

**Catholic Climate Covenant
Creation Care Teams Online Conversations
CCT Summaries (All three Oct/November Sessions)**

1) Fr. Emmet Farrell, DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO, Creation Care Team Network
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- Most all of our work has been by virtual conferences.
- On **September 16th** we celebrated a virtual para-liturgy prayer, readings and reflections for the Season of Creation, based on the outline provided by the Catholic Climate Covenant.
- On **September 19th** gave a short presentation on Laudato Si for Paz Christi's Regional Conference for Southern California.
- **September 23rd** offered a conference by a Green Ribbon Award academy and by a Green Ribbon Award Catholic High School on how to include Laudato Si into curricula and on both levels involve students outside in environmental projects. 5- 5- September 29th, gave a brief report on our diocesan work at the San Diego Regional Interfaith Collaborative.
- **October 3rd**- Live streamed a Mass and homily on Laudato Si with Bishop Dolan and Franciscan community from the Immaculata on the campus of the University of San Diego.
- **October 4th**- Live streamed Mass and homily in Spanish from a local parish.
- **October 23**- The young adults present a webinar on Catholic voting, based on Bishop McElroy's presentation on the same topic.
- We are preparing to launch our Creation Care Action Plan in **January**.

2) Bill Clark, Mary Queen Catholic Church Creation Care Ministry, Friendswood, TX
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Our Creation Care Ministry has been operating since 2014 at Mary Queen Catholic Church in Friendswood, Texas. Our main activities have been education for adults and children, special education events every year on Earth Day and Feast of St. Francis (which includes a very popular Blessing of the Animals on a Saturday morning). We have set up a full recycle system with new bins, and an outside dumpster specifically for recycle.

Our parish center has a large 8' x 60' solar array on the roof. We have also worked with the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston to negotiate a new 12-year 100% renewable electricity contract for 140 parishes and all Archdiocese buildings. This contract saves the Archdiocese over 7 million dollars total across the contract, compared to 2018 prices. Plus \$970,000 in energy efficiency grant money is included. Parishes just need to apply with their projects.

Last year, we donated a \$13,000 battery-electric John Deere Gator TE work-utility vehicle to the church, which has zero emissions. Reducing carbon emissions and solid waste takes consistent long-term efforts with the pastor, councils, staff and parishioners.

The resources we need: American-produced (in English) 8-9 minute education videos on the dangers of Climate Change, and solutions, and Plastic Pollution, with solutions. Each should have a simple Powerpoint presentation with the same information, so it can be presented either way.

3) Elaine Delehenty, Thomas More Care for Creation Ministry, St. Paul, MN
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Our C4C Ministry was developed in 2014 as an officially recognized group in the organization of our STM church. The activities of this group fall into three main categories: 1. Energy reduction – the lighting was changed to LED lighting at a saving of 46KW in demand of energy and \$10,000 in yearly savings. The payback was 1.8 years. We also supported recycling and composting at ALL church events called “No waste events”. 2. Education and Inspiration- To deepen our understanding of the climate crisis, we showed films, eco tips in the weekly bulletin, prayer vigils, Lenten programs, speakers, and 3 Laudato Si Discussion Circles just completed. 3. Our public policy was mainly connected with our association with Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL). Some members worked on Earth Day, Stopping Line 3 activities, Get out the Vote etc.. One member is affiliated with the Archdiocesan Care for Creation group with a goal of working on the start of green teams in the churches in the Mpls-St. Paul diocese. Much of what we have done was inspired and supported by the Catholic Climate Covenant (CCC).

We have grown from 2 to 10 or more regular active members with 30+ interested. We now meet regularly, once a month on the second Tuesday. We can see the need to expand our reach to the legislature, to continue to save energy, to educate, to expand our communication with other congregations, and to pray. We are hoping to have more mention of environmental stewardship spoken about in our liturgies and a greater creation care infiltration of all the STM ministries.

