

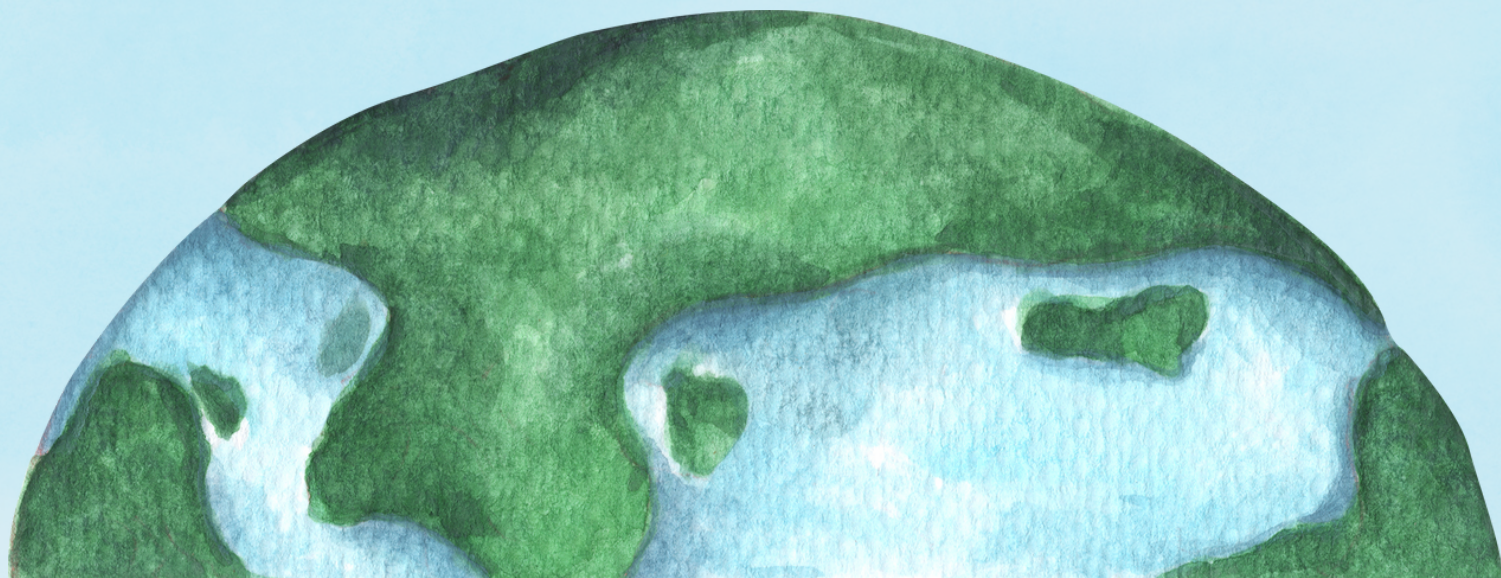


DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM PLAN: YEAR ONE

*Ever since the creation of the world His eternal power
and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been
understood and seen through the things He has made.*

