

WELCOME TO

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

4 September 2022

First Reading Wis 9:13-18

Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God?
Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the
soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the
teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is
on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our
reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the
heavens?
As for your intention, who could have learnt
it, had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth
been straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

*(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been
our refuge.*

1. You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
2. You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the
morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
3. Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading Phlm 9-10, 12-17

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and,
what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus.
I am appealing to you for a child of mine,
whose father I became while wearing these
chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending
him back to you, and with him – I could
say – a part of my own self. I should have
liked to keep him with me; he could have
been a substitute for you, to help me while
I am in the chains that the Good News has
brought me. However, I did not want to do
anything without your consent; it would
have been forcing your act of kindness,
which should be spontaneous. I know you
have been deprived of Onesimus for a time,
but it was only so that you could have him
back for ever, not as a slave any more, but
something much better than a slave, a dear
brother; especially dear to me, but how
much more to you, as a blood-brother as
well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that
we have in common means anything to you,
welcome him as you would me.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.*

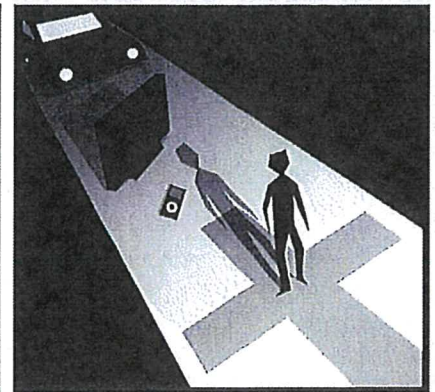
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:25-33

*All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my
disciples.*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way
and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man
comes to me without hating his father, mother,
wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his
own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone
who does not carry his cross and come after
me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to
build a tower, would not first sit down and
work out the cost to see if he had enough to
complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the
foundation and then found himself unable to
finish the work, the onlookers would all
start making fun of him and saying, "Here is
a man who started to build and was unable to
finish." Or again, what king marching to war
against another king would not first sit down
and consider whether with ten thousand men
he could stand up to the other who advanced
against him with twenty thousand? If not, then
while the other king was still a long way off,
he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in
the same way, none of you can be my disciple
unless he gives up all his possessions.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

'Hate' is an emotive and extremely harsh
word in our society. In its gospel context,
the word is not used as an opposite of
'love' but as an indication of deserving of
less significance than another thing. So
the teaching about hating father, mother,
etc can be read as saying that being a
disciple of Jesus must take precedence
over everything else, even family. In 1st
Century culture, family was foremost
above everything else; it was the very fibre
that held society together. Jesus is saying
that discipleship must be put above even
that which is most important and most
intrinsic to life in this world. That is why he
goes on to tell the two stories about the
need to count the cost before undertaking
an important venture. He makes clear to
his listeners that discipleship is more
important than anything else and that
there are huge costs associated with
taking it on. A believer has to literally
'count the cost' of what it will mean to
place discipleship above family,
friendships, career, politics and even life
itself. Jesus makes no apologies for the
fact that what he is asking is incredibly
demanding.

Our 'possessions' are all those things –
material, emotional, and psychological –
that we cling to and that we think give us
our identity and status. Jesus called for a
radical reinterpretation of status and
position. He tells his listeners that they
cannot truly be disciples if they continue to
cling to those things that are considered
important in this world. They have to
surrender the things that bind them to this
world's ideas of status and position before
they can fully embrace the kingdom view
of the world. As Jesus said, you have to
really count the cost!

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for
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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



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 Phone: 5821 2633 | Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
 Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au
 Facebook: sheppartoncatholic
 Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
 Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil
 Associate Priest: Fr. Jackson Saunders
 Deacon: Francois Baguma
 Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
 Child Safe Officer: Jason Giuliani Ph: 5821 2633
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



*Christ in community ...
 the heart of our faith*

Recently Deceased: Sr. Celine Nolan FCI

Anniversaries: Enda and Frank Moloney, Imelda Mahony,

Readers & Commentators 10 & 11 September 2022

6pm	Youth Mass	Youth Mass
8am	B. Sullivan	L. Boschetti
11am	S. White	P. White

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.