4) Janet Broderick, Care for Our Common Home Ministry at St. John Neumann, Reston, Virginia
broderickjmb@gmail.com

We formed our ministry in early 2016 after studying Laudato Si’. We meet monthly and always include an educational component followed by logistical updates of various initiatives. Our core group of four meets regularly outside of our monthly meeting to plan and follow through on activities. The four areas of interest are Sustainability, Education, Spirituality and Advocacy. Please see our [website](#) for examples of projects and topics we have offered to the parish. A recent project is the completion of a prayer loop in the woods behind our church. Our goal is to encourage people to pray outside in nature. Other projects include:

- Adopt a Road clean ups
- Butterfly garden

- Dishwashing ministry
- Composting at the Parish
- Speaker on Natural Burials
- Host Fair Trade Sales in Advent
- Annual Sustainability Symposium to educate parishioners
- Advocacy – keeping members informed and alerting to petitions



5) Bill Larme and Ann Murphy, Our Lady Queen of Peace Creation Care Team, Arlington, VA
blarme@msn.com

We had a very robust Season of Creation program, but have not developed any firm plans for the Laudato Si programs. I very much look forward to ideas from the participants in the conference.

6) Fr. John Grace, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Creation Care Team, Hampton, VA
frjohn@icchampton.org

For the past few months, we have been meeting twice a month. The primary focus has been educational and planning a direction for the committee (and the parish). Installing the solar panels last year was seen as the beginning of our efforts to promote care for creation. This year the second phase is raising funds for our tree project with TIST. Which we did as of 5 days ago (\$5000). We will be able to purchase 5000 trees for farmers in Kenya to plant and cultivate (30 years) as a carbon displacement program. Partnering with farmers in Kenya will enable us to be true global neighbors (Fratelli Tutti).

Education of the parish is still a challenge. We will be having our own tree planting on Nov. 8th here on our church property. Religious education will incorporate the values of Laudato Si. Getting people to read other resources is a challenge as well. Committee membership is strong but we need more voices and activators.

7) Margarita Jamias (Maryknoll), NY

mjamias@mksisters.org

Thank you very much for all the resources, webinars that you sent me. I forwarded all these to the Maryknoll Sisters in our worldwide missions.

- We have participated in your webinars and they are great.
- We celebrated the Season of Creation (Sept. 1-Oct 4) in our liturgies, homilies, hymns, prayers.

Upon the request of the Director of the Maryknoll Ecological Sanctuary in Baguio City, Philippines, I did a webinar on "Eco-Spirituality: Fostering the Flourishing of Human-Earth Relationship". This was shown on Sept. 8, 2020 in the Philippines. There were participants not only in the Philippines but also worldwide. It can be accessed in the Maryknoll Ecological Sanctuary You-Tube.

8) Amy Laughlin, St Elizabeth Parish in Uwchlan PA.

amylaughlin28@gmail.com

We are a new organization that is looking to find ideas for our group. We have started the Catholic Energies process and are waiting on our church to submit the proposal. We also have had our first bird walking group. We are now trying to come up with a plan for our first full year.

9) Nancy A. O'Connell, Our Creation Care Team is part of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Peace & Justice in Norman, Oklahoma

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Group began in Sept 2019.

Developed relationships by collaborating with Norman - participating in Adopt-a-Street program, Churches Caring for Creation - local ecumenical group (Speakers; Styrofoam collection for recycliersier@comcast.netng), Catholic Climate Covenant - national Catholic group (registered as Team, use of materials provided).

Recently offered internship to increase # of young adults involved with group. 2 young adults have joined our small group - one an OU student majoring in Environmental Sustainability and the second a young adult concerned about climate change and committed to conversation about this issue (which can be challenging in Oklahoma, due to strength in state of oil and gas industry).

10) Jenny Jones, St. Cecilia Boston Climate Justice Group

jennyinjp@gmail.com

We started a year ago and had a committee going, had begun advocacy, and had just done a survey of the parish when the pandemic struck and everything ground to a halt. So all we've been able to do is to add prayers in the Prayers of the Faithful for the Season of Creation, and begin to think about parish building utility usage and divestment of parish funds.

