



LAUDATO SI'

Action Platform

Laudato Si'
2022 Annual Action Plan

April – October 4, 2022

*"The call to participate in God's Dream
for our Earth community."*

—Pope Francis

Objective 1 - Composting

Guide: Ruth Schaaf, OP Laudato Si' Action Team (LSAT)

Objective 1 Composting Year One: April – October 4, 2022

Laudato Si' Action Plan Goal(s)

Cry of the Earth— a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.

Ecological Economics— acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere—our common home.

Objective 1 Composting

To reinstate composting at Siena Center

Justification

The encyclical Laudato Si, reminds us that “we have not yet managed to adopt a circular model of production capable of preserving resources for present and future generations, while limiting as much as possible the use of non-renewable resources, moderating their consumption, maximizing their efficient use, reusing and recycling them (22).”

One of the things that we can do to achieve this is composting — it allows food waste to return to the ecosystem from which it came. Siena Campus encloses several entities that involve food preparation including service from a central kitchen, an off-site food preparation center, and kitchens in the Sisters' residence. Much of the refuse generated by meal preparation and dining room service can be recycled to become a very nutritious soil builder, fertilizer, and compost. Rather than disposing of this commodity in a landfill, we must be compelled to restore earth's topsoil and provide earth's own fertilizer by composting.

Action Steps			
Date	Action	Who is responsible?	Outcome
May, 2022	Identify and become familiar with the composting options available in Racine County	Ruth Schaaf, OP, LSAT	Options for composting and potential collaboration will be identified
May 2022	Provide educational fact sheets that provide information regarding benefits of composting to the Siena Campus entities and Sisters and Associates	Ruth Schaaf, OP, LSAT	Increased understanding of the benefits of composting to humans and the earth.
June 2022	Gain understanding of the history of the composting program at Siena	Ruth Schaaf, OP, LSAT	Gain knowledge about what did and did not work regarding the composting program
July 2022	Develop a planning team to move composting forward on the Siena Center Campus	Leadership Team, House Coordinator, Property Manager, ED SOTL, Chef, Food Services Director, ED Eco-Justice	Reinstating composting at Siena will be moving forward.
August 2022	Initiate plan for moving forward with composting on the Siena Center Campus	Composting Team	A plan for reinstating composting forward at Siena will be in place

September 2022	Assess progress towards objective and develop 2022/2023 Action Steps	Ruth Schaaf, OP, LSAT	Progress assessment completed and Goal Year Two goals established.
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Objective 2 – Plastic Reduction

Guide: Ann Pratt

Objective 2 Plastic Reduction Year One: April – October 4, 2022

Laudato Si' Action Plan Goal(s)

Cry of the Earth – a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.

Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles – Adopt a simple lifestyle (sobriety in the use of resources and energy, avoid single-use plastic, adopt a more plant-based diet and reduce meat consumption, greater use of public transport and avoid polluting modes of transportation, etc.)

Ecological Education – increasing awareness of our common origin, or our mutual belonging and of a future to be shared with everyone.

Objective 2 Plastic Reduction

To explore plastic usage at the Siena Campus and local Racine Dominican residences and identify ways that increasing the implementation of the five guiding principles for reducing waste: refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle, rot, can be encouraged.

Justification

In the encyclical letter, Laudato Si', Pope Francis recognizes the need for human beings to change their behaviors, turning away from consumerism and adopting a simpler, more sustainable lifestyle. Reducing plastic usage, whose primary component is fossil fuels, directly relates to reducing the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and thereby reducing global warming. Reduction of the use of plastic reduces the need for landfills as well as decreasing the risk of plastic ending up in the ocean or endangering creatures that accidentally encounter it. Reduction can also prevent micro plastic particles from leaching into our bodies, groundwater and soil. Recycling plastics can be positive but this process also contributes to the creation of carbon dioxide. Reducing the use of plastic helps to reduce carbon emissions, protects our wildlife and food sources, and reduces the ever-increasing toxicity of our air and water.

