

Laudato Si' Action Plan for Pax Christi Catholic Church

Parish Name: Pax Christi Catholic Church

Address: 4001 Victoria Way, Lexington KY 40515

Diocese: Lexington

Date: October 3, 2024

Laudato Si' Parish Coordinator Name and Contact Information: Bax McClure
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Laudato Si' Action Team Members (Names): Martha Gehringer, Tamara Fitch, Katie Timmerman, Francie Bauer and Bax McClure

Parish Laudato Si' Statement:

We strive to care for our common home, promote environmental stewardship, and foster a spirit of solidarity with all creation. Through education, practical actions, and prayer, we seek to inspire each person to embrace a lifestyle of sustainability, compassion, and justice according to their own talents, situations, and experiences.

Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Install additional Motion Sensor lighting in facilities not already installed—ongoing & continuing, no groups
2. Install LED lighting throughout facilities as needed—on-going as have already started. Group responsible—Office personnel
3. Maintain the sensors on the water around Peace Garden—on-going & continuing
4. Construct a composting site-- in Fall and Winter, a passive pile that requires minimum oversight by a parish volunteer. (Some minimum work will be needed to educate and periodically monitor to ensure being used correctly.)
5. Do a litter pickup in neighborhood—Spring or summer 2025, various groups to participate and organized by the Care of Creation team

6. Continue to hold annual Yard Sale which encourages reuse and recycling of materials—ongoing and continuing, All parishioners and the Yard Sale committee

Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Continue support for Build-A-Bed Project—each fall and various groups are involved with Men's Group coordination
2. Continue support for Food drives for God's Pantry and Catholic Action Center—various events throughout the year, but primarily in Lent and Advent, all parishioners
3. Continue support for Habitat for Humanity—in August and September, all parishioners
4. Promote participation in the Appalachian Immersion Program in 2025—Winter and Spring 2025, Care of Creation Team getting the announcement ready
5. Develop a list of volunteer activities which parishioners can volunteer for throughout the community and at church—Winter 2025, Care of Creation Team.

Goal 3: Ecological Economics

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Continue to support local environmentally conscious businesses and restaurants (e.g., Grimes Chicken, DV8 Kitchen, Good Foods Co-Op, etc.) - ongoing and continuing, all groups with input from Financial Officer to encourage this practice
2. Begin purchasing green products for kitchen—Fall, Winter 2024, all groups and office staff.
3. In Fall 2024, Eight raised beds will be installed on the church grounds for families to adopt and use for planting of food. Food can be used for the family and/or others—8 families or individuals. Spring 2025—planting of beds. Selection will be by the office staff and Care of Creation team
4. Promote local Farmers Markets and Co-ops—Winter 2025, Care of Creation team will research availability and develop the list for inclusion in the bulletin and on the website

Goal 4: Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Recycling, ongoing and continuing, all groups and parishioners
2. Eliminate the use of single-use plastics-no more purchasing of water bottles
3. Install 2 fountains in upper and lower level to fill reuseable water bottles. Fall 2024 and throughout upcoming year. Groups—Care of Creation team and office staff
4. No longer purchase Styrofoam products—Fall 2024, all groups and office staff
5. Investigate the feasibility of instituting an electronics recycling day at church—Spring and summer, 2025. Care of Creation team along with Parish Council.
6. Support the Diocesan effort to access the installation of Solar Panels and review their possibility at Pax Christi. Spring 2025, Care of Creation Team

Goal 5: Ecological Education

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Develop Educational programs to increase commitment to recycling in the parish along with other Care of Creation topics by using bulletin, website, emails and Facebook page—Winter 2025, Care of Creation team, Parish Council, Social Committee and other groups along with staff
2. Encourage reading and discussion of Laudato Si and Laudato Deum—Winter 2025 and rest of 2025, Care of Creation Team to initiate and other groups to assist
3. Father Pat to host talks on the Laudato Si parish plan—Winter 2024, Father Pat and Care of Creation team
4. Support and foster educational activities on the Care of Creation for youth and their families at three different programs/events throughout the coming. Responsibility – Faithwalk coordinator, Youth Director, Care of Creation team, parent volunteers. Fall 2024 through Spring 2025

6: Ecological Spirituality

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Continue the Animal blessings on Feast of St. Francis—ongoing and continuing, Responsibility—Parish deacons
2. Encourage use of the Rosary Walk and Peace Garden for prayer—Ongoing and Winter 2025, Care of Creation team and Peace Garden Team.
3. Walking Group—Some women have already begun this activity, but would like to expand to include all parishioners, ongoing and continuing—Group—Women's Spirituality Group and all parishioners, staff
4. Care of Creation weekend to include music, homily, outdoor mass and other Activities (Rosary Walk and Labyrinth are possibilities) which highlight Care of Creation—Spring and summer 2025, Organized by Care of Creation Team

7: Community Resilience and Empowerment

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Care of Creation team to grow, meet and be active
2. Designate another Laudato Si Tree on parish grounds to encourage parish Awareness and participation in Care of Creation initiatives—Spring 2025, Care of Creation team responsible.
3. Replace some diseased and dead trees with a species more suited to our Environment—Property Committee and staff, Fall and Winter 2024

2. Encourage use of the Rosary Walk and Peace Garden for prayer—ongoing and Winter 2025, Care of Creation team and Peace Garden group
3. Walking Group—Some women have already begun this activity, but would like to expand this to include all parishioners, ongoing and continuing, Group—Women's Spirituality Group and all parishioners, staff
4. Care of Creation weekend to include music, homily, outdoor mass and activities (Rosary Walk and Labyrinth are possible activities) which highlight care of creation—Spring & summer 2025, Organized by Care of Creation Team

Goal 7: Community Resilience and Empowerment

We commit to the following efforts to embrace this goal as a parish:

1. Care of Creation team to grow, meet and be active
2. Designate another Laudato Si Tree on the parish grounds to encourage parish awareness and participation in Care of Creation initiatives—Spring 2025, Care of Creation Team responsible
3. Replace some diseased and dead trees with a species more suited to our environment—Property committee and staff, Fall 2024

Submitted on: October 3, 2024 (Date)

Pastor/Parish Life Director Endorsement:


(Signature)