

## Taking Action to Care for Our Common Home



### Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River  
Amos 5: 24

### Rochester Family of Parishes

Our Family of Parishes (FOP) is currently working together on seven common actions to better care for creation across all three parishes—St. Andrew, St. Irenaeus, and St. Mary of the Hills. Work began on July 1<sup>st</sup> and will continue through June, 2024. The FOP will add new actions each year.

### Common Actions:

- 1) In all FOP buildings, start programming AC a couple degrees warmer than historically typical when in use, and increase temperature setting even further when not in use. Set furnace to 68°F when in use and decrease temperature setting during non-use.
- 2) Discontinue parish purchases of single-use plastics, water bottles, and polystyrene on FOP campuses. Research and identify a shared list of alternative products, and use across the FOP.
- 3) Provide education to parishioners/families/youth on sustainable lifestyle practices through bulletin articles, projects, and activities. Link to Catholic Social Teaching.
- 4) Hold a Screening of “The Letter: A Message for Our Earth” for the FOP.
- 5) Include care for creation themes in the Prayers of the Faithful every six weeks or more often. Important dates to consider are: September 1 – October 4 (Season of Creation), Week including May 24 (Laudato Si’ Week), Advent, Lent, and Easter Seasons, April 22 (Earth Day)
- 6) Celebrate the Season of Creation (September 1 World Day of Prayer for Creation – October 4 Feast of St. Francis) within the FOP annually (incorporate creation care into bulletin articles, homilies, Prayers of the Faithful, hymns, special activities).
- 7) Form a FOP team to research, communicate and engage parishes in ecological advocacy.



**What actions do you take? We want to hear from you!**

### Parishioner Season of Creation Survey

Tell us what good habits you as an individual or your family practice at home to care for the Earth. Complete a short survey by [clicking this link](#) or scan the QR code. We will share the results at the end of Season of Creation as a way to learn from each other about good actions we can take!