Romans 1: 20

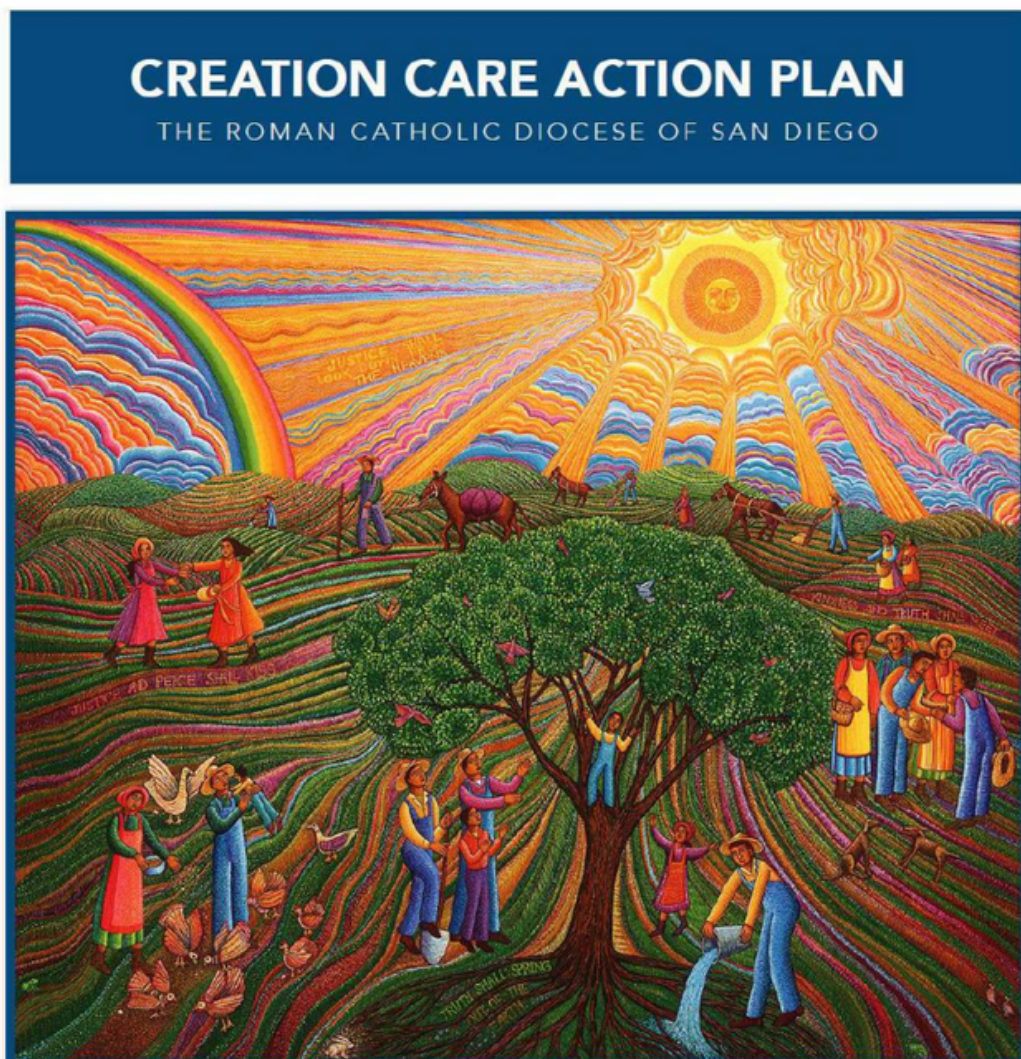


The Diocese of San Diego Creation Care Action Plan: Foundational Source

In July 2021, the Diocese of San Diego finalized its Creation Care Action Plan (CCAP), guiding and educating our local Catholic Community on the causes and effects of environmental degradation and advising actionable steps to reduce harmful human behaviors in our homes, our parishes, our businesses, and our society--in response to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor and vulnerable.

Cardinal Robert McElroy, Bishop of San Diego, welcomes us to this action, imploring us: "We as the Catholic community of San Diego and Imperial Counties must adopt a radical new commitment to such goals if we as a planet are to survive meaningfully and hand on a life-giving existence to the coming generations."

This Laudato Si' Action Platform Year One Plan is drawn from this comprehensive source document, available in its entirety at https://bit.ly/CCAP_SDCatholic.



The Laudato Si Message (CCAP, page 9)

It is our sacred duty to preserve the beauty and bounty of our local ecology for generations into the future. The Judeo-Christian tradition mandates care for God's creation and begins with the Book of Genesis. The Old Testament is filled with beautiful images of nature and the revelation of God in nature. God's love is the fundamental moving force in all created things: Jesus used nature as a teaching tool many times. St. Augustine, writing in the early 400s, said that: "Creation is the primary and most perfect revelation of God." Bonaventure referred to nature as a vestige, or footprint, of God. Now Pope Francis, in the face of global environmental degradation, raises the care of creation to a central part of our Catholic faith. To this end, the Seven Goals of the Laudato Si Action Platform are:

- 
1. *Response to the Cry of the Earth*
 2. *Response to the Cry of the Poor*
 3. *Ecological Economics*
 4. *Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles*
 5. *Ecological Education*
 6. *Ecological Spirituality*
 7. *Community Engagement and Participatory Action*

