

St. Ignatius Celebrates Earth Day!

In 2017, St. Ignatius Parish signed the **Laudato Si' Pledge** as part of our faith commitment to care for our common home. The pledge invites us as a parish community to **pray** with and for all creation, **live simply**, and **advocate**.

Since making this commitment we have made great steps in becoming a more ecological conscious community:

Prayer

- Weekly prayers for creation and actions to reduce our carbon footprint in our bulletin
- Frequent Prayers of the Faithful addressing ecology and climate change
- Bulletin letters from Fr. Joe and parishioners about Laudato Si'
- Celebration of Earth Day and Season of Creation in the liturgies

A Greener St. Ignatius

- LED fixtures and lights and motion-detector lights in Media/Choir Room
- Adjusted heat and air conditioning systems to maximize efficiency
- Sprinkler system only early morning (4am)
- Paper hot cups instead of styrofoam; compostable plates instead of plastic
- Wooden coffee stirrers instead of plastic
- Eco and pet-friendly ice melt
- Equal Exchange Fair Trade coffee

Advocate

- Beach cleanup during Season of Creation in collaboration with MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
- Petition to Archdiocese of Boston to establish a commission whose mission includes care for Creation and develop a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in parishes schools and at the Pastoral Center
- Information meeting about renewable energy option in City of Newton
- Town Hall to identify ecological priorities for St. Ignatius

The Green Team is currently working on plans for the parish to strengthen its recycling program and find more ways to reduce its carbon footprint. We invite you to join us!

1. Sign the Laudato Si Pledge as an individual or family at LiveLaudatoSi.org
2. Look for ways in your personal life to *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair, and Refuse*
3. **Join the Green Team!** Our meetings are held 1 - 2 times a month at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday. Contact Debra at debracpackard@gmail.com for more details.