



Office of the Archbishop
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May 10, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Six years ago, Pope Francis issued the groundbreaking encyclical *Laudato Si'*. "I urgently appeal," he wrote, "...for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all." As Catholics, we are called to be stewards of all of God's creation. By protecting our planet and all of its inhabitants, we show our love for each other and our Creator.

During the week of May 16-24, Catholic communities throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to participate in "*Laudato Si'* Week" to mark its sixth anniversary. Pastors are encouraged to preach on the importance of caring for God's creation and promoting an integral ecology and include intentions for the healing and restoration of our common home.

Our Office of Human Dignity and Solidarity has provided resources and learning opportunities online at www.archchicago.org/creation to assist your families and community. Know that all of you are in my prayers during this hopeful Easter Season as access to vaccines becomes wider spread. With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Card. Cury".

Archbishop of Chicago