



Mary Ward JPIC Office
Freedom - Justice - Sincerity - Felicity



**PROVINCE RESPONSES ON
MARY WARD FAMILY LIVING LAUDATO SI'
7-YEAR ACTION PLAN**

2021 EDITION



Mary Ward JPIC Office
Freedom - Justice - Sincerity - Felicity



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INTRODUCTION

This booklet brings together CJ/IBVM Province responses to Mary Ward Family Living of Laudato Si' 7year Action Plan launched in June this year. It is a clear manifestation that a lot of work is going on in our provinces as well as aspirations for more creative and innovative activities to save Mother Earth. In this 2021 edition, you will find a variety of activities in our ministries across the globe and, as we had said earlier, Laudato Si' does not exist in a vacuum and does not have to start from the scratch: we start by taking stock of the activities going in response to the 7 goals. For instance, sensitizing ourselves on how to save water; how to re-use, repair, recycle where possible; plant trees and take care of the environment around us; advocacy etc. And there is room to dream for a better future for our world and for the future of the next generation, short and long-term planning is very important. Some examples of long-term planning might include: solar power installation; divestment from fossil fuels and embracing green fuel; advocacy for good policies etc. We look forward to reading 2022 Edition, let us do it together.

"Nothing ever exists entirely alone. Everything is in relationship to everything else."

(Attributed to Buddha)



*The **Laudato Si' 7-year Action Plan Logo** came from my experiences. Hands holding and caring for the earth. The flowers I have used are a native Australian white wattle *Acacia Melanoxylon* or Australian Blackwood. It is a native in Melbourne. The first peoples of Australia used the wood for digging sticks, and shields. The leaves are good for hand washing as they are soapy when mixed with water. The bark was heated in water to rub on sore joints. I feel we need to massage the sore areas of our world and wash away the damage. **Susan Daily***





CJ ALLAHABAD PROVINCE



St. Mary's Convent, 21 ALLAHABAD



1. A personal concern for God's creation and reduce personal buying to fight against consumer culture.
2. Taking care of the common things – Do away with plastic bags. Carry bags when we go shopping.
3. Zero wastage.
4. Every Saturday spend half an hour gardening.
5. Once a month sharing a meal with those who are staying on the footpath outside our gates. (Labourers)
6. Install solar lights in the compound premises
7. Once a week our candidates fast with the intention of giving their share of food to a deserving person.
4. Medicines to be given to those in need, as we distribute food.
5. Working in collaboration with NGO.
6. To help out street children, beggars and vendors.
7. Cultivate vegetables and give to the poor.
8. To help those who are on the verge of losing faith and to work with the youth.

St. Mary's Convent, KANPUR.



1. Plant a tree on the Birthday and Feast day of each sister.
2. Make a compost pit to produce manure.
3. Adapt a village and develop it.
4. Help the Mary Ward School students' families to get their Aadhar card and Ration card.
5. Avoid wasting water and electricity.

St. Mary's Convent, 32 ALLAHABAD

1. To bring awareness about the effects of climate change through the Medium of writing and getting them published.
2. Articles regarding the climate change can be shared with the members of the community.
3. Awareness regarding the importance of wearing masks to be told to people.



Out of the seven goals, we have made a detailed study of goals 1, 2 and 3. The following are the steps we plan to implement in the near future.

1. Adopting more use of solar energy: We have contacted different persons and



discussed about getting solar power instead of electricity for our regular use.

2. Getting children to plant their own garden: With the aim of encouraging the students to get in touch with nature 'build your own garden' drive was organised for all the classes.
3. Students participated in the activity with full enthusiasm and planted vegetable and flower saplings in their own homes. They are instructed to look after their plants by themselves and from time-to-time teachers will have a check on how the students care for it.
4. Recycling of paper and old clothes: We are finding out the places where they will make mats or quilts with old clothes and paper recycling machines to make good use of the used papers.
5. Cultivate local seeds rather than genetically modified seeds in our kitchen garden.
6. Address the issue of digital poverty: The students of our Mary Ward School (outreach school) faced a lot of problems during lockdown period as many of them did not have smart phones to attend the classes. So, our ex-students came forward and collected some money. They were able to purchase smart phones for 14 deserving students that they could attend the regular classes.



St. Mary's Convent, DEORI



Goal – 1 Response to the Cry of the Earth

1. Ban and recycle plastic.
2. Saving water and electricity.
3. Gift saplings on special occasions instead of giving bouquets.
4. Taking care of the plants that are planted.