St. Brendan's Parish Sacramental Program 2022/23



ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN

The 2022/23 Sacramental Program is suitable for all children in **Year 3 or higher** who would like to

Complete their initiation into the Catholic Church



(celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation & First Eucharist)

or

Become fully initiated into the Catholic Church

(celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & First Eucharist)

If you would like to receive **an information/enrolment pack** or make enquiries, please email Laura at sacramental.coord@bigpond.com

Laura is in the parish office on Wednesday 9am to 2pm. 58212633.

Enrolments will close Sunday 18th September after the 11am Mass

Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter Program (GSWNS)

Wednesday saw our last meal at the lake for 2022.

We have had a wonderful, committed team of about 35 volunteers. Together with donations and prayers from our St. Brendan's community, working together over 3 months to ensure the success of this ministry.

Drivers, cooks, overnights, conversationalists, all played a vital role, whether they were rostered on once or a dozen times. There has been much discussion about the viability of the ministry continuing beyond the winter months, and some sadness that it won't.

Last night's guests (10 familiar faces) have decided that they will pool their resources and continue to gather as a community at our meeting place, sharing food and conversation in the months to come.

Knowing this is their plan gives us great joy. As we packed up for the last time (assisted by our guests) there was so much gratitude expressed and choruses of

'see you round town' and 'see you next year'.

Kathy Hunt: 0416 058 431



**From 4th October -
 Weekday Mass will
 be held Tuesday
 to Friday at 9.10am**



*Why are skeletons so calm? Because nothing gets under their skin!
 Why did the picture go to jail? Because it was framed!
 Did you know all the Dad jokes are kept in a DAD-A-BASE?
 What did Baby Corn say to Mama Corn? Wheres POP Corn?*

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am **PRAYING FOR CHILDREN**
SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday 8.30am *Syro Malabar Rite*, Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour— Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.10am

Reconciliation Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament— Fridays 5pm to 6pm

If you were asked "Why are you Catholic?", would you know what to say?

Please join us as we begin a new section in the Catechism

~I Believe in the Holy Catholic Church~

and get to the heart of why we are Catholic.

Learn more about:

- ❖ Why Christ founded the Church,
- ❖ Why we need it,
- ❖ Who is included in the Communion of Saints,
- ❖ Why the Church is called the Body of Christ and also the Bride of Christ, a sacrament and the Temple of the Holy Spirit,
- ❖ And so much more.

Starting this Tuesday 6th September, 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM, St.

Brendan's Parish Centre, Shepparton. All welcome!

For more info., please contact Winona on 0432 865 933.

FAITH & LIGHT



WILL NOT gather this Sunday (due to Fathers Day) but will gather on Sunday 11th September 2022.

If you have a pair of Rosary Beads or a small statue of Our Lady, please bring it along for our prayer table.

NEW STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME

WATCH THIS SPACE!

It is now 3 years (2019) since we last conducted a Stewardship (Thanksgiving) Programme at St Brendan's.

The first step in this process is to conduct a PARISH CENSUS.

More information to come.

We will commence our Census WEEKENDS on 10/11 September.



**Mission
Ministry
Maintenance**

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH

Youth Mass

Saturday
10th of
September
at 6pm

Pizza & Games in
the Mons Peter
Jeffrey Centre
7-8pm

Music by
St Brendan's Youth Band

RSVP: mason.crosier@notredame.vic.edu.au

We are holding our first ACTIVITIES NIGHT:

- Friday 9th September
- 8 Duncan Court Shepparton.
- 4:30pm to 6:30pm
- Disco followed by a sausage sizzle and toasting marshmallows.



