



WE'RE ALL PART OF **GOD'S PLAN(ET)**

An Invitation to Participate in the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform

What is the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform?

The *Laudato Si'* Action Platform (Platform) is a new and groundbreaking faith-driven and ecological initiative to engage the Catholic Church in a seven-year journey to global sustainability and spiritual conversion. The Platform is a collaboration between the Vatican and a coalition of Catholic organizations across the world, many in the United States.

The Platform offers Catholics an interactive place to learn, act, and spiritually grow together in their homes and Catholic institutions in which they pray, discern and work. It is designed to inspire and equip the Catholic Church to implement Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* with planning, guidance, resources and community so we may integrate creation care more fully into our daily lives and with our Catholic communities and institutions.

You are warmly invited to embark on this effort along with others in the U.S. Catholic community, as we join our brothers and sisters around the world. Your unique "culture, experience, involvements, and talents" are needed on this journey towards greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share (LS 14.) The initiative is rooted in the strengths and realities of communities around the world and is designed to empower everyone to take "decisive action, here and now" as we journey towards a better future together (LS 161.)

Why is the Platform Needed?

Our Church teaches us that care for creation is a precious gift from God intended to be shared by all – our one common home, and a requirement of our faith. (USCCB, **Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching**) God calls us to care for all His creation, but we are now in a climate crisis. Earth, our common home, is facing a grim future as pollution, higher temperatures, droughts, wildfires, stronger storms, floods, and biodiversity loss, are all creating and driving up the risk of enormous suffering, especially for our most vulnerable brothers and sisters everywhere. These challenges demand meaningful and urgent responses from all of us. We are at a Kairos moment. We must respond to the call for healing and renewal in our relationships with God, our neighbors, and the Earth itself. Through the Platform, we can walk this "path to renewal" together (LS 202.)

What are the Goals of the Platform?

To respond to this moment, the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform is organized around seven goals:

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



OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS' PARISH

“Laudato Si’ Action Plan: We’re All Part Of God’s Planet You Are Invited To Participate!

WHAT?

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish is joining a global effort to **promote and deepen caring for God’s creation by participating** in the [Vatican’s 7-Year Global Laudato Si’ Action Plan](#) and its U.S. counterpart: [We’re All Part of God’s Plan\(et\)](#). Individuals and families of the parish are invited to **(1) Learn about and act upon** practical and accessible ways to better care for God’s Planet and/or **(2) Consider involvement in the Vatican’s Laudato Si’ Action Platform** by joining the first cohort of participants in the **“Family/Individuals Sector”** of the Platform to **develop your own Laudato Si’ Action Plan** through a guided process of *Reflection, Action, and Evaluation*.

WHY?

In the words of Pope Francis from his 2015 [Laudato Si’ Encyclical](#): *“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. . . . 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’ 13,14).

To accomplish this, the Laudato Si’ Action Plan has 7 goals:
(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, and (7) Community Resilience and Empowerment.

HOW?

(1) Ongoing Education & Engagement at OMOS will take place through bulletin inserts, columns, prayer opportunities, resource materials (e.g., Lenten calendar), and virtual or in-person activities. **Everyone** in the parish is invited to learn about and engage in activities to better care for the gift of God’s Creation, for: *“There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle.”* (Laudato Si’ 211)

And for those who feel called to developing a formal “Action Plan”:

(2) The Laudato Si’ Planning Guide (for Families/Individuals) and the **Laudato Si’ Action Platform** will provide resources and guidance with *(I) Reflection, (II) Action, and (III) Evaluation/Self-Assessment* as you develop and implement your Action Plans.

WHO?

Members of the OMOS **Care for Creation Ministry committee** will provide ongoing education, guidance, and suggestions on activities that everyone can engage in to better care for God’s Planet. The committee will also **assist those interested in developing their own “Action Plan”** using the Vatican’s Laudato Si’ Action Platform.

Interested? Contact Laura Stehle lstehle@omosparish.org