Action Steps

Date	Action	Who is responsible?	Outcome
May 2022	Determine which entities housed on the Siena Campus and which RD local communities would be willing to collaborate in the exploration of plastic reduction and identify a contact person in each area for further action.	Ann Pratt, OP, LSAT	Entities on the Siena Campus and the RD local communities will be identified as collaborators and contact persons will be defined.
June 2022	Survey measures currently in use to reduce plastic and assess impact of this reduction	Ann Pratt, OP, LSAT Collaborators	Establish a base line for use in measuring future plastic reduction.
July 2022	Identify educational and promotional strategies that would aid the decrease in plastic usage for use during the 2022 Season of Creation	Ann Pratt, OP, LSAT Collaborators	Identification of educational and promotional strategies
July 2022	Identify possible priority focus areas and strategies that will contribute to the	Ann Pratt, OP, LSAT Collaborators	Determination of priority focus areas and strategies to use in

	reduction of plastic usage		approaching plastic usage.
September 2022	Distribute educational and promotional strategies for the Season of Creation	Ann Pratt, OP, LSAT Collaborators	Educational and promotional strategies are provided
September 2022	Assess progress towards objective and develop 2022/2023 Action Steps	Ann Pratt, OP LSAT Collaborators	Progress assessment completed and Goal Year Two goals established.

Objective 3 – Rebuilding Relationships

Guide: Diane Poplawski, OP Laudato Si' Action Team (LSAT)

Objective 3 Rebuilding Relationships Year One: April – October 4, 2022

Laudato Si' Action Plan Goal(s)

Ecological Education – increasing awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging and of a future to be shared with everyone.

Ecological Spirituality – being open to interior conversion and awareness of the interconnectedness of all of life.

Objective 3 Rebuilding Relationships

To invite our Community to deepen their **ecological spirituality and education** in the areas of:

- the historical and foundational role of the “Doctrine of Discovery;”
- the importance of knowing “whose land we are on” and the value of using Land Acknowledgements when we gather;
- “Native spirituality” and Seventh Generation Earth Ethics;
- the importance of honoring Native land from a Native American woman’s perspective;
- the need for land transitions that protect land and extend equity, access, and/or tenure to new stewards;
- the importance of our call to live in right relationships and respect all people and the earth.

Justification

In the encyclical letter, Laudato Si', we are called to redefine and rebuild our relationship with each other and our common home. More fully understanding the “Doctrine of Discovery,” its historical implementations, and its use by the Catholic Church will increase our understanding of what has shaped our relationships in the past and how we can apply new understandings towards shaping them in the future. Native People have honored and cared for the earth long before our arrival. We can learn a lot by hearing directly from their voices regarding caring for the earth, the sacred balance of all of life, and the importance of relationships. This information will also provide a foundation for increased understanding of the need to explore land transitions that protect land and extend equity, access,

and/or tenure to new stewards. Our charism with “a passion for truth...” (*Constitution 7*) and “commitment to truth in light of the gospel...” (*Constitution 8*) invite us to be “lifelong learners.” The proposed educational opportunities invite us to know more of the “truth” and be more informed as we proceed with the commitment to Laudato Si’.

Action Steps

Date	Action	Who is responsible?	Outcome
Prior to April 2022	View the “Doctrine of Discovery” presentation by Christin Tomy, OP	LSAT	Ability to determine if providing this presentation to the Community would be valuable.
Prior to April 2022 (March 25, 2022)	Care of Creation Prayer Service	LSAT as a Collaborative Partner in the March	Prayerfully highlight the interconnection of all of creation
April 2022	Apply for a Call To Action Seed Grant that addresses power and privilege through anti-racist and anti-oppressive lenses and uplifts marginalized people or communities	Ann Pratt, OP in collaboration with the Nones & Nuns Land Justice project and Full Circle Healing Farm	One day Immersion Experience for twenty Religious Congregational members on a working farm that explores land transitions that protect land and extend equity, access, and/or tenure to new stewards while giving participants the opportunity to engage with the joys and

			challenges of a farm operator who is a Person of Color .
April 2022	Explore engaging Christin Tomy, OP as an in-person and live stream presenter in the fall of 2022 and secure a date for the presentation.	Diane Poplawski, OP	Provide historical and foundational information about the role of the “Doctrine of Discovery” in the development of relationships with people and the land.
April 2022	Explore engaging Patty Loew (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe), Director for Native American & Indigenous Research at Northwestern University and author of <i>Seventh Generation Earth Ethics: Native Voices of Wisconsin</i> as an in-person and live stream presenter in the fall of 2022 and secure a date if possible.	Diane Poplawski, OP	Share the perspective of a Native voice regarding caring for the earth, the sacred balance of all of life, and the importance of relationships to move the Community toward redefining and rebuilding our relationships with each other and our common home.
May 2022	Apply for a Victory Knoll Grant Sisters Small Grants Program 2022	Ann Pratt, OP and Diane Poplawski, OP	Advance Integral Ecology through the perspective of Native

