



**Suggested Practical Actions for Parishes / Families  
during the Season of Creation 2021**  
*“For we know that things can change!” (Laudato Si’, 13)*

- This Season of Creation is a critical moment for Catholics to lift up the voices of the most vulnerable and advocate on their behalf ahead of two important summits, **the UN Summit on Biodiversity (COP 15) in October and the UN Climate Summit in November (COP 26)**. We are invited to join advocacy initiatives such as the Healthy People, Healthy Planet Petition urging for bold action to protect creation. Please encourage individuals as well as parishes, dioceses, schools and other Catholic organisations to sign [www.thecatholicpetition.org](http://www.thecatholicpetition.org) 2021 gives us an opportunity like no other!
- Check out the Faith Community Pollinator plan and think about how you could implement this in your church grounds <https://pollinators.ie/communities/faith-communities/>  
Invite local schools or groups to help.
- Spend some time outside each day, in awareness, reconnect with nature. Pray in and with nature – Encourage Laudato Si’ themed gardens in your parish.
- Organise a creation walk using resources from <http://lovingsisterearth.com/creation-walk/>
- Start to grow some of your own food; support local producers.
- Compost your garden and food waste.
- Avoid or reduce the use of chemicals in your home and garden.
- Use (vinegar, baking soda) and buy eco- friendly cleaners. See ([www.ecoverdirect.com](http://www.ecoverdirect.com))
- Plant pollinator friendly plants in your window box or garden at home and in your parish grounds. [www.biodiversityireland.ie](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie)
- Shop wisely. Buy Fairtrade and buy locally made products when possible.
- Avoid waste. Reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, treat.
- Learn how to read your energy bills and make your home more energy efficient.
- Explore the use of renewable energy in your home, business and school, parish buildings ([www.seai.ie](http://www.seai.ie)). Many grants are available for your community.
- Participate in the Think Before You Flush campaign ([www.thinkbeforeyouflush.org](http://www.thinkbeforeyouflush.org)) and display the ‘Dirty Dozen’ posters in toilets in your parish buildings.
- Consider installing water butts in your gardens.
- Offer a welcome to newcomers where you live.
- Explore Trócaire’s 100 ways for Parishes to implement Laudato Si’ (<https://www.trocaire.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/parishes/100-ways-to-implement-laudato-si.pdf>)
- Become an Eco – Parish. See [www.ecocongregationireland.com](http://www.ecocongregationireland.com)
- Take the *Laudato Si’* Pledge ([www.CatholicClimateMovement.global/petition](http://www.CatholicClimateMovement.global/petition) )

- Discuss with / write to your local TD to express your concern on Ireland's record on addressing the climate crisis. Check out [www.onefuture.ie](http://www.onefuture.ie) for some ideas.
- Can we help to conserve and protect water in our area? Water is the source of life for all living things. Can we restore a local Holy Well? Take a pilgrimage to a local Holy Well. See [www.loving sisterearth.com](http://www.loving sisterearth.com)
- Get in touch with local Environmental Action Groups such as Men's Sheds or Tidy Towns and/or organisations such as Trocaire, Friends of the Earth, World Health Organization, Medecin sans Frontieres, etc.
- Can we spread hope across the world by twinning with a village in a drought-stricken area?
- Refuse single use plastics such as cling film, straws, plastic cutlery.
- Switch to a reusable water bottle /travel cup.
- Use cloth bags for shopping; Bring/Use your own containers when possible.
- Check for and then avoid microbeads in products.
- Refuse packaging – Avoid - Reduce - Re-use – Recycle - Upcycle
- Check the new recycling list [www.recyclinglistireland.ie](http://www.recyclinglistireland.ie)
- Organise a recycling workshop in your parish/community [www.voiceireland.org](http://www.voiceireland.org)
- Show a film or documentary on the topic in your parish/community
- Participate in a beach, stream, river, park, street, area, road clean-up.
- Organise a Laudato Si' Book Club using support from <https://www.trocaire.org/documents/laudato-si-book-club/>



**“Truly much can be done!” (LS, 180)**