



Archdiocese of Seattle Starts Care for Creation Ministry

Focused on urgent call to care for our common home

SEATTLE, April 22, 2024 – To better carry out the Catholic social teaching of caring for God’s creation, the Archdiocese of Seattle launched a new ministry dedicated to care for creation.

“The challenge to protect our common home and the whole human family is urgent and an integral part of our Catholic faith,” said Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, who has been advocating for environmental issues for decades. “It is through creation that we can grow closer to God and to each other – and why it is so imperative that we become even better stewards of God’s creation. This ministry signals our commitment to the earth and the poor and will both educate and inspire people to personal conversion and action to do the same.”

The Care for Creation ministry will be led by Terri Nelson, director of Integral Human Development. She will develop and execute a strategic plan to educate and inspire people to act – at home, in their communities, workplaces, parishes and more.

“Often people don’t equate their love for the environment with their Catholic faith, when indeed it’s core to who we are as Catholics,” Nelson said. “Pope Francis expands on this by teaching us that caring for our common home is more than the environment – it includes caring for the poorest among us who are most often impacted by today’s dire climate issues.”

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote *Laudato Si’* (“Praise Be to You”) to educate people about the urgent need for “swift and unified global action.” He criticizes human behaviors that degrade the environment and lead to global warming while explaining how caring for the planet is intricately connected to caring for the poor.

Based on his encyclical, the Vatican developed the *Laudato Si’* action platform, which outlines seven goals, along with guides, tools and assessments, to help individuals and organizations learn about climate issues and develop effective ways to respond.

“We will use the foundation of the *Laudato Si’* action platform here in the Archdiocese of Seattle so that our parishes, schools, and the people of God can learn more about this urgent crisis and take action,” said Nelson.

To learn more about the Care for Creation ministry, please [click here](#).

About the Archdiocese of Seattle

The Archdiocese of Seattle encompasses all of Western Washington, stretching from Canada to Oregon and from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. There are 72 Catholic schools,

and 136 parishes, with more than 500 weekly Masses celebrated in eight languages. Archbishop Paul D. Etienne leads the archdiocese with his auxiliary bishops, Bishop Eusebio Elizondo and Bishop Frank Schuster. For more information about the Archdiocese of Seattle, please visit archseattle.org.

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