



**LAUDATO SI'
WEEK**

Laudato Si' Week 2023
May 21-28, 2023

Laudato Si' Week 2023 is an eight-day campaign to mark the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on creation care. Sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, this global celebration will unite Catholics to listen and respond together to the cry of the earth and cry of the poor, rejoice in the progress we have made in bringing *Laudato Si'* to life, and intensify our efforts through the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform as well as other opportunities for education and action. Learn more at LaudatoSiWeek.org.

As we honor the great progress made by the global Church in our journey towards ecological conversion and prepare for the next decade of action to care for all God's creation, we invite you to reflect for the next eight days on the following: *what can I do to walk together with my brothers and sisters most impacted by the climate crisis to make sure that our common home remains a place that respects the dignity and interconnectedness of all life?*

May 21, 2023/Day One - Rediscovering *Laudato Si'*

Pray

- “All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.” Begin your journey through *Laudato Si'* Week with [A Prayer for our Earth \(en Español\)](#) included at the end of Pope Francis' encyclical.

Learn

- “The universe as a whole, in all its manifold relationships, shows forth the inexhaustible riches of God” (*Laudato Si'*, no. 86). What does nature teach us about the Creator? Read [chapter two of *Laudato Si'* \(en Español\)](#) and then use **pages 7-8** of this [discussion guide \(en Español\)](#) to reflect on care for creation as a moral and spiritual issue.

Act

- Marking [2022 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation](#), Archbishop Paul Coakley, then-Chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Conference Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, and Bishop David Malloy, Chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Conference Committee on International Justice and Peace said: “Yet we also hear the ‘cry of the earth and cry of the poor,’ the ‘little ones’ being wounded by a throwaway culture fueled by greed, over-consumption, technocratic power, and indifference.” How can you respond to the call in *Laudato Si'* to “hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor”? Use this [brief bulletin insert \(en Español\)](#) to reflect and find concrete steps to better care for creation.

May 22, 2023/Day Two - Ecological Spirituality

Pray

- In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis invites us to reflect on our relationship with God, creation, and one another. As we begin *Laudato Si'* Week, use this [Ecological Examen](#) to reflect on your relationship with creation, acknowledge and amend your ways, and promote ecological justice by standing in solidarity with those most impacted by environmental harm.

Learn

- To care for the earth, we must [root our actions in our faith](#): “Faith helps us to face so many looming challenges without becoming discouraged or despondent, and guides us to the ultimate standards of goodness and truth.” Learn more about how our call to live in relationship with all of God’s creation is a requirement of our faith by watching a video on [Care for God’s Creation \(en Español\)](#) and using the [accompanying discussion guide \(en Español\)](#) with your family or a faith or community group.

Act

- How can we live our “vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork” (*Laudato Si'*, no. 217)? As we continue through *Laudato Si'* Week, [listen](#) to how “God calls us to live in greater harmony with all creation.”

May 23, 2023/Day Three - Cry of the Earth: Care for Our Common Home

Pray

- “Listening to *the voice of creation*, help me to join in holy witness to protect those most vulnerable and to protect our common home.” Reflect on our call to care for our common home by praying the prayer [Help Me Listen to the Voice of Creation](#).

Learn

- The call to care for our common home is not only a central tenant of our Catholic faith but an invitation to join our brothers and sisters of other faith traditions in the important work of responding to the global climate crisis. Use the [Ecumenical and Interreligious Guidebook: Care for Our Common Home](#) to help you work with communities of faith in your area on this important task.

Act

- The U.S. Bishops have long advocated for policies that [support](#) and [encourage](#) better stewardship of God’s creation. Learn more about [the environmental justice advocacy](#) of the U.S. Bishops and [sign up for action alerts](#). Use your voice to tell your elected officials why caring for God’s creation matters to you.

May 24, 2023/Day Four- Cry of the Earth: Climate Change

Pray

- How are you individually called to participate in caring for God's creation? What role do you have to play in your community's response to climate change? Use [this meditation](#) to discern how you are being called to care for creation and work for environmental justice.

Learn

- The Catholic Church brings a distinct perspective to the conversation about climate change by highlighting the moral dimensions of this issue and calling attention to the needs of the most vulnerable among us. Learn more about the Church's teaching on [environmental justice and global climate change](#). Reflect on how our faith calls us to respond to the current climate crisis.

