



THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF PHILADELPHIA

Laudato Si' Action Platform Reflection

We, the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia and our companions, enthusiastically accept the challenges of addressing the devastating impact of climate change and the call to ecological conversion through our Laudato Si' Action Platform Plan.

Commitment to Our Laudato Si' Action Plan

We, the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia and our companions, affirm the intrinsic value of all creation. Care for our common home is deeply rooted in our Franciscan spirituality, as indicated by our 1986 Mission Statement and 2010 Constitutions, "...we live as sister with one another, with the entire human family, and with all creation." Our chapter directives call us to "intensify efforts to care for Earth" (2014), especially on behalf of those most affected by our unsustainable practices. Our Corporate Stand on Care for Creation (2017) calls us to "ecological education of ourselves and others leading to concrete action."

Therefore, we, the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia and our companions, respond to Pope Francis' call to integral ecology and commit ourselves to the seven-year journey of developing and implementing a Laudato Si' Action Plan. By doing so, we join the entire Catholic community and all people of good will on this path of renewal and transformation and "we step forward each day into the future of God's promise." (Constitutions of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, Ch. 1:7)

Response to the Call for Ecological Conversion

We will reflect on the gifts we have been given and seek numerous ways to embrace and walk in solidarity with all creation. We will seek awareness of the Divine goodness and mystery in everything. Like Jonah, we have to go inside the belly of the whale to become resilient, transformed, and radical. Like Francis and Clare, we live into a deeper appreciation of all creatures and creation and see it as Sacrament and gift.

We will build on our 25-year history of addressing ecological concerns and will develop ongoing actions for each of the seven goals. We intend to engage our sisters, companions, coworkers, and other partners in gathering ideas and sharing concrete actions.

