

# Laudato Si' Week

**17 – 24 May**

**One Week. One Action.**

**A Global Catholic Response!**



# About Laudato Si' Week

## Laudato Si' Week

Laudato Si' Week is a celebration held annually from 17 to 24 May to mark the anniversary of Pope Francis's landmark encyclical on caring for our common home. Sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, this global celebration unites Catholics to listen and respond together to the cry of creation, 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.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference committed to celebrating Laudato Si' Week annually in their Social Justice Statement: [Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor](#).

## 2026 Theme: From Hope to Action

Laudato Si' Week 2026 invites us to move from hope to action. Hope is not passive; it is lived and shared through daily decisions, community life, prayer and concrete acts of care. This commemorative year reminds us that ecological conversion grows step by step, through restored relationships, protected creation, and strengthened communities. The next chapter of Laudato Si' begins with us, wherever we are.

Source: [Laudato Si Week](#)



# School Planning Guide

Is your school a Catholic Earthcare school?

If not, please register. It is free and you will receive support and resources!

[caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare](http://caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare)

- ❑ **Prepare:** Share resources with teachers. Consider using the short reflection for Ascension Sunday and Pentecost Sunday during staff prayer or with students during morning prayer. Prepare other resources in order to promote your school's one action during Laudato Si' Week. Additional resources can be found on page 10.
- ❑ **Inspire:** Decide when to show the [10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Laudato Si' Film](#). For example, at a school assembly, during homeroom, or part of a lesson during Laudato Si' Week. Reflection questions are provided to prompt discussion.
- ❑ **Act:** Decide on one action you will take as a school and how you will encourage students to take one action during Laudato Si' Week.
- ❑ **Celebrate** each action as a school community. E.g. create a display in the school.
- ❑ **Share:** Plan how you can share your actions on social media and other school or diocesan communications. Consider submitting your actions through the [Laudato Si' Action Platform](#) so that it becomes part of the Church's shared response during Laudato Si' Week. Your action will join thousands of others across the world — a visible sign of hope translated into action.
- ❑ **Pray** throughout Laudato Si' Week.



# Inspire

**Watch** Catholic Earthcare's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Laudato Si' Film

Be inspired by Catholic schools, parishes and individuals around Australia celebrating their journey of living out *Laudato Si'*.

View/download the film from Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/1112169729?fl=pl&fe=sh>



## Reflection Questions

1. Which part of the film stood out to you the most, and why?
2. What did the film teach us about looking after Earth and each other?
3. What signs of hope did you notice?
4. What is one action you can take to care for our common home during Laudato Si' Week?



# Reflect

*Reflections written  
by Michael McGirr,  
Mission Facilitator  
at Caritas Australia*

## **Ascension Sunday in Laudato Si' Week – 17 May 2026**

The feast of the Ascension is a call for us to take responsibility for our world. Jesus' friends probably would have liked him to stay with them for more than forty days. That was not the plan. He returned to the Father and left us to be his hands and feet on Earth. Of course, he promised to be with us to the end of time and to send the Holy Spirit. But there is no escaping the image of the disciples looking longingly into the sky. The angels tell them to get their heads out of the clouds. There is work to be done. There is a world to be loved, nurtured and cared for. Hope needs to become action. Pope Leo XIV wrote last year that 'when the earth suffers, the poor suffer the most.' He urged Catholic Education to 'combine social justice and environmental justice.' Jesus is our teacher. He tells us to look less at the heavens and more at the earth as we learn from its fragility.

## **Pentecost Sunday in Laudato Si' Week – 24 May 2026**

There is no bad time to call on the help of the Holy Spirit. Every day, we should fall back on the ancient yet familiar prayer which begins, 'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful'. The prayer ends with the hope: 'you will renew the face of the earth'. We say those very words in today's Psalm: 'Lord, send out your spirit and renew the face of the earth.' How can we turn that hope into action? One way is to remember today's Gospel which reminds us that the Holy Spirit brings peace, not conflict. As St Paul says, there is only one body to which we all belong. Pope Leo XIV has been an outspoken advocate for peace. He knows the damage that war does to the whole of creation. God's family has only one place to live, Earth. We need to look after the whole of it, rather than fighting over parts of it.




# Hope to Action

## One Week. One Action. A Global Catholic Response

The invitation is intentionally simple:

### Choose one action. Make it count during Laudato Si' Week.

 **Important:** Let students and teachers know in advance that you would like to track all actions to celebrate Laudato Si' Week together on/after Pentecost Sunday.

