



Catholic Earthcare Newsletter

Earthcare Steps to Ecological Dialogue framework begins.....

A fantastic gathering of our Laudato Si' formation experts as pictured above, came to Sydney October 23rd to listen and share. This gathering is a prelude to a planned Convocation in Melbourne in September 2020. In addition Catholic Earthcare has developed a common platform for caring for our common home in the Australian church called Catholic Earthcare Steps to Ecological Dialogue. This is an eight- step change framework modelled from Harvard Professor John Kotter's 1996 model and adapted for use by our church and its agencies. Its key focus is on formation of a heart through ecological literacy and understanding the theological and moral imperative to care for our common home. More to come in next issue.

August 30th Santa Sabina College Strathfield hosted the first Earthcare School Sustainability Summit. Thank you to Bishop Vincent Long for supporting the day. [Reflections on the success of the summit can be found here](#)



[Generation Earth](#) is the new advocacy program within Caritas. One of the key projects is seeking divestment commitments in the Australian Future Fund a teacher [resource](#) has been developed

Farewell to Sue Martin who has been with Catholic Earthcare for the past five months.

October 2019

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- Caritas Future Fund campaign launch
- Schools and Parishes transforming
- National Youth program begin
- Catholic Earthcare Advisory groups
- Convocation Melbourne 2020
- Earthcare reference group grows

[Caring for our common home](#) requires deep ecological conversion, Amazonia Synod reports.



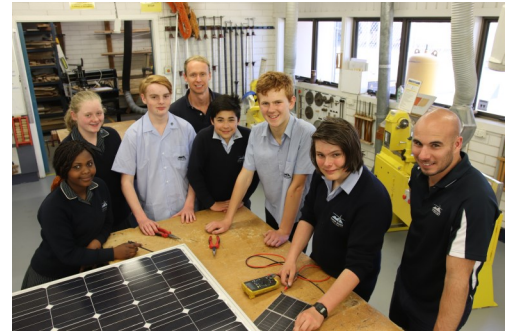
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Transforming Schools

[St Bernadette's](#) Lalor Park transform their garden, Catholic Earthcare visit Tension Woods College Mt Gambier, [Broken Bay Diocese](#) holds primary school leadership day at Taronga Zoo, [Plastic Free Sophia](#) from Monte College inspires students, visit [Melbourne Diocese Schools Sustainability](#) resource.



For Staff Formation and Strategic Planning Days with Laudato Si' at its heart, contact Bernard at Catholic Earthcare on 0400156249

Transforming Parishes

St Paul's Mt Gambier become eco-active, St [Ambrose](#) Brunswick hold 2nd annual Laudato Si workshop, [Tighes](#) Hill parish Newcastle seek a just transition for coal communities, St [Mary's](#) North Sydney hold a climate forum and Mary Immaculate and Waverley parish start their [Solar](#) project.



The 12 Green Tips for Christmas

1. Green your Christmas lights
2. Green your Christmas tree
3. Green your Gift Giving
4. Green your Shopping
5. Be a Sustainable Santa
6. Remember food miles
7. Buy local
8. Donate some time to a charity
9. Remember to have a Holiday Shutdown Plan
10. Green your holidays
11. Green your New Years resolution
12. Most of all enjoy your family time

Catholic Earthcare's goal is to connect the Laudato Si' teams in each Diocese across Australia. **Share with us your good news stories.**



Taking Action

AUSTRALIAN POLLINATOR WEEK:

10-17 NOV



Recycling week

11-16th November



Laudato Si' formation

Climate Projections for your region

National Youth Program underway

Following our successful youth summit, Catholic Earthcare is now planning our national youth program strategy. Working at the State and National level, with support from Diocese, we aim to create conduits for the formation, support and on-ground action taken by young leaders and change makers in their school, university and faith communities. We are seeking collaborative input from key contacts and representatives within each diocese, our network of young advisors and leaders, and the wider Catholic, environmental and youth community. Feedback at each step will be incorporated into the next version of the document. This will then feed into our pilot youth/young adults council program for implementation within the Sydney Basin, before staged roll out nationally.

Contact Clare.vernon@caritas.org.au for a copy of the full report



Catholic Earthcare Advisory Groups

As Pope Francis has expressed in *Laudato Si'*. Religions must enter into "dialogue among themselves for the sake of protecting nature, defending the poor, and building networks of respect and fraternity" (201). In pursuant of this dialogue, Catholic Earthcare Australia is developing a network of Advisory Groups to support the Work of Catholic Earthcare's Reference group and Director to implement its strategic plan in a localised and collaborative manner.



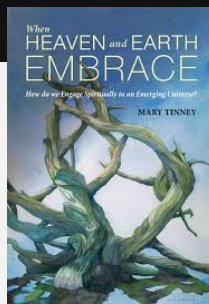
Sarah Moffatt and the team in South Australia reinvigorating the local network.



Call Catholic Earthcare on 0400156249 to discuss connecting with your local network.

Resources

- Mary Tinney's new book [When Heaven and Earth Embrace](#)
- Kevin Treston's new book [Opening Doors](#)
- Prayer reflection [Sr Maree Hutchinson](#)



Earthcare Convocation 2020

Dialogue has occurred with various Diocese about a Convocation to bring together the conversation and voices from across Australia so we may share our stories expertise and initiatives Sept 4/5 Melbourne in 2020.

A call to Action

Mercy Conference June 7-10 2020
Cairns [Blueprint for a Blue Green Planet](#)

Thanks Joe McKay for sending us this photo from the Sydney Climate Strike,



Laudato Si'
reminds us that our
common
home is like a sister
with whom we share
our life and
a beautiful
mother who opens
her arms to embrace
us.

Pope Francis

Catholic Earthcare team grows



Welcome to Beth Riolo from Wollongong Catholic Schools Office and Anne Jennings from Broome Diocese who join the National Catholic Earthcare reference group. Anne is part of the Kimberley Transition program, undertaking her PhD on Community development for ecological conversion



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Our Catholic Earthcare [website](#) is under construction, keep checking we will have resources from the Laudato Si' formation team and a dedicated Youth Program page, along side resources for ecological formation, Convocation updates and our Earthcare network information.



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