Practical and Proven Ways to Inspire Creation Care in Your Community

November 14th, 2017

CatholicClimateCovenant.org
Lord, I come to do your will

Lord, allow my ears to listen to the cry of the earth, the voices of my sisters and brothers, those who face the harsh reality of climate change. **Lord, I come to do your will.**

Lord, allow my eyes to see the beauty of creation, in flowers, creatures, forests, and cities alike. **Lord, I come to do your will.**

Lord, allow my voice to speak out for justice and ensure people living in poverty are heard. **Lord, I come to do your will.**

Lord, allow my hands to care for the earth, to toil, to reap, to celebrate. **Lord, I come to do your will.**

Lord, allow my feet to take the path less trod, to walk the extra mile, to take your message out to the world. **Lord, I come to do your will.**

Father Michael Fitzsimmons/CAFOD
Practical and Proven Ways to Inspire Creation Care in Your Community

Stephanie Clary, Diocese of Vermont

Peggy Riehl, Diocese of Toledo

Chris West, Catholic Relief Services

Moderator: Jose Aguto, Catholic Climate Covenant
Year of Creation
Serving God in all things
A Year of Creation: Serving God in All Things

Methods:
• Education
• Prayer
• Action

Members:
• Schools
• Parishes
• Communities

Vermont Catholic article:
Catholic Schools Care for Creation Day
April 12, 2017

EDUCATION:
Students from St. Michael’s School learn how recycling is sorted and compost is made at the Windham Solid Waste Management District.

PRAYER:
Students from Christ the King begin their day with Mass, praying for the fruitfulness of the earth and giving thanks for all creation.

ACTION:
Students from the School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales create biodegradable flower pots that can be placed directly in the ground.

Vermont Catholic article, video and photo album: vermontcatholic.org/vcm/index.php/categories/schools/715-catholic-schools-care-for-creation
Diocesan/Parish Events

EDUCATION: The Chittenden Solid Waste district shared a presentation on sustainable waste management (reduce, reuse, recycle, compost—in that order!) at Diocesan HQ. The presentation was shared live on Facebook.

PRAYER: Bishop Coyne led “The Stations of the Cross with John Paul II: On the Path of Ecological Conversion” (FAN) at the Cathedral on the first Friday of Lent. Prayer was followed by a presentation and local, seasonal, meat-free meal.

ACTION: The Holy Family/St. Lawrence “Green Kitchen Committee” works to make their parish hall eco-friendly with durable dishware and cutlery and recycle and compost guidelines.

ACTION FOR ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE

Celebrating a Year of Creation
EDUCATION: Participants attended two of nine breakout sessions during the afternoon on various topics related to the message of *Laudato Si*.

PRAYER: Bob Hurd of OCP leads participants in prayerful song throughout the day and during a closing reflection and song ceremony.

ACTION: Keynote speaker Dr. Carolyn Woo encourages participants to invest sustainably and, with hope, pursue a better world through concrete actions.
A Community Approach to Caring for Creation

1. Form a relationship with a public purpose energy service company.
2. Connect with local faith and ecology organizations and affiliates.
3. Learn from your solid waste management district.
4. Eat locally.

Full article on To Go Forth: https://togoforth.org/2017/09/28/a-community-approach-to-caring-for-creation/
Catholic and Community Engagement

*77% of those registered for the conference were new to our Diocesan database.
Care for Our Common Home Conference

Diocese of Toledo
October 4th, 2017
Nick Lyster and Peggy Riehl
Laudato Si’ Task Force

Established by request of Bishop Thomas

Meets monthly

20-25 people initially, core group is closer to 8-10

Set a goal to do an annual educational event
Living *Laudato Si’* in Our Schools and Parishes, August 2016

Summary of Laudato Si’

2 break out sessions

- Why God Created the Monarch Butterfly
- Living Laudato Si’ in Our Schools

Bishop Thomas addressed the group

25 community organizations set up informational booths

At Rosary Cathedral School in the gymnasium on a Saturday
WELCOME TO:
Laudato Si’ Care for Our Common Home

12:30 p.m. Doors Open

1:00 p.m. Welcome/Instructions/Prayer – Emcee: Sr. Geraldine Nowak, OSF
1:10 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Sister Sharon Havelaik, OSF
2:10 p.m. Questions/Discussion
2:25 p.m. Browse Tables

3:05 p.m. – Breakouts Sessions – Activity Rooms 1 & 2
   Living Laudato Si’ in Our Schools - Peggy Riehl
   Why God Created the Monarch Butterfly – Hal Mann

4:00 p.m. – Laudato Si’ Reflections - Bishop Daniel E. Thomas
4:10 p.m. – Browse Tables/Networking
5:00 p.m. – Mass – Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, Celebrant

