



**Four (4) winning entries will co-present and chair our national, online Convocation sessions in September 2020, and  
Fifteen (15) 'runner up' feature-podcasts to be shared nationally and internationally through Catholic media**



**The time for talk is over.  
We need faith driven action  
if we are to care for this green planet  
on which our lives depend.**

During the month of September, 2020 to celebrate the Season of Creation, Catholic Earthcare is hosting a national convocation online—live broadcast from Sydney or Melbourne. We're bringing world-leading expert speakers in eco-literacy, eco-theology, finance, economics and sustainable program development into one room to discuss how we can respond to *Laudato Si'* and the current ecological, sustainability and climate crisis.

Our goal is to inspire our virtual conference attendees into faith driven actions through deeper formation, which truly cares for our common home. To do this, we're asking each attendee to examine their own lives, make positive, informed changes and influence those around them to do the same.

**A crucial element of this conversion is YOUR VOICE—the voice of Catholic youth and young adults in Australia.**

Australians, particularly young Australians, have shown their passion and conviction throughout 2019 with Climate Strikes, rallies and attendance at Earthcare Youth Summits. Our Convocation 2020 wants to bring Australian Catholics –young and old together—into a conversation that brings life to *Laudato Si'*. **We want to give you a platform to represent your generation to a national (and even global!) audience.**

**If you are between the ages of 16 and 25 inclusive, inspired by *Laudato Si'*, and are prepared to share your story within one of our four topic areas to inspire others to change then this is your chance!**



### **The four topics to choose from are:**

#### **Topic One: My Ecological Conversion (5 minutes).**

A multi-media presentation to inspire connection to nature. This topic is part of our "Formation of the Heart session which engages the audience around eco-literacy.

#### **Topic Two: What is God asking us to do? (5 minutes).**

A presentation through Poetry, prayer and /or song with an oral explanation of your emerging understanding of your faith. This topic is part of "Our Formation of the Heart" series which engages us in a deeper understanding of our faith and in particular how it is expressed through papal teaching's such as 'Laudato Si'.

#### **Topic Three: Change me, change my family (5 minutes)**

Presented as an Investigative Report through 'Images and oral accompaniment' or video recording both. This topic is part of our "Call to Action" session and focuses on your leadership of a change action.

#### **Topic Four: Change me, change my world (5 minutes)**

A simulated News Report using 'Images accompanied by an oral presentation' or both wrapped up in a video. This presentation is part of our "Call the Action" session and focused upon leadership of a change action within a community group such as a school, university or club.

## Topic 1: Formation of the Heart (Ecological Literacy)

### Title: My ecological conversion

Duration: 5 minutes.

Medium: a multi-media presentation to inspire connection to nature.



A recount of that 'ah-ha' moment that connected you to the wonders of creation or enhanced your spirituality. As a successful presenter you'll be expected to cover the topics of;

1. Your own significant and life changing experience of the natural world
2. Explain the impact this experience has had on you, especially emotionally;
3. Connect this experience to the wonder and awe of God's creation;

The presentation should be a multimedia tool you could use to inform others and inspire change by connecting your heart and conscience to love of our Mother Earth.

Your presentation must be authentic. The final product for this competition can be a combination of images and written text, or video of your images with an oral presentation overlayed. Successful presentations may be given live to an audience (images and oral presentation) or sent to be presented via video on your behalf.

Refer to entry conditions for details for over and under 18-year entries.



## Topic 2: Formation of the Heart (Theological Literacy)

### Title: What is God asking us to do?

Duration: 5 minutes.

Medium: poetry, prayer and/or song with an oral explanation.

A multi-media presentation of images and quotations from *Laudato Si'* and other theological documents, highlighting what God is asking us to do to care for our common home.

Your own reflection through poetry, song or prayer will accompany and complement this presentation.

We're expecting you to:

- (1). Quote and paraphrase *Laudato Si'* summarising what is being asked of us from this document.
- (2). Quotes from other Popes such as John Paul II may also be used—these terms might include "ecological conversion" and "an ecological vocation". Speaker is expected to explain what these terms mean, and apply real-world context to the terms using examples.

Your presentation should be accompanied by a journal of your faith process, and contain a prayer, poem or a song of praise you have composed to present at the convocation. Winners will present their content live or via recorded video, and will be live-streamed to the Convocation.

Please refer to entry conditions for details for over and under 18-year entries.



### Topic 3: A call to action

#### Title: Change me, change my family

Duration: 5 minutes.

Medium: investigative report. Images, oral presentation, written presentation, or video can be used.



In an era of false news and misinformation, communicating the right facts and the right story is important. Personal, heartfelt and genuine stories change perceptions and can help form the viewers values and perspectives. We're challenging you to deeply examine how your actions shifted your families perspective on environmental issues, with real world action.

As a successful presenter, you'll be expected to demonstrate how:

- (1). You raised an environmental issue at home.
- (2). Brought your family (this can include housemates!) into dialogue about the issue.
- (3). Found and then implemented the solution as a family or unit,
- (4). Arrived at a new understanding and way of living as a family or unit.