If you are sixteen or over and have either a physical or intellectual disability you are most welcome to attend. The cost is \$5 per person and all participants must be accompanied by a carer /parent.

Come along and join in the fun.

Contact Judy Holland 0408 216210 for more information.

The L'ARCHE committee sincerely thank anyone who helped in any way to make the High Tea such a success on Sunday.

RAFFLE TICKET SALES

The L'ARCHE committee are looking for volunteers who could help with raffle ticket sales during Sept/Oct for the Christmas fundraiser. If you could commit an hour or 2, please contact Denise Crawford on 0432 054 003



2022 Annual Marian Festival

The **48th Annual Marian Festival** will be held at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo—**Sunday 16 October, 2022**, beginning with 11am Mass and concluding at 3:40pm.

Our Petition Box is at the Cathedral. Please mark the date in your calendar—St Brendan's Parish is organising a coach trip to participate in the day.

Cost \$30 – to secure your seat, place payment with correct money, contact details and pick up location in an envelope and drop into St. Brendan's Parish Office (Hours: Mon to Friday 9am-2pm), **by no later than 2pm Friday 30th September.**

For more information call the Parish office on 5821 2633 or Bozena 0426 867 647

Pick up locations:

8:00 am SHARP: Shepparton: St Brendan's – Car Park at 121 Knight St.

8:15 am Mooropna: St Mary's - Bus Stop near Front of Church, McLennan St

8:30 am Tatura: Sacred Heart – Church, 67 Hogan St, South Side of Street

8:50 am Stanhope: St Lawrence's – Church, 52 Birdwood Ave, South Side of Midland Highway.



PAINTING OF THE EXTERIOR OF OUR CHURCH

We have submitted an application through the Greater Shepparton Heritage Grants Program 2022/2023 for funding to hopefully be successful to put towards the painting of the exterior of our church and fence.

The painting will commence, either way (grant or no grant) in early November.



COME AND JOIN US

St Vincent de Paul Society are looking for volunteers to join our active conference.

On the weekend of September 10 & 11, representatives will address the congregation and will invite you to complete an expression of interest form.

These will be available at the Church entrances on September 10 and 11.



POSITION AVAILABLE St Brendan's Parish Maintenance / Garden Officer

Permanent Part Time, 4 hrs per week

8am—12 noon Wednesdays

Applications close 7th October 2022

Please contact Diane for role description or more information.

5821 2633 Monday-Friday 9am—2pm

Wordsearch

Try to find these words:



brother	E M Q R O D A X L B J S O Z Q
cannot	U Z H G K C N X E D V T C N A
children	H F U Y K U N Z U R H T P R C
cross	D A W N X U O X R E A I Z E L
crowd	T T L I O P T G R E J V Z H A
disciple	R M E L P I C S I D H C W T X
father	Y L V Y U R E G R A L T I A W
large	C W W C O L C J S E J T O F D
life	O B N S T R T G H Z T E P R U
more	Z P S N E R D L I H C S D V B
mother	I J V T N W Z V W J J F I T Z
sister	I N A R W H G L C H D Y D S H

FOOD FOR FAITH

The link attached introduces the ACBC statement on the Social Justice Statement 2022-23, Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ueP-yj4BAK>



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PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 September 2022 - Year C

“Unless you are ready to give up all that you possess, you cannot be my disciple.”

Something to Think About

What is the most important thing in your life?
Who are the most important people to you?

The Story

Jesus tells his disciples that they must prefer God to their family and all their possessions. He makes it clear to the disciples that following Jesus isn't always an easy choice. Since God is so faithful, God asks us to be faithful in return.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

14:25-27

Large crowds were walking along with Jesus, when he turned and said:

"You cannot be my disciple unless you love me more than you love your father and mother, your wife and children, and your brothers and sisters. You cannot come with me unless you love me more than you love your own life.

