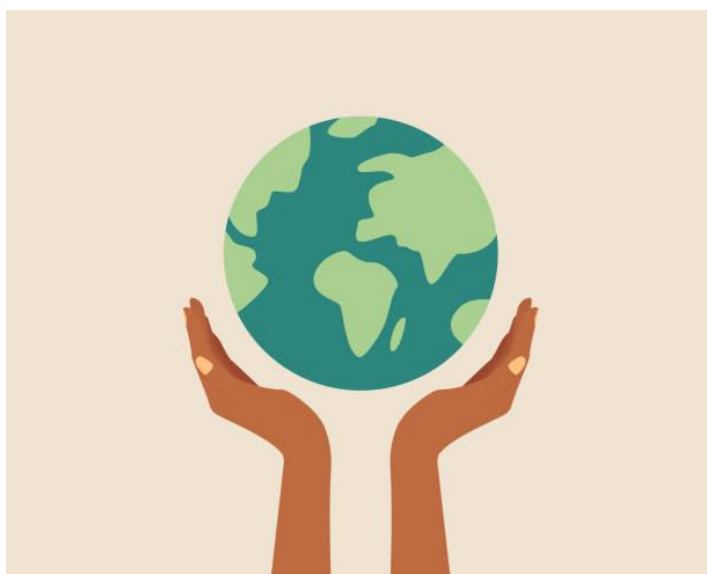




# Diocese of San Diego

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## LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM: YEAR TWO PLAN



If “the universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely... there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person’s face.” The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it? --Pope Francis, “Laudate Deum,” 65

## Diocese of San Diego Laudato Si' Action Platform Plan YEAR TWO Plan

*“Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world. Just as her pierced heart mourned the death of Jesus, so now she grieves for the sufferings of the crucified poor and for the creatures of this world laid waste by human power. Completely transfigured, she now lives with Jesus, and all creatures sing of her fairness. She is the Woman, “clothed in the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars” (Rev 12:1). Carried up into heaven, she is the Mother and Queen of all creation. In her glorified body, together with the Risen Christ, part of creation has reached the fullness of its beauty. She treasures the entire life of Jesus in her heart (cf. Lk 2:19,51), and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence, we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom.” (Laudato Si’ 241)*

**Mary, Queen of All Creation, guide our efforts in this Laudato Si’ action plan!**



## LAUDATO SI' GOAL ONE: Responding to the Cry of the Earth

**New Action: SOLARIZATION** - Encourage and assist the remaining 35% of parishes of the diocese without solar to pursue this action, greatly reducing our diocesan carbon footprint. (Creation Care Action Plan<sup>1</sup> Chapter 4, 'Purchasing and Producing Clean Energy,' p. 30)

*"For a sun and shield is the LORD God,  
bestowing all grace and glory.  
The LORD withholds no good thing  
from those who walk without reproach."  
PSALM 84:12*



*"Humanity is called to recognize the need for changes of lifestyle, production and consumption, in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it."  
(Laudato Si' 23)*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sdcatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/life-peace-and-justice/care-for-creation-and-environment/documents/Creation-Care-Action-Plan.pdf>

**Continued Action:**

**ELIMINATE PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES - Expand on last year's efforts to reduce plastic water bottle use at the diocesan Pastoral Center. Phase out use in the chancery completely and continue to 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)*

**TREE PLANTING PROGRAM – Continue/increase our tree planting program with special focus on increasing the urban tree canopy in the following communities: Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights, Grant Hill, Stockton, San Ysidro, Mt. Hope, Mountain View, Southcrest, and Shelltown. (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."*