The presentation should be styled as 'investigative journalism', and may include interviews with family members. We're also asking you to include a one-minute reflection or short written paragraph of your role as a change leader, the challenges you encountered, how you overcame them and what you learn about yourself and your family. **This must be an authentic change action.**



### Topic 4: A call to action

#### Title: Change me, change my community

Duration: 5 minutes.

Medium: news report, images, oral presentation or video

A broad format entry designed to showcase how you, as a change leader, changed your local community as a result of a profound shift in your own personal values, morals and experience.

As a successful presenter, you'll demonstrate how:

- (1). You underwent a deep change which altered your world view
- (2). Decided to act and create change beyond your family, and went further into the community—be it school, friends, the workplace, or even wider.
- (3). The presentation must include a one-minute reflection video, or a short written statement exploring your role as a change leader, the challenges you encountered, how you overcame them and what you learnt about yourself and society through the process.

This must be an authentic change action.

*Please refer to entry conditions for details for over and under 18-year entries.*



# Where to from here?

- (1). **Decide your topic area.** Entries to more than one topic is acceptable, but only one of your presentations will be selected for the convocation.
- (2). **Register your interest here:** [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Youth\\_Presentations](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Youth_Presentations). This allows us to keep track of interested participants, provide you with uploading instructions, helpful hints and some example videos, poetry and talks to get the creative juices going!
- (3). **Get those entries in!** Entries will close at 11:59pm on June 30, 2020. Entry is via email at [catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au](mailto:catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au). Files up to 25MB can be sent via email; please use Google Drive, Dropbox or One Drive to share larger files via a fileshare link.
- (5). **Results will be released by July 31, 2020.** Judging will be undertaken by a Catholic Earthcare selection panel throughout July, and no appeals on decisions will be accepted.
- (6). **Pack your (virtual) bags!** If successful, we'll host you virtually—or in person—at one of our Convocation events in Sydney or Melbourne. If you're a runner up, we'll share your entry throughout our vast Catholic media, schools, universities, church organisations, youth and climate action groups.



Amy & Ella Meek  
Kids Against Plastic UK

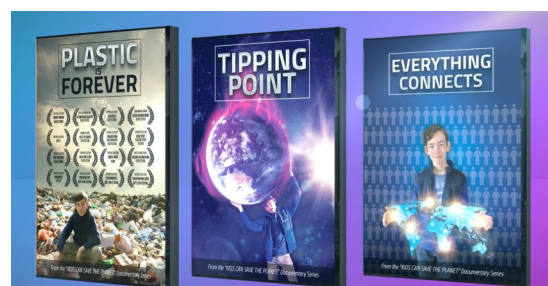


Lilly Platt  
Youth Ambassador Netherlands

Get those creative juices going with resources, ideas and inspiration over here



Solli Raphael  
Slam Poet from Sydney



Dylan D'Haeze  
16yo Documentary Film Maker USA

# Competition Information

## *1. Entrants to the Competition*

The competition is open to any young person aged between 16 and 25 years of age. Under 18 entrants must have permission slip signed by a parent or guardian. All entries must be accompanied by a signed photo release by your parent or guardian (under-18) or by yourself (18 or older).

## *2. How to enter*

You must register before entering the competition via this link ([https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Youth\\_Presentations](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Youth_Presentations)). Entries open March 17, 2020 at 9am, and close 11:59pm on June 30, 2020. Entries will be sent to [catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au](mailto:catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au), or submitted online via the 'Submit' link on the competition homepage.

## *3. What you are entering*

Your application is for the Catholic Earthcare Australia Convocation, a meeting to Bring our Hearts Together to Care for Our Common Home. This is an online, web-based interactive series of seminars available globally and broadcast (and streamed) live to Catholic teachers, schools, students, clergy, scientists, sustainability professionals and key decision makers. Registration for the event is open to all, right around the world.

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Each presentation, whether it be from a Bishop, a noted economist or a school student, will carry messages of hope, suggestions of actions and words and deeds of inspiration. Those who attend will 'return home' armed with things they can do within their control and within their circle of influence. As a presenter, you will add to our collective voices and continue the fight to bring about change, one person, one family and one organisation at a time.

## *4. Costs*

Costs of attending sessions in person at our Sydney and Melbourne broadcast centres have been generously covered by Australian Catholic Superannuation Retirement Fund. If you're not local to Sydney or Melbourne, we'll live-stream you in to present globally. Entry for competition winners and their parents or guardians are free; other registrations will attract a nominal fee to cover venue hire, equipment and IT resource need. You'll also have opportunities before and after the convocation to meet, network and collaborate with fellow competition winners and global experts as part of the Catholic Earthcare Australia National Youth Program.

## *5. Privacy*

You must have signed a media release form to accompany your entry. This will be downloadable from the homepage. Alternatively, you can request a copy from Clare Vernon at [clare.vernon@caritas.org.au](mailto:clare.vernon@caritas.org.au). Images of people within your presentation must only be undertaken with their permission and a media release form must accompany your application for each person on their behalf. All presentations will remain available to be used as inspiration material for the Catholic Earthcare website and media channels.