



# Christian Life Community

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## Living Laudato Si'

The CLC-USA Integral Ecology Working Group invites all CLC members to participate in an experience of **Living Laudato Si'** during this special Anniversary Year of the publishing of Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical. By engaging in communal discernment and by listening to the call to **Deepen, Share and Go Forth**, we trust that we will be led into action, since, in the words of Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, "discernment that ends in itself is useless."

We encourage you to use this 3-part program to reflect on the many graces of Laudato Si', to explore the many resources available to guide us, and to engage in spiritual conversations and actions with others in your CLC regions and communities, parishes and other groups.

## Living Laudato Si'

### I. Deepening

Begin by seeking an experience of immersion and prayer with God's Creation:

- If possible, spend some time away from your normal surroundings and routines, and place yourself amidst God's wonderful creation.
- Spend some prayer time listening to what God has to say about His creation in the scriptures.
- Pause ... and be grateful for the great diversity and beauty of God's creation and our kinship with all creatures and elements.
- Reflect on Pope Francis' words in Laudato Si':
  - What words or phrases move you? Sit with one of them.
  - What feelings arise as you sit with this word/phrase?
  - What is its meaning for you?
- Spend time with these reflection questions...
  - In what ways does creation reveal God's presence to you?
  - Is there a particular place or creature that speaks to you of God's presence?
  - In what ways do you experience oneness with creation?

## II. Share

Explore these areas and links to expand your knowledge and awareness of the many resources available to us, and share them with your CLC community, family and friends, your parish and other groups.

Personal Prayer	Small Group Reflection	Large Group Services
<p><a href="#">LiveLaudatoSi prayer resources</a></p> <p><a href="#">Laudato Si' Chaplet</a></p> <p><a href="#">Prayer of St. Francis</a></p> <p><a href="#">Laudato Si Encyclical</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mindfulness Walking Exercise</a></p> <p><a href="#">Eco-Examen</a></p> <p><a href="#">Eco-spirituality tips</a></p>	<p><a href="#">CLC Progressio Supplement #72 Caring for Creation</a></p> <p><a href="#">CLC Spiritual Exercises for Universal Communion Progressio Supplement #57</a></p> <p><a href="#">Creation at the Crossroads</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Season of Creation Celebration Guide</a></p>
Lifestyle Changes	Small Group Networks	Large Group Action and Advocacy
<p>Plant-based eating</p> <p><a href="#">The Meal that Reconnects</a></p> <p>Renewable energy choices</p> <p>Waste decisions: Refuse - Reduce - Reuse - Recycle</p> <p>Composting</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Housing</p>	<p><a href="#">Laudato Si Circles – with GCCM</a></p> <p><a href="#">Creation Care Teams – with Catholic Climate Covenant</a></p> <p>Tree Planting programs</p> <p><a href="#">Table of 100 Solutions</a></p>	<p>Divesting from Fossil Fuel</p> <p>Climate Strikes</p> <p>Supporting sustainable practices: renewable energy</p> <p><a href="#">How your parish can go solar</a></p> <p>Protecting indigenous and vulnerable groups from pollution</p> <p><a href="#">Laudato Si' Anniversary</a></p>

Copy and share this [graphic](#) with others in your various communities:



## Spiritual conversations

Now gather with your CLC community in spiritual conversation to share insights you have gained from your experience of God's Creation. We propose using **Three Rounds** of sharing and recommend using this flow:

- **Begin with prayer:** [A prayer for our earth](#) [Laudato Si' 246]
- **Spend some time reflecting and praying** on the following questions:
  - What feelings have this immersion and reflection aroused in me?
  - Is there a call that is arising from this interior movement?
  - What are practical ways that I can respond to this call?
- **Keep these suggestions in mind** as you begin your sharing:
  - Maintain an attitude of respectful, grateful and prayerful listening.
  - Each person describes their own experience in a short and clear way, speaking in the first person "I" and not in the third person.
  - Silence between speakers is good ... it does not mean simply waiting, but silently and prayerfully listening to what the speaker is genuinely saying.
  - As you listen to others, pay attention to the movements within ... this is where the Spirit is working.
  - Someone in the group should take on the role of timekeeper to ensure that in the available time, everyone has the space to express themselves.
- **First Round of Sharing.** Each person speaks on the insights drawn from their personal experience of immersion in nature, in prayer, and from other related reflections. There should be no interaction between speakers.

After everyone has had a chance to talk, pause for a few minutes to reflect on what resonated the most for you, on what was the most powerful moment for you in what was shared.
- **Second Round of Sharing.** Repeat process in Round 1, this time sharing on just what occurred during the first round, on those movements that were particularly resonant or powerful within you as you listened during the first round.

After everyone has spoken, pause for a few moments to reflect on what seems to be converging or emerging at this stage.
- **Third Round of Sharing.** What seems to be converging or emerging from the group? What do we hear God saying to us as a community?
- **Evaluation/Examen**
- **Closing Prayer:** [A Christian prayer in union with creation](#) [Laudato Si' 246]

### **Additional suggestions on Sharing:**

- The above flow can be used for small groups, either in person or online via ZOOM.
- For large groups (cluster, regions, parish), participants should be divided into breakout groups of 4 to 5 people for Rounds 1 and 2 (ZOOM participants can be placed in virtual rooms). Each group should select a scribe to take notes from Round 2 to share with the larger group.
- At the end of the allotted time, everyone should be invited back into the large group to continue Round 2, and a moderator should guide the reporting from each of the small groups. Comments can be displayed visually for all to see (on ZOOM, this can be done by having the scribe share their screen).
- To begin Round 3, everyone should pause for a few moments to reflect on what seems to be converging or emerging at this stage. The moderator leads the group in a discerning spiritual conversation, listening for the collective clarities. Comments should be recorded and displayed for all to see.

### **III. Go Forth**

One can say that the most important part of discerning how to live out **Laudato Si'** is to put what we've learned into action. So, we encourage you and your communities to be bold and creative, and take practical steps to respond to Love's invitation. We also ask that, as a way to encourage one another, you share information about any actions/events you organize or take part in. It's easy, just use this [Google Sheet](#) to post your own information/photos/etc., take a look at what others are doing, and be encouraged by the movement of the Holy Spirit in our world. **Laudato Si'!**