

## Family of Parishes Creation Care Lenten and Easter Challenge

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Our Family of Parishes (FoP) Creation Care Team wishes to present you with a Lenten/Easter challenge. Over the coming weeks we will provide you with worksheets created by the Maryknoll Affiliates to continue helping our parish community respond to Pope Francis's call to environmental sustainability. Every other week a summary of a Maryknoll worksheet will be presented to help you progress towards meeting the seven action goals of the Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP) (<http://laudatosiactionplatform.org>).



**Worksheet # 1 – Goal #1 - Respond to the Cry of the Earth** is a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all God's creatures, in order to address climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability. This worksheet addresses some ways to reduce personal dependence on fossil fuels, conserving energy where possible while changing to renewable energy sources. This will help reduce air, water and land pollution, climate stress and biodiversity loss for all Earth's inhabitants, including those who will live in the future.

**Focus Areas for Goal #1** • Electricity; Natural gas and heating oil; and Transportation.

### **Specific Actions for Goal #1**

**Pray:** Begin with prayers for Creation Care.

**Act:** **Short Term Actions**, e.g. Heating and Cooling - Heat no higher than 68 °F and cool no lower than 78 °F. Use shades and curtains to help the sun heat your home in the winter and to keep it cool in the summer. Greener Driving - minimize idling, combine trips, plan shortest routes, carpool, walk or bike.



**Longer Term Actions:** e.g. When replacing major appliances, replace with Energy Star energy efficient products. Replace gas or diesel autos with hybrid, plug-in hybrid or electric vehicles.

**Advocate:** e.g. Fill out customer questionnaires to suggest more environmentally friendly practices and thank businesses for good environmental practices you see.

Please see the complete worksheet #1 for more actions you can take for Goal #1 - Respond to the Cry of the Earth (<https://godsplanet.us/maryknoll-affiliates-lsap-goals-worksheets>).