



Laudato Si' **2023 Action Plan Summary**

November 2022 - October 2023



LAUDATO SI'
Action Platform

"Building a better future requires "the active participation of all members of the community." (LS 144)

– Pope Francis

Introduction

On November 14, 2022, we, the Dominican Sisters of Racine Community of Sisters and Associates made our Public Commitment to the seven-year Laudato Si' Action Platform. One of the requirements of that commitment is to submit an Action Plan each year that outlines the areas that will be the focus of our work. Our second Action Plan began in November of 2022 and will end on October 4, 2023.

In October of 2023, we will submit an assessment of our progress in the identified areas. Subsequently, for each of the remaining years of our seven-year commitment, we will submit an updated plan and will then complete a progress review for that plan the following October. This year's plan engages the participation of many people in and outside of our Community as we work towards building a better future.

This Summary provides you with the objectives identified for the 2022-2023 Action Plan and the action steps for each of these objectives. The seven objectives are:

Objective 1– Cry of the Earth

Objective 2 – Cry of the Poor

Objective 3 – Ecological Economics

Objective 4 – Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles

Objective 5 – Ecological Education

Objective 6 – Ecological Spirituality

Objective 7– Community Engagement and Participation

Inquiries about the Summary or the Action Plan can be sent to Ann Pratt, OP, Laudato Si' Facilitator at dcur@racinedominicans.org.



Objective 1 – Response to the Cry of the Earth

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:

How do my actions help or hurt planet earth?

Action Steps

- A. Continue the exploration of ways to reduce plastic usage at Siena including eliminating Styrofoam usage;
- B. Continue the exploration of renewable energy resources on the Siena Campus;
- C. Continue establishing an ongoing food waste composting program for Sisters Residence and Dining Services;
- D. Rejuvenation and protection of eco systems on the Siena Campus;
- E. Mileage Awareness Pilot for Sisters and Associates;
- F. Soil and Garden Blessing Garden of Eatin’;
- G. “No Mow May” including providing informational flyers about how this protects bees and other pollinators;
- H. “Leave the Leaves” including providing informational flyers about how this protects bees and other pollinators.



Objective 2 – Response to the Cry of the Poor

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:

How do my actions show compassion for the poor?

Action Steps

- A. Hospitality Center Food Drive;
- B. Congregation of the Great Spirit Food Drive;
- C. Racial History Assessment;
- D. “Bringing Home Justice-The Housing Crisis in Racine County”
- E. Field Trip to Bakhita House, Catholic Worker House;
- F. New Stories on Sacred Lands;
- G. New England Food Solutions 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge Pilot;
- H. View “Alaska Daily” Seasons Available;
- I. Bakhita House Luncheon;
- J. Increase cultural sensitivity within our Community regarding Indigenous peoples;
- K. Increased understanding of the challenges of BIPOC people who participate in the US food system



Objective 3 – Ecological Economics

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:
How do my actions show ethical and financial consideration beyond myself?

Action Steps

- A. To continue monitoring our investment policies and screens to ensure that investments are ethical, sustainable, prioritize divesting from fossil fuels and investing in more renewable energy resources;
- B. Explore the use of sustainable purchasing standards on the Siena Campus;
- C. “Let’s Talk About the Debt Ceiling”;
- D. Dr. Lorna Gold, Catherine Devitt, and Elizabeth Garlow “Dominicans and Financial Stewardship through the Laudato Si’ Lens”



Objective 4 – Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:

How do my actions show a commitment to sustainability?

Action Steps

- A. Weekly Care of Creation Challenges;
- B. Lenten Opportunity Book Marks;
- C. Laudato Si' Commitments Shared with Sisters, Associates, Staff, Family, and Friends;
- D. Great White Elephant Swap;
- E. Distribution of "Our Common Home: A guide for our living planet during Laudato Si' Week



Objective 5 – Ecological Education

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:
How do my actions show a commitment to furthering my ecological education?

Action Steps

- A. “Clean Air and the Clean Power Coalition” Presentation;
- B. “Plastics” Alternative Fair;
- C. “Under the Sky We Make: How to Be Human in a Warming World”, author Kimberly Nicholas, PhD book discussion;
- D. “The Anti ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) Movement” Chris Cox, Seventh Generation Interfaith;
- E. “Save the Soil Day”;
- F. Eco-Fest “Tending Our Roots”;
- G. “Recycling Update” by John’s Disposal;
- H. “No Mow May” including providing informational flyers about how this protects bees and other pollinators;
- I. “Recipe for the Perfect Soil”
- J. Health and Family Resource Fair



Objective 6 – Ecological Spirituality

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:

*How do my actions show an understanding of the
connectedness of spirituality and our planet?*

Action Steps

- A. Christin Tomy, OP “Doctrine of Discovery, the Catholic Church and Native Americans: Exploring a Path Towards Truth and Healing”;
- B. Dr. Patty Loew, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe
- C. “Honoring the Land: Seventh Generation Earth Ethics”;
- D. Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer “Braiding Sweetgrass: Healing Our Relationships With the Earth”;
- E. Lenten Opportunity Book Marks;
- F. Lenten Today’s Stations of the Cross;
- G. Laudato Si’ Commitments Shared with Sisters, Associates, Staff, Family, and Friends;
- H. Laudato Si’ Week: Hope for the Earth. Hope for Humanity
- I. Laudato Si’ Prayer Cards;
- J. Spring Journey to Sacred Spaces Walk;
- K. Dr. Niamh Brennan “Caring for Our Common Home ~in Light of the Cosmic Story”;
- L. Opening Liturgy Season of Creation: “Let Justice and Peace Flow”;
- M. Walk to Celebrate Mother Earth;
- N. Dr. Lorna Gold, Catherine Devitt, and Elizabeth Garlow “Dominican Enlivening Laudato Si’”;
- O. Closing Liturgy Season of Creation
- P. As determined, use the Order of Worship for an educational opportunity



Objective 7 – Community Engagement and Participation

Please keep this question in mind as you read the following objective:

*How do my actions show my commitment to encouraging
community participation in ecological issues?*

Action Steps

- A. Collaborate to create a food waste composting pilot in the City of Racine;
- B. Collaborate with Racine Interfaith Coalition’s Environmental Task Force to care for creation;
- C. Collaborate with University of Wisconsin’s Environmental Workgroup to identify funding to care for creation;
- D. “Save the Soil Day”;
- E. Eco-Fest “Tending Our Roots”;
- F. Health and Family Resource Fair;
- G. Screening of “The Letter: A Message for Our Earth”



Notes and Suggestions