Goal – 2 Response to the cry of poor

1. Educating at least one poor girl child.
2. Collecting grains and other food material to distribute to the poor.

Goal – 3 Ecological Economics

1. Cultivate local seeds and maintain a Kitchen garden.
2. Taking care of personal and common things and restraining from buying things that are not needed.
3. Encourage the students to ban the use of crackers as they are prepared by exploiting the poor children.

Goal – 4 Adoption of simple lifestyle

1. More awareness of the fact that having a simple lifestyle is a day to day choice.
2. Reusing the things.

Goal – 5 Ecological Education

1. Having a functional child safeguarding policy in our school.
2. Teach students the need for gratitude for the environment around them.

Goal – 6 Ecological spirituality

1. Encourage to make small garden using compost manure.



2. Creative liturgies highlighting the various aspects of environment.

Goal – 7 Emphasis on community involvement and participatory action

1. Using social media for highlighting the issues concerning the environment.
2. Conduct clean –up exercises in local areas.

Mary Ward Convent, UNNAO

1. ‘Carry Bag Project’ with old cloths
2. Sapling as gifts.
3. Manure generation with the vegetable garbage.
4. Recollection themes on the environment –finding God in all thing
5. No to using plastic
6. Planting a tree in every house.

Asha Niketan Convent, BHAVANIPUR

1. Using water and electricity sparingly.
2. Ban the use of plastic bags.
3. Repairing instead of throwing away.
4. Getting children to plant their own garden in the School campus.
5. Join movements and collaborate with other networks to address root causes of poverty.
6. Re-using things and refrain our desire to buy more.
7. Promote local economy and accept its limitations, in our kitchen garden we will use local seeds rather than genetically modified seeds.
8. Lead a simple and happy life walking with the Lord.

Sada Sahaya Mata Convent, KAPOORI

Goal – 1

1. Getting children to plant their own garden, in 10 villages within a year.
2. Reforestation: We have decided to plant 7000 saplings with the help of students in our school and children’s group

members in the villages within the next 3years.

Goal – 2

By learning from people who make a difference in the world and by realizing our own potentials to reach out to the needy in love and compassion.

Goal – 3

Promote local economy and accept its limitations, make an effort to cultivate local seeds rather than genetic modified seeds, using kitchen gardens. We are already practicing it by exchanging seeds and seedlings with our neighbours, preserved from our gardens and we intend to share this with more people.

Goal – 4

1. Support people, ministries for socio-economical turn-around after COVID-19 pandemic. Identifying donors, organizations who can give training to women and local youth in income generating activities.
2. Awareness of the fact that having a simple lifestyle is a day-to-day choice.
3. Changing our attitude, heart, mind and decide to do things differently, out of freedom and not out of duty.

Goal – 5

1. Teach pupils, students and other stakeholders the need for gratitude for the environment around them.

Goal – 6

1. Encourage and lead in making small gardens based on composting. Use videos to illustrate possible approaches using examples.
2. Encourage the planting of trees and try to discourage the custom of cutting down trees in the forest area. We will conduct awareness programmes in those areas where people are living near the forest, to plant more trees and discourage them from cutting trees for firewood.



3. Creative liturgies highlighting passages from Laudato Si' twice in a month.

Goal – 7

Work with groups of our collaborators and associates, youth groups and schools to bring the message to a wider public.

Mary Ward Bhavan, RAJAPUR



1. Using water and electricity sparingly.
2. Encourage zero wasting.
3. Conduct monthly awareness programs for the tailoring and computer students on the following topics:

- Keeping the surroundings clean
- How to save water and electricity.
- Kitchen garden
- Herbal medicines
- No to the use of plastic

St. Joseph's Convent, RIHANDNAGAR

1. Judicial use of water and electricity daily.
2. Changing our attitude, heart, mind and desire to do things differently out of freedom and not out of duty.

Maria Seva Sadan, Taraon

1. Adopt simple life style and satisfy with the essentials, instead of extravagant way of spending money to buy material things.
2. Cultivate our own vegetables by using the compost manure from the waste things of kitchen and garden
3. Put together a small amount of personal allowance and help a needy family.
4. Promote eco spirituality, once a week prayer will be conducted in the garden'

5. Visit our neighbourhood schools and encourage our students to help the poor children according to their capacity.
6. Motivate the children to bring home-cooked food for their lunch discourage bringing plastic bags to the school.

St. Mary's Convent, CHUNAR

1. On Special occasions we will plant a tree.
2. Changing our attitude and mind-set and decide to do things differently, out of freedom and not out of duty.
3. Repairing instead of throwing away things.