**THESE SEVEN GOALS GUIDE OUR
LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM
YEAR ONE PLAN**

clean air

recycling

health

compost

good habits

trees

commitments

environment

plantings

nurture

responsibility

COMMON

HOME

tion

Com

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Cry of the Earth

Action #1: Eliminate, to the greatest extent possible, plastic water bottle use at the diocesan Pastoral Center and encourage significant reduction of single-use plastics throughout our parishes and schools (CCAP Chapter 4, 'Ban bottled water,' p. 34)

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." GENESIS 2: 15



"A change in lifestyle could bring healthy pressure to bear on those who wield political, economic and social power. This is what consumer movements accomplish by boycotting certain products. They prove successful in changing the way businesses operate, forcing them to consider their environmental footprint and their patterns of production. When social pressure affects their earnings, businesses clearly have to find ways to produce differently. This shows us the great need for a sense of social responsibility on the part of consumers. 'Purchasing is always a moral - and not simply economic - act.'"
(Laudato Si' 206, citing Pope Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Cry of the Earth

Action #2: Continue Tree Planting Program (CCAP Chapter 4, 'Increase Tree Canopy,' p. 37)

"Then God said: Let the earth bring forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. And so it happened: the earth brought forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree that bears fruit with its seed in it. God saw that it was good." GENESIS 1:11-12



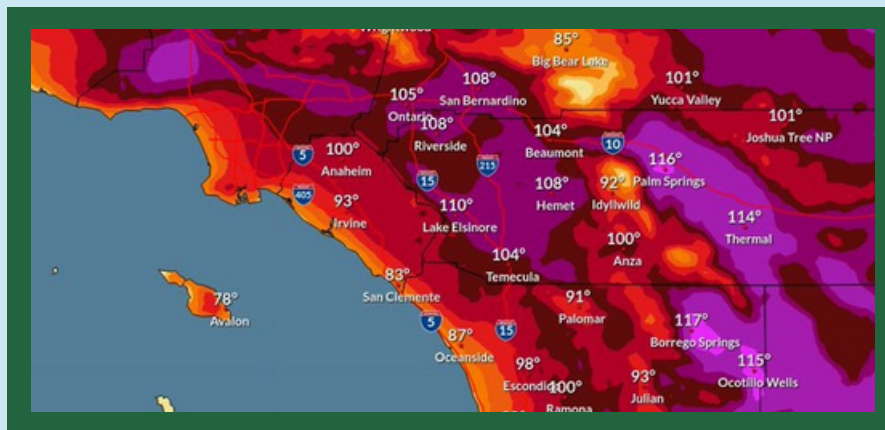
"It is not enough, however, to think of different species merely as potential 'resources' to be exploited, while overlooking the fact that they have value in themselves. Each year sees the disappearance of thousands of plant and animal species which we will never know, which our children will never see, because they have been lost for ever. The great majority become extinct for reasons related to human activity. 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.." (LS 33)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Cry of the Poor

Action #3: Diocesan Map of Environmental Vulnerability

*"The maker of heaven and earth,
the seas and all that is in them,
Who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed,
who gives bread to the hungry.
The LORD sets prisoners free;
the LORD gives sight to the blind.
The LORD raises up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD protects the resident alien, comes to the aid of the
orphan and the widow, but thwarts the way of the wicked.
The LORD shall reign forever, your God, Zion,
through all generations!
Hallelujah!"
PSALM 146: 6-10*



"The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet: "Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest" (LS 48, citing Bolivian Bishops' Conference, Pastoral Letter on the Environment and Human Development in Bolivia)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Cry of the Poor

Action #4: Provide sustainable bags to Miseriacordia food distribution efforts and conduct drives for reusable bags throughout the year.

"When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."

He then said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

He said to him, "Tend my sheep."

