

A scenic view of a coastline with a rainbow in the sky and waves crashing against a rocky shore. The rainbow is positioned in the upper half of the frame, arching over the ocean. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The ocean is a deep blue with white-capped waves breaking against a rocky shore in the foreground. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

BE STRONG AND TAKE  
HEART, ALL YOU WHO HOPE  
IN THE LORD...

PSALM 31:24



St. John Neumann  
Catholic Church

**Prayer** – change our hearts  
**Education** – change our minds  
**Sustainability** – change our habits  
**Advocacy** – change our culture

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# St. John Neumann - A Laudato Si Parish



# What is the Laudato Si' Action Platform?

- The LSAP is a collaboration between the Vatican, an international coalition of Catholic organizations, and “all men and women of good will”.
- It empowers ‘decisive action, here and now’ on the way to adopting **full sustainability** in the spirit of *integral ecology*.
- *Integral ecology* emphasizes the deep connections between our relationships with each other, our Creator, and all creation.



**LAUDATO SI'**  
Action Platform



**DICASTERY FOR PROMOTING  
INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**



# Ecological Conversion in Action

## 7 Goals, 7 Sectors, 7-Year Journey

**LAUDATO SI' GOALS**

**RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH**

**RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR**

**ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS**

**ADOPTION OF SIMPLE LIFESTYLES**

**ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION**

**ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PARTICIPATORY ACTION**

**HOPE FOR THE EARTH AND THE POOR**

--- 7 Goals of LSAP ---

## --- 7 Sectors of LSAP ---

1. Families
2. **Parishes** and Dioceses
3. Educational Institutions  
(Schools, Universities, etc.)
4. Hospitals / Health Centers
5. Economic Entities  
(Businesses, Cooperatives, Farms)
6. Organizations  
(NGOs, Groups, Foundations, etc.)
7. Religious Communities  
(Communities, Provinces, Congregations)



# --- 7-Year Timeline ---

## **Year 1**

**Enroll on Vatican website**

**Learn, read, reflect**

**Write and submit a Reflection Document**

**Develop and Submit an Action Plan for first year**

## **Years 2-6**

**Put action plan into motion**

**Submit Annual Self Assessment**

**Prepare subsequent yearly action plan**

## **Year 7 - Celebrate!**

**Note that the Diocese of Arlington has also enrolled and submitted their reflection document and Action Plan for Year 1**

## SJN PASTORAL PLAN 2021-2024

Formation / FORMACIÓN  
Community / COMUNIDAD  
Adoration / ADORACIÓN  
Service / SERVICIO  
Stewardship /  
ADMINISTRACIÓN



## STEWARDSHIP OBJECTIVES

**2021-2022:** To embrace Pope Francis' seven-year *Laudato Si' Action Plans* by developing a multiyear approach to increase sustainability in the holistic spirit of integral ecology.

**2022-2023:** To implement St John Neumann's year one objectives in response to the *Laudato Si' Action Plans*.

**2023-2024:** To Implement St John Neumann's year two objectives in response to the *Laudato Si' Action Plans*.





# Parish Plan Goals Align with LSAP Goals

- Care for Our Common Home activities
  - ✓ Energy efficiency (LED lighting, motion detectors, motor upgrades)
  - ✓ Waste reduction (elimination of Styrofoam, use of “real” dishes/cups/cutlery)
  - ✓ Outdoor spaces (pollinator garden, prayer loop)
  - ✓ Prayer (prayers of the faithful, outdoor prayer services)
  - ✓ Education (bulletin tips, movies, lectures)
  - ✓ Simple and sustainable lifestyles (Fair Trade bazaar)
  - ✓ Connecting with youth groups (Work camp, boy scouts)
- Parish Ministry Guide lists all of the ministries at SJN
- Parish Pastoral Plan lists goals and objectives 2022-2024
- Working towards the Laudato Si’ Goals is not so much a change of direction as it is a deepening of purpose

# Reflection Document Shows Linkages Between Pastoral Plan and LS Goals





**STEWARDSHIP** Mardi Gras dishwashing reduces single use plastics and paper product waste



**COMMUNITY** SJN coordinated with Starkist Tuna and the Feed the Children Program to prepare summer relief packages



**WORSHIP** Prayer and nature walks to learn about and appreciate God's creation



**FORMATION** *Rooted* program encourages seeing the connections between the active and spiritual life



**SERVICE** Many parish ministries promote Catholic Social Teaching

## Excerpt of SJN Laudato Si' Action Plan

<b>St. John Neumann Parish LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLAN Year 1</b>				
Reston, Virginia, USA				
<b>RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH</b> is a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Suggested Leaders</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Metric of Success</b>
<b>Investigate</b> and refine current purchase of renewable energy certificates from Dominion Energy to ensure best fit for the parish's energy usage.	STEWARDSHIP Dave/Tom B/Ed	<b>On-going Action and Investigation</b>	Annually	Determine if current plan is best; modify Dominion agreement if warranted
<b>Complete</b> mulching of final segment of Prayer Loop.	STEWARDSHIP Nelson/CCH	<b>On-going Action</b>	Fall 2022	Path completed
<b>Organize</b> a "Weeding Ministry" that will take on future maintenance of Mary Garden, pollinator garden and other parts of Parish Grounds.	STEWARDSHIP Nelson/Ed/ Bob H/Patty K	<b>New Investigation</b>	Spring 2023	Create a list of potential volunteers
<b>Investigate</b> pros and cons of using a landscape contractor that uses electric (instead of gas) leaf blowers. Learn how the landscaping contract is determined.	STEWARDSHIP CCH/Nelson/John M	<b>New Investigation</b>	Fall 2022	Summarize findings in Fact Sheet
<b>Gather information</b> and parent attitude for a No Idling Campaign for cars queueing up in front of church.	STEWARDSHIP CCH	<b>New Investigation</b>	2023/2024	Summarize findings in a Fact Sheet
<b>Work with Eagle Scout</b> to build a "Native Plant Mary Garden" in front of the church.	STEWARDSHIP Nelson/Ed/Eagle Scout	<b>New Action</b>	Spring 2023	Project completed

## What are we asking of the Pastoral Council?

- First we wanted to let you know of this activity, since it involved a very small group without extensive outreach to the parish community
- Over the next few months, we want to get your input on how to make parishioners aware of the LSAP
- We would like to involve the Pastoral Council in developing actions for years 2-6
- Care for our Common Home is ready to be the administrator of the LSAP in collaboration with all stakeholders

***“God has given your Parish unique gifts, which you alone can bring to our shared project of building a better future.”***