"You cannot be my disciple unless you carry your own cross and come with me."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

[God's Love For Us – Love God Love Others](#)



Group Discussion

There are so many things to do each day, that it is important to use our time wisely.

Think about all the things that happen in your family each day. When might be a good time to sit quietly in prayer with Jesus?

How can you show your love for God by the way you treat other people?

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will be wise and caring. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for people who have died because they believe in Jesus. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for courage to keep following Jesus. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that our homes will be filled with love and peace. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for wisdom to put God first in our lives. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



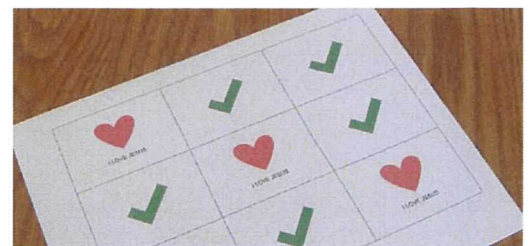
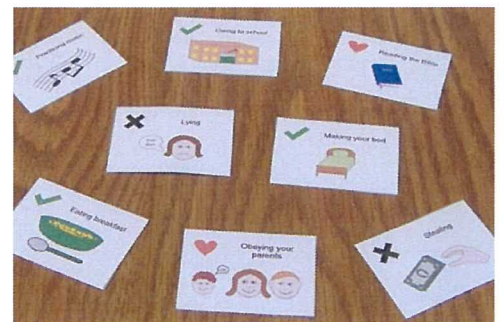
Dear Jesus,
Help us to use our time wisely.
Show us your kindness and love
and let all things go well for us.
Amen.




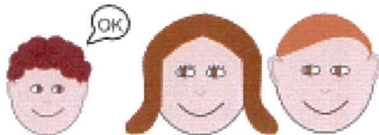
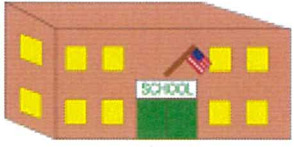





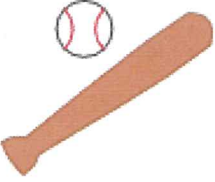

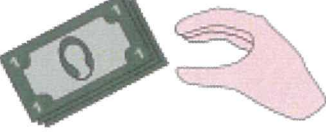



Group Activity

I Love Jesus – Card Game

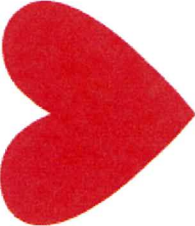

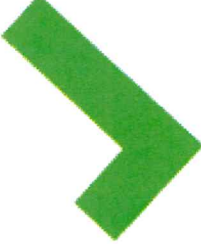
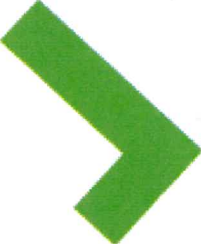
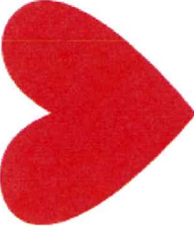
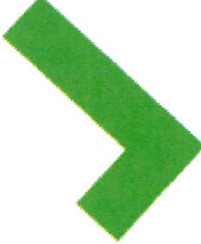
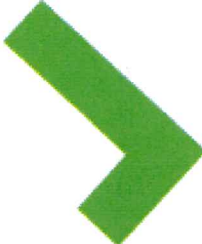
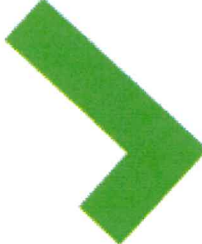
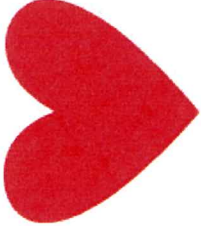
You will need: a game board for each child, a set of cards for each child, scissors, and an envelope or zip-lock bag to store the cards in.