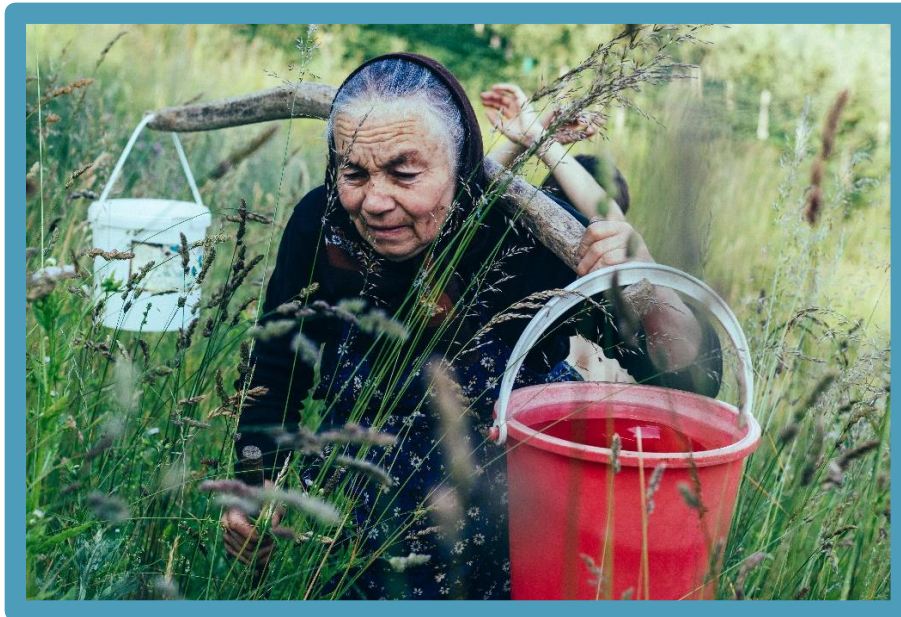
*(Laudato Si' 33)*



## LAUDATO SI' GOAL TWO: Responding to the Cry of the Poor

**New Action: CREATION CARE AT FATHER JOE'S VILLAGE – Develop and conduct participatory creation care activity in collaboration with Father Joe's Village efforts to prevent and end homelessness, expanding local action to our poorest and most vulnerable with compassion, respect, empathy, empowerment and dignity for all. (CCAP Chapter 1, 'The Need for Dialogue and Participation,' p. 10)**

*“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.  
10Ten acres of vineyard  
shall yield but one bath,  
And a homer of seed  
shall yield but an ephah.”  
ISAIAH 5:8-10*



*“I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.” (Laudato Si' 14)*

**Continued Action:**

**DIOCESAN MAP OF ENVIRONMENTAL VULNERABILITY - Produce a map depicting zones of insecurity - (CCAP Chapter 2, 'Catholic Teaching to Respond to the Cry of the Poor and the Cry of the Earth,' p. 17)**

*"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.""  
(Laudato Si' 48, citing Bolivian Bishops' Conference, Pastoral Letter on the Environment and Human Development in Bolivia)*

**REUSABLE FOOD DISTRIBUTION BAGS - Continue to provide sustainable bags to Misericordia food distribution efforts and conduct drives for reusable bags throughout the year. (CCAP Chapter 3, 'Buying and Sharing Food and Reducing Waste,' p. 25-26)**

*"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



*"It needs to be said that, generally speaking, there is little in the way of clear awareness of problems which especially affect the excluded. Yet they are the majority of the planet's population, billions of people... 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."*  
(Laudato Si' 49)

## LAUDATO SI' GOAL THREE: Developing Ecological Economics

**New Action: RESISTING THROWAWAY CULTURE CAMPAIGN – Initiate “A Cup a Day” Campaign to track usage in the staff breakroom and to promote bringing one’s own reusable wares/utensils to work, revealing the economic and ecological benefit of rejecting a “throwaway culture.” (CCAP Chapter 7, ‘Live Simply,’ p. 43)**

*“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



*These problems are closely linked to a throwaway culture which affects the excluded just as it quickly reduces things to rubbish. To cite one example, most of the paper we produce is thrown away and not recycled. It is hard for us to accept that the way natural ecosystems work is exemplary: plants synthesize nutrients which feed herbivores; these in turn become food for carnivores, which produce significant quantities of organic waste which give rise to new generations of plants. But our industrial system, at the end of its cycle of production and consumption, has not developed the capacity to absorb and reuse waste and by-products.*  
(Laudato Si' 22)



