

From Archdiocese of Washington's Laudato Si' Action Plan Released Aug 2021

Download the pdf of the ADW plan at
<https://adw.org/living-the-faith/social-concerns/laudato-si-action-plan/>

MARKER 6: Ecological Spirituality

Pope Francis reminds us that spirituality rooted in creation is Christ centered, and this Christological approach compels us to be in relationship with others. This Christ-centered approach challenges us to change our personal behaviors and to seek to change society for the better. Guided by Catholic social teaching, Catholics have historically engaged in collective and individual advocacy work across a range of issues for the common good. *Laudato Si'* has been "added to the body of the Church's social teaching," (LS 15).

Catholics are called to be advocates for our common home, Earth. We are called to advocate for the people who are most directly affected by climate issues, namely the poor. Pope Francis wrote, "the gravest of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest," (LS 48). Thus, we are called to be prophetic and persistent advocates at the local, state, and national levels of government.

Possible actions for individuals, families, parishes and schools:

- Homilies on pro-life values and integration of Catholic social and moral teaching regarding care for creation (easy)
 - Highlight Catholic teaching at appropriate times throughout the liturgical year in a variety of formats: bulletin announcements, parish social media pages, youth ministry, Religious Education classes, RCIA preparation, Adult Formation opportunities, coffee and donuts after Mass (easy)
- Plan, celebrate and mark the Season of Creation held each September 1 to October 4 (easy)
- Participate in the annual Archdiocesan Green Mass (easy)
- Utilize materials from [USCCB on Caring for Creation](#) (easy)
- Integrate *Laudato Si'* into all facets of promoting an integral ecology at celebrations of Respect Life Month/World Mission Month in October (easy)
- Bring in expert speakers to lead/guide conversations at parish or parish school sponsored events (easy)
 - Listen to a variety of voices including/especially from those in marginalized communities (easy)
 - Utilize parishioners, members of Catholic organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), who feature Catholic values, to speak on ecological issues (easy)
- Ensure parish and school events and formation opportunities promote the Church's teaching on climate change, social, racial, environmental, and immigrant justice (easy)
- Empower parishioners to be active and engaged in the work of *Laudato Si'* (easy)