St. John's Convent, FATEHPUR



Response to the Cry of the Earth

1. Introduce **S.U.P.W Project** based on the theme "**Gardening for Kids**" to **enkindle in children love for nature.**
2. From Nursery to class 11, every student has his or her own garden.
3. Every week on Saturday, the children have to give an account of the progress in their garden. Every month the class teachers update the principal about the progress the children make in this project.
4. Conduct various competitions on nature on themes such as, World Nature Conservation Day', 'The Earth laughs in flowers' and 'my garden' for school assemblies through which challenge the children about their responsibilities towards the environment.



Response to the Cry of the Poor

1. Sharing the vegetables and fruits from our own garden with the needy and the poor families around us.
2. We put together our humble savings and bought a bicycle for a family which is less fortunate and helped one of our Catholic boys in his marriage who was facing financial crisis.
3. Listening to the daily news to know the current issues so that we can conscientize the teachers and the students.
4. Spend sufficient time to listen to the co-workers and their problems and encourage them never to lose hope.

Ecological Economics

1. Use local seeds rather than genetic modified seeds, using kitchen garden to grow vegetables.
2. Do not waste and do not buy unnecessary things.
3. Re-use of waste materials like plastic glasses, bottles, coconut shells etc. for garden work.
4. Use water and electricity sparingly

Adoption of Simple Lifestyles

1. Our standard of living is of middle-class family.
2. Try to do things differently, out of freedom and not out of duty.

Ecological Education

Conduct Value education classes based on Ecological Education themes to teach students respect for the environment around them.

Ecological Spirituality

Encourage the students to make their own small gardens and plant trees and discourage the habit of cutting down trees.

Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

1. Educate, encourage and animate our students to become citizens who have a duty and responsibility in making our Common Home humane.
2. Conducted Slogan writing Competition and Poster making Competition on the theme 'Save the environment' and uploaded it in the school website to bring the message to a wider public.

Maria Niketan, GHAZIPUR



1. Re-use of waste materials like tins, plastic bottles, tubes etc. for decorating and planting.
2. Keeping our surroundings clean and green by planting more trees.
3. Planting trees around the surrounding areas.
4. Bringing awareness to the students in the school through assemblies, about the importance of taking care of the environment and motivating them to plant trees in their houses.
5. Every year, dedicate a day to plant trees in the school campus.
6. Make compost and organic manure out of waste.
7. Use water and electricity sparingly.
8. Maintain fraternity with all.

Ashirvad Convent, KANUDIH.

1. Using water, electricity and other resources sparingly and thus encouraging Zero waste.
2. Encouraging students to have their own garden at home, planting of trees and



3. try to discourage the custom of cutting down trees.
3. Changing our attitude to do things differently, out of freedom and not out of duty.
4. Re-using things; restrain our desire to buy and adopting a simple life style.
5. Teach students respect for the environment and to encourage them to keep the locality clean and green.

CJ PROVINCIA AMERINDIA (ARGENTINA - CHILE – BRASIL)

This report was done jointly, as we are now a single province.

One of the proposals that arose from the Launch of the Laudato Si' Platform in Rome was to carry out the launch in the Amerindian Province, together with the Region of Peru, in our own way, given the need to be able to do it in our own language and from our Latin American reality.

The meeting was held on 20 August 2021, with the presence of our leaders of the Amerindian Province: Sisters Silvia Ruiz and Anne O'Connell, with the participation of more than 100 people, including Friends of Mary Ward, teachers, students and communities. From this launch other proposals emerged and many became aware of the care of our common home.

In **Argentina**, proposals arose, by way of advocacy, to carry out a project with the municipality, the school and the Friends of Maria Ward, on the possibility of stopping the use of plastic bags to collect the grass when it is cut, but to implement other means of collection, which involves awareness raising, education and learning to work in a network. We have started to set up JPIC teams in our schools, which can think together about viable proposals for sanitation, recycling and care for the planet.

Currently, students and teachers are working together to raise awareness and work on the theory of the three Rs: promoting recycling, promoting composting, reducing solid urban waste, promoting our agro-ecological vegetable garden at home, re-use and above all spreading and raising awareness of this culture of caring for our common home with murals, leaflets, infographics and videos to upload on social networks.

In all our schools we are working hard on the subject of recycling, with a very high awareness of the pollution caused by plastic waste and its separation. The teachers have had a workshop praying and considering each of the 7 objectives of Laudato Si' and the possibility of thinking together about new ideas.

What we are doing in Chile:

On September 14, 2020 a working team was formed with Lay people (teachers) who collaborate in our Schools, we hold regular meetings of reflection, in addition to preparing ourselves in environmental issues.

With this same team, we participated in the Integral Ecology Workshop, promoted by the Ignatian Spirituality Centre. Preparation and participation in the online prayer moment "Time of Creation", September 25, 2020. 25 September 2020, inviting students, parents, alumni and

teachers from our 5 schools. Active participation of students in the 1st Latin American Youth Meeting "Dialoguing with young people and Agenda 2030" held on 24 October 2020.

