

([laudatosiactionplatform.org](http://laudatosiactionplatform.org))



# What does the Laudato Si' Action Platform Offer?

## Resources

- The Laudato Si' Action Platform includes a website, [laudatosiactionplatform.org](https://laudatosiactionplatform.org) that supports your parish on its journey to integral ecology.
- It brings together the efforts of people and institutions around the world, building an inspired global community as one human family, dedicated to realizing our loving God's plan for balance on Earth.
- Once registered with your commitment to create a Laudato Si' Plan, the website includes a tool to help you measure current practices and celebrate successes in your parish
- It offers guidance on actions that help build a better future through the Laudato Si' Goals. Suggested actions are organized by goal in your Parish Dashboard. Suggested actions also are tailored to the context of your region. In 2022, most actions will be paired with suggested resources from local partner organizations.
- It will include a library of resources to provide practical, concrete guidance on ways to take action to strengthen your community
- Offers webinars on actions and events locally, nationally and globally
- Provides ways to connect directly with other participants and co-creators of the platform
- Shares inspiring stories of people and institutions who are taking action

## Planning

## Community



# Laudato Si' Action Platform Goals



Working towards the Laudato Si' Goals is a deepening of purpose for individuals and parish communities and the destination of our journeys.



(LSAP)





# Description of the Laudato Si' Goals



**The Response to the Cry of the Earth** is a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.



**Ecological Education** is about re-thinking and re-designing curricular and institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology in order to foster ecological awareness and transformative action.



**The Response to the Cry of the Poor** is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death and all forms of life on Earth.



**Ecological Spirituality** springs from a profound ecological conversion and helps us to “discover God in all things,” both in the beauty of creation and in the sighs of the sick and the groans of the afflicted, aware that the life of the spirit is not dissociated from worldly realities.



**Ecological Economics** acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere—our common home.



**Community Resilience and Empowerment** envisage a synodal journey of community engagement and participatory action at various levels.



**The Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles** is grounded in the idea of sufficiency and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy.

(LSAP)

# Transformative Actions Toward the Laudato Si' Outcomes and Goals



## **The Response to the Cry of the Earth**

Adoption of renewable energies and energy sufficiency measures, achieving carbon neutrality, protecting biodiversity, promoting regenerative agriculture, planting native trees and gardens, protecting pollinators, protecting waterways and land, promoting conservation, litter prevention and removal campaigns, and guaranteeing access to clean water for all.



## **Ecological Economics**

Promote sustainable production and consumption in a circular economy, purchase from retailers that use recycled materials, support local ethical businesses, ensure investments are ethical and sustainable, divesting from fossil fuels and any activity harmful to the planet and the people, choose ethical banking and insurance companies, prioritize care labor, and protect the dignity of workers.



## **The Response to the Cry of the Poor**

Promote solidarity and eco justice with special attention given to vulnerable groups such as indigenous communities, refugees, migrants, the disabled, and children at risk, and defend human and all forms of life on earth, plus analysis and improvement of current social service systems, educational events, and programs in use or in need of.



## **The Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles**

Install efficient lighting, heating/air conditioning, and low-flow taps, reduce waste and learn proper recycling before and after market, adopt sustainable dietary habits (a more plant-based diet), composting, home sustainability, gardening, increase use of public transport, electric vehicles, and active mobility (walking, cycling), be a conscious consumer, reduce purchases of new consumer goods, avoid single use, styrofoam, and plastic items, and promote saying grace.

(LSAP)



# Transformative Actions Toward the Laudato Si' Outcomes and Goals



## Ecological Education

Develop Laudato Si' learning opportunities and a Laudato Si' education plan for all members of the community ensuring that all are familiar with the local ecosystem, the science and social dimensions of the ecological crisis, ecological values, and transformative actions to participate in. Create ways for educators to undergo ecological conversions, create opportunities for youth-led leadership and events, and ecological restoration activities. Weave regular Laudato Si' themes into community communication news/bulletins and media. Ensure equitable access to education for all and promote human rights and dignity.



## Ecological Spirituality

Greater contact with the natural world in a spirit of wonder, praise, joy and gratitude, promoting creation-centered liturgical celebrations, developing ecological catechesis, have community leaders speak on Laudato Si' themes, make Laudato Si study and prayer guides available, develop an annual Season of Creation practice, retreats and formation programs, praying in nature by blessing a natural reflection/meditation space, and hosting an outdoor prayer service.



