

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](#)



Parish Planning Guide

Is your parish a Catholic
Earthcare parish?

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

caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare

- ❑ **Prepare:** Share the Ascension Sunday and Pentecost Sunday reflection (page 5) with your parish priest and parish team to help make connections between Laudato Si' Week, liturgy and other parish activities. Consider including the reflection in your parish bulletin on the respective weekends. Additional parish resources can be found on page 10.
- ❑ **Inspire:** Decide when to show the [10th Anniversary of Laudato Si' Film](#). For example, after Mass on 17 or 24 May, hold a special screening during Laudato Si' Week or show the film at another parish event. Reflection questions are provided to prompt discussion.
- ❑ **Act:** Decide on one action you will take as a parish and how you will encourage parishioners to take one action during Laudato Si' Week. Suggestions on page 11.
- ❑ **Celebrate** each action as a parish community. E.g. create a display in the church foyer.
- ❑ **Share:** Plan how you can share your actions on social media and other parish or diocesan communications. 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.
- ❑ **Pray** throughout Laudato Si' Week.



Inspire

Watch Catholic Earthcare's 10th 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>



Paish Reflection Questions

1. What moments or images in the film most touched your heart??
2. Where did you see connections between faith, care for creation, and everyday life?
3. What signs of hope did you notice?
4. What is one concrete action you or our parish could take 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 the 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 people know in advance that you would like to track all actions to celebrate Laudato Si' Week together on/after Pentecost Sunday.

Suggestions

Parish: One Action – If you are a Catholic Earthcare Parish and already have an 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 parish action for Laudato Si' Week.

Parishioner: One Action – share a list of suggested Laudato Si' Actions for parishioners to choose from or encourage them to think of their own action to take. Bookmarks with an action for each goal can be found on page 11. Print on recycled paper for parishioners to take on Ascension Sunday

“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 parishioner 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 parishioner 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 parishioners 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 parish, diocese and wider community by sharing your parish actions during Laudato Si' Week. Use social media channels and other diocesan communications.

Please share your parish 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



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 Parish Resources

Parish Bulletin Notice (*could also be used as a 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 parish 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

Prayer of the Faithful

For our communities and families: may we put our hope into action during Laudato Si' Week as we take one meaningful action to care for others and our common home. *We pray to the Lord.*

Reflection

Consider sharing the reflection for Ascension Sunday and Pentecost Sunday in your parish bulletin. See page 5





Laudato Si' Week

One action in one Week.

One Global Catholic Response!

7 Ideas - Choose one!

Responding to the Cry of the Earth:

Plant native trees or pollinator plants

Responding to the Cry of the Poor:

Support your local charity winter appeal.

Ecological Economics: Buy nothing new. Look for second hand or upcycle.

Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles:

Refuse single-use plastics. Bring your own container.

Ecological Education: Learn something new about renewable energy or waste management.

Ecological Spirituality: Read a chapter of *Laudato Si'* or *Laudate Deum*.

Community Resilience and

Empowerment: Participate in a local community group that is caring for others or the environment.

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