He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was distressed that he had said to him a third time,

"Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

JOHN 21: 15-17



"Today, however, we have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor." (LS 49)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Ecological Economics

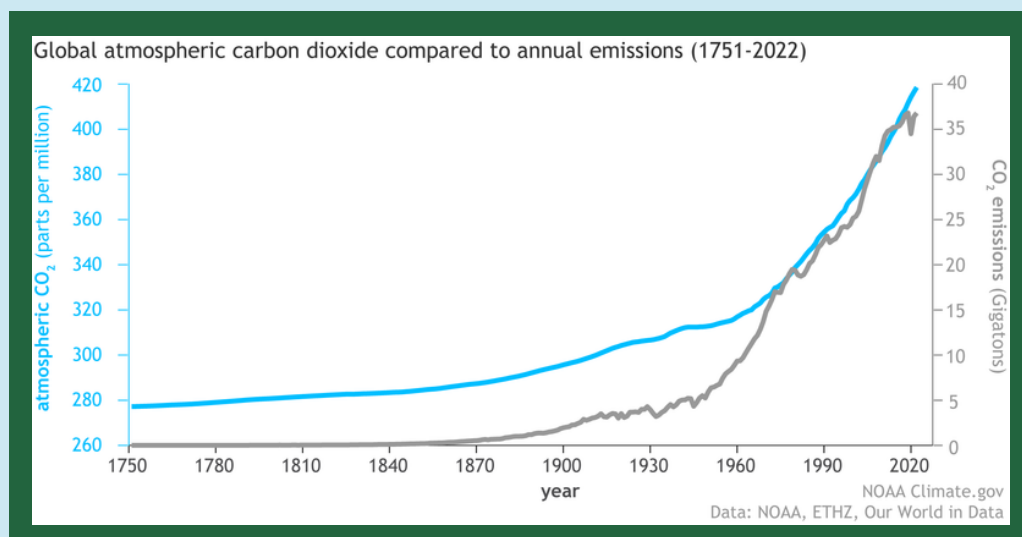
Action #5: Working to divest from fossil fuels and creating a model for others (CCAP Chapter 4, 'Divest/reinvest,' p. 31)

*"Ah! Those who join house to house, who connect field with field,
Until no space remains, and you alone dwell
in the midst of the land!*

*In my hearing the LORD of hosts has sworn:
Many houses shall be in ruins, houses large and fine,
with nobody living there.*

*Ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath,
And a homer of seed shall yield but an ephah."*

ISAIAH 5: 8-10



"A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system. ...a number of scientific studies indicate that most global warming in recent decades is due to the great concentration of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxides and others) released mainly as a result of human activity. As these gases build up in the atmosphere, they hamper the escape of heat produced by sunlight at the earth's surface. The problem is aggravated by a model of development based on the intensive use of fossil fuels, which is at the heart of the worldwide energy system." (LS 23)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Ecological Economics

Action #6: Develop and promote an eco-suppliers list to guide parishes toward sustainable purchases (CCAP Chapter 7, "Purchasing and Recycling")

"He said, 'To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it?"

It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.

But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade."

MARK 4: 30-32



"Efforts to promote a sustainable use of natural resources are not a waste of money, but rather an investment capable of providing other economic benefits in the medium term. If we look at the larger picture, we can see that more diversified and innovative forms of production which impact less on the environment can prove very profitable. It is a matter of openness to different possibilities which do not involve stifling human creativity and its ideals of progress, but rather directing that energy along new channels." (LS 191)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Sustainable Lifestyles

Action #7: "Lights out in the PC" campaign - when away from the office and in common areas after hours; accompanied by "The Heat Is On!" - set thermostats at sustainable levels and ensure reset to program when rooms are not in use (CCAP Chapter 4, 'Reducing Energy Waste,' p. 31)

"You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

MATT: 14-17



"The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home." (LS 13)