## Community Resilience and Empowerment

Advocate for ecological justice, identify and develop a social/environmental policy focus, establish engagement with officials and decision-makers, organize social/ecological events. Develop resilience by analyzing the physical, social, and spiritual ways your community is likely to be affected by climate change and biodiversity loss and making a plan to prepare for those changes, ensuring buildings are prepared for changes in heat, storm intensity, and sea-level rise. Encourage rootedness and a sense of belonging in local communities and neighborhood ecosystems and develop a coalition to prepare for and respond to emergent crises.

(LSAP)





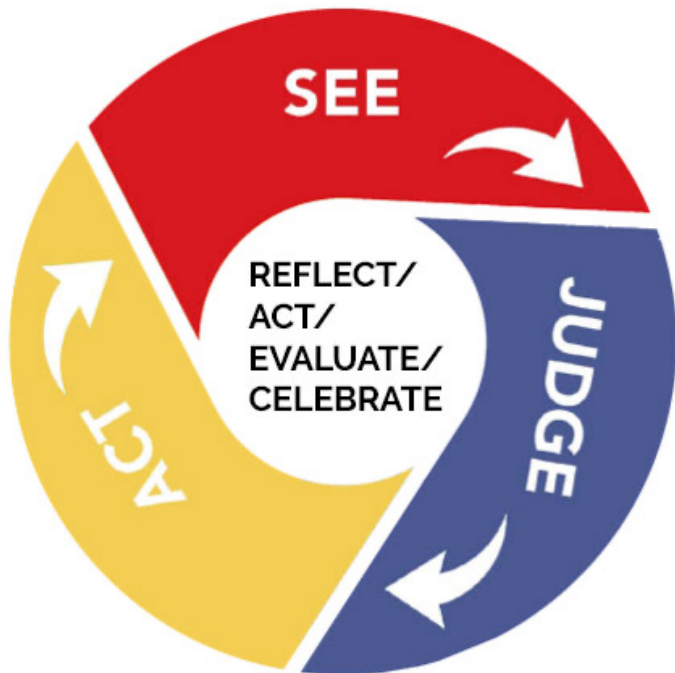


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**PROTECT LIFE.  
PRESERVE THAT WHICH  
SUSTAINS LIFE.  
CARE FOR  
OUR COMMON HOME.**

POPE FRANCIS, *Laudato Si'*

# Laudato Si' Action Platform Process



## Principles

- **Synodality** is related to collegiality. It is putting the church and its people in motion together through dialogue, planning and action.
- **Solidarity** is unity through faith.
- **Subsidiarity** is the principal that decisions should always be taken at the lowest possible level or closest to where they will have their effect.

Parishes can apply these principles to the Laudato Si' Action Platform within the see, judge, act model. Our suggested phases in using the platform are to reflect, act and evaluate/celebrate.

# Parish Creation Care Committee



1. **Establish a core group of Laudato Si' parish champions** who will advocate for a Parish Creation Care Committee.
2. **Visit and learn** how the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform functions. ([laudatosiactionplatform.org](http://laudatosiactionplatform.org))
3. **Parish Champions meet with the Pastor to solicit his support and engagement.** Explain how care for creation and the Laudato Si' Action Platform benefit the parish and play an integral role in *"Building a Better Future Together."* Communication with the pastor is key.
4. **Facilitate** an informational meeting for clerics, parish council member(s), ministry representatives, staff, lay leaders and young people regarding the Laudato Si' Goals, the Action Platform and the role of every aspect of the parish community.
5. **Establish the Parish Creation Care Committee** to include cleric(s), parish council member(s), committee members, ministry representatives, staff, lay leaders, young people and other key stakeholders.
6. **Register** your parish on the Laudato Si' Action Platform and establish your Parish Dashboard, using the Laudato Si' Action Platform Process. (Reflect/Act/Evaluate/Celebrate)





# The Integral Parish Journey

## *“Building a Better Future Together”*

Parish Creation Care  
Committee Members



# Laudato Si' Action Platform Parish Planning Guide

## Phase 1: Reflect

1. Use the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform Discernment Questions to facilitate reflection and discussion.
2. Assess current best practices throughout each parish ministry with reference to the Laudato Si' Action Platform goals. Document what's being done, what more can be done and what steps are needed to get there.
3. See the connection between the parish mission and the Laudato Si' Goals.
4. List the challenges and needs the parish faces to fully embrace Laudato Si' throughout the parish community.
5. Discern how the Laudato Si' Goals are linked with evangelization, spirituality, works of mercy, the Beatitudes, and the overall social mission of the Church.
6. Document your parish's reflection on your parish's Laudato Si' Action Platform Dashboard.



