

LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM

'Bring the whole human family together ... for we know that things can change.' (*Laudato Si'*, 13)

In May 2021, Pope Francis launched the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform. This is a seven-year road map for the Catholic Church to implement *Laudato Si'*. You can participate and become a *Laudato Si'* school, parish/diocese, university, congregation, business or family by trying to achieve seven *Laudato Si'* Goals over seven years, a jubilee for the earth.



Read more about this exciting journey at www.laudatosi'actionplatform.org and for support in Ireland contact jane.mellet@trocaire.org

'We human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage.' (*Laudato Si'*, 92)

This leaflet is brought to you by the Diocese of Kerry JPIC Committee and the *Laudato Si'* Working Group of the Council for Catechetics.

AT HOME, IN OUR PARISHES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

'It cannot be emphasised enough how everything is interconnected.' (*Laudato Si'*, 138)

PRAY

Find these prayers at www.catholicbishops.ie (Search 'Season of Creation')

- 'A Prayer for Our Earth' (*Laudato Si'*, 246)
- The *Laudato Si'* Chaplet
- Prayer Before Meals
- Pray Outside – Creation Walk



REFLECT

- Examine your relationship with God's creation www.ecological'examen.org
- Include *Laudato Si'* quotes in your parish bulletin and in your garden or church grounds
- Mark the following dates in parish liturgies: Earth Hour, National Tree Week, Earth Day, Biodiversity Week, Season of Creation
- Join or set up a *Laudato Si'* reading group

ACT

- In light of upcoming UN Conferences on Biodiversity (COP15) and Climate (COP26) please encourage people to sign The Catholic Petition – Healthy People Healthy Planet: www.thecatholicpetition.org
- Plant a native Irish tree. See www.easytreesie.com
- Organise a blessing of pets for the Feast of St Francis
- Set up a 'Care for Creation' group in your parish
- Set up an ARK: www.wearetheark.org
- Host the Eco Congregation's Climate Justice Candle in your parish: www.ecocongregationireland.com
- Work on joint actions and projects with other churches, schools, community groups in your area



CULTIVATING HOPE

'Caring for God's Creatures'

Restoring Our Common Home

SEASON OF CREATION

1 September – 4 October



IRISH CATHOLIC
BISHOPS' CONFERENCE
COMHAIL EASPAID GATLIGEACH ÉIREANN

BIODIVERSITY

The 'Web of Life': all that supports our very existence on earth

- **Cultivate hope as you garden:**
in your own/your parish/community garden
- **Get to know what's in that garden/your local area:**
 - grass, plants, hedges, shrubs, trees, stream/river
 - insects, birds and other creatures
 - walls, stones, ditches, shady corners
- **What could you protect?**



'St Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty.' (Laudato Si', 12)

- **What could you add?**
 - Be wise: Reduce mowing and avoid (or try to avoid) using herbicides/pesticides
 - A log pile – a home for other creatures
 - A small pond – for aquatic creatures
 - A pile of leaves/A bird feeder
 - Pollinator-friendly plants:
see 'Resources for Faith Communities'
www.pollinators.ie/faith-communities/

ACTIVITIES

- A session on how to feed birds, create a hedgehog-friendly corner, collect/save seeds, make leaf mould, etc.
- Get out into nature; e.g. a local biodiversity walk
- Have a plant or seed-swap day in your parish
- Advertise and support local nature events:
see www.noticenature.ie



CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF FOOD

by the way you buy, prepare and eat food

'Purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act' (Laudato Si', 206)

- Support local producers or grow your own
- Buy local, Irish and in season
- Avoid excessive packaging
- Check your cupboards/fridge before you shop.
- Plan your shopping – make a list – avoid impulse buying
- Bring your reusable bag to the shop
- Avoid food waste: www.stopfoodwaste.ie
- Learn to compost
- Give thanks and welcome others to your table



'Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change.' (Laudato Si', 202)



'Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right.' (Laudato Si', 33)

Be part of the solution to PLASTIC POLLUTION AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

PERSONAL

- Always carry your keep cup/refill bottle
- Conserve and reduce energy and water use
- Take shorter showers
- Add thermostats to your radiators and put on extra clothing rather than turning up the heat
- Switch to natural/eco-friendly cleaning products
- Use a local refill shop



PARISH

- Plan to avoid single use plastic
- Use Fairtrade products at parish celebrations
- Have a recycling policy. Check Ireland's official guide to managing your waste: www.mywaste.ie
- Put 'Think Before You Flush' signs in parish toilets: www.thinkbeforeyouflush.org
- Consider an energy audit of your parish buildings. For advice, check: www.seai.ie
- Get involved in a community litter pick

TOGETHER let's restore Our Common Home