**New Action: IMPACT INVESTMENT WORKSHOP - Hold a workshop discussing socially responsible business practices and introducing the concept of “Impact Investing?” (CCAP Chapter 4, 'Divest/reinvest,' p. 31)**

*“It will be as when a man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master’s money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’”*

MATT 25:14-21



*“For example, a path of productive development, which is more creative and better directed, could correct the present disparity between excessive technological investment in consumption and insufficient investment in resolving urgent problems facing the human family. It could generate intelligent and profitable ways of reusing, revamping and recycling, and it could also improve the energy efficiency of cities. Productive diversification offers the fullest possibilities to human ingenuity to create and innovate, while at the same time protecting the environment and creating more sources of employment.”*

*(Laudato Si’ 192)*

## LAUDATO SI' GOAL FOUR: Adopting Sustainable Lifestyles

**New Action: EXPAND RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING - Place color-coded trash bins in all meeting spaces with tailor-made signage directing what goes where to ensure proper disposal. (CCAP Chapter 7, 'Encourage Recycling,' p. 42)**

*"There is an appointed time for everything and a time for every affair under the heavens."*  
ECCLESIASTES 3:1

*"New forms of cooperation and community organization can be encouraged in order to defend the interests of small producers and preserve local ecosystems from destruction. Truly, much can be done!"*  
(Laudato Si' 180)

**New Action: SUSTAINABILITY VIDEO - Make a video of the practices put into use at the Pastoral Center and exemplary parishes/schools and share it with parishes. (CCAP Chapter 7, 'Implement Ecological Purchasing,' p. 41)**

*"I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."*  
REVELATION 21:2



*"Political institutions and various other social groups are also entrusted with helping to raise people's awareness. So too is the Church. All Christian communities have an important role to play in ecological education. It is my hope that our seminaries and houses of formation will provide an education in responsible simplicity of life, in grateful contemplation of God's world, and in concern for the needs of the poor and the protection of the environment."*  
(Laudato Si' 214)

## LAUDATO SI' GOAL FIVE: Promoting Ecological Education

**New Action: CREATION CARE DIOCESAN TRAINING DAY – Offer training to the diocesan Pastoral Center team to facilitate incorporation of Care for Creation into their ministry areas and operations. (CCAP Introduction, 'The Goals of this Creation Care Action Plan,' p. 9)**

*"The LORD God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it."*

GENESIS 2:15



*"We see increasing sensitivity to the environment and the need to protect nature, along with a growing concern, both genuine and distressing, for what is happening to our planet. Let us review, however cursorily, those questions which are troubling us today and which we can no longer sweep under the carpet. Our goal is not to amass information or to satisfy curiosity, but rather to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it."*

*(Laudato Si' 19)*

**New Action: CREATION CARE TEENS PROGRAM & YOUTH GATHERING – Implement the Catholic Climate Covenant Youth Wholemakers Program to animate a cadre of high school students. These students will develop their knowledge over the course of the year and will put their new skills to use, planning and executing a diocesan-wide Youth Retreat event (CCAP Chapter 8 'Our Responsibility to Youth and the Future,' p.44)**

