

## A Sisters of the Holy Cross Workshop

# Ecological Education

As mindful stewards of the Earth's resources, please limit printing of these materials by journaling your responses to this worksheet.

**“Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone ... A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal.”** —*Laudato Si'* 202

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis invites all people, not just members of the church, to enter into dialogue about our common home (LS 3). This self-guided workshop on “Ecological Education” is an opportunity for you to connect with your own experiences and reflect on where you are being called to act. You are invited to prayerfully spend time with the following readings from *Laudato Si'*:

- ▶ paragraphs 209-215: Ecological Education
- ▶ paragraphs 216-221: Ecological Conversion

### Reflection Questions

What about each reading stands out to you?  
What challenges would you need to overcome for your own ecological conversion?

### Conversation Starters

How is your local church and/or family involved in ecological education?  
How can governments/community organizations create better ecological citizens and motivate people to care for creation?

### Closing Charge

Pope Francis asks us to “call to mind the figure of Saint Francis of Assisi” so we can “come to realize that a healthy relationship with creation is one dimension of overall personal conversion, which entails the recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and leads to heartfelt repentance and desire to change” (LS 218). How can you begin leaning further into your ecological conversion? What does that look like when grocery shopping? What does that look like during the Christmas shopping season?

### Prayer for Transformative Action

Creator God, you have called us to a new moment in time,

A time for cultivating hearts and minds and embracing new perspectives, that we might develop new ethics and habits for the restoration of ourselves and Mother Earth.

In your compassion, O God, inspire our generosity for one another and for all creation,

That we might rise to the challenge of our time and bring about a future of hope and mutual belonging.

Amen

Prayer provided by Holy Cross International Justice Office:  
[www.holycrossjustice.org](http://www.holycrossjustice.org)

**“Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.”** —*Laudato Si'* 217

For more information, visit [cscsisters.org/OurTimesNow](http://cscsisters.org/OurTimesNow).