1. Ask children to look at the cards as you explain that this game reminds us of things we can do to show our love for Jesus. Many activities are good things to do but only some especially show our love for Jesus.
2. Tell children that the cards with a green tick are good things to do, red heart cards show actions that show our love for Jesus, and cards with a cross are things we should never do.
3. Help children to cut the cards apart, shuffle and place them face down.
4. Children find a partner to play with –one set of cards is enough for 2 players, so one child can keep their cards to the side
5. Children take turns to draw a card. If it is a black cross card, it can't be played and should be placed on a discard pile. If it is a green tick card, it can be placed on any green tick square on the board. A red heart card can be placed on any red heart square.
6. The first player to cover all nine squares wins.



 <p>Reading the Bible</p> 	 <p>Memorizing a Bible verse</p> 	 <p>Praying every day</p> 
 <p>Obeying your parents</p> 	 <p>Going to school</p> 	 <p>Reading a book</p> 
 <p>Eating breakfast</p> 	 <p>Making your bed</p> 	 <p>Practicing music</p> 
 <p>Playing with the dog</p> 	 <p>Playing baseball</p> 	 <p>Playing soccer</p> 
 <p>Stealing</p> 	 <p>Lying</p> 	 <p>Fighting with your brother</p> 

 <p>Telling a friend about Jesus</p> 	 <p>Going to church</p> 	 <p>Sharing with your sister</p> 
 <p>Giving food to poor people</p> 	 <p>Playing outside</p> 	 <p>Singing a song</p> 
 <p>Brushing your teeth</p> 	 <p>Going to bed</p> 	 <p>Feeding the cat</p> 
 <p>Drawing a picture</p> 	 <p>Working a puzzle</p> 	 <p>Using the computer</p> 
 <p>Saying bad words</p> 	 <p>Cheating</p> 	 <p>Talking back to your parents</p> 

 I LOVE JESUS		
	 I LOVE JESUS	
		 I LOVE JESUS

COME WITH ME, LOVE ME AND I WILL HELP YOU

Join the numbers from 1 to 43



October Marian Festival

celebrating the 105th Anniversary of Our Lady's
Miracle and Messages 2022

Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the
SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL BENDIGO
SUNDAY OCTOBER 16TH 2022

Bishop Shane Mackinlay cordially invites parishioners from this and other Dioceses to attend this Marian festival.



PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Sacred Heart Cathedral Bells ring out Welcome.

- 11:00 am Mass celebrated by Bishop Leslie Tomlinson.
Entrance Procession of the Sacred heart Cathedral Choir and Our Lady of Fatima Statue and banners, with people in their national costumes joining the procession.
- 12:15 pm Lunch in Cathedral Hall. Bring your own. Tea and Coffee provided.
- 1:00 pm Scapular enrolment for those not already enrolled, Scapulars can be purchased at the Cathedral Hall Piety Stall during lunch.
- 1:15 pm Cathedral bells welcome all to the Marian Festival.
Assembling of Parish banners and Our Lady's Statue at the Lady Chapel, for Procession outside the Cathedral – Joyful Mysteries.
Confessions in Transept Confessionals, concludes at 2:30pm.
- 1:30 pm Procession of Bishop, Clergy, Statue and congregation, including banners and national costumes.
Bishop's greeting and opening prayer.
Crowning of Our Lady's Statue.
Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- 2:00 pm Rosary – Glorious Mysteries and Litany of Loreto.
- 2:30 pm Guest Speaker: Bishop Leslie Tomlinson.
- 3:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
- 3:30 pm Benediction: Bishop Leslie Tomlinson.
- 3:40 pm Cathedral Bells ring to end the Marian Festival.
Afternoon tea provided in the Cathedral Hall, Piety Stall open.
If you have any enquiries, please phone the Chancery. Ph: 03 5441 2544
or see our website bendigofatima.com/resources

**PLEASE TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY WHILST AT THE MARIAN FESTIVAL TO
PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE TROUBLED WORLD, FOR THE TRIUMPH OF MARY'S
IMMACULATE HEART AND THE CONVERSION OF RUSSIA**

Now, we're an EARTHCARE PARISH!