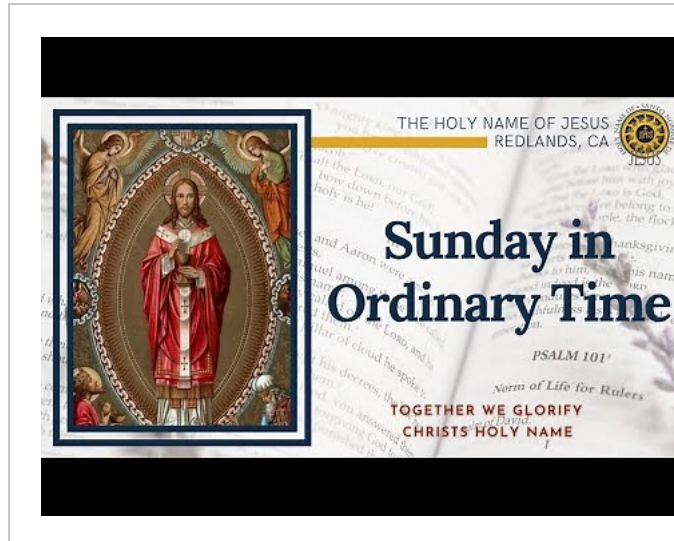
11) Elsie Heaney: Our group is part of Daylesford Abbey associates.

elsier@comcast.net

The one activity that we had was to reduce the use of plastic disposable water bottles. we have had workshops during the Saint Francis feast to help educate or reinforce integral ecology. I quickly read pope Francis's seven-year plan and I look forward to mostly listening to what others plan.

12) Marilyn Kott, The Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Community (Redlands, California, the diocese of San Bernardino)

- **March – October 2020:** COVID. Our very small ministry team of 4 met regularly by Zoom to read Laudato Si', and also to examine parts of the book, The 10 Green Commandments of Laudato Si', by Father Kureethadam.
- In June, we met outside at a park, socially distanced and picked up trash. Published.
- We published Flocknotes at a rate of 1/week, to a group that grew from 20 (during Lent) to 75 (in the Fall). We are often featured in the parish bulletin.
- **Season of Creation – our inspiration was Oceans:**
 - We continued to publish by Flocknote, drawing heavily on Ocean problems, working to defeat plastic and reduce carbon emissions in parishioners
 - We used the Holy Father's September 2019 prayer intention for the Oceans
 - We planned and executed a parish-wide Coastal Clean-up in the Santa Ana river bed (which runs from our location 70n miles inland, to the Pacific Ocean)
 - This was one of the first incidences of a parish project since COVID began. During that time we had also gained a new parish pastor. He was very happy to have gotten us out in the community in service together.
 - We have created a sub-ministry group which will continue to plan a monthly clean-up or other Creation Care event.
 - Our parish live-streamed Mass on St Francis of Assisi Day was heavily Creation Care (great Liturgy and homily by a new deacon).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bRQBbj8iOY>



[Sunday Mass - October 4, 2020 - Ordinary Time](#)

www.youtube.com

- (homily at 25 minutes into the video)
- Hope to continue to influence the parish through Flocknote and the bulletin
- We have been working on a parish mapping landscaping project since July (we've learned that much of our landscaping is invasive, not the best thing for the insects and birds in our area)

**13) Rosemary Pfreundschuh, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Green Team
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807
gr.friendshoe@verizon.net**

Our group began in September 2018. We try to focus our actions and events at the parish around the liturgical calendar (i.e. Lent, Easter, Season of Creation), Earth Day and Laudato si' anniversary. Our Season of Creation events were primarily held outdoors on parish grounds (creation prayer walk, ecologically-focused rosaries and blessing of the animals) and a creation-focused Eucharist Adoration was held indoors. The pandemic, which forced us outside, made us realize how little our parish utilizes its green space for worship. We had also planned to organize a parish team for an annual stream clean up being coordinated by the local watershed and run CCC's Earth Day program in the spring, but we had to shelve these plans for 2020. We will re-visit these plans in 2021. Our creation care team also collaborates with other green teams from other faith congregations through GreenFaith.

A worthwhile program is the Certified Natural Habitat program offered by the National Wildlife Federation <https://www.nwf.org/garden-for-wildlife/certify>. This program enables anyone to turn their yard, school yard, church grounds, etc. into a welcoming haven for local wildlife. This is a nice project for a family to focus on and especially during a pandemic. We promoted this program last fall and again this past spring.

14) Celine Hemminger, CCT team at St Peter Church, Huron, Ohio.

martyandceline@gmail.com

Our one major accomplishment at our parish is to move to using only compostable products for all events that are held in the parish (includes plates, cups, silverware and napkins). This includes all funeral luncheons and has been a great tool for educating the parish about compostables. The school children now know what is compostable from their lunches and the parish and school compostables are picked up by a local nursery on a regular basis. The parish does pay for a fee for this service.

**15) Katie Hirschboeck & Hank Krzysik (current and former chairpersons)
Our Mother of Sorrows Parish (OMOS), Tucson AZ Creation Care Ministry**

hirschbo77@gmail.com and hank@hjkarchitect.com

Our parish creation care team was formed in Fall 2008, as the “OMOS Care for Creation Initiative” with a mission statement to: invite, stimulate, and sustain a ‘Care for Creation’ conversion at multiple levels in the parish through prayer, worship, education, advocacy, and action.

Over the past 12 years, we’ve sought to involve all aspects of the parish in this effort -- catechesis, building & maintenance, liturgy & worship, human & financial resources, Christian education formation, and the parish school—with some successes in each area. We’ve now moved beyond the “initiative stage” and call ourselves a “ministry,” yet we are more aware than ever that so much remains to be done! Here are some highlights of our efforts:

Education, Outreach and Advocacy in the Parish and Beyond:

- Stewardship education integrated into the parish school and formation curriculum
- Regular bulletin item on creation care and Laudato Si’
- Annual parish film series on creation care topics: food, water, environment, etc.
- Annual “Care for Creation Lenten Calendar” with “Pray-Learn-Act-Advocate” suggestions
- Awareness-building of ‘good practices’ in recycling at Parish school, office, Fiesta, etc.
- Earth Day, St Francis Feast, and Season of Creation programs: including Creation Care videos at Mass, bilingual program, teen program, and Season of Creation “tree” retreats
- Renew’s “Creation at the Crossroads” 6-week small group faith sharing program
- Official designation as Saint Kateri Habitat with native plants that attract pollinators, etc.
- Facilitation of city-wide, multi-faith “Solar Forum” on renewable energy options
- Advocacy with local and state utility companies on State energy policies, op-eds, etc.

Transforming the Parish Campus Footprint:

- Audits and energy analyses of OMOS buildings and overall campus
- Installation of 111Kw renewable energy system (1/5 of total campus requirements)
- Upgrade of campus electrical for future solar expansion
- Re-Lamping of the Sanctuary with new high efficiency lighting system
- Remodel of Parish Hall by incorporating sustainable elements, such as: solar water heating, high efficiency lighting and increased insulation

- Remodel of School with: upgraded insulation, high efficiency lighting, new double-insulated windows and high efficiency air conditioning system with better control
- Introduction of church projection systems to replace paper waste from worship aids
- Remodel of existing church restrooms with new energy and water efficient fixtures
- Installation of new drought-tolerant landscaping with high efficiency irrigation control system
- Ongoing incorporation of sustainable elements in new projects, maintenance, and operations

16) Adam Fitzpatrick, Minneapolis-St. Paul Archdiocese

fitzpatricka@archspm.org

My Archdiocesan Care for Creation Team is planning a November 17th program about water conservation and efforts they are taking to help water quality in both rural and urban areas of our diocese. We have two panelists who will present and this program will be from 7-8:30 PM via Zoom. We are also expanding our operations by working to create new circles which will allow for members who want to do more specific tasks to do those tasks and to have members from each group join our leadership circle. We're hoping to grow this Archdiocesan team 3-4 fold in the next 6 months. This will allow us to put energy behind developing liturgical resources, to build at least a quarterly program, and have regular communication with the Archdiocese. We're also exploring divestment and sustainable land usage opportunities with a team dedicated to looking at Catholic Resource usage.

17) Luke Henkel and Mark Leahy, St. James Care for Creation Team, Seattle, Washington

luke.henkel@gmail.com

Formed as a ministry in 2017. We have a three-pronged approach to our work: to **act**, to **educate/inspire**, and to **deepen our spirituality** towards a more harmonious relationship with Creation (discerning all that we do in context of principles from *Laudato Si'*).

Accomplishments in 2020: Cathedral Covenant presented to broader Cathedral community to celebrate Earth Day 2020, in conjunction with EarthDay Pacific Northwest. This covenant is a set of five commitments on living out our covenant with the Creator.

"In honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, St. James Cathedral pledges to continue caring for creation by..." see more here: <https://www.stjames-cathedral.org/Events/2020/earthday.aspx>

We are deeply committed to growing our creation care network here in archdiocese Seattle and the Pacific Northwest. Our current projects:

- a. Action
 - i. Cooperating with Enwave Energies and Seattle University to perform an energy audit and assessment of where the cathedral campus can save on energy costs and reduce carbon footprint

- ii. Forming a contingent of active creation care teams from around Washington to brainstorm and discuss ways we can cooperate with the Archbishop to more fully live Laudato Si'
 - iii. **Environmental stewardship plan** for the cathedral: a renewed and stronger commitment to engage in environmental justice work; goal of forming relationships with EJ groups and networks in our area by showing up, being present to their concerns, and supporting their work
- b. Spirituality
 - i. Gathering parishes from Western Washington for a recent conversation (Sept 28) with Archbishop Etienne on Laudato Si' and how it's being lived out in the archdiocese, and how it can be lived out more deeply and fully moving forward
- c. Education
 - i. screenings of movies, most recently *Ancestral Waters* (Oct 14), a documentary on the rights and tribal recognition of the Puyallup Tribe of the Salish Sea—and their fight against the Liquefied Natural Gas facility proposed in Tacoma, WA
 - ii. *Reinventing Power* (Aug 25) on the renewable energy boom in the United States and the hope it brings us

18) Beth Piggush, Integral Ecology Director with Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in La Crosse Wisconsin AND Roncalli Newman Parish - Social Justice Committee
bpiggush@fspa.org

- The work of our CCT team is combined with the congregation's Ecospirituality Committee and the eco-staff. We have had multiple programs from a Global Tent last fall with the Amazon Synod, to a joint wellness challenge spanning Earth Day and Laudato Si anniversary (as a way to engage with COVID outside) encouraging people to get outside and enjoy something new while getting some healthy active steps in. We are also in the process of developing a set of prayer guides for our affiliates with Care for Creation under a see-judge-act model. The guides still offer a personal connection to the FSPA community at large and a call to action that might resonate with people here in La Crosse or Wisconsin. Other programs include support of presentations with the FSPA sponsored spirituality centers, Marywood (northern WI), Prairiewoods (eastern Iowa) and the Franciscan Spirituality Center (LaCrosse).
- As part of the work with the social justice committee at Roncalli Newman parish, we had sponsored a Take the Pledge (Laudato Si Pledge) event last Thanksgiving and challenged parishioners to return in the spring with an action item they did or wanted to do. Raising awareness is the key. We had also planned a presentation during our Soup and Sustenance program in Lent but was cancelled due to COVID.

19) Deacon Leo Bistak, West Side Creation Care Team

leot.bistak@gmail.com

The West Side Creation Care team, which is small, located on the near west side of Cleveland, has members at St. Malachi Parish, St. Patrick Parish, St Christopher parish and Calvary Reformed Church. Another pastor, from St. Paul UCC has left and no new minister is there, yet..

So, for the month of Creation Care:

Pastor Dean from Calvary and I had a discussion on Zoom, sharing something of our coming to be eco-spiritual persons and more

we also had a litter pilgrimage to do cleanup along a medium usestreet in our area

The final item was a self care thing among parishioners of St. Malachi, writing and sending cards to parishioners we have not seen since the pandemic began and during which we were shut down from March until Pentecost.

20) Barbara Chornak, St. Thomas More Creation Care Team, Oceanside, California (Diocese of San Diego)

chornakb@gmail.com

- We started out two years ago with 12 – 15 regular members, studying Laudato Si together over the course of a year, and began adding field trips to environmentally-conscious locations such as environmental mitigation sites (CalTrans projects), sustainable farm (Coastal Roots), and community gardens.
- Now we're a small CCT of 5 regular members
- Quarterly field trips such as beach cleanups, community garden events, and diocesan Laudato Si activities
- We are tasked with creating a large community garden on site at our parish and have made slow and steady progress. We're at the funding stage, as irrigation materials and installation is the next step in the process. This is 50% of our mission right now
- We meet every other week via Zoom or in an outdoor space, as weather permits
- Fr. Emmet and Bishop McElroy are great leaders and inspirations for us!

21) Andy Panelli, St. Elizabeth Seton Creation Care Ministry, Orland Hills, IL

panelli61@comcast.net

We are a multi-parish Creation Care Team in the Chicago area. We try to create interesting presentations and programs that other CCTs can use to educate and engage their teams or parishioners. Here are some samples:

Presentation and Engagement Opportunities for *Creation Care / Green teams*

Solutions to climate change: An Interactive Presentation / Discussion (Live or ZOOM)

Here's an opportunity for parishioners to learn more about the climate change, the Catholic Church position on the issue, and the relative effectiveness of various actions that might be used to address the problem. As part of the exercise, a range of possible actions are reviewed, and attendees make suggestions as to what they think needs to be done. Our trained facilitator will show the group how their recommendations will impact climate change using a MIT/Sloan climate simulator that will model their proposed solutions "real-time". This stimulates discussions as to why an action may or may not be as effective a course of action as expected. We'll share with the audience actions the Catholic church supports on climate change, and they'll also be able to test the impact of that those actions. Here's a one-page event description <http://bit.ly/ClimateSolutionsEnRoads> This link shows the modeling tool we'll use – we keep it at a high level. <https://vimeo.com/359091159> (Click on image to start video)

The Conservative Catholic Case for Climate Action: Presentation / Discussion (Live or ZOOM)

This presentation is designed to resonate with more conservative parishioners who may be skeptical about climate change. This is 45/75- minute presentation/ discussion covers the Catholic Church position on climate change and works to shift perspectives on why taking action on climate change is in-line with conservative values. Insights on how to more effectively communicate with conservatives on this subject can also be gleaned by those that are more left leaning. The discussion approach focuses on shared values. Here is a link to the presentation: <https://bit.ly/conservativecase>

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Creation Care Corner Sunday Bulletin Inserts

Our ministry can provide a new ¼ page Sunday Bulletin inserts to your parish communicator each week. The insert features a Creation Care quote from a Pope or Saint, and a sustainability

tip designed to save energy, reduce waste, or slow climate change while often saving the parishioner money. Contact me to get on the mailing list or access them yourself through our database link (which are provided in multiple editable formats to meet each parish needs.

<http://bit.ly/creationcarecorner1>

Other events we have had success with:

“Reducing Plastic Waste” educational display: educate parishioners as they leave mass or show students in school about the problem of plastic waste and the benefits of reducing plastic waste. This multi-media display highlights the problem of plastic waste while getting people to think about the products they use, the impact on the environment and possible waste reduction alternatives. While posters and a silent looping video highlight the problems, a tabletop display of 25 common consumer items (with 2 preferential alternatives each) are rated: “Bad”, “Better”, “Best”. Here’s a detailed event description

<http://bit.ly/plasticdisplaydescrip> and a link to pictures of the display:

<http://bit.ly/PlasticsDisplay1>

Movie: Presentations/Documentaries/Discussion- Showing movies like The Human Element that puts a human face on the issue of climate change in the United States as it shows every day Americans who suffer the consequences of flooding, wildfires, sea level rise and pervasive health problems caused by degradation of air quality. These movies are supplemented by a short presentation that highlights the science around climate change, the Catholic Church position on climate change, Church supported legislation (HR763) to address the issue, and a call to action. Here’s a link to the movie trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k34FhplukXQ> And our presentation slides

