

# *Sowing Hope for the Planet*

2018-2019

EVERYTHING IS INTERCONNECTED



A UISG Campaign

Approved by UISG Board in May 2018

In collaboration with JPIC Commission UISG-USG  
and the Global Catholic Climate Movement  
(GCCM).



# A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and  
in the smallest of your creatures  
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.  
Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
That we may protect life and beauty.  
Fill us with peace, that we may live  
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,  
Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,  
So precious in your eyes.  
Bring healing to our lives,  
That we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
That we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.



# A Prayer for our Earth

Touch the hearts  
of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.  
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united  
with every creature  
as we journey towards your infinite light.  
We thank you for being with us each day.  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle  
for justice, love and peace.

Pope Francis



# JPIC Commission UISG-USG



*JPIC is the conscious prayer and action to transform the world in the spirit of the Gospel through lives of justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation.*





# Global Catholic Climate Movement

Bringing Laudato Si' to Life for Climate Justice

The Global Catholic Climate Movement serves the Catholic family worldwide to turn Pope Francis' Laudato Si' encyclical into action for climate justice, by undergoing our own **ecological conversion**, transforming our **lifestyles** and calling for **bold public policies** together with the wider climate movement.



# Campaign: "Sowing Hope for the Planet"

A project in which every Sister whose congregation is a member of UISG, and their connections are provided with an opportunity to make a difference in our care of the planet. As Pope Francis often reminds us "everything is interconnected."



**Jesus  
Speaks to  
us in the  
Scriptures**

# parable of the Sower



# Call to Conversion



*Pope Francis has underlined the fundamental connection that exists between the environmental crisis and the social crisis that we are currently experiencing and asks us for a personal and community ecological conversion.*



# "Sowing Hope for the Planet"

To witness to our reasons for hope we take guidance from Laudato Sí:

*"Our goal is not to amass information or to satisfy curiosity, but rather to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it." (LS#19).*

