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IRISH CATHOLIC  
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COMHDHÁIL EASPAG CAITLÍCEACH ÉIREANN

Council for Catechetics

# Welcome to

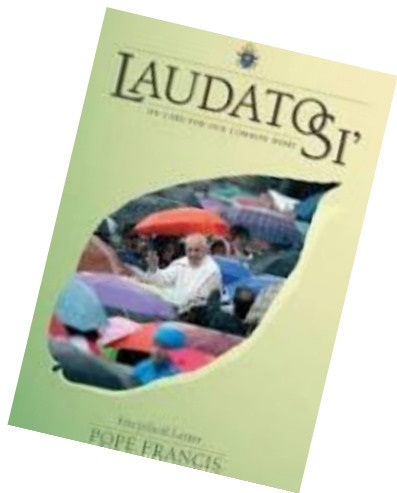
## ***"Cultivating Hope"***

in the



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**

*(1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020)*



## ***Webinar for Parishes***

# What we will cover:

- Reflection on current and recent experiences



- Parish Resources for the Season of Creation



Resources

- Taking action in your parish, next steps





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# Introduction





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LAUDATO SI'



5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR

A large crystal ball is the central focus, reflecting a serene sunset scene. Inside the reflection, a person stands on a hill, looking out over a landscape with a small tree and distant mountains. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm glow. In the background, outside the crystal ball, a person is blurred, standing with their arms crossed, looking towards the same sunset. The overall mood is contemplative and peaceful.

# *Reflection & Prayer*





The destiny of humans  
cannot be separated  
from the destiny of earth.

Thomas Berry

 quote fancy



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# SEASON OF CREATION

*1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020*



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*'Cultivating Hope'*



# Common Prayer for Laudato Si'







# Resources

## Background to Resources

The Laudato Si' Working Group of the Irish Bishop's Conference's Council for Catechetics have compiled resources for **Sunday Liturgies**, a **weekday prayer service** and suggested **practical actions for parishes** during the Season of Creation 2020 (*1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October*).

The theme of this year's Season of Creation is '**Cultivating Hope**'

Pope Francis has also announced this year as a special **Laudato Si' Anniversary Year** which runs from the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021



5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR





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## Resources for the 5 Sunday Liturgies during the Season of Creation

- Suggestions for **Sacred Space** (page 4)
- Suggestions for **Entrance Procession** (page 4)
- Suggestions for **Music** (page 4)
- Suggested **Introductory Text** (page 5)
- Suggested **Text** for Penitential Rite (page 5 & 13),  
introducing the Gloria, introducing the Creed, introducing  
the Our Father, before Communion and as the  
congregation exits.
- Suggestions for **Offertory Procession** (page 7)



## Resources for the 5 Sunday Liturgies during the Season of Creation



- **Homily Notes**  
*(pages 6, 10, 14, 19, 23)*



- **Prayers of the Faithful**  
*(pages 7, 11, 15, 20, 24)*

- **Post-Communion Reflections**  
*(pages 16, 21, 25, 31 & Annex page 37)*





## Resources for a Week-Day Prayer Service for the Season of Creation



- **Introduction** (*page 27*)
- Suggestions for **Music/Singing** (*pages 27-34*)
- **Procession to altar** (*with fruit, vegetables etc.*) (*page 28*)
- **Opening Prayer** (*page 28*)
- **Litany of Repentance** (*page 28*)  
(*on themes of Laudato Si'*)
- **Scripture Readings** (*page 29*)
- **Meditation** (*page 29*)



## Resources for a Week-Day Prayer Service for the Season of Creation



- **Prayers of the Faithful** (*page 30*)


- **Reflection** (*pages 31-32*)

- **Planting Ritual on 'Cultivating Hope'** (*pages 32-33*)



- **Final Blessing** (*page 33*)





# A Prayer for the Earth

by His Holiness Pope Francis I,  
from the 2015 encyclical  
*Laudato Si*

Adaptation and  
musical arrangement by  
Hazzan Steve Klaper &  
Br. Al Mascia, OFM

# Taking Action in your Parish



A hand is shown writing the phrase "Action Changes Things" on a dark green chalkboard. The letters 'A', 'C', and 'T' are each circled with a white line. The hand is holding a piece of yellow chalk and is in the process of finishing the word "Things".

Action  
Changes  
Things





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## Taking Action as an individual and in your parish



Clonmacnoise

- **Build on existing strengths**  
*(from our heritage & wisdom)*





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## Taking Action as an individual and in your parish

- **Improve Social Awareness**  
(ask 'why are things the way they are?')





