



Laudato Si'

ACTION PLATFORM



“All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements, and talents.” (LS, 14)

Laudato Si’

ACTION PLATFORM

YEAR I



FELICIAN SISTERS
OF NORTH AMERICA

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Adoption of Sustainable LIFESTYLES

Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles

We will be responsible in the use of resources and energy.

Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to live simply and responsibly in the use of resources and energy?
2. What lifestyle choices have you made to live in harmony with Earth and with those who are underserved?
3. What next steps might you take to reduce waste?

Actions

1. Whenever possible, skip the receipt, and use cloth or reusable shopping bags.
2. Use less single use plastics.
3. Plant flowers and vegetables, and share products and resources.
4. Eat meatless meals, such as more plant-based meals.



**Community
ENGAGEMENT
& Participatory
ACTION**

Community Engagement and Participatory Action

Committing ourselves to care for our common home is not a solitary exercise, we must reach out within our family, community, and neighborhood to encourage others to join in the effort.

Reflection Questions

1. What organizations or groups in my area are working on environmental issues that I might consider joining?
2. What concern is there in my environment, where I can make a contribution by reaching out to others in my house, neighborhood, church... to begin a conversation and perhaps implement a plan that can support, help, correct, solve or improve a situation?

Actions

1. Engage political leaders: write letters and make calls regarding legislation that supports environmental initiatives, right to life issues, immigration reform, social services initiatives, and legislation supported by the Catholic Bishops. Sign petitions that favor good policy.
2. Attend local meetings and webinars to learn about issues and how you can be more active and engaged.
3. Join a neighborhood cleanup project.



**Ecological
ECONOMICS**

Ecological Economics

Ecological economies focus our attention upon sustainable production and the dignity of workers and encourages us to change our consumption patterns through waste reduction, responsible resource usage and fair labor practices. Our goal is to help us realize that our decisions have ripple effects within our immediate areas as well as across the world.

Reflection Questions

1. How do my choices have detrimental consequences on other people, on the environment? What can I personally change?
2. How do my purchases support ecologically sustainable practices?

Actions

1. Recognize the relationship between producer, consumer, and planet while purchasing items and only purchase items that are child labor, forced labor, and prison labor free and environmentally sustainable like Fair Trade Goods.
2. Encourage our Province to make investments that demonstrate our concern for the environment, a commitment to workers, and protect our planet from the harm of climate change.
3. Purchase goods from local shops, farmers' markets, and REUSE stores, thus supporting the local economy and workers. Support your local economy by buying from local stores and farmers.



**Ecological
EDUCATION**

Ecological Education

Ecological Education is the process of fostering ecological awareness and transformative action in our homes, schools, ministries and community programs to:

More firmly grasp and acknowledge the interdependence of all living systems

Develop a deeper sense of responsibility for the environment and the impact of our actions

Incorporate into our daily lives concrete steps to both protect the planet and live sustainably within it.

<https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/ecological-education>

Reflection Questions

1. How are you educating yourself and others about environmental issues?
2. In what ways are you transforming your ecological awareness into action?

Actions

1. Seek out resources to educate yourself about *Laudato Si'*, *Journeying towards Care for Our Common Home*, and *Laudate Deum*.
2. Discuss them with your sisters, family, friends and co-workers. Use accompanying resource list as a springboard.
3. Take part in conferences, retreats, outings, service projects, webinars and Zoom meetings that address ecological issues.



**Ecological
SPIRITUALITY**

Ecological Spirituality

Eco-Spirituality creates the reverent stance that everything comes from God and therefore everything has dignity and is uniquely interrelated. Thus, this spirituality can motivate us to a more passionate concern for all of creation. It proposes a growth and fulfillment marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little. It overflows with small gestures of mutual care; it is also civic and political, and it makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world.

Reflection Questions

1. Sit/walk outdoors in quiet awareness of the biological life around you; how does all that life inter-relate (integral ecology)?
2. How is your outer landscape reflective of your inner landscape?

Actions

1. After prayer and reflection, write your personal “Declaration of Eco-Spirituality” and how you will commit to live in moderation; include gestures of care and how you will act civically and politically to make the world better.
2. Change one thing in your consumerist lifestyle. Through the lens of ecological spirituality extend your focus beyond the natural world to transcend race, class, culture, religion, sex. Watch a video to increase awareness of your personal biases:
3. Unveiling your Unconscious Bias to Build/Shape a better future

https://www.ted.com/talks/kami_al_lamki_unveiling_your_unconscious_bias_to_build_shape_a_better_future



**Response to the Cry
OF THE POOR**

Response to the Cry of the Poor

We are called to defend human life from conception to natural death and all forms of life on Earth. We will demonstrate our relationship and presence to those most vulnerable and marginalized, such as, migrants, indigenous peoples, the homeless, children at risk through trafficking, etc. We will seek to live Gospel values to improve social systems and social service programs for a more just and equitable world.

Reflection Questions

1. Are our hearts large enough to cherish and embrace all of God's creation and with humility and awe?
2. Compassion leads us to share the sufferings of others and to seek to work toward systemic change. What am I doing personally and communally to realize this?
3. Save us, Lord, from being idle bystanders, looking on and attempting to interpret the plight of our broken people and the Earth, yet rarely willing to act. Am I part of the problem or part of the solution/action?