Act

- Caring for our common home requires the participation of all of us so that our actions reflect ["the integral ecology that does justice to the land as well as the people who live and depend on it."](#) Find out how you can join the work to [address the current climate crisis by taking steps](#) to make your home or community a place that protects all created life.

May 25, 2023/Day Five - Cry of the Poor: Environmental Justice

Pray

- "Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home." Reflect on our call to act in solidarity with our brothers and sisters most impacted by environmental devastation by praying [the Prayer to Care for Our Common Home \(en Español\)](#).

Learn

- Through the work of [the Catholic Campaign for Human Development \(CCHD\)](#), the Catholic Church has invested over \$6 million in more than 80 organizations led by low-income residents across 28 states and 42 dioceses who are working for environmental justice. Learn more about how CCHD [empowers those most impacted](#) by the climate crisis and reflect on how our faith calls us to be in solidarity with our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Act

- Find out what [your local community organizations](#) are doing to address climate change and work for environmental justice and get involved. Get involved with the [Laudato Si' Action Platform](#) and the U.S.'s national campaign ["We're all Part of God's Plan\(et\)"](#) and act in solidarity with all our brothers and sisters.

May 26, 2023/Day Six- Cry of the Poor: Care for Our Children & Future Generations

Pray

- “Forgiving God, our actions have endangered both the lives of our children today as well as those yet to be born. For this, we seek your forgiveness.” Consider how we are called to be [stewards of God’s creation](#) to create a safe, healthy, and beautiful place for our children and future generations.

Learn

- The choices we make today can have [lasting impacts on our communities and impact the thriving of our future generations](#). That’s why, as state officials worked to write and enforce legislation that would allow fracking to take place, [Catholic Campaign for Human Development-supported Illinois People’s Action \(IPA\) \(en Español\)](#) worked to ensure low-income communities would have a voice in the rule writing process and work to promote a healthy, clean energy environment.

Act

- We must act now to protect all life, [remembering that human life and ecological health are interconnected](#), by addressing the climate crisis and living our call to be stewards of God’s creation. Share this [Laudato Si’ postcard \(en Español\)](#) with your faith or community group or on [social media \(en Español\)](#) to begin this important conversation.

May 27, 2023/Day Seven – Protecting Those Who are Vulnerable: Querida Amazonia

Pray

- Pray that we may be good stewards of God’s Creation and for all in the Amazon region: “Mother whose heart is pierced, who yourself suffer in your mistreated sons and daughters, and in the wounds inflicted on nature, reign in the Amazon, together with your Son.” View the [full prayer from Pope Francis \(en Español\)](#) on **page 7** of the *Querida Amazonia* study guide.

Learn

- Learn more about the work of [REPAM, the Red Eclesial Pan-Amazónica, or Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network](#), a Latin American Catholic church network that works to respond to the challenges facing our brothers and sisters of the Amazon region and their natural environment, whose plight Pope Francis highlights in his apostolic exhortation [Querida Amazonia \(en Español\)](#).

Act

- The adverse effects of global climate change not only impact the Earth but all those who inhabit it. Reflect on how you can respond to the ongoing climate crisis by [watching or hosting a screening of the film, The Letter](#). The film, produced in collaboration with the Vatican, chronicles the story of four “social poets” affected by the climate crisis and their conversation with Pope Francis.

May 28, 2023/Day Eight - A Call to Global Solidarity

Pray

- We are called to live and act in solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Use this [Prayer for Global Solidarity \(en Español\)](#) to reflect on your “place in this web of Creation” and how you can live in a way that honors the interconnectedness we share with all in this world.

Learn

- “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 forever. The great majority become extinct for reasons related to human activity.” (*Laudato Si'*, no. 33) The adverse effects of climate change devastate poor communities around the globe. Learn more and discover how communities are responding by listening to [Jubilee for the Earth, a podcast mini-series](#) produced by the Missionary Society of St. Columban.

Act

- Support the efforts of Catholic Relief Services to help vulnerable communities mitigate the effects of climate change by [joining the effort to lead the way](#) to a more just world. Learn more about how you can get involved in work happening throughout the U.S. to care for all God’s creation with [Catholic Climate Covenant](#). Join the [U.S. Bishops in their work](#) to promote “an integral ecology that promotes care for creation and strengthens the bonds of solidarity between nations,” by signing up for [our newsletters](#) and [action alerts](#), or learning more about our [resources](#).

