

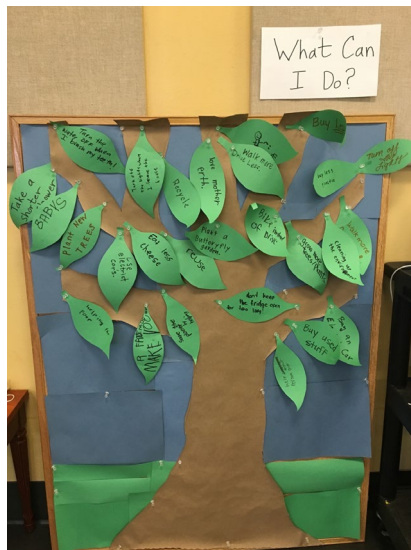
Laudato Si in Action

Translating our Faith into Actions, Part 2

Last week, we learned that Pope Francis asks us to take personal actions in his encyclical, Laudato Si. Here is another passage from Chapter 6 that expounds on the theme:

Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings.

Last time, I also mentioned that the Saint Francis of Assisi ministry hosted a Season of Creation fair at Egan Hall last September where, amongst other things, we had a tree labeled "What can I do?" (*Don't you miss community time together after mass?*) We recently came across the tree in a closet while doing some Spring cleaning. Here are the rest of the inspirational leaves:



- *Help another person out*
- *Bike instead of drive*
- *Cleaning up the environment*
- *Use less*
- *Turn off the water when I brush my teeth!*
- *Recycle*
- *Love mother E[a]rth*
- *Grow more trees/plants*
- *Use eclectic cars*
- *Turn off the lights when I leave the house*
- *Helping the poor*
- *Plant new trees*
- *Buy less*
- *Reuse*
- *Buy used stuff*
- *(A drawing of a kid planting a tree)*

And my favorites, though I have to admit I am still searching for their deeper meaning:

- *Babys*
- *Make free mos you out*

What actions will you take today to bring out the best in yourself and contribute to environmental responsibility? Working together, we can help take care of our common home.

Paul Litwin