**Caring for the Earth**

 **- Living Laudato Si’**

*“It is time to act”…,*  the planet is *“at the brink”*  and humanity has to avoid the *“path of self-destruction”*. Pope Francis, Earth Day 2021.

**Laudato Si’ Goals**

**1. Am I hearing and responding to the cry of the earth?**

- Reducing reliance on fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas).

- Using power from renewable non-polluting sources (solar, wind).

- Minimizing fossil fuel-based road and air travel.

- Reducing plastics and packaging, trying to buy in bulk.

**2. Am I hearing and responding to the cry of the poor?**

- Making lifestyle changes which will care for the world’s poorest.

- Purchasing goods and using energy which support sustainable, ethical and fair production.

**3. Am I considering and acting on ecological economics?**

- Moving finances and investments from banks, superannuation and shares that fund fossil fuels or other activity harmful to the planet.

**Laudato Si’ Goals**

**4. How am I faring with adopting a simpler lifestyle?**

- Adopting the 5 Rs. Refuse what you don’t need, Reduce what you do need, Recycle, Re-use and Rot (compost)

- Eating less meat, poultry and fish and more plant-based foods.

- Buying locally grown foods and locally made products.

- Growing more trees and plants and my own food.

- Walking cycling, using public transport more often.

**5. Am I educating myself and others towards integral ecology to further my awareness and action?**

 - Learning more about climate change, biodiversity loss and the threat of extinction and teaching others.

- Getting reputable information from independent sources (not those influenced by fossil fuel interests or other vested interests).

**6. How am I faring in developing ecological spirituality?**

- Focusing on the wonders of the natural world.

- Praising and thanking God for creation.

- Respecting culture and ecological spirituality of indigenous peoples.

**7. Am I engaging in and participating in community action for care of creation?**

- Supporting public action on climate change and environment.

- Calling on political and industry leaders for stronger action on carbon emissions and environmental protections.

*Adapted from Laudato Si Week and ARRCC - Living the Change websites*