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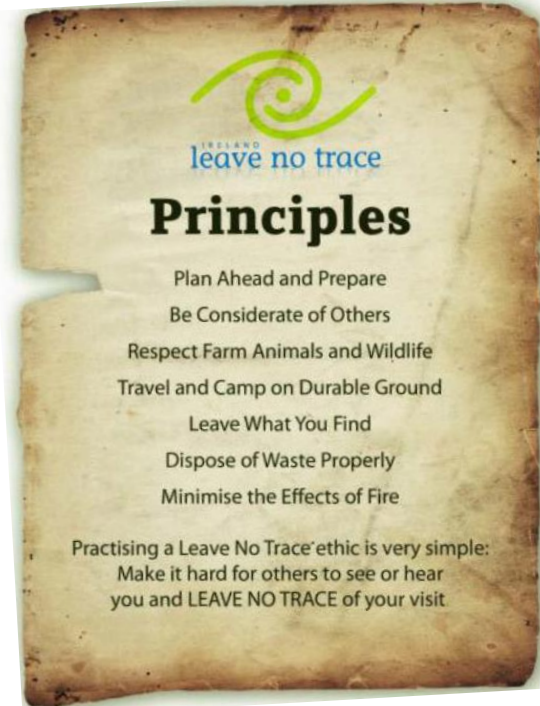


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## Taking Action as an individual and in your parish

- **Practice 'Leave No Trace'**  
*(learn to walk light on the earth)*





# Taking Action as an individual and in your parish

## 100 ideas from Trócaire

<https://www.trocaire.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/parishes/100-ways-to-implement-laudato-si.pdf>

**Trócaire**  
Working for a just world.

### 100 ways for parishes to implement *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'* - On care for our common home was published on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015. This ground-breaking letter, written to every person on the planet, explores in detail the causes and effects of the environmental degradation that is being observed the world over including climate change and the effects it is having on the most vulnerable of communities.

Pope Francis calls all of us to urgent action to combat the destruction that is being inflicted on earth, our common home and reminds Christians of our duty to be good stewards of creation. This list gives some practical ideas for what can be done in a parish and home setting to answer this call.

#### Reflection and worship

1. Arrange a prayer walk in a natural environment
2. Celebrate creation through seasonal liturgies, devotions, prayer services, and other activities and events
3. Pray for vulnerable people and communities affected by climate change
4. Host a 'loaves and fishes' picnic (use local, sustainably caught fish)
5. Hold a creation walk, vigil or reflection
6. Celebrate the *Season of Creation* from 1<sup>st</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October e.g. hold a parish autumn thanksgiving Harvest service
7. Celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Creation on 1<sup>st</sup> September
8. Mark the feast of St Francis, patron saint of the environment, 4<sup>th</sup> October
9. Plant trees for Baptisms, Confirmations and first Holy Communions
10. Preach a 'green' homily i.e. promote the message of *Laudato Si'*
11. Have a reflection on the theme of water at Baptisms
12. Have a 'Walk to Mass' Sunday
13. Promote the *Christian prayer in union with creation* from *Laudato Si'*
14. Promote Trócaire's Lenten Fast

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**Trócaire**  
Working for a just world.

15. Use Trócaire's *GLAS - Care for a common home* pastoral resource for parishes
16. Engage with *Eco-Congregation* Ireland
17. Create a display of 'Eco-Theology' Books
18. Hold a 'Pledging Ceremony' for parishioners who commit to living more sustainably



"I wonder what the future will be like for my children. Climate change has brought so many problems on us."  
Mary Belo, southern Malawi

Mary Belo, a farmer from the Chikwawa district of southern Malawi, which is one of the worst impacted by climate change. (Photo: Eoghan Rice / Trócaire)

#### Practical ideas for the parish

19. Form a parish 'Green Team' to lead creation themed worship and implement eco-tips
20. Establish an outdoor space for prayer and contemplation
21. Hold a talk or workshop in the parish on *Laudato Si'* and invite a Trócaire speaker
22. Enforce 'reduce waste' rules for parish hall, events and parties
23. Compost kitchen and churchyard organic waste
24. Use washable - not disposable - napkins, mugs, cutlery, etc.
25. Email and text to reduce paper consumption

2

**Ideas 26  
to 100...**





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## Taking Action as an individual and in your parish contd.



- **Parish Environment audit**  
*(get certified as an eco parish)*

<https://www.ecocongregationireland.com/getting-started/>



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## Taking Action as an individual and in your parish contd.

- **Pledging Ceremony**

*(for parishioners who commit to living more simply) (page 21)*





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## Taking Action as an individual and in your parish contd.

- **Read Laudato Si' *slowly & closely***  
*(join Diocesan book club on Laudato Si' in January)*



A scenic view of a river flowing through a dense forest. The water is dark and reflects the surrounding greenery. The forest is lush with various shades of green, and the trees are reflected in the water. The text "GOD HAS GIVEN US THE EARTH" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the image.

**GOD HAS GIVEN US THE EARTH**





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# *Discussion, questions, comments, ideas...*



# Final Blessing



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Bless us, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
as we go forth with joy and hope to care for God's creation,

- walking gently on the earth,
- in right relationship,
- nurtured by your love,
- taking only what we need,
- giving back to the earth in gratitude,
- honouring all with reverence,
- reconciling and healing,
- mindful of those who will come after, and of the poor today
- recognising our proper place as part of, not apart from, your creation.

Ignite your spark within us, that we may know ourselves as truly human and irrevocably part of the web of life. Amen.

