

ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME



Laudato Si'

Pope Francis' encyclical on climate change and caring for our common home

"Climate change is a global problem with grave implications. . . It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. . . A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal."

"[The earth] now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her."

"Our common home was also given for future generations. What kind of world do we want to leave for our children and grandchildren? What will be left?"

Pope Francis, encyclical on ecology, June 2015 *Laudato Si'*,
On Care for our Common Home

What can you do to take care of our Common Home?

- ❖ Understand and act upon the messages in the Pope's encyclical that is addressed to "every person living on this planet".

Read the encyclical; available at
www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/pope-francis
Click on the link for *Laudato Si'*

- ❖ Begin by setting practical **goals** to act upon individually, as a family, and as a parish to do our part in taking care of our common home. You could set **goals** to:
 - o Reduce waste
 - o Reuse materials
 - o Recycle
 - o Conserve resources

Visit Advanced Disposal website for information about "Mother Earth".
www.advanceddisposal.com/for-mother-earth.aspx

- ❖ Find out what your **Carbon Footprint** is and find ways to reduce it.
www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/
- ❖ Take the **Goal Challenge** (on reverse side) to see how you are doing and set goals to improve on caring for our common home

GOAL CHALLENGE

If you or your family does what the statement says frequently, give yourself **2 points**.

If you or your family does what the statement says sometimes, give yourself **1 point**.

If you or your family does not do what the statement says, give yourself a **minus 1 (-1)**

Add up your points. How well did you do? How can you improve on these?

REDUCE WASTE	Number of Points
1) Do you or your family use real dishes instead of paper plates when eating pizza or snacks?	
2) Do you or your family turn off lights when you leave a room?	
3) Do you turn off the water while brushing your teeth and then turn it on to rinse?	

REUSE MATERIALS	Number of Points
1) Do you or your family reuse the other side of paper to print on?	
2) Do you or your family reuse canvas, paper or plastic bags to bring home purchases?	
3) Do you or your family use a reusable lunch box instead of disposable paper bags?	

RECYCLE	Number of Points
1) Do you or your family recycle newspaper and mail?	
2) Do you or your family recycle cardboard from toilet paper rolls or paper towel rolls?	
3) Do you or your family recycle batteries or old electronics?	

CONSERVE RESOURCES	Number of Points
1) Do you or your family use energy-efficient light bulbs?	
2) Do you or your family unplug your phone charger when not in use?	
3) Do you or your family carpool when you are going to a school activity or event?	

TOTAL POINTS _____