# Discernment Questions

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1. How does our mission reflect the values of the scriptures and the teachings of the Church?
2. How are we called to interpret our mission in the light of today's ecological crisis, which is seeing the rising risk of hunger, sickness, migration, and conflict related to changing weather patterns and the destruction of nature?
3. What could be some of the ways in which our various initiatives and programs could reflect that new interpretation of our mission?
4. How do the Laudato Si' Goals connect with our overall vision for ourselves as a Parish in service of God's Kingdom?





# Parish Creation Care Committee

## Example Discernment Questions for Further Consideration

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1. How would developing a Laudato Si' Plan benefit our relationships with each other and our parish community as a whole? Do we feel called to begin this journey, as Pope Francis calls us with urgency?
2. How would developing a Laudato Si' Plan enable us to better serve our Creator and protect creation? How would journeying through a Laudato Si' Plan better enable us to better fulfill our mission or live out our faith values?
3. What existing committees, programs or activities would be enriched through this work? In what ways can we include and work with (Name of parish partners) as part of *"Building a Better Future Together?"*
4. How would contributing a few hours per week or month to this project affect the people of our parish? Can we get them to commit? What Laudato Si' initiatives can they be excited about? What concerns might they have, and how can we address those concerns?
5. Looking ahead to the next several years, **whom specifically** would we need to engage in this initiative?
6. Actions for the Laudato Si' Plan process can be completed for free or at low cost, but in the future we may decide that we want to use some budget for this project, for example solar panels, bike racks, gardens, initiatives, speakers, etc. Is a budget available? If so, how much? Can this project be included as a standing item in the existing budgeting process?

(see: [laudatosiactionplatform.org](http://laudatosiactionplatform.org) for additional questions)



# Laudato Si' Action Platform Parish Planning Guide

## Phase 2: Act

1. Review the suggested list of actions provided by the Laudato Si' Action Platform.
2. Develop an organized annual plan of actions and measurable objectives based upon the Laudato Si' Action Platform 7 Goals. Use the platform's resources.
3. Upload the Parish Action Plan to the Laudato Si' Action Platform Dashboard.
4. Implement and document the actions/initiatives you have chosen.
5. Combine efforts and resources with Sharing Parish partners to *"Build a Better Future Together."*
6. Develop strong supportive partnerships with other Creation Care Teams, build on resources and network throughout the parish, the vicariate, across the diocese and community.
7. Highlight and tap into expertise of parishioners to support Creation Care and grow participation.
8. Share the stories of the impact every step of the way!





The Laudato Si' Action Platform provides a list of suggested transformative actions toward the Laudato Si' Goals. This list is available in your Dashboard (once registered) at [www.laudatosiactionplatform.org](http://www.laudatosiactionplatform.org).

1. This list of suggested actions is grounded in the wisdom of the co-creators of this guide and in the knowledge of subject-matter experts.
2. Actions are organized by Laudato Si' Goal, so that you can easily explore areas that are of the greatest interest or need. The suggested actions are tailored to the context of your region.
3. Starting in 2022, most actions will be paired with suggested resources from local partner organizations, who are co-creators of this initiative. This will enable you to access practical, concrete information about how to complete each action.

(LSAP)



# Laudato Si' Action Platform Parish Planning Guide

## Phase 3: Evaluate and Celebrate

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It is anticipated that these phases will be cyclical, and that your parish will undertake reflection, action and evaluation each year.

- Complete an annual progress evaluation on your Parish dashboard of the Laudato Si' Action Platform to monitor how your practices have evolved.
- Reflect on your journey thus far.
- Attend an online recognition ceremony hosted by the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development each year on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis and the final day in the Season of Creation.
- Hold your own parish annual celebration.
- Create a plan for action in the coming year and submit in the Document Reflection section of the Dashboard.
- Weave celebration & prayer into every aspect of the Parish Laudato Si' Plan!