Actions

1. Defend human life from conception to natural death and all forms of life.
2. Companion the elderly, the vulnerable, shut-ins, mentally/ physically challenged and hospice patients and the uninsured, who have no one to advocate for or visit them.
3. Stand in solidarity with the vulnerable by promoting peace and addressing basic needs: food, water, clothing, household and hygienic items, shelter and relational presence, as well as, attention to wastefulness.
4. Use our properties and buildings more creatively for the needs of the poor.
5. Provide the opportunity to "Volunteer Time Off for Employees."



**Response to the Cry
OF THE EARTH**

Response to the Cry of the Earth

We are called to respond to the climate crisis rightly so as to restore equity to all who are most affected by changes in climate, rising oceans, and loss of resources. We are called to stop the further loss of biodiversity and seek true ecological sustainability.

Reflection Questions

1. What evidence of the Earth's distress have you personally observed/noticed?
2. To what action could you commit to learn more about Earth's situation?

Actions

1. Reduce, reuse, recycle, and refuse single use plastics, fossil fuels, paper copies, clothing, styrofoam, etc.
2. Use environmentally friendly cleaning products; avoid hazardous chemicals and bleach.
3. Conduct an energy audit in your home, sponsored ministry, or place of business.

Online Resources

Videos:

Why Care for the Environment? (Laudato Si Explained) **[9.11 minutes]** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DNU8fn_ap_U

10 Things You Need to Know about Pope Francis' Laudato Si' **[4.22 minutes]**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_lqFTYLc_4

Laudato Si' - An Urgent Appeal for Action **[3.27 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IcP5E2trsX4>

Care of our Common Home _ ENG **[5.21 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEUhZztcnAc>

For our Common Home **[1.20 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxcRkBdnXoI>

Laudato Si' animation | CAFOD **[4.55 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Lz7dmn1eM>

The Letter: Laudato Si | What's next for the protagonists **[1.37 minutes]** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UM5p3Icv8DY>

The Pope, the Environmental Crisis, and Frontline Leaders | The Letter: Laudato Si Film **[1 hour 22 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rps9bs85BII>

Resources for Children and Families:

Living Laudato Si <https://livinglaudatosi.com/for-children/>

Activity Book <https://ejstockton.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Laudato-Si-for-Kids.pdf>

Eco-Catholic <https://eco-catholic.com/>

Family Activity Packet <https://columbuscatholic.org/care-for-creation/laudato-si-activity-packet>

Understanding Laudato Si: a 14 Part Series by Father Dan Horan, OFM

Understanding Laudato Si EP01: "Models of Creation" **[20.25 minutes]** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzyYPJLhZjc>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 02: "Situating Laudato Si" **[17.33 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXJTzM2VbSc&list=TLPQMDQwOTIwMjNPFDir-EQAMw&index=2>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 03: “What is Happening to our Common Home?”

[15.30 minutes]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmHQMaBbsXw>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 04: “Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor” **[13.47 minutes]**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LloARnNUPE&list=PLO2W1tFFtdJn9V9_DvEbz9Bygt7XsYXRj&index=4

Understanding Laudato Si EP 05: “Back to the ‘Beginning’” **[15 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVT9enSMMrU>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 06: “A Universal Communion” **[16.29 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H50S8P3JSzk>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 07: “The ‘Technocratic Paradigm’” **[15.40 minutes]**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_jM16npWhM

Understanding Laudato Si EP 08: “Human Responsibility” **[13.34 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFLaTShJNMM>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 09: “Integral Ecology” **[15.06 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uok8odEsOhE>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 10: “Intergenerational Solidarity” **[17.18 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmZcCjorWnk&t=205s>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 11: “Dialogue in Moving Forward” **[19.15 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuZSeDuLDYg>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 12: “Politics, Economy, and Science” **[18.08 minutes]**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahzzh_a63o8

Understanding Laudato Si EP 13: “Things Must Change” **[16.41 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj-a5qVj3nY>

Understanding Laudato Si EP 14: “Conclusion: In Union with all Creation” **[16.25 minutes]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAAgQr6hpbI>

Laudato Si' Action Platform Commitment Statement

The Felician Sisters of North America, inspired by our Franciscan heritage to be in right relationship with all of creation and impelled by the spirit of our foundress, Blessed Mary Angela, commit to the seven-year journey of the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform (LSAP). Mindful of the fragility of Mother Earth and of the suffering of God's people, especially the poor and marginalized impacted most by the environment, we will:

-  Identify the critical social and environmental needs of our time and their systemic causes.
-  Embrace our call to profound interior conversion as we take bold, tangible steps to renew our relationships with God, one another, and the created world.
-  Educate ourselves about the causes and effects of climate change and do our part to help alleviate these problems.
-  Address our choices and model behaviors that demonstrate our commitment to decrease our carbon footprint, the destruction of our planet and implement changes to better care for our Sister, Mother Earth.
-  Support and hold each other accountable for making changes to care for our Earth.
-  Stand in solidarity with our Felician Associates, employees, and ministries, and assist them in the work of listening to the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth.
-  Work in partnership with other groups who have committed to the seven-year journey of the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform.