

# *Laudato Si'* Action Platform: How U.S. Catholics Can Participate

[CatholicClimateCovenant.org](https://CatholicClimateCovenant.org)



**Catholic Climate Covenant**<sup>sm</sup>

Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

## *Laudato Si'* Action Platform: How U.S. Catholics Can Participate

- 1) The webinar is being recorded and will a link to the recording will be sent to everyone who registered within the next 24-48 hours.
- 2) Please type your questions in the Q/A box. If you know who the question is directed to, please add that info.



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## *Laudato Si'* Action Platform: How U.S. Catholics Can Participate

Creator God, source of all life,  
We praise and thank you for the many gifts of this day.  
For the blessing of your presence  
In each star in the sky and every flower in the field;  
In each creature who roams our common home and every grain of wheat that nourishes;  
In each drop of water which sustains us and every person who loves and cares for us.

God of mercy and compassion, forgive us for the times that we fail to recognize your presence among us.  
Forgive us our blindness to the daily miracle of creation.  
Forgive us our deafness to the cries of Earth and those made poor by our greed.  
Forgive us our hardness of heart that separates us one from another

God of abundance, we pray, give us the grace to know that we are ONE in you.  
Give us the grace  
To welcome your creatures abandoned and forgotten  
To care for our common home; and  
To live in right relationship  
    with you, our God,  
    with neighbors near and far, and  
    with all of your wondrous creation.

Give us the grace to become your beloved community.  
Gracious God, we ask this through the power of your Great and Holy Spirit whose breath gives life to the world.

~ Sr. Ann Scholz, SSND



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# *Laudato Si'* Action Platform: How U.S. Catholics Can Participate



**Kat Doyle**  
Archdiocese of Atlanta



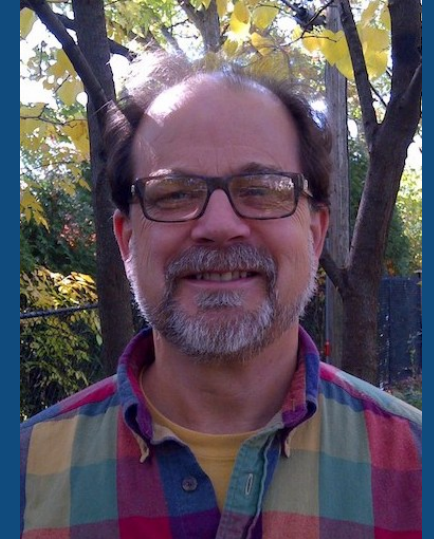
**Michael Terrien, OBL OSB**  
Archdiocese of Chicago



**Sr. Ann Scholz, SSND PhD**  
Leadership Conference of Women  
Religious



**Bethany Welch PhD**  
Conference of Major Superiors of Men



**Michael Schuck PhD**  
Loyola University Chicago

# *Laudato Si'* Action Platform: How U.S. Catholics Can Participate



BREAKING  
**NEWS**

**LSAP launches NOV. 14<sup>th</sup>!**

**Between October 4<sup>th</sup> and Nov 14<sup>th</sup>:  
40 days of Prayer and Reflection**



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# We Are All Part of God's Plan(et)



[www.godsplanet.us](http://www.godsplanet.us)

## What is it?

A national *Laudato Si'* awareness and engagement media campaign to educate, inspire, and activate U.S. Catholics to embrace and act upon the teachings of *Laudato Si'* and to care for creation, especially by participating in the Vatican's global *Laudato Si'* Action Platform.

# We're All Part of God's Plan(et)



- EVENTS (<https://godsplanet.us/events>)
- STORIES (<https://godsplanet.us/stories>)
- ADVOCACY (<https://godsplanet.us/get-involved>)
- GRANTS (<https://godsplanet.us/grants>)
- DOWNLOADABLE MATERIALS  
(<https://logic.vivid-think.com/catalog/?g=2706&y=5996>)

# Victory Noll Sisters Small Grants Program



Seeding Creation Care

- Small grants to seed local *Laudato Si'*-inspired climate justice and sustainability projects across U.S. Catholic communities.
- Designed to assist parishes, dioceses, schools, religious communities and other Catholic institutions in the United States to organize and mobilize the U.S. Catholic community to express their care for creation, take climate action, and engage with the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform.
- Up to a maximum of \$1,000 for U.S. Catholic parishes, groups, dioceses, or other U.S. Catholic organizations. The priority deadline to apply is October 14th, 2021

<https://godsplanet.us/grants>



# God's Plan(et) Store Now OPEN! You can download and/or order stickers, T-shirts, posters, etc.!

The screenshot shows the VividInk graphics website catalog page. At the top left is a logo with a dove and the text "WE'RE ALL PART OF GOD'S PLAN(ET)". At the top right is the "VividInk graphics" logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with "HOME", "CATALOG", "ESTIMATE", "MY ACCOUNT", and "SHOPPING CART". The "CATALOG" tab is active. On the left is a sidebar menu with "Catalog" and sub-items: "Apparel", "Flyers", "Free Downloads", "Posters", "Stickers", and "Window Decals". The main content area is titled "Apparel" and shows "Showing 1 - 5 out of 5 products." A red note states: "For all custom logo shirts, we will reach out for logo and shirt size(s)". Five T-shirt products are displayed in a grid:

- Colored T-Shirt - Custom Back Logo (6 Color Options)
- Colored T-Shirt - Custom Front Logo (6 Color Options)
- Neptune Blue T-Shirt
- White T-Shirt
- White T-Shirt - Custom Back Logo

On [GodsPlanet.us](https://www.godsplanet.us) homepage (ABOUT) or directly with link below.

<https://logic.vivid-think.com/catalog/?g=2706&y=5996>



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## Parishes and dioceses

Parishes, dioceses, archdioceses,  
and episcopal conferences



Kat Doyle  
Archdiocese of Atlanta



Paz Artaza-Regan  
Catholic Climate Covenant



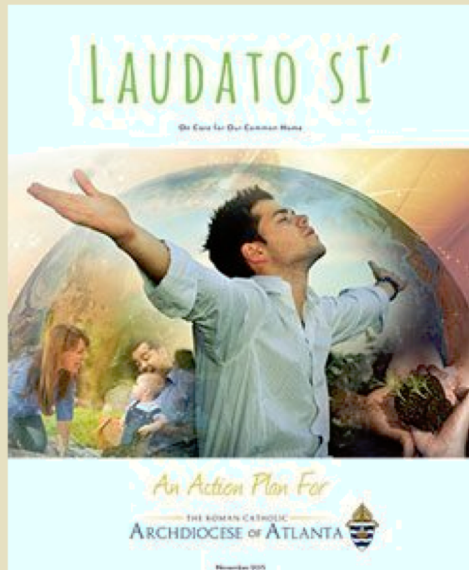
Michael Terrien, OBL OSB  
Archdiocese of Chicago



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# Archdiocese of Atlanta *Laudato Si'* Action Plan: <https://archatl.com/catholic-life/refreshatl/>

## Laudato Si' Action Plan for the Archdiocese of Atlanta



The “Laudato Si’ Action Plan,” authored by University of Georgia professors and staff, contains a variety of options for parishes and parishioners to help reverse the threat of global climate change and environmental degradation, and create a more sustainable world in harmony with God. As Catholics, we are urged by Pope Francis to seek the change of heart that is required to make

these actions part of our daily lives. Click on the link to find out more information and how you can get involved!

- Published in 2015
- Written with assistance of scientists at The University of Georgia
- The Action Plan is a part of the science and religion curriculum in all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Atlanta
- A Pilot Project is underway in metro Atlanta to conduct energy and water audits at 9 churches and 3 schools (12 locations total).
- Many of the Archdiocese of Atlanta parishes have created [Creation Care Green Teams](#) and are implementing the Action Plan in a greater way. (Increasing gardens, recycling, reusing materials, food sharing, creating food gardens, etc.)
- See also [Diocese of San Diego](#) and [Archdiocese of Washington](#) Laudato Si’ Action Plans.





## Religious Orders

Religious orders, provinces, and  
communities



Sr. Ann Scholz, SSND PhD  
Leadership Conference of Women Religious



Bethany Welch PhD  
Conference of Major Superiors of Men





## Educational institutions

Primary and secondary schools,  
universities, and other centers of  
education



Michael Schuck PhD  
Loyola University Chicago

\* Primary and Secondary Schools: National  
Catholic Education Association (NCEA)



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**University Engagement  
in Pope Francis'  
7-Year Journey Towards Integral Ecology**

**Michael Schuck  
Loyola University Chicago**

**Catholic Climate Covenant  
Webinar 9.29.21**

## **Members of College and University Communities**

**Students**

**Faculty**

**Administrators**

**Staff**

**Physical Plant**

**Housekeeping**

**Security**

**Local Community**

**University Board**

**Alumni**



## The *Laudato Si'* Goals

**Respond to the Cry of the Earth** . . . push further in addressing climate change, biodiversity loss and ecological sustainability.

**Respond to the Cry of the Poor** . . . pay even closer attention to the poor, with particular attention to women, children, migrants, refugees, and indigenous communities.

**Ecological Economics** . . . boldly promote transitions to green, more circular economies.

**Adopt Sustainable Lifestyles** . . . insist on the needed connection between structural change and personal change and make mindful, daily lifestyle adjustments.

**Ecological Education** . . . continually evaluate curricular and institutional reforms that foster greater ecological awareness and action in the spirit of integral ecology.

**Ecological Spirituality** . . . do more to put people in contact with the natural world and help evoke the spirit of awe and gratitude for the gift of nature that lies deep within us.

**Community Engagement and Participatory Action** . . . make it so more of your needs are received and your gifts are shared with your local community.



## Most universities already have programs dedicated to environmental sustainability. Why add the *7-Year Journey*?

Pope Francis' *7-Year Journey* is 'value added' to any university's existing or planned response to our world's mounting environmental and social crises. *The Journey*

1. Further enriches a university's existing environmental programs and activities by uniting them in a shared understanding of and commitment to *integral* ecology.
2. Bolsters existing and new *transformative nonviolent actions* that advance each of Pope Francis' 7 specific *Laudato Si' Goals*, several of which are not stressed in conventional sustainability programs.
3. Creates opportunities for a faith-engaged ecological conversion that opens minds and hearts to the sacred task of caring for our common home.
4. Brings universities into a global partnership of universities striving together to do the magis--the more--in healing the Earth and human society.

## THE JOURNEY

### Year 1

Universities make a good faith commitment to the *7-Year Journey* and forms a group of faculty, students, administrators, staff, and neighbors who create a *Laudato Si' Action Plan* of transformative nonviolent actions that integrally advance each of Pope Francis' *7 Laudato Si' Goals*.

### Years 2-6

Universities implement, assess, and adjust the actions. They annually reporting progress to the Vatican *Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development*.

### Year 7

Universities celebrate accomplishments and receive formal recognition from the Vatican as *Laudato Si' Universities*.

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**Before drawing these stakeholders together around participation in the Journey, there needs to be a 'good faith commitment' made to the Journey by a university's president or administrative equivalent.**

**Formal University Participation Starts with a Good Faith  
Commitment . . .**



**. . . made by a University President when signing a 'Commitment  
Letter' addressed to Cardinal Turkson.**

His Eminence,  
Cardinal Turkson  
Prefetto, Dicastero per lo Sviluppo Umano Integrale  
Palazzo San Calisto  
00120 Città del Vaticano

**Your Eminence:**

**At this time, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of institution), makes a commitment to participate in Pope Francis' *7-Year Journey Towards Integral Ecology* and understands that the Vatican *Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development* will officially enroll our university in the *Journey* beginning November 14, 2021.**

**We understand that as a *Laudato Sí University*, we will chart our own course through the *Journey*, with the assistance of the *Laudato Si' Action Platform*. Over this next year we will gather a group of faculty, students, administrators, staff, and neighbors to develop a *Laudato Si' Action Plan* for our university that will integrally and boldly advance each of the *7 Laudato Si' Goals*:**

- Respond to the Cry of the Earth
- Respond to the Cry of the Poor
- Foster Ecological Economics
- Adopt a Sustainable Lifestyle
- Offer Ecological Education
- Develop Ecological Spirituality
- Support Local Communities

**We further understand that our university will annually report to the *Dicastery* on its progress and participate in communication with other universities on the *Journey* around the world. In Year 7, we will celebrate our accomplishments and those of our fellow universities and enjoy Pope Francis' formal recognition of our work as a *Laudato Si' University*.**

**We appreciate this opportunity to advance Pope Francis' powerful *Laudato Si'* message and are pleased to make this commitment.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
President's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
President's printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Hekima University College  
Nairobi, Kenya**

**Ateneo de Davao University  
Davao City, Philippines**

**Comillas Universidad Pontificia  
Madrid, Spain**

**Ateneo de Manila  
Manila, Philippines**

**Kosyam Jesuit University of Science  
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**

**Ateneo de Cagayan  
Mindanao Island, Philippines**

**Jesuit University Ignatianum  
Kraków, Poland**

**Universidad LaSalle Pachuca  
Pachuca de Soto, Mexico**

**Gonzaga University  
Spokane, Washington**

**Australian Catholic University  
North Sydney, Australia**

**Ateneo de Zamboanga University  
Zamboanga City, Philippines**

**Lasalle Haus  
Bad Schönbrunn, Switzerland**

**Xavier Institute of Development Action  
Jabalpur, India**

**DePaul University  
Chicago, Illinois**

**Hochschule für Philosophie  
Munich, Germany**

**Pontificia Università Gregoriana  
Rome, Italy**

**Pontificia Universidad Javeriana  
Bogotá, Colombia**

**Quincy University  
Quincy, Illinois**

**Universidad LaSalle Nezahualcóyotl  
Nezahualcóyotl, Mexico**

**Universidad LaSalle Puebla  
Puebla, Mexico**

**St. Paul University Dumaguete  
Dumaguete City, Philippines**

**Loras College  
Dubuque, IA**

**Universidad LaSalle Oaxaca  
Oaxaca, Mexico**

**Universidad LaSalle Cuernavaca  
Cuernavaca, Mexico**

**Universidad LaSalle Laguna  
Durango, Mexico**

**Université Magis  
Antananarivo, Madagascar**

**Universidad LaSalle Dasmariñas  
Dasmariñas, Philippines**

**Universidad LaSalle Saltillo  
Coahuila, Mexico**

A University that commits to the *Journey* now will have the distinction of being in the First Cohort of *Laudato Si' Universities* enrolled by the Vatican Dicastery beginning on November 14, 2021.





## UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

A guidebook for Pope Francis' 7-year journey towards integral ecology.

Pope Francis' 7-Year *Journey Towards Integral Ecology* puts his landmark encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, into action. Families, dioceses, schools, universities, hospitals, business, religious orders, and community organizations are now challenged to do the *magis*—the *more*—to heal the Earth.

*University Pathways* is the guidebook for colleges and universities taking up the challenge.\*

[READ MORE](#)



**Thank you!**

**Michael Schuck  
Loyola University Chicago**

# Questions ?



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Questions?

[info@Catholicclimatecovenant.org](mailto:info@Catholicclimatecovenant.org)

More info:

Catholic Climate Covenant: [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org)

and

[www.Godsplanet.us](http://www.Godsplanet.us)