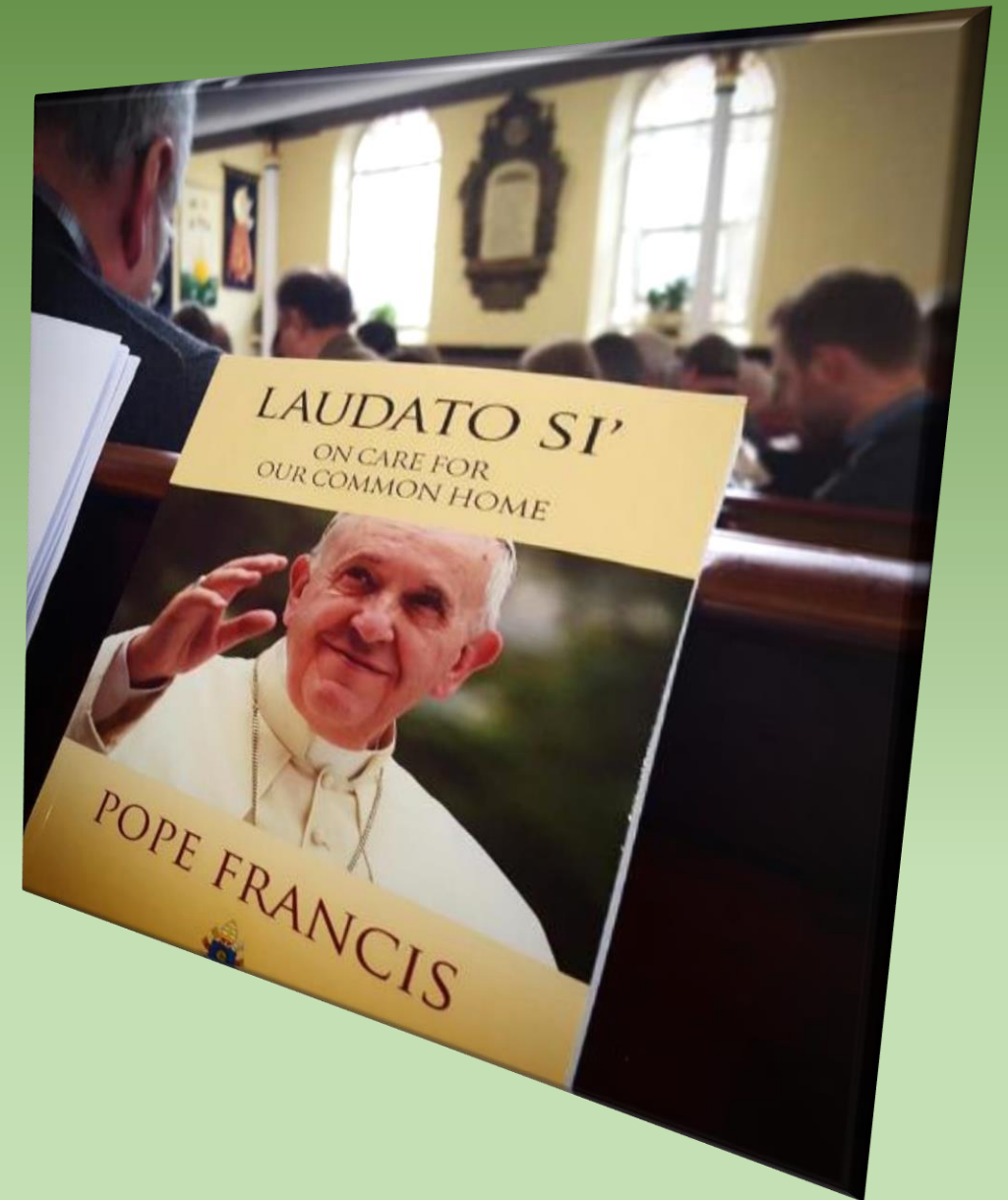
SEE, JUDGE, ACT



# Objectives

## 1. Create a coordinated effort of the members of UISG

- **Provide resources** so that the Sisters in all parts of the world can have access to the study of the encyclical *Laudato Si*
- **Utilize** the best means of **communication** for the various areas
- **Publicize** various responses
- **Use of the UISG website** to inform and disseminate **information with a link** to the JPIC and GCCM websites



# Objectives



- 1. Create a coordinated effort of the members of UISG (continued...)**
  - **Encourage Congregational Leadership to ask a person to help with the coordination of the Campaign**
  - **Evaluate the fruitfulness of this effort through an online survey to be completed by April 25, 2019**

# Objectives



2. To partner with organizations which are already working on care of the planet.
3. To develop a statement for *Sowing hope for the Planet* to be adopted by the Board of UISG:
  - Sent to the membership for input and final ratification at the May 6-10, 2019 Assembly
  - Used as a document to promote the position of UISG regarding Hope for the Planet.



# Actions

1. To prepare a webinar to **announce this project** of “Sowing Hope for the Planet.” (June 18, 2018)
2. To participate in the **International Conference** on the 3rd Anniversary of Laudato Sí *Saving Our Common Home and the Future of Life on Earth* on July 5 and 6, 2018 (Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development)



# Actions

3. To co-facilitate in other **webinars** featuring the inspiring work of religious orders to take action for creation and to share resources that could be helpful for religious orders.

- **October 18, 2018**
- **January 17, 2019**
- **April 11, 2019**



Witness in context of prayer and actions



4. Determine coordinated prayers in various translations
5. Celebrate the Season of Creation from September 1 to October 4 with an introductory event in Assisi

[SeasonofCreation.org](http://SeasonofCreation.org)

# Witness in context of prayer and actions

6. Celebrate Earth Day on 22 of April with resources: JPIC, GCCM and other resources within a *Laudato SÍ* framework.





# Witness in the context of prayer and actions



7. Determine coordinated actions related to advocacy issues
  - a. Reduce the usage of **plastic bags**
  - b. Research viable alternative uses for plastic bags as a local industry
  - c. Be responsible for a given rural/city area to **keep clean**
  - d. **Promote the country commitments from COP 21** which set the target of limiting global warming to well below 2°C.



# Witness in the context of prayer and programs

## Answering Pope Francis' urgent call in Laudato Si, I pledge to:

- Pray for and with creation
- Live more simply
- Advocate to protect our common home

8. Promote the [Laudato Si Pledge](#), as a key initiative for the sisters and their congregations/communities and institutions
9. Participate in the [Laudato Si Animators](#) online training program



# Prayerful discernment for changes in lifestyles



**10. Engage in an energy audit of buildings**

**11. Encourage and determine fossil fuel divestment and reinvestment alternative energy strategies**

Celebrate what has been done

13. Acknowledge and share what is already being done with the sharing experiences and of best practices

Sharing  
Experiences

# Beneficiaries



- 1. Earth, our common home, will be cared for in creative and persistent ways**
- 2. Personally, Sisters will have opportunities to deepen their reverence for all of creation and determine what she can do for the care of creation**

# Beneficiaries

3. Those involved in the congregations, locally and internationally, will benefit from **receiving the same information, praying, reflecting together and making choices** for the good of all of creation.
4. **Institutions, ministries and networks will benefit from the directions and implementations** determined by congregations



# Beneficiaries



- 5. Local and national areas will benefit from the involvement of those committed to making necessary changes for environmental and social needs.**
- 6. International organizations such as the United Nations, where many congregations have representation, will receive support for their environmental and social concerns.**

# Beneficiaries

7. **The Church and the world will become aware of the tremendous examples that demonstrate hope for the planet.**
8. **Others have opportunities to be motivated to ecological conversion through the witness value of those committed to Sowing Hope for the Planet.**





# Everything is Interconnected



"The entire material universe speaks of God's love, ... boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains..."

~Pope Francis

“Personal and community ecological conversion”

**Determine what each one of us can do**



**Mustard seed and Mustard tree**

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Campaign of the UISG  
2018-2019

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Commission of UISG-USG and  
the Global Catholic Climate  
Movement



**Presenter: Sr. Sheila Kinsey, FCJM – 18 June 2018**  
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