*"Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me."*

MATTHEW 18:3-5



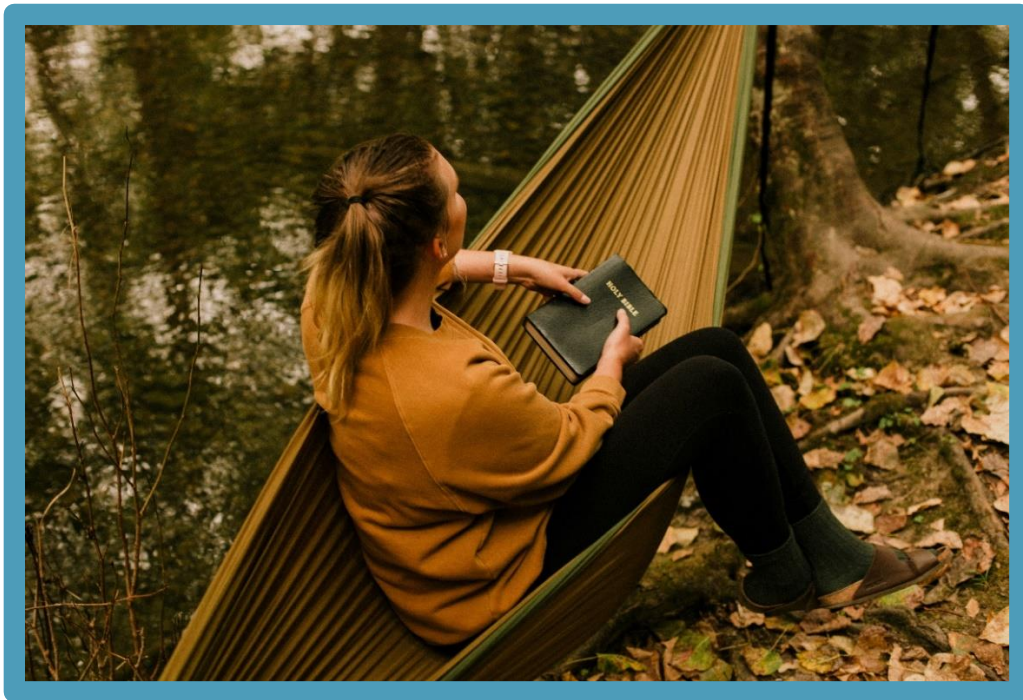
*“The notion of the common good also extends to future generations. The global economic crises have made painfully obvious the detrimental effects of disregarding our common destiny, which cannot exclude those who come after us. We can no longer speak of sustainable development apart from intergenerational solidarity. Once we start to think about the kind of world we are leaving to future generations, we look at things differently; we realize that the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others.”*

*(Laudato Si’ 159)*



**New Action: COMMUNITY READS – Share books to help our community enter into dialogue and grow together in our knowledge of the gift of God’s love revealed in creation; WINTER READ: *The Ten Green Commandments*; SPRING READ: *Martyr of the Amazon* (CCAP Chapter 2, ‘Learning from Catholic Teaching and Science,’ p. 18)**

*“Make known to me your ways, LORD;  
teach me your paths.  
Guide me by your fidelity and teach me,  
for you are God my savior,  
for you I wait all the day long.”*  
PSALM 25:4-5



*“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... We are faced with an educational challenge.”*  
*(Laudato Si’ 209)*

## LAUDATO SI' GOAL SIX: Promoting Ecological Spirituality

**New Action: PLANTING HOPE – Provide trees and planting expertise to facilitate a diocesan outreach program for victims of clergy abuse. (CCAP Chapter 5, 'Increase Tree Canopy,' p. 37)**

*“Our soul waits for the LORD,  
he is our help and shield.  
For in him our hearts rejoice;  
in his holy name we trust.  
May your mercy, LORD, be upon us;  
as we put our hope in you.”  
PSALM 33:20-22*

*“Here, I would echo that courageous challenge: “As never before in history, common destiny beckons us to seek a new beginning... Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.”  
(Laudato Si' 207, citing Earth Charter, 2000)*

### **Continued Action:**

**SEASON OF CREATION MASS & FEAST OF SAINT FRANCIS TREES, PEACE & ALL 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.' 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."*

*(Laudato Si' 11)*

**ANNUAL YOUTH ART CONTEST – Hold our "For the Beauty of the Earth" youth art contest with a focus on the Voice of Biodiversity for grades 4-12 as part of our Season of Creation celebration. (CCAP Chapter 8, 'Our Responsibility to Youth and the Future,' p. 44)**