### Suggestions

**School: One Action** – If you are a Catholic Earthcare School and already have a Laudato Si' Action Plan, look for an action you can do during Laudato Si' Week. For additional ideas, review the [10 Concrete Actions You Can Take](#) resource or choose your own/new school action for Laudato Si' Week.

**Student: One Action** – Use the [Laudato Si' Action Dice](#) to promote a variety of actions students can take during Laudato Si' Week or just brainstorm ideas with your class. Students make a commitment to do one action. Explain that at the end of /after Laudato Si' Week, all students will contribute to the school/class display, celebrating what has been achieved in just one week as a school community.

*“There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions... Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us... All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. Reusing something instead of immediately discarding it, when done for the right reasons, can be an act of love which expresses our own dignity.”*

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* n211



# Celebrate

## 'Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth'

There are many creative ways to celebrate this shared demonstration of faith in action for our common home. As Laudato Si' Week concludes with Pentecost, here are a couple of suggestions to get you started. The goal however is to emphasise Pentecost as a *sending*, not an ending.

### Suggestions:

Option 1. Create a large outline of Earth, a flame or dove shape on a large piece of paper/ backing board (red, orange, yellow for Pentecost).

Each student writes their one Laudato Si' action on a paper flame, leaf, or feather shape. Pin or attach these to the Earth/flame/dove.

Option 2. Create a tree mural with branches spreading across a board or wall.

Each student writes their one Laudato Si' action on a leaf. Leaves represent actions (e.g. reducing waste, prayer, planting, advocacy). Roots can be labelled with words like: Spirit, Hope, Justice, Love.

Option 3. 'Everything is Connected' – *Laudato Si'* n91

On a large board or wall attach ribbons or threads at the top and bottom vertically, close together.

Use strips of recycled paper for students to record their one Laudato Si' Action and then weave the strip of paper in and out of the vertical ribbons representing how our diverse actions weave together as part of one mission through the Spirit.



# Share

Inspire others in your diocese and wider community by sharing your school actions during Laudato Si' Week. Use social media channels and other diocesan communications.

Please share your school Laudato Si' Week actions on social media using the hashtags:

**#CatholicEarthcare**

**#LaudatoSiWeek**

## **Laudato Si' Action Platform**

Submit your actions through the [Laudato Si' Action Platform](#) so that it becomes part of the Church's shared response during Laudato Si' Week. Your action will join thousands of others across the world — a visible sign of hope translated into action.

1. Enrol on the Platform. It only takes a few minutes to get started.
2. Discover your suggested actions. You'll be guided to simple, relevant actions based on your context.
3. Choose one action for Laudato Si' Week. Ask yourself: What is one step I (or we) can take during this week?

Note: The Laudato Si' Action Platform is a global platform to track action around the world. Catholic Earthcare is your local Australian organisation providing community support, networking and tools to accompany you on your Laudato Si' journey. Register at [www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare](http://www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare)



# Pray

*This prayer by Pope Francis appeared at the end of his 2015 encyclical Laudato Si'.*

All powerful God,  
you are present in the 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 your peace, that we may live  
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.  
O God of the poor,  
help us to rescue the abandoned  
and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes.  
Bring healing to our lives,  
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty,  
not pollution and destruction.  
Touch the hearts  
of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.  
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united  
with every creature  
as we journey towards your infinite light.  
We thank you for being with us each day.  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle,  
for justice, love and peace.  
Amen



# Additional School Resources



[Download](#)

New Faith in Action  
Guide for students



## [Roll the Dice Activity](#)

What if one small action could spark a wave of change in your community? This simple and engaging game invites students to discover creative ways to live out the Laudato Si' Goals—one roll at a time.

This resource is designed to transform reflection into action through a playful and meaningful experience. Each side of the dice represents one Laudato Si' Goal, turning every roll into an opportunity to respond to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. Download Dice and instructions: [Roll the Dice](#)

To learn more about each of the Laudato Si' Goals download: [The Laudato Si' Goals - Primary](#)

[School Newsletter Notice / Social Media Post](#)

## **Laudato Si' Week: 17–24 May 2026**

Laudato Si' Week is a global Catholic celebration inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. Our school is joining Catholics around the world in renewing our commitment to care for each other and our common home.

One week. One concrete action. One global response.

Everyone is warmly encouraged to get involved.

#CatholicEarthcare #LaudatoSiWeek

## [Reflection](#)

Consider sharing the reflection for Ascension Sunday and Pentecost Sunday in your school newsletter. See page 5





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CARITAS AUSTRALIA

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