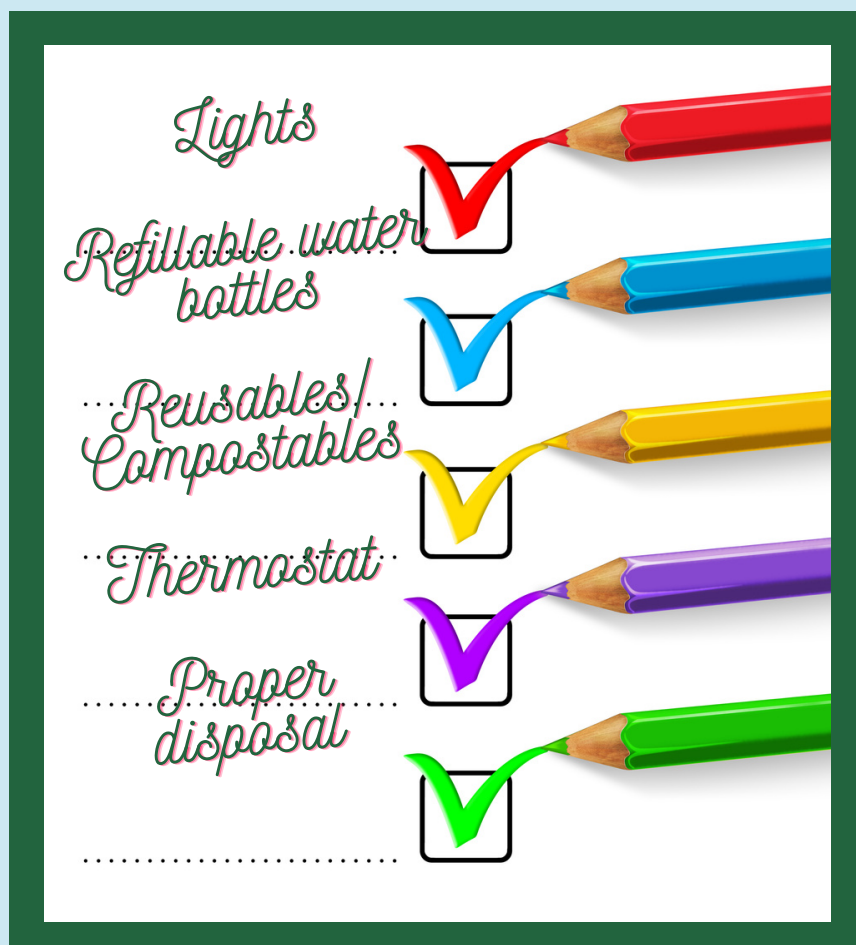
DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Sustainable Lifestyles

Action #8: Create an "Events Checklist" to ensure sustainable behaviors at our workshops and other PC events (CCAP Chapter 4, 'Reducing Energy Waste,' p. 31)

"When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted."

JOHN 6: 12



"We all know that it is not possible to sustain the present level of consumption in developed countries and wealthier sectors of society, where the habit of wasting and discarding has reached unprecedented levels. The exploitation of the planet has already exceeded acceptable limits and we still have not solved the problem of poverty." (LS 27)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Ecological Education

Action #9: Continued workshop and speaker series (CCAP, Ch 2, 'Learning from Catholic Teaching and Science,' p. 15)

"When a large crowd gathered, with people from one town after another journeying to him, he spoke in a parable.

"A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold." After saying this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear."

LUKE 8: 4-8



"Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. Reusing something instead of immediately discarding it, when done for the right reasons, can be an act of love which expresses our own dignity." (LS 211)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Ecological Education

Action #10: Introduce California Catholic Conference Creation Care Curricula (CCAP Ch 2, 'Learning from Catholic Teaching and Science,' p 15)

*"Train the young in the way they should go;
even when old, they will not swerve from it."*

PROVERBS 8: 4-8



"An awareness of the gravity of today's cultural and ecological crisis must be translated into new habits. Many people know that our current progress and the mere amassing of things and pleasures are not enough to give meaning and joy to the human heart, yet they feel unable to give up what the market sets before them. In those countries which should be making the greatest changes in consumer habits, young people have a new ecological sensitivity and a generous spirit, and some of them are making admirable efforts to protect the environment. At the same time, they have grown up in a milieu of extreme consumerism and affluence which makes it difficult to develop other habits. We are faced with an educational challenge." (LS 209)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Ecological Spirituality

Action #11: Season of Creation Mass; Feast of Saint Francis Trees, Peace and Goodness Fair

"Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you his angels; give praise, all you his hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars.

Praise him, highest heavens, you waters above the heavens.