			American voices toward redefining and rebuilding our relationships with each other and our common home.
June 2022	Write articles for Community Connections and provide Sunday Worship Handouts	LSAT,DCJR	Ability to determine if providing this presentation to the Community would be valuable.
June – August 2022	Solidify arrangements regarding Christin Tomy, OP to be an in-person and live stream presenter in the fall of 2022	Diane Poplawski, LSAT, DCJR, Technology Support, Siena Center Coordinator, Siena on the Lake	Provide historical and foundational information about the role of the “Doctrine of Discovery” in the development of relationships with people and the land.
June –August 2022	Solidify arrangements regarding Patty Loew (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe) to be an in-person and live stream presenter in the fall of 2022	Diane Poplawski, LSAT, DCJR, Technology Support, Siena Center Coordinator, Siena on the Lake	Share the perspective of a Native voice regarding caring for the earth, the sacred balance of all of life, and the importance of relationships to move the Community toward redefining and rebuilding our

			relationships with each other and our common home.
July 2022	View “For All The Earth: Integrating Charism, Mission & Care of Creation,” Sessions I & II presentation by Laurie Brink, OP	LSAT	Ability to determine if providing this presentation to the Community would be valuable.
Summer 2022	Provide twenty members of Religious Congregations, who have completed the Land Justice course from Nuns and Nones, with a one day Immersion Experience on a working farm that explores land transitions that protect land and extend equity, access, and/or tenure to new stewards while giving participants the opportunity to engage with the joys and challenges of a farm	Ann Pratt, OP, LSAT, DCJR in collaboration with the Nones & Nuns Land Justice project and Full Circle Healing Farm	Twenty members of Religious Congregations will demonstrate an increased knowledge of land transitions that protect land and extend equity, access, and/or tenure to new stewards by completing an evaluative process regarding their one day Immersion Experience

	operator who is a Person of Color		
September 2022	Evaluate Sunday Worship Monthly Handouts to determine educational effectiveness.	LSAT, DCJR	Gather concrete information that will examine the effectiveness of Sunday Worship Monthly Handouts and determine their continued use.
September 2022	Assess progress towards objective and develop 2022/2023 Action Steps	Diane Poplawski, LSAT	Progress assessment completed and Goal Year Two goals established.

Objective 4 – Renewable Energy

<p>Guide: Fran Hoffman Laudato Si' Action Team (LSAT) Objective 4 Renewable Energy Year One: April – October 4, 2022</p>			
<p>Laudato Si' Action Plan Goal(s) Cry of the Earth— a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.</p>			
<p>Objective 4 Renewable Energy To explore further decreasing the carbon footprint of the Siena Center Campus by employing additional use of renewable energy resources.</p>			
<p>Justification In the encyclical letter, Laudato Si' we are reminded that the climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all. Burning fossil fuels releases large amounts of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere where the gases trap heat, causing global warming. The average global temperature has increased 1°C since the 1800's. Warming above 1.5°C risks further sea level rise, extreme weather, biodiversity loss and species extinction, as well as food scarcity, worsening health and poverty for millions of people worldwide. Fossil fuel companies continue to support the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, producing and selling fossil fuel products while scientists say we need a mass switch to renewable energy and efficiency to prevent unalterable damage to our common home.</p>			
<p>Action Steps</p>			
Date	Action	Who is responsible?	Outcome
May 2022	Explore whether the Siena Center Campus has had a recent energy audit. If not, request that one be completed	Fran Hoffman, OP, LSAT, Past and Present Leadership Team, CFO	Verification of whether an energy audit exists, if one does not exist a request for one will be completed