Community Partners with Displays

- Lourdes University Environmental Science dept
- Garden of Life
- Lucas County Soil and Water
- S.A.V.E. (Science Alliance for Valuing the Environment)
- Parish/Schools - St. John XXIII, All Saints
- 577 Foundation
- Multi-Faith Gardens (40 church gardens)

- Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission
- Nature Conservancy (Green Ribbon Initiative)
- Human Trafficking
- Sacred Grounds - National Wildlife Federation’s
- Rain Garden Initiative
- Office for Life and Justice
L.I.F.E. Team for Our Schools

L.I.F.E. (Learning in a Faith-Filled Environment) Team

- Quarterly meeting for a school representative
- Information shared for school to take back with them
- Opportunity for schools to share their needs with the Catholic Education Department
- 2016-17 theme was *Laudato Si’*
  - Sr. Sharon, Lourdes University with a Summary of *Laudato Si’*
  - Hal Mann-Why God Created the Monarch Butterfly
  - Professor Andy Jorgeson, University of Toledo on Climate Change
  - C.O.P.E. (Cost of Poverty Experience) Project

Google Classroom Created to share resources for teachers to use
Laudato Si: The call from Pope Francis to Care for Creation

Looking for a way to give a quick explanation to Laudato Si to your students and parents? Here are two links you can use. One is the Top 10 Things You Need to Know about Laudato Si (4:22 min) and the other is an animated letter from Pope Francis (4:55 min). Both are very well done and sanctioned by the USCCB.

More resources to check out on taking action on climate change:

- Top 10 Things You Need to Know about Pope Francis' Laudato Si
  - YouTube video: 4 minutes

- Laudato Si animation | CAFOD
  - YouTube video: 4 minutes
Google Classroom for Teachers

What is the Catholic Church's view on climate change?
Check out this resource. Who sponsors this site? Do you think it is reliable?

Catholic Climate Covenant - Home
http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/

Catholic Climate Covenant - Who's Under Your Carbon Footprint?
YouTube video  3 minutes

Laudato Si Resource List ssh 021016.docx
Word

Due Apr 4, 2016
Climate Change sites to teach kids
Which website looks helpful for your class/grade level?

Curriculum
https://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Become-an-Eco-School/Pathways/Climate-Cha...

NASA Climate Kids :: Home
http://climatekids.nasa.gov/

Page being updated | US EPA
https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/kids/Index.html

ENERGY STAR KIDS
https://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=kids.kids_index
Google Classroom for Teachers

Peggy Riehl
Apr 3, 2016

Due Apr 8, 2016

Poverty in the USA
What do you know about the Catholic Church and Social Justice on issues? Explore this site to learn something new to share with your or school families.

Our Mission: Break the cycle of poverty by helping people help themselves.
http://www.povertyusa.org/our-mission/

What's in your water?

- The Water Project - Safe and Reliable Water Matters
  https://thewaterproject.org/

- Water Quality | Lake Erie Waterkeeper
  http://www.lakeeriewaterkeeper.org/lake-erie/water-quality/

- Drop by Drop: A Children's Book | CRS

- Link

- Purifying Water at Home | CSDW.org
  http://www.csdw.org/csdw/purifying-water-at-home.shtml
Google Classroom for Teachers

Peggy Riehl
Oct 11, 2016 (Edited Oct 27, 2016)

Here are some links to butterfly resources to use with your lesson planning.

Monarch Watch, Journey North, NCEA Monarch Rescue Program
I'm also including the PPT presented by our guest speaker, Hal Mann on Why God Created the Monarch Butterfly.

Monarch Watch
http://monarchwatch.org/

Monarch Butterfly Migration | Journey North Citizen Science Project Tracks Spring and ... https://www.learner.org/jnorth/monarch/

404
http://www.ncea.org/our-services/ncea-monarch-rescue-schools-program-grant

Why God Created.pptx
PowerPoint

Peggy Riehl
Feb 3

New Gardening Resources with Grant Opportunities
Carton 2 Garden contest due April 12th
Made by Milk - Repurposing milk cartons contest
The third link is Kids Gardening News

Spring 2017 Contest - Carton 2 Garden
http://carton2garden.com/contest-details/spring-2016-contest/

School Milk Carton Design Contest | Made by Milk by Evergreen Packaging
http://madebymilkcontest.com/

http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=0402fab5f893b2de98470122&id=5c9c70e760&...
Care for Our Common Home Conference

Getting the word out

- Nuntius-diocesan links for parish bulletins
- Teacher Bulletin and Principal Newsletters (including a Save-the-date in May)
- Attended fall DRE meeting: gave a summary and handed out flyer
- Postcards handed out by Monsignor Borger, Senior Director of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations
- Deacons and religious sisters invited
- Using the Laudato Si’ Task Force-encourage anyone you know, especially your own pastor

**Anonymous donor sponsored teams of 4 or more to attend the conference**
What does the University of Notre Dame, The Ohio State University, Lourdes University, the Diocese of Toledo and the Catholic Climate Covenant have in common?