*"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."*

*(Laudato Si' 215)*

## LAUDATO SI' GOAL SEVEN: Community Resilience & Empowerment

**New Action: LAUDATO SI GRANT PROGRAM – Facilitate local action in parishes, schools, and/or Catholic-affiliated non-profits during Laudato Si' Week with \$5,000 in project funding (CCAP Introduction, 'The Goals of this Creation Care Action Plan,' p. 9)**

*"What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?  
Can that faith save him?"*

JAMES 2:14

*"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."  
(Laudato Si' 13)*

**New Action: IMPERIAL VALLEY/SALTON SEA PILGRIMAGE – plan October 2025 event to highlight the environmental catastrophe of the Salton Sea, the opportunity to extract lithium in support of renewable energy technology at this site, and the significant poverty and injustice that has historically characterized the Imperial Valley region. (CCAP Chapter 3, 'Caring for the Vulnerable, for the Excluded, and for Our Common Home,' p. 22)**

*"As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many,  
are one body, so also Christ.*

*For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free  
persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit."*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-13

*"Moreover, when our hearts are authentically open to universal communion, this sense of  
fraternity excludes nothing and no one... We can hardly consider ourselves to be fully loving if  
we disregard any aspect of reality: 'Peace, justice and the preservation of creation are three  
absolutely interconnected themes, which cannot be separated and treated individually without  
once again falling into reductionism.' Everything is related, and we human beings are united as  
brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of  
his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun,  
sister moon, brother river and mother earth."*

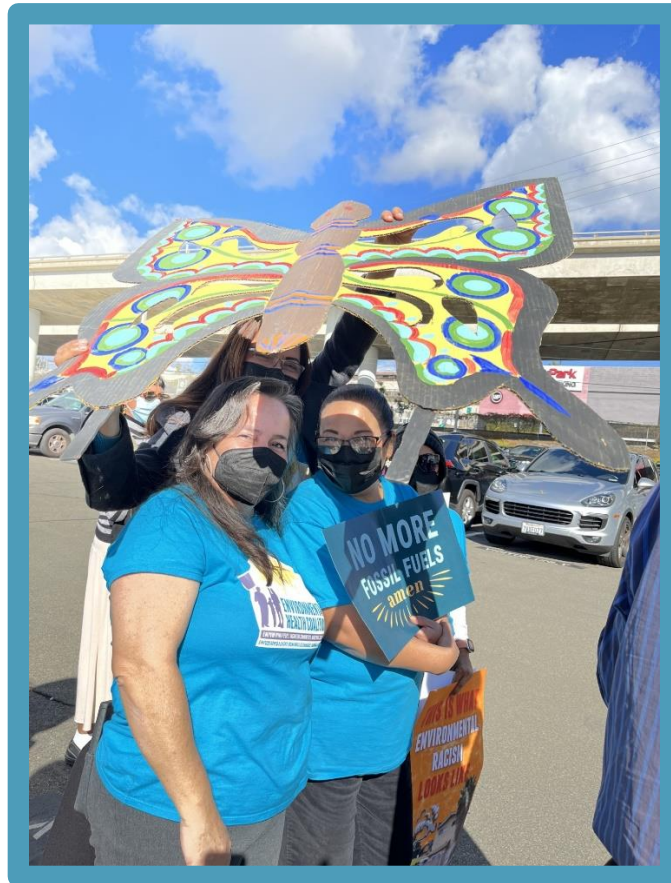
*(Laudato Si' 92, citing Conference of Dominican Bishops, 1987)*



**Continued Action: PUBLIC ADVOCACY: Participate in community peaceful 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."*

MATTHEW 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."*

*(Laudato Si' 10)*

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

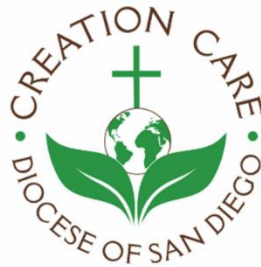
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**OUR MISSION**

**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.**