

IHM Communal Reflection Process



How are you connected with the sisters of IHM?

_____ Sister _____ Associate _____ Partner in Mission

LAUDATO SI' Goal #7 Community Involvement and Participatory Action

Refers to the urgent call to engage in Earth-focused dialogue, action, advocacy, and community events as we commit ourselves to this 7-year journey toward sustainability in the spirit of the “Integral Ecology” of Laudato Si.

When Pope Francis wrote LAUDATO Si in 2015 he could not have imaged the peril of Earth only a few years later. Never before is there such a great urgency to come together in dialogue and strategic action for the sake of the whole, for the common good, for the future of life on Earth. “The gravity of the ecological crisis demands that we all look to the common good, embarking on a path of dialogue which demands patience, self-discipline and generosity, always keeping in mind that ‘realities are greater than ideas’.” (LS 143)

We are invited to consider ways to engage in meaningful and necessary dialogue for the planet and to participate in and/or support organized community events and gatherings such as tree plantings, walks and bike rides for Climate Change awareness, eco-educational opportunities, and eco-retreats, and to advocate for policies which uphold sound ecological practices. What is called for is “the active participation of all members of the community.” (LS 144)

Let us pray:

Creator God, you fashioned the whole of existence out of love, breathing your own breath and life into each star and planet, each ocean and mountain, and each plant, bird, fish, and human. Stir in our hearts the conviction to come together as a community aware of Earth’s plight, in honest dialogue, in order to act and respond wisely and compassionately.

Below is a short list of ways you can participate in ecological dialogue and eco-events. You are invited to prayerfully spend some time with this list and notice what calls you.

1. Attend an ecologically focus retreat
2. Start an eco-spiritual book reading group
3. Participate in tree planting events
4. Engage in ecological conversations with others
5. Visit your public officials to share your concerns for local ecosystems
6. Participate in an outdoor mass or prayer

In light of your reflections indicate:

1. To which of the above are you drawn to commit?

2. Are there other ecological actions you want to commit to?
