

# *Laudato Si' Action Plan*

The Sisters of St. Joseph, Watertown, NY

Give Public Voice to Their Commitment

To Embark on a Seven Year Journey to Promote Integral Ecology

Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*, the Church's first encyclical on care of creation and the environment, calls us to care for the earth as our common home created by God. The call to integral ecology is a call to us to care for all of life by protecting nature and resources for future generations, combatting poverty, and a conversion of lifestyle and choice that protects the poor and suffering while protecting the environment.

Our current Directional Statement for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown challenges us to:

-  identify possible ways to use the abundance of our resources and
-  discern which possibilities will be addressed given local and global needs, resources and available partnerships.

In response to Pope Francis' challenge, given our geography, Northern New York culture, our strengths and challenges and through the charism lens of reconciliation and all inclusive love, we choose as the Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown to accept the seven year challenge of the *Laudato Si'* Platform and join in universal solidarity to respond to:

-  The Cry of the Earth
-  The Cry of the Poor
-  Ecological Economics
-  Adapting a Simple Lifestyle

and nurturing all of these through our spirituality, education and networking with our local communities.

The Sisters of St. Joseph will embark on a plan over the next five years as they engage in practices to protect 'our common home' and implement their chosen goals of

## **Response to the Cry of the Earth**

Goals

- To reduce our use of water and support clean water initiatives
- To support biodiversity locally and globally

## **Response to the Cry of the Poor**

Goal: To use our resources to bring about systemic change for the destitute and for victims of violence

## **Ecological Economics**

Goals

- To reduce our use of fossil fuel energy
- To reduce investments in fossil fuels to zero and to invest in renewable energy

## **Adapt a Simple Lifestyle**

Goal: To adopt a simpler lifestyle

## **Ecological Education**

Goal: To use the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching to promote ecological awareness

## **Ecological Spirituality**

Goal: To revitalize a vision of God's creation

## **Community Engagement**

Goal: To network with groups whose purpose is caring for all creation