*Let them all praise the LORD's name;
for he commanded and they were created."*

PSALM 148: 1-5



"[St.] Francis helps us to see that an integral ecology calls for openness to categories which transcend the language of mathematics and biology, and take us to the heart of what it is to be human. Just as happens when we fall in love with someone, whenever he would gaze at the sun, the moon or the smallest of animals, he burst into song, drawing all other creatures into his praise. He communed with all creation, even preaching to the flowers, inviting them "to praise the Lord, just as if they were endowed with reason".[19]. His response to the world around him was so much more than intellectual appreciation or economic calculus, for to him each and every creature was a sister united to him by bonds of affection." (LS 11)

Laudato Si' Goal: Ecological Spirituality

Action #12: Hold our 2nd Annual Youth & Young Adult "For the Beauty of the Earth" Art Contest

*"The heavens declare the glory of God;
the firmament proclaims the works of his hands."*

PSALM 19: 2



"In this regard, "the relationship between a good aesthetic education and the maintenance of a healthy environment cannot be overlooked". By learning to see and appreciate beauty, we learn to reject self-interested pragmatism." (LS 215)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Community Resilience and Empowerment

Action #13: Imperial Valley/Salton Sea Outreach - animation of the community in an effort to strengthen local voices and foster environmental justice in the region (CCAP Ch 3, "Caring for the Vulnerable, for the Excluded, and for our Common Home," p 21-25)

*"Make justice your aim: redress the wronged,
hear the orphan's plea, defend the widow.
Come now, let us set things right."*

ISAIAH 1: 17-18



"When nature is viewed solely as a source of profit and gain, this has serious consequences for society. This vision of "might is right" has engendered immense inequality, injustice and acts of violence against the majority of humanity, since resources end up in the hands of the first comer or the most powerful: the winner takes all. Completely at odds with this model are the ideals of harmony, justice, fraternity and peace as proposed by Jesus." (LS 82)

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO LSAP PLAN: YEAR ONE

Laudato Si' Goal: Community Resilience and Empowerment

Action #14: Participate in peaceful community demonstrations supporting resource equity and environmental justice.(CCAP, Ch 3, "Caring for the Vulnerable, for the Excluded, and for our Common Home," p 21-25)

"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied."

MATT 5: 6



"Saint Francis is the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology, and he is also much loved by non-Christians. He was particularly concerned for God's creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace." (LS 10)



OUR MISSION

To spread the Catholic teaching of creation care concerning our duty to be good stewards of our common home, to include the just use of our environmental resources and the protection of all life. We raise awareness to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor, encourage individual and community resilience and empowerment, and advocate for the adoption of sustainable lifestyles: all with the urgency the times require.

**THIS LSAP YEAR ONE PLAN REFLECTS THE HARD WORK
OF THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS:**

Diocese of San Diego Creation Care Advisory Committee

Kathleen Aviña

Arnaldo Bernardo

Jim Deharpporte

Father Emmet Farrell

Robert Gilleskie, P.E., CEM, LEED AP

Patricia Grace, Esq.

Praem Kodiath

David Larom, PhD

Brother James Lockman, OFM

Margaret McCahill, MD, MTS

Anne Marie Oldham, Esq.

Christina Bagaglio Slentz, PhD

Diocese of San Diego Pastoral Staff

YEAR ONE LSAP Planning Sub-Committee

Maricruz Flores

Joseph Horejs

Silvia Paredes

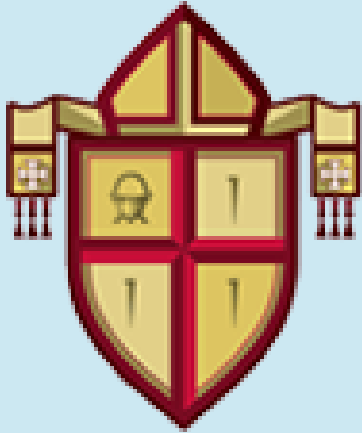
Janelle Peregoy

Gerardo Rojas

Gerrit Ward

Diocese of San Diego Office of Life, Peace & Justice

Summer Intern, Kyra Martin-Spencer



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO



CONTACT US:

Office of Life, Peace and Justice
Associate Director for Creation Care
Christina Bagaglio Slentz, PhD
cslentz@sdccatholic.org
858-490-8327
facebook.com/sdcreationcare
Insta: @lpjsandiego