

VICTOR – GOOLWA PARISH
THREE YEAR *CATHOLIC EARTHCARE* ACTION PLAN

IN KEEPING WITH **7 GOALS OF LAUDATO SI** ACTION PLAN
requested by Pope Francis

- Response to the Cry of the Earth
- Response to the Cry of the Poor
- Ecological Economics
- Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles
- Ecological Education
- Ecological Spirituality
- Community Resilience and Empowerment

And in response to the decree of the Australian 5th Plenary Council:

INTEGRAL ECOLOGY AND CONVERSION
FOR THE SAKE OF OUR COMMON HOME DECREE

The Fifth Plenary Council decrees:

Article 1 That, witnessing to their communal ecological conversion and the urgent need for action, by 2024, each Catholic parish, diocese educational institution or organisation commits to joining the Laudato Si' Platform; and by 2030 either develops its own or participates in an established Laudato Si' Action Plan.

***THIS PLAN IS AN EFFORT TO LIVE OUT TWO AREAS OF OUR
VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT***

CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Providing education towards an ecological conversion among parishioners.
- Examining our use of resources in the parish and in our homes and making decisions that enable sustainability and contribute to the care of Mother Earth.
- Encouraging projects that involve parishioners in sustainable living.

REACH OUT

- Support the work of St Vincent de Paul and the Knights of the Southern Cross.
- Promote and support outreach to other communities locally, nationally and internationally.

*THIS PLAN WILL BE REVIEWED IN JUNE EACH YEAR AND CROSSES
MARKED IN RED WHEN ACCOMPLISHED. OTHER
IDEAS/ACCOMPLISMENTS CAN BE ADDED .*

1. RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH	Year1	Year2	Year3
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Share info re local efforts e.g., Coastcare, CLLMM (Coorong, Lower Lakes Murray Mouth Research Centre)	X	X	X
Special effort for Season of Creation each year e.g., special theme for each week, a visit to local sites where caring for the earth taking place. Community garden, Native plant park etc Organize a visit- (car pooling) to a local native nursery- include in the Encounter Nursery at big roundabout at Inman Valley/Waterport Rd.	X	X	X
Proper labels on Parish bins	X		
Continue our worm farm and continue to provide worm castings and worm pee to parishioners and parish garden as available. Use worm farm as an example of re-cycling. Use products on parish gardens.	X	X	X
Give a demonstration of how to run a worm farm and offer to help anyone who would like to start one including providing them with worms from our farm to start. Possible link with one of the schools in the district to get young people hooked on the idea of a worm farm.		X	X
Promote in the Encounter special days re plants, animals as given in Earthcare Calendar.	X	X	X
Promote in the Encounter special national and international days re people with special interest in our First Nations.	X	X	X
Share Informal caring in your neighbourhood, retirement village etc.	X	X	X
Work with Liturgy Group at incorporating Earthcare matters in the actual Liturgy. Earthcare member is willing to be a liaison person between Earthcare and Liturgy group.		X	X
Annual pledge in September to Care for the Earth/Care for the Poor .	X	X	X
Report to PPC regularly to keep them informed.	X	X	X

2. RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR			
- Highlight First Nations' special days/weeks in the Encounter	X	X	X
-Aim to have First Nations' Flag at Mass on Aboriginal Sunday and other special days.		X	X
-Aim to have paid Welcome to Country on Aboriginal Sunday (NAIDOC Week)		X	X
-Endeavour to make more prominent our acknowledgement of country and elders e.g., on plaques in foyer, more on Encounter		X	X
-Support our Vinnies group, hamper packing at Christmas, donations Winter Appeal	X	X	X
- Support fundraisers by our Knights of the Southern Cross group	X	X	X
-Continue our Outreach to Comoro Parish Timor-Leste. Support our Comoro Team, help in fund-raisers	X	X	X
-Support special Archdiocesan appeals in the Encounter Especially promote Project Compassion during Lent.	X	X	X
-Broadcast other groups that are involved in community projects for the earth/for the poor Zonta, Rotary (Probus), RSL, Caring Neighbourhood, sporting groups.	X	X	X
- Promote/highlight informal caring in our neighbourhood, retirement village.	X	X	X
- Promote/highlight informal caring in the parish – communion to elderly, rides to Church, other appointments		X	X
	Year1	Year2	Year3

3. ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS			
-Promote environmental shopping, fair trade,	X	X	X
-Look at our church footprint . Promote Less paper? More solar panels. Plant trees		X	X
-Promote Plastic free July – lots of examples on website	X	X	X
-Eco Friendly Christmas/Easter	X	X	X
4. ADOPTION OF SIMPLE LIFESTYLES	X	X	X
-Each group member to adopt a special personal project done over some time- write/describe briefly place in envelope with name on outside and seal. Envelopes to be saved for several months then distributed to each person and opened at a meeting or individually- How did I score on achieving some of my goal? Then to be discussed or not – personal choice – with group members- reflecting in own time- destroyed or kept for reference- personal choice. Extend this to parishioners.			
Perhaps set a growing target of percentage of parishioners who subscribe to a set of ‘simplicity of life style’ principles.	X	X	X
- Highlight in Encounter ways in which parishioners are taking care of the earth e.g., from one parishioner <i>“Minor things I do ... save stamps for Jean; Collect ours & daughters 10c refundable to help offset petrol costs when visiting her; when plastic bottles (sauces, shampoos, makeup etc) are "empty" I cut the tops & go on using the remnants for weeks! Banana skins, coffee grounds, teabags, all go in the garden, great for roses.”</i> <i>All household aluminium go for Comoro collection.</i> <i>Use seasonal fruit to make our jam. I buy the odd bunch capsicums, chop & freeze. End of date cheap mushrooms, fry & freeze in small packets to use in cooking.</i>			

	Year1	Year2	Year3
6. ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY			
-Reflection at each meeting.	X	X	X
-Group shares books, articles, poetry etc. These in turn are shared during parish notices, in Encounter	X	X	X
-Promote the kind of liturgy that would nourish a good relationship with Earth. Suggest alternative prayers where possible.		X	X
- Talk to the Liturgy Group about incorporating ideas in the liturgy	X	X	X
<i>An example of this:</i> Adapt this for Earth Day and hold a special event to encourage awareness of our Deep History and our Future First Sunday of Season of Creation etc.	X	X	X
-Annual Earthcare Retreat e.g., in Lent, Advent for the Earthcare group and hopefully beyond perhaps have a face to face meeting with the <i>In the Loop</i> group	X	X	X
- Study and reflection on questions for our times e.g., <i>Where are we?</i> <i>Are we at the beginning of a golden age of innovation and progress?</i> <i>Or are we on the precipice of ecological catastrophe and political breakdown?</i> <i>Or both?</i> <i>How do Religion, Ethics, and Law need to respond to our planetary crisis and political decline?</i> <i>How must they change to do so?</i> <i>What is our role in bringing these changes about?</i> <i>And how will the changes affect our lives?</i> <i>We cannot protect what we do not love - promote prayerful encounters with nature</i> <i>Writers: Laudato S, Laudate Deum, Teilhard de Chardin, Thomas Berry etc.</i>	X	X	X
- Special focus on Season of Creation each year e.g., special theme for each week		X	X
5. ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION			

A film afternoon/evening The Letter and other short films	X	X	X
Articles in the Encounter with relevant info.		X	
Promote parishioners' sustainable farm and arrange visit to the farm – if possible with demonstration of bio-char which can be done in a Weber	X	X	X
Don't try to re-invent the wheel. Join with local groups who are already involved – e.g., CLLMM – Coorong, Lower Lakes, Murray Mouth Research Centre.	X	X	X
Excursions – e.g., Coorong visit, visit to history of Ngarrindjeri exhibition at Goolwa etc,		X	
Work with the 4 seasons/ 6 indigenous seasons. Animals and plants.		X	X
Climate Change is actually happening now. How can we prepare to live in a changed world. Study what other people, groups in our area doing to prepare.			

	Year1	Year2	Year3
7. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT			
- Special effort for Season of Creation each year e.g., special theme for each week, linked to liturgy, visit local sites where caring for the earth taking place. Community garden, Native plant park etc Organize a visit- (car pooling) to a local native nursery- include in the Encounter e.g., Nursery at big roundabout at Inman Valley/Waterport Rd	X	X	X
Make links with local efforts e.g., Council Projects, State projects.	X	X	X
Join in with local groups seeking to protect environment/ have outreach to the poor. Attend meetings, get involved with action. e.g., Fleurieu Homeless Group, Progressive Women's Group, Zonta, Fleurieu Refugee Support Group	X	X	X
Support Vinnies	X	X	X