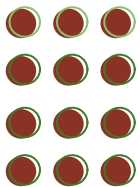
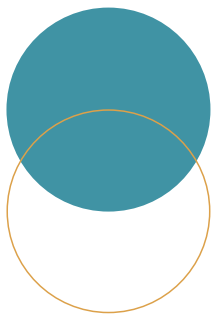




MISSIONARY OBLATES
OF
MARY IMMACULATE
JPIC OFFICE



LAUDATO SI ACTION PLATFORM
AUGUST 2022



HONORING SOME US OBLATES WHO WERE FORERUNNERS FOR AWAKENING MANY OF US TO “CARE FOR CREATION.”

“And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory...” Psalm 72:19

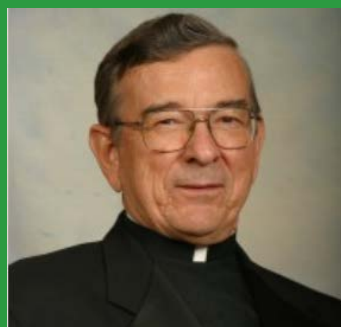
Please join us in being consciously aware of God in creation today, and doing some action that reverences the earth and promotes public awareness.



Darrell Rupiper, OMI

READ MORE: (<https://bit.ly/3R5gYei>)

Tireless advocate & passionate about preserving the integrity of God’s creation, which showed in his Eco-Mission workshops.



Raymond Kirtz, OMI

READ MORE: (<https://bit.ly/3wxc6D>)

Authored *All Creation Works Together: To Bless the Earth and Humankind with Bountiful Life* (<https://bit.ly/3KkZQz7>)



Paul Wightman, OMI

READ MORE: (<https://bit.ly/3CtTjQ>)

His 70-yr career as a spelunker, surveyor, and mapper of caves was celebrated with the 2019 opening of the **Paul Wightman Subterranean Nature Preserve** in southern Illinois.



Michael Pfeifer, OMI.

READ MORE: (<https://bit.ly/3KnG4mp>)

Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of San Angelo. He has used his voice to reflect on ‘care for creation,’ in his many statements on **Earth Day** and **World Water Day** over the years!

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'– On Care for Our Common Home* (2015), Pope Francis wrote, "Whether believers or not, we are agreed today that the earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone. For believers, this becomes a question of fidelity to the Creator, since God created the world for everyone. Hence, every ecological approach needs to incorporate a social perspective which takes into account the fundamental rights of the poor and the underprivileged."

The COVID 19 epidemic has shown that our lives and actions are inextricably linked to those around us, including the environment. The seven-year *Laudato Si'* Action Platform offers a fresh opportunity for each of us to commit to complete sustainability in the spirit of *Laudato Si'*. Oblates JPIC is promoting the following works from Oblates and allies in the province as a step toward integral ecology.

Earth Day

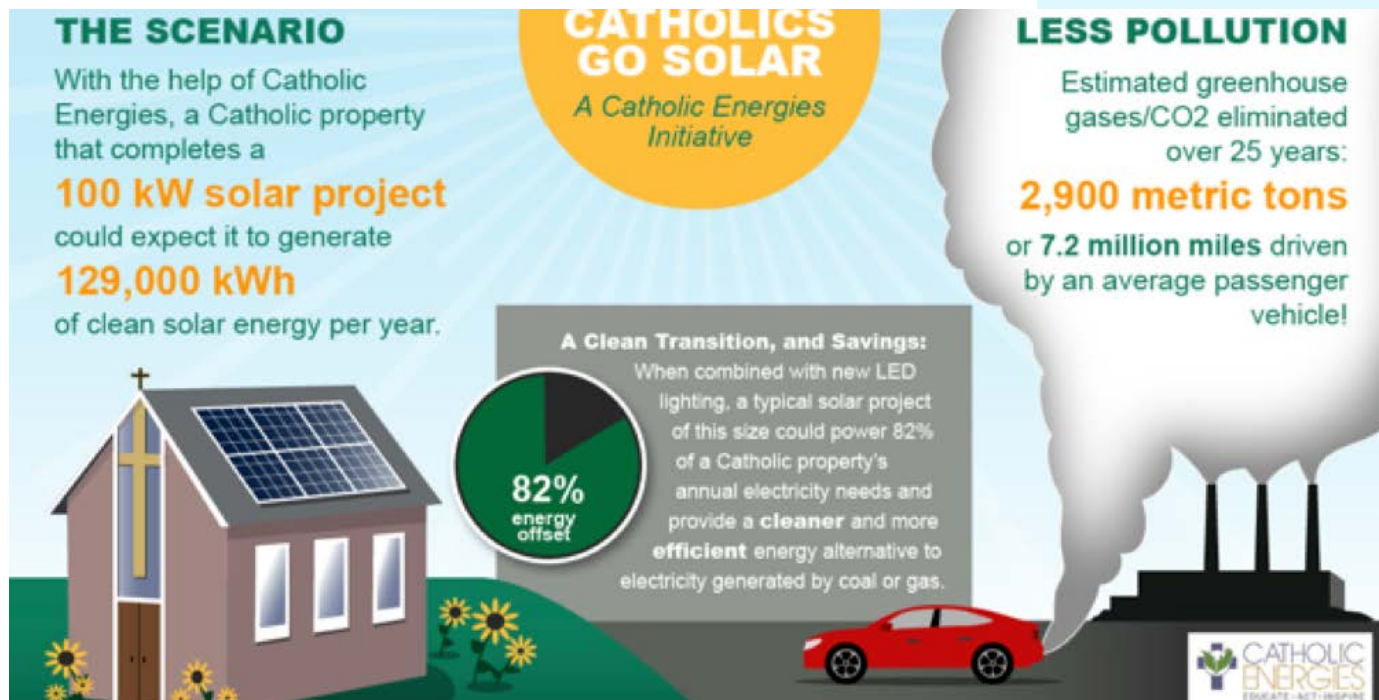
Reflection by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of San Angelo

Best Practice

"Earth Day is a time to appreciate the wonderful gift of planet earth and to commit ourselves, each and everyone around the world to assure her survival in the future"- *Bishop Pfeifer, OMI.*

Recommendation: Read the Earth Day Reflection: <https://bit.ly/3KnG4mp>

Act



3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

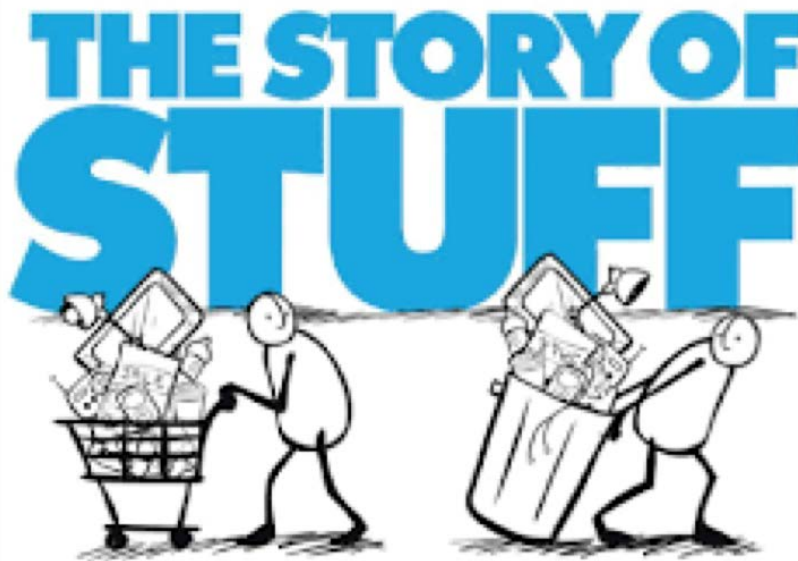
Best Practice

We have yet to embrace a circular production model capable of protecting resources for current and future generations, while restricting non-renewable resource usage as much as feasible, moderating consumption, maximizing their efficient use, reusing, and recycling them. - Laudato Si'

Recommendation: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

<https://bit.ly/3Ax3DF8>

Watch



The Story of Stuff Project (<https://www.storyofstuff.org/>)

Learn: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GorqroigqM>

Corporations and Climate Change

Best Practice

Climate change is a global issue having serious consequences for the environment, society, economy, politics, and the distribution of goods. It is one of the most pressing issues confronting humanity today. *Laudato Si'*, #29

Recommendation: Challenging Corporations to Combat Climate Change

Companies are encouraged to address climate change by the USP and the Oblate International Pastoral Investment Fund (OIP Trust). Companies include Alphabet, Inc. (Google), Citigroup, and United Parcel Service, Inc. Learn more about shareholder actions on climate change:

<https://www.iccr.org/iccrs-issues/environment>

"All is not lost. Human beings... are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start.." (Laudato Si' #205)



Resources from Archdiocese of Boston - <https://www.bostoncatholic.org/environmental-stewardship/laudato-si/transportation>

- **Encourage Carpooling** - One way that Catholics can continue to respond positively to *Laudato Si* is by sharing rides to Sunday Mass, school, and parish events.
- **EV Car Charging Station** - Parishes and schools can encourage parishioners, teachers, and students to drive electric cars to work and church by installing a few charging station.
- **Parking for Hybrid Cars** - parishes could set aside a row of spaces reserved for parishioners, students, and teachers who drive hybrid, electric, or alternative-fueled vehicles.
- **Alternatives to Driving** - use public transportation such as buses or subways, simply walk or bike, join a bike sharing program, or try ride sharing or car sharing services
- **Plan a Vacation that Emits a Smaller Carbon Footprint**



Integrity of Creation

Best Practice

The environment is part of a logic of receptivity. It is on loan to each generation, which must then hand it on to the next generation. An integral ecology is marked by this broader vision. *Laudato Si'*, #124

Recommendation: Greener Energy at Home and Office

Read Catholic Energies' showcase of solar and energy efficiency in various U.S Catholic communities:

<https://www.catholicenergies.org/our-projects>

Recommendation: Living Laudato Si with a Parish Garden

Sacred Heart Parish, California: <https://bit.ly/3TuPYae>

Recommendation: A Center for Ecological Conversion

Oblate Ecological Initiative, Illinois

<https://www.lavistaelc.org/>

Recommendation: A Farm in the City

Three Part Harmony Farm,

District of Columbia:

<http://threepartharmonyfarm.org/>



Three Part Harmony Farm



A New Heaven & A New Earth Music Project: An Ecumenical Call to & Celebration of Creation Care



The OMI USP is a co-sponsor with the Church of Norway and The Episcopal Church of the United States of this project:

Leading Christian composers and musicians came together and wrote songs that highlight the need to care for God's beautiful and wounded creation. Five of these new songs premiered at an ecumenical service at Trinity Cathedral, Oslo on June 15. The Service was broadcast on television in Norway and livestreamed for a global audience.

The recording of the program runs **75 minutes, songs are about 25 minutes.**

<https://trinity.kg5.no>

Breathing Life into Pollinator Garden @ La Vista

Master Gardener and Naturalist Susan Murray plus nine volunteers are in the process of renewing the Oblate Ecological Initiative's pollinator garden begun in 2014.

This garden was created in response to the disappearing monarch butterfly. It, along with many other pollinators, are endangered by use of pesticides and reduction in habitat. The garden is also a way to give flesh to the Missionary Oblates Land Ethic statement and the Pope's encyclical *Laudato Si*.

Download the brochure to learn more about Lavista's Pollinator Garden: <https://bit.ly/3S03WQA>





"We must not think that these efforts are not going to change the world." (Laudato Si #212)

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JUSTICE, PEACE & INTEGRITY
OF CREATION**

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