<http://bit.ly/HumanElementdescrip>

Climate Change / Member of Congress letter writing campaign: This after-mass multi-media narthex display is designed to educate parishioners on climate change and Catholic Church supported legislation to mitigate the worst consequences of it. This tool is a very impactful way to quickly and powerfully promote Catholic Church supported action. Prewritten letters are presented to parishioners to personalize to their members of Congress just as they are leaving mass. We provide high-level education to the parishioners on the legislation and have them sign the letters, all in less than 10 minutes! Then we help you deliver the letters to Members of Congress. We generated 500 letters at one parish in one weekend! Very impactful to legislators. Here is a one page detailed event description: <http://bit.ly/ClimatechangeMOCdescrip2>

This video link gives you an idea of what it’s like <http://bit.ly/CCCrequest> to do at a parish.

Here’s a link to view support materials, posters, etc., provided with the display

<http://bit.ly/climatedisplay>

St. Francis Pledge: We set up informational tables in the Narthex after mass and invited people to sign the pledge and receive a free Pope Francis prayer card or re-usable shopping bag. They were also offered an opportunity to sign up for a once / month email with a 4-minute action item to write congress, the EPA, or a poorly performing company on Environmental issues. We have a mailing list of 275 we send actions to each month.

At every event we do there is an immediate easy call to action of Care for Creation.

2) Roger Ingersoll, St Anthony of Padua Care for Creation Team, The Woodlands, TX (just north of Houston)

Format: monthly Zoom meetings at 8:30am on 3rd Saturdays. Typical attendance is 4 to 6. Maximum attendance ~15.

Recent presentation examples:

- Air Pollution and COVID (Matt Tresaugue) -19: <https://youtu.be/xQZ8p6OiiyI>
- Climate Change from Personal and Catholic Perspective: <https://youtu.be/UDTutMi3Xyk>
- Faithful Final Farewell - Casket, Cremation, or Compost? (Mari Hanley) - https://youtu.be/jMREW5_djE8
- Sample set of meeting notes - see below

My concern/ frustration - we are a parish of 7000 families and struggle to get more than 6 attendees.

22) Patricia Dwight, St. Peter Parish Creation Care Team in Huron, Ohio.
panelli61@comcast.net

Our group is about four years old. We have approximately 25 members. We organize monthly meetings, and have been meeting via Zoom since Covid began. We rely very much on the CCC's monthly newsletters to help inform and plan for our meetings. Our biggest accomplishment prior to Covid was a parish-wide movement to all compostable products for all gatherings where food is served. We have also held educational events focused on plastic and recycling. We have used the St. Francis programming as well. We are currently involved in Zoom meetings where we study Laudato Si together as a group, and choose quotes from the document to be included in our parish bulletin. This will be ongoing over the course of the year.

23) Betsy Reifsnider. St. Francis of Assisi – Pathways for Justice, Sacramento, CA
betsyreif@icloud.com

Although this year's pandemic curtailed some plans, we were able to work with three other local parishes to provide our own version of the "Feast of St. Francis 2020 program," to 50 participants via Zoom.

Last year, we installed drought-tolerant and pollinator-attracting plants on church and school grounds, becoming a certified St. Kateri Tekakwitha Habitat. We organized interfaith speaking

engagements in Sacramento for Honduran activist and Jesuit priest Father Ismael Moreno Coto, who spoke on human rights, water, and environmental justice issues.

In previous years, we conducted water and energy audits for all parish buildings, organized many workshops on climate change, water justice, and Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*, installed permanent bicycle racks and hosted "Bike to Church Sunday," led ecological Stations of the Cross during Lent, and joined the climate justice committee of Sacramento Area Congregations Together.

24) Nancy Lorence, St. Francis Xavier, Manhattan, , NY, NYC
n.lorence2013@gmail.com

We have promoted *Laudato Si'* with bulletin inserts, by promoting the *Laudato Si'* Pledge, with our speaker events.