June 2022	Using the results of the energy audit, determine the sources currently in use for heating, cooling, and lighting etc. For each entity on the Campus	Fran Hoffman, OP, LSAT and Leadership Team, ED-SOTL, ED-Siena Retreat Center, ED-Ascension Living	Current sources of energy for heating, cooling, and lighting, etc. will be documented
June 2022	Provide educational fact sheets detailing best practices for energy management and energy efficiency to the Siena Campus entities and Sisters and Associates	Fran Hoffman, OP LSAT, DCJR	Best practice energy management and efficiency practices will be provided to Siena Campus entities and Sisters and Associates
July 2022	Based on the data gathered, identify which Siena Center Campus entities would be willing to collaborate in exploring the use of renewable energy resources.	Fran Hoffman, OP Leadership Team, ED-SOTL, SOTL, Property Manager, SOTL, ED-Siena Retreat Center, ED-Ascension Living	Determination of which entities on the Siena Campus would be willing to collaborate in exploring the use of additional renewable energy resources
July 2022	Identify current energy consumption for (by source of energy) each of the entities who choose to collaborate	Fran Hoffman, OP Leadership Team, CFO, ED-SOTL, Property Manager-SOTL ED-	Documentation of current energy consumption and carbon footprint on the Siena Campus

	and determine carbon footprint of these sources.	Siena Retreat Center, ED-Ascension Living	
July 2022	Explore possible alternative renewable energy resources that could be used with current energy sources to move towards decreasing the carbon footprint of the Siena Campus	Fran Hoffman, OP Leadership Team, ED-SOTL, Property Manager-SOTL, ED-Siena Retreat Center, ED-Ascension Living	Identification of the possible renewable energy resources that could be used with current energy sources to move towards decreasing carbon footprint of the Siena Campus.
September 2022	Draft a renewable energy plan for collaborating entities that would decrease the carbon foot print of the Campus	Fran Hoffman, OP Leadership Team, ED-SOTL, Property Manager-SOTL, ED-Siena Retreat Center, ED-Ascension Living	Completion of a draft for potential renewable energy resources that could be used with current sources to decrease the carbon foot print
September 2022	Assess progress towards objective and develop 2022/2023 Action Steps	Fran Hoffman, OP LSAT	Progress assessment completed and Goal Year Two goals established.

Objective 5 – Sustainable Investing

Guide: Janet Weyker, OP Laudato Si' Action Team (LSAT)

Objective 5 Sustainable Investing Year One: April – October 4, 2022

Laudato Si' Action Plan Goal(s)

Ecological Economic— acknowledging that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere-our common home we are encouraged to trade and invest ethically by divesting from fossil fuels and support sustainable energy systems. It is imperative that we prioritize people and planet over profit.

Ecological Education— re-thinking and re-designing curricular and institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology in order to foster ecological awareness and transformative action.

Objective 5 Sustainable Investing To review our investment policies and screens to ensure that investments are ethical, sustainable, prioritize divesting from fossil fuels and investing in more renewable energy resources.

Justification

In the encyclical letter, Laudato Si', we are called to take into account the environmental impact of any economic undertaking. Fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas) are the greatest emitters of carbon dioxide that contribute to global warming and its devastating outcomes. An ecological economy calls for a just transition to clean energy, protecting all people and other living beings from the consequences of global warming. By divesting from fossil fuels and investing in clean renewable energy, we can mitigate the effects of adding more carbon emissions to the atmosphere. Divestment from businesses that support the fossil fuel industry increases opportunities to collaborate with other institutions who prioritize ethical and sustainable choices thus increasing our ability to respond positively to the climate crisis.

Action Steps			
Date	Action	Who is responsible?	Outcome
May 2022	Examine current investment policies and screening criteria and the process for their development using positive environmental, social, and governance (ESG) screening	Janet Weyker, OP , Leadership, CFO, Finance Department	Increase knowledge and understanding of policies and screens including process for their development.
May 2022	Obtain information regarding current investments in fossil fuel and sustainable related businesses	Janet Weyker, OP, Leadership, CFO, Finance Department	Learn baseline information about investments in fossil fuels and in sustainable energy
June 2022	Provide information about current policies and screens including process for their development with LSAT	Janet Weyker, OP, LSAT	Based on the information obtained suggest changes in the policies and screens to ensure that investments are ethical and sustainable
July 2022	Provide educational fact sheets detailing best practices for ethical and sustainable investments to Sisters and Associates	Janet Weyker, OP, LSAT	Best practice for ethical and sustainable investments will be provided to Sisters and Associates

August 2022	Identify ways to increase the Community's understanding of current policies and screens	LSAP team	Increase Community's understanding of the importance of ethical and sustainable investment strategies
September 2022	Assess progress towards objective and develop 2022/2023 Action Steps	Janet Weyker, OP, LSAT	Progress assessment completed and Goal Year Two goals established.