So what does that mean?

Laudato Si'

In May 2015, Pope Francis released his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*, to call for action to address the spiritual, social and economic crisis manifest in environmental devastation. He called us to "hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor".

"Laudato si'" are the opening words in Latin of St Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures "All praise be yours, my Lord through all that you have made".

On the 5th anniversary of his encyclical, May 2020, Pope Francis announced a plan for Catholics to make a commitment to implement *Laudato Si'*. Over the next couple of years, a framework was developed to support this plan. This framework has 7 goals or ways of measuring integral ecology.

In Australia

Taking their lead from Pope Francis, our Australian bishops issued their 2021/22 Social Justice Statement "Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor", drawing wisdom from scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, and human knowledge, so that we might be converted to new ways of living, both personally and collectively.

The Bishops' Statement, invites all parishes to commit to the Laudato Si' goals.

Our Parish

Catholic Earthcare Australia has made it easy for us to take up the Bishops' invitation with a certified program which we, as a parish, have begun!

The process begins with a wide-ranging audit, followed by action planning for the next few years. We hope you'll join us on the journey.

Catholic Earthcare Australia was established in 2002 by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and mandated, through the activities of education, research and advocacy, to give leadership in responding to the call for ecological conversion. It is now a program of Caritas Australia, responding to the interconnectedness of the 'cry of the poor' and 'cry of the earth'.

We acknowledge our First Nations people and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. Their deep spiritual connection to Country and respect for the natural environment has ensured the preservation of our natural environment for thousands of years.



Response to the Cry of the Earth



Response to the Cry of the Poor



Ecological Economics



Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles



Ecological Education



Ecological Spirituality



Community Resilience and Empowerment



Season of Creation 2022

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home.

The Season “Celebration” begins 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

Following the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we begin the Season of Creation “Preparation” to reach local leaders and call our communities to participate actively by raising awareness of the theme, and how to respond to the cry of creation where the Lord calls us in. This year we will unite around the theme, “Listen to the Voice of Creation.”

The Psalmist declares, “The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the Earth, and their words to the end of the world.” (19: 1-4)

May this 2022 Season of Creation renew our ecumenical unity! And may this season of prayer and action be a time to Listen to the Voice of Creation, so that our lives in words and deeds proclaim good news for all the Earth!



Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

“If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a kind of dissonance. On the one hand, we can hear a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home.

The COP27 conference on climate change, to be held in Egypt in November 2022 represents the next opportunity for all to join in promoting the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. This means “converting” models of consumption and production, as well as lifestyles, in a way more respectful of creation and the integral human development of all peoples, present and future, a development grounded in responsibility, prudence/precaution, solidarity, concern for the poor and for future generations. In order to halt the further collapse of biodiversity, our God-given “network of life”, let us pray and urge nations to reach agreement on four key principles: 1. to construct a clear ethical basis for the changes needed to save biodiversity; 2. to combat the loss of biodiversity, to support conservation and cooperation, and to satisfy people’s needs in a sustainable way; 3. to promote global solidarity in light of the fact that biodiversity is a global common good demanding a shared commitment; and 4. to give priority to people in situations of vulnerability, including those most affected by the loss of biodiversity, such as indigenous peoples, the elderly and the young.

During this Season of Creation, let us pray that COP27 and COP15 can serve to unite the human family (cf. *ibid.*, 13) in effectively confronting the double crisis of climate change and the reduction of biodiversity. Mindful of the exhortation of Saint Paul to rejoice with those who rejoice and to weep with those who weep (cf. *Rom* 12:15), let us weep with the anguished plea of creation. Let us hear that plea and respond to it with deeds, so that we and future generations can continue to rejoice in creation’s sweet song of life and hope.