

WORKING DRAFT

Laudato Si Action Plan

2024

In response to Pope Francis's encyclicals Laudato Si and its follow-up Laudato Deum, the Archdiocese of Seattle launched a new Care for Creation ministry. This ministry is currently working on a strategic plan for bringing the Pope's urgent call for action to life across our region.

The archdiocesan plan will be based on the 7 Goals of Laudato Si. Below is an initial draft of potential activities that are under consideration:

GOAL 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

- Develop an Ethic of Conversation to incorporate into Partners in the Gospel Strategic Planning
- Clean water and Salmon restoration initiatives and advocacy
- Audit of energy use/Energy Star Portfolio
- Develop toolkits for creating action plans and Creation Care Teams
- Household carbon footprint trackers/carbon offset programs/ parish energy audit kits.
- Encourage neighborhood clean-up days.

GOAL 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

- Fostering awareness with multicultural, immigrant and refugee groups around sustainability and environment.
- Promote reusable/sustainable bags for Food Banks and AGAPE Missions.
- Communication infographics on overconsumption and effect on poor and vulnerable.
- Develop Creation Care Grant program for development of programs for sustainability.
- Provide opportunities for multicultural communities to educate clergy & faithful - impact of climate change in native lands (sea rise, agricultural issues leading to hunger and force migration, extreme weather disasters, war over scarce resources).

GOAL 3: Ecological Economies

- Ethical Investment/Banking and Divestment - Currently at 2.3% S&P500 Investments. All investments follow USCCB Guidelines.
- Establish Annual Review of compensation & benefit philosophy/analysis of pay to market vs livable wage.
- AOS Technology Plan - cloud driven and paperless system, use of Teams for remote/Zoom for global meetings.
- Remote Work Options to reduce office energy consumption and vehicle emissions on roads.

- Centralized purchasing, single delivery point, standardization of consumables, eco-friendly supplies and avoiding single-use items (pens, coffee pods, plastics).

GOAL 4: Adaptation of Sustainable Lifestyle

- Encouraged use of Public Transit/Orca cards, Walking, Bicycling, Carpool/Vanpools, and use of stairs.
- Reduction of bottled water use by utilizing personal containers or biodegradable cups and water purifiers for refilling.
- Reduce/Reuse/Recycle and Composting program on all floors of Chancery.
- Upgrade lighting to LED with sensor switches.
- Partner with Catholic Climate Covenant for resources and sign the St. Francis Pledge.

GOAL 5: Ecological Education

- Develop and dedicate a page or new website to Our Common Home/Laudato Si, including information about our local ecosystem, science and social dimensions of the ecological crisis, and ecological virtues.
- Develop an Archdiocesan Care for Creation Task Force that incorporates youth, young adults, business leaders, and experts from parishes to guide future planning.
- Work with CYO Camps and Environmental Education on developing LSAP specific to CYO and Environmental Education Curriculum.

GOAL 6: Ecological Spirituality

- Develop Creation-based liturgies/Mass for Care of Creation/ climate related Prayers of the Faithful.
- Encourage incorporating a practice of personal prayer for all creation among Chancery staff.
- Add a Laudato Si' category to current Mother Joseph employee recognition award (or create standalone award).
- Develop ecological catechesis and retreats for parish-based ministries.
- Incorporate ecological catechesis and spirituality into archdiocesan events (Rally, Convention, Youth Council, Young Adult Council).
- Work with CYO Environmental Education and Principals to develop ecological spirituality into curriculum for OCS.
- Develop celebrations for Earth Day/Laudato Si Week/Season of Creation/ and Feast of St. Francis

GOAL 7: Community Resilience and Empowerment

- Network & Advocate with Earth Ministry/WAIP, Catholic Climate Covenant, Citizen Climate Lobby, Faith Action Network, Washington State Catholic Conference, and IPJC for local, state and national level efforts in climate and environment.
- Partner with local Creation Care Network to establish relationship.

- Join the Inter-diocesan Creation Care Network with the Catholic Climate Covenant (CCC).
- Promote advocacy for creation & environment, Laudato Si'/Laudate Deum, and COP Summits with parishes.
- Partner with Youth Action Internship/Advocacy through IPJC.
- Promote outreach with local indigenous groups.