They are all sending a representative to present at the
October 4th Feast of St. Francis, | Care for Our Common Home conference.

Have you signed up a teacher? (This can be your L.I.F.E. representative for your school.) Is your school/parish sending a team? (Groups of 4 get the $20/person registration fee paid for by a generous donor.)

Do you have a senior who is looking for a senior project?
Do you need someone to lead a green initiative?
We have the perfect first step for you.

Use this link to register and reserve a spot for your school:
https://goo.gl/forms/CDUAYCd7qbcxujqQ2
Here is the link to the diocesan website page about the workshop:
https://catholiccharitiesnw.org/care-for-our-common-home-workshop-oct-4-in-findlay/

Save the Date
October 4, 2017
Care for Our Common Home
October 4, 2017
9:00 am - 4:00 pm at
St. Michael the Archangel School in Findlay

Living Laudato Si’ in our Parishes and Schools
Tools and resources to start your "Creation Care Teams"
Details to follow

For information: creationcare@toledodioce.se.org

Creation Care Teams Forming in the Fall!
Living Laudato Si’ in Our Diocese

PRAY→ POPE FRANCIS: A Prayer for Our Earth

ACT→ "Know the Creator through Creation"

Earth Day 2017 programs by grade level are available through the Catholic Climate Covenant
http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/earthday

ADVOCATE→ Join Bishop Daniel Thomas and the Laudato Si’ Task force
for a full day workshop on Care for Creation/Care for the Poor on October 4th, the Feast of St. Francis. Watch for details in the May Teacher Bulletin. Be the one to take the initiative for your school and get a Creation Care Team started. Email me to begin the process.
"Care for Our Common Home" Workshop Oct. 4 in Findlay

FINDLAY, OH—On St. Francis of Assisi’s Feast Day, Wednesday, Oct. 4, join Bishop Daniel E. Thomas for a workshop based on Pope Francis’s 2015 encyclical on ecology and climate change, *Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Michael’s the Archangel Parish Activity Center, 761 Bright Road, Findlay, OH.

Church leaders, teachers and the public are invited to attend this “Care for Our Common Home” Workshop to learn how we can live *Laudato Si’* and fulfill our duty to care for all Creation. In his encyclical, Pope Francis offers a “A Prayer for Our Earth” and “A Christian Prayer in Union With Creation,” encouraging us to pray them often.

The *Workshop Agenda* brings together speakers and the resources of Catholic Climate Covenant to discuss the need to act, our responsibility to act, as well as provide the needed tools, resources and best practices to help parishes, schools and the public form “Creation Care Teams” in our communities and a Road Map for Success.

Speakers include: Jason Cervenko, Director for the Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center, OSU; Sr. Sharon Havlick, St. Francis of Sylvania & Lourdes University; Fr. Charles Ritter, Senior Status Priest Diocese of Toledo; and Justin Kao, Co-Owner of Energyfit.

Following lunch, Bishop Daniel E. Thomas leads off the afternoon session directed to priests, deacons and other faith leaders on homiletics and practical pastoral resources by Fr. Michael Connors, CSC, ThD, Director of the John S. Martin Program in Homiletics and Liturgics, University of Notre Dame.

Cost is $20 for individuals pre-registered by Sept. 27 or $25 at the door. For more information or to register, call Nick Lyster, Catholic Charities Justice Ministries Coordinator at 419.214.4550 or email nlyster@toledodiocese.org.
Results of Conference

153 People attended

- Represented all 19 counties of the Diocese
- 30 Deacons and priests
- 61 teachers
- 96 attended as part of a team

Surveyed the group-60 replies

- 26 interested in forming Creation Care Teams
- 17 interested in an energy audit
What’s next?

Diocesan goal to have a Creation Care Team at each Deanery → Parish/school

L.I.F.E. Meetings
Teacher networking to develop Catholic Identity in our schools
using *Laudato Si’* as our common thread
  - Gardens for food bank or nature
  - Recycling initiatives (more than paper and plastics)
  - Help the hungry
  - Creation Care Teams
Practical and Proven Ways to Inspire Creation Care in Your Community

Chris West, Catholic Relief Services

Moderator: Jose Aguto, Catholic Climate Covenant
Questions ?
Practical and Proven Ways to Inspire Creation Care in Your Community

For more information:

info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org

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