



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)



“Despite all attempts to deny, conceal, gloss over or relativize the issue, the signs of climate change are here and increasingly evident... I ask everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and to help make it more beautiful.” - His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome, Roman Catholic Church

Season of Creation (SOC) origins can be traced back 35 years, when Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios proclaimed September 1st as the Orthodox Day of Prayer for Creation. The World Council of Churches then extended the celebration to October 4th, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. Since 2015, when Pope Francis officially endorsed the annual SOC celebration, the [Laudato Si' Movement](#) has become the lead organization providing ecumenical SOC resources. This year, Laudato Si' Movement is asking for a global focus on the [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) and to spread the word on September 21st through social media.

The **SE Michigan Interfaith Climate Justice Initiative (ICJI)** is a collective of churches and faith-based organizations who gather together to celebrate SOC in a collaborative way for broader impact across Metro Detroit. The **ICJI** invites you to participate in these 2024 SOC opportunities for prayer, reflection and action:

- Act. **All Season:** Sign the **Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT)**: <https://fossilfuel treaty.org/>
- Pray. **Sun, Sept 1st, 11AM: Jazz Mass** opens the Season of Creation at Ss Peter & Paul Jesuit (SPPJ)
- Pray & Reflect. **Sat, Sept 7th, 10AM-3PM: Ecological Spirituality Retreat II – A Spirituality of Resistance**, presented by Dominican Center Spirituality for Mission. LOCATION: St. Suzanne Cody Rouge Community Resource Center, 19321 W. Chicago, Detroit. Sign up: <https://shorturl.at/YPfqd>
- Pray. **Sat, Sept 14th, 10AM-12NOON: Manresa Green Labyrinth**. Come walk in group meditation on the Labyrinth at [Manresa Jesuit Retreat House](#) at 1390 Quarton Road, Bloomfield Hills. [Sign up using this link](#)
- Reflect. **Sat, Sept. 21st, 11AM-2PM: Sustainability in the City Tour** at Willys Overland Lofts, Winner of the 2024 Michigan's Battle of the Building Competition for energy reduction. Presentation and Reception on the patio of Gesu parishioner, Therese Bellaimy, joined by SPPJ Green Team member Rick Smith. Learn about residential solar panels, EV Chargers, balcony gardens, home composting, and green alleys. We will also visit Seasons Market, the Green Garage. **Parking** on Wayne State University surface lot 71 should be free on Saturdays at [Cass & Canfield NE corner](#) or use parking meter. [Sign up using this link](#)
- Act. **Sat, Sept 28th, 9AM-1PM: Greening of Detroit Tree Planting** at Pingree Park, 8401 E Forest Ave, Detroit, with Gesu/SPPJ Green Teams. Sign up on [Eventbrite](#) (Company: Detroit Jesuit Family of Parishes)
- Pray. **Sat, Sept 28th: SE Michigan ICJI Ecumenical SOC Service**. Gather at **5:30PM**, then **6PM** potluck, following with the **7PM** service at St Philip's Episcopal Church, 100 Romeo Rd, Rochester. Sign up to bring a dish: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4FA9AC23A0FA7-50965367-season#/>
- Pray & Reflect. **Sun, Sept 29th, 11AM: SOC / Laudato Si' Mass** at Ss. Peter & Paul Jesuit Church with special guest celebrant Fr. Tim Hipskind from University of Detroit Mercy (UDM). After mass, there will be a **solar power presentation** in the UDM Atrium by the SPPJ Parish about the potential to use solar power.
- Reflect. **Oct 3rd & 10th, 7-8:15PM: Zoom SOC Book Talk, Finding the Mother Tree** by Suzanne Simard. Research reveals there are complex social networks and forms of communication in forest ecosystems. With guest forester, Dr. R.J. Laverne, we will discuss how Simard's discoveries have changed forestry practices, urban planning, and our roles and responsibilities as environmental stewards in our backyards and local communities. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84033946238?pwd=zga85PyudftJ0ymy64TbsEpSWBMMWdf.1>
- Pray. **Fri, Oct 4th, 5:30PM: Outdoor Mass / Blessing of the Pets**, at Gesu Church, 17180 Oak Dr, Detroit
- Pray. **Sun, Oct 6th, 10AM: Blessing of the Pets**, at St Philip's Episcopal Church, 100 Romeo Rd, Rochester
- Pray. **Sat, Oct 19th, 1PM: Servants' Entrance Community SOC Mass** at St Mary of the Hills, 2675 John R Rd, Rochester Hills
- Reflect. **Mon, Oct 28th, 7PM: Gesu Book Group / Gesu Green Team** will discuss [Gathering Moss](#) by [Robin Wall Kimmerer](#). Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9377834138?omn=8494731993>



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SE MICHIGAN INTERFAITH CLIMATE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

ICJI welcomes all faith-based communities in the Southeast Michigan region to unite through prayer, reflection, and action as we, the people of God, listen and respond to the voice of creation and work to form a mighty movement of hope, peace, and justice on this Earth, our common home.

- ***ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH***
- ***DETROIT JESUIT FOP – GESU / SS. PETER & PAUL***
- ***DOMINICAN CENTER: SPIRITUALITY FOR MISSION***
- ***MANRESA JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE***
- ***ROCHESTER FOP – ST ANDREW / ST IRENAEUS / ST MARY OF THE HILLS***
- ***ST PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH***
- ***ST SUZANNE / OUR LADY GATE OF HEAVEN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY***
- ***SERVANTS' ENTRANCE COMMUNITY***