We instituted recycling in the parish, and have promoted a campaign to have people sign up to get their electricity from renewable energy. We promote simpler life styles, mostly through our Advent bulletin blurbs about gifting, and our Lenten calendar that was produced by my parish, but used widely in other parishes.

We celebrate the Season of Creation and conclude with a Blessing of the Animals event and a prayer service. During the Season of Creation, we participate in the International Coastal Clean-up by picking up trash along the Hudson River. We have also had the fortune to have two retreats given by the staff of the Global Catholic Climate Movement, one with Director, Tomas Insua, and another with the Assistant Director, Christina Leano. We usually have one speaker event during the Season of Creation. In the past, we've had Dr. Erin Lothes, Cardinal Ribat from Papua New Guinea, Dr. Lorna Gold, Dr. Anthony Annet.

My parish participated in the Catholic Declaration for the California Summit, and in 2018, we also produced a beautiful concert, Songs for the Earth, which combined spoken word (including quotes from *Laudato Si'*) with music.

This year for Earth Day 50th Anniversary, we organized a webinar on the Amazon and for the 5th Anniversary of *Laudato Si'*, we organized a webinar on the impact of *Laudato Si'*.

In general, we encourage people to join us in a visible witness in the big marches; we organized a "Catholic" bus for the D.C. Climate March, and a Catholic contingent for the 2019 Climate Strike with Greta Thunberg. We support political campaigns for green legislation. Pre-covid, we had two successful summer film series.

25) Anne Marie Brennan, St. Catharine Church, Glen Rock, NJ in Archdiocese of Newark
annmariebrennan@yahoo.com

1. Bulletin insert of Laudato Si postcard on USCCB Environmental Justice page <https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/environment/index.cfm>
2. Shared liturgical guide "Jubilee Time for the Earth" with pastor, music director and staff: <https://www.dominicancenter.org/season-of-creation-jubilee-time-for-earth/>
3. Shared online daily reflections in Season of Creation written by neighboring parish: <https://www.churchofpresentation.org/the-season-of-creation-2020-september-1-october-4/>
4. Parish Blessing of the Animals on Oct 4th Feast of St. Francis
5. Working on Archdiocese of Newark Environmental Justice Task Force. Developed an Archdiocesan Laudato Si Action Plan based on Atlanta Action Plan; now waiting for response from Cardinal Tobin. Networking with over a dozen other parishes in the archdiocese that meets monthly. Discussing best ways for us to share resources/ ideas/ events-- such as on a private diocesan Facebook group, e-newsletter, wordpress blog, diocesan webpage, etc.

26) Steve Coleman, St Dennis Care for Creation Team: C4C (Wisconsin)

stevenjcoleman@gmail.com

C4C has adopted several broad **Goals**:

- To help Saint Dennis become a Net Carbon Neutral Parish — meaning zero carbon dioxide emissions from parish buildings. We do this through prayer, education, and actions that reduce the parish's impact on the environment.
- To encourage and assist parish families in achieving conservation and protection of our Earth's natural resources.
- To specifically recruit 100 parishioners to compute their family's carbon footprint in order to better understand their impact on the environment.

- Approx. 20 active members. 44 people on the mailing list

Actions

1. Installed two Solar PV arrays,
2. With the Solar savings we purchase wind power from our local utility.
3. 57% Reduction in Carbon Emissions. From 2014 to 2020
4. Installed new LED outdoor lighting
5. Signed up 52 families for carbon footprint program.
6. Eliminated disposable cups from coffee time.
7. Participating in a Creation Care lesson for middle school faith formation.
8. Presentations, study groups and information events for the parish. About 2 per year.
9. Weekly messaging in the parish bulletin; Creation Corner.

27) Fr. James Kinney, *Triparish of Saints Pius, Mary and Anthony in Solon Springs*
pomp1o2000@yahoo.com

Work very closely with Lake Superior IPL protecting the Lake Superior watershed from incursions by fossil fuel pipelines and other attacks on the pristine gifts of nature in our region.