**Your commitment to realizing integral ecology and protecting our common home is cause for joy! Celebrate being in communion with all the parishes and other Catholic communities around the world that are engaging in similar efforts along this Laudato Si' journey!**



# Requirements for Enrollment and Status as a Laudato Si' Parish

## Using the Laudato Si' Action Platform ([laudatosiactionplatform.org](http://laudatosiactionplatform.org))

1. Register your parish and create a “dashboard”
2. Complete the initial Annual Progress Evaluation
  - Takes about 60 min. to complete (may be helpful to do with two people)
  - Helpful to have documentation on hand (ex. how much energy is used throughout the parish (carbon footprint), how much food/plastics is served at events/school lunches etc., if your parish has planted trees/has a garden, how the parish has incorporated the Laudato Si' themes/goals into parish prayer/spiritual initiatives, news, or other communications, and whether you've participated in any trainings to learn more about science and Catholic social teaching on ecology).
  - Gives an overall view of current practices and initiatives across the Laudato Si' Goals
  - Helps develop a sense of direction on understanding how far we've come and where to go from here
  - Sparks new ideas about ways the parish can grow into its Laudato Si' calling
  - Provides a clear, comprehensive snapshot of where you stand this year
  - Establishes a baseline
  - Enables the parish to celebrate progress from year to year
  - Tailored to the context of your sector and region (What is life like in your parish?)
3. Upload and share a Laudato Si' Reflection document or video
4. Upload and share the parish Laudato Si' Plan document or video with the practical steps, objectives and actions planned for the journey. Please include photos of your building, leaders and/or logo for a sense of community
5. Complete an Annual Progress Evaluation every year following the initial enrollment
6. Review and share an Annual Laudato Si' Reflection and Laudato Si' Parish Plan every year



# Trust in the Holy Spirit

## Remember this is a 7-year journey!

Start with small successful initiatives that capture the attention and participation of parishioners including youth.

Combine efforts with sharing parish partners.

Stay organized with your reflection, planning and evaluation process.

Network and share support with other Creation Care Committees in your vicariate and across the diocese.

Use the Laudato Si' Action Platform for resources and action ideas.

Highlight and tap into gifts and expertise of parishioners to evangelize the Gospel of Creation.

Share your parish stories of the impact! Take pictures and post everywhere...visuals help to tell, shape and share a parish story.

Pray,  
Pray,  
Pray

Ensure that your Creation Care Committee includes representation from across the parish.



# His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

“Let us be reminded of our mission to care for each other and for the Earth. Let us seek an interconnected response based on faith and science. And let us not be discouraged by the work ahead. Instead, let us trust and rejoice in God’s promise to make all things new (Rev. 21:5), and take to heart the encouragement the Holy Father offers when he tells us that in spite of the practical relativism and consumer culture we live in, all is not lost.”

“Human beings,” he notes, “while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves and their mental and social conditioning, choosing again what is good, and making a new start.

No system can completely suppress our openness to what is good, true and beautiful, or our God-given ability to respond to his grace at work deep in our hearts. I appeal to my sisters and brothers throughout the world not to forget this dignity which is ours” (205).”

*Cardinal Cupich, Laudato Si’ Creighton Conference, July 13, 2021*



# Live Laudato Si'



“Local individuals and groups can make a real difference. They are able to instill a greater sense of responsibility, a strong sense of community, a readiness to protect others, a spirit of creativity and a deep love for the land.” (LS 179)

# Prayer for Parishes and Dioceses

Lord of Creation, we pray for our parishes and dioceses,  
that they may be attentive to the cry of the Earth  
and promote clean energy, ensure clean air and water for all,  
protect your creation,  
and its biodiversity and climate, in particular.  
May we re-discover our original vocation  
as carers of our common home and of one another.



*(laudatosiactionplatform.org)*





# Acknowledgments

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## **Archdiocese of Chicago Laudato Si' Action Platform Committee**

### **Vicariate I**

Cindy Cramer, St. Anne Catholic Community

Louise Przywara, St. Joseph Parish

Gary Schiappacasse, St. Mary of Vernon Parish

### **Vicariate II**

Sara Fieberg, St. Nicholas Parish

Tony Quintanilla, St. Nicholas Parish

### **Vicariate III**

Brian Leonard, Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica Parish

### **Vicariate IV**

Gina Orlando, Ascension Catholic Church

### **Vicariate V**

Andy Panelli, St. Elizabeth Seton Parish

### **Vicariate VI**

Van Bensett, St. James Parish

**Coordinator**, Michael Terrien, Obl. OSB

**Assistant Coordinator**, Cindy Cramer