Preparation and promotion of the meeting: "Round of dialogue for girls", an instance of dialogue and reflection on topics such as such as: gender violence, women's empowerment, women's rights and feminist movements, was held on 07 May 2021.

In all our schools there are projects aimed at protecting our common home, we encourage the care of water, we promote the cultivation of plants in the classrooms and courtyards of our establishments, we also teach them to recycle and re-use. We also promote good treatment and healthy coexistence.

In **Brazil**, starting with ecological education projects in schools, we facilitated students' effective contact with nature by planting and caring for gardens and orchards. We are also working with the recycling of waste from the homeless, where we do shared work with the older sisters to make scarves, hats and woolen socks to hand out on the streets. Our school involves the students through food and clothing drives for organizations that work with the homeless population. Some sisters are in direct contact with people who are on the streets, listening, delivering food, clothes and referrals to places of recovery from addictions, such as drugs and alcohol. We will hold training meetings to have more suggestions to experience the Laudato Sí' Action Plan.

We share some pictures of what we do in our Amerindian Province.




WEBINAR:



I Encuentro Latinoamericano:
Dialogando con los jóvenes y la Agenda 2030.

24 DE OCTUBRE

PERÚ 1:00 PM | ARGENTINA - BRASIL - CHILE 3:00 PM

Registro via ZOOM: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G4vDGLTqRLWw88KbGDMLg



**PRIMERA RONDA DE
DIALOGO PARA NIÑAS**

VIERNES 7 DE MAYO 15:00 HORAS

*"Se verá a la mujer realizando
grandes cosas", Mary Ward*

ID de reunión: 823 0956 7722
Código de acceso: 838060





IBVM LORETO AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA

image: Susan Daily ibvm



EXAMPLES OF OUR CURRENT ENGAGEMENT WITH THE 7 GOALS

Ecological Education

- Commitment to integral ecology articulated in school strategic plans
- Resources produced by Loreto Ministries and Loreto Justice Network for use across entire network
- Integral ecology frameworks/themes adopted across the entire formal school curriculum, e.g., English, Science, Geography, the Performing and Creative Arts etc.
- Schools engage in highly creative educative activities related to the environment, including ban on all single use items at school celebrations, students involved in monitoring energy and water consumption, photography and public speaking competitions
- Laudato Si' Goals at the heart of annual Mary Ward justice lectures in various states, attended by different members of our network
- Ecological justice tab on province website continually updated with ecological justice resources through the lens of our Mary Ward tradition and spirituality

Ecological Spirituality

- Increased attentiveness to the central place of care for the land in indigenous spirituality
- Province Communications team has produced reflective videos: Ecological Examen and Energy Examen, which are posted on Facebook
- Staff professional development and retreat days based around Laudato Si' and/or ecological justice themes (Schools and Province office staff).
- Links made in retreat and formation programmes between Laudato Si', Ignatian/Mary Ward spirituality, the IBVM Five Goals, SDGs, Catholic Social

Teaching and Mary Ward Schools Compass, especially the compass point – Engaging with the Bigger Picture

- Formation: LS highlighted/referenced across communications and social media: National Tree Day, World Environment Day, Laudato Si’ Week, Social Justice Sunday, Season of Creation, World Day of Prayer for Creation and countless UN justice days of commemoration etc.
- Susan Daily’s artworks (often accompanied by Rachel McLoughlin’s texts) call us to ponder many dimensions of ecological spirituality, e.g., their visual interpretation of the *First Principle and Foundation*

Response to the Cry of the Earth

- Community commitment to recycling, re-purposing, planting, composting, avoidance of single-use plastics, use of earth-friendly cleaning and household products
- Encouragement to be conscious consumers, at the level of individuals and organisations
- Everything contained in this report relates directly to this LS Goal

Response to the Cry of the Poor

- Approximately 30 projects supported by Sisters in Australia, Mary Ward International Australia and Loreto Vietnam: Australia, Timor Leste, Vietnam, India, Zambia, South Sudan and Kenya
- Articulated province justice priorities guide engagement with projects and issues: plight of women and children, ecological justice, plight of refugees and asylum seekers, rights of indigenous Australians, the reality of trafficking in humans
- Discernment touchstone for Sisters in imagining and engaging with new ministries and projects, e.g., concern for children of migrant workers in Ho Chi Minh City, agriculture project in Timor Leste
- Invitation to Mary Ward Sisters and co-workers ‘in the field’ to speak directly to students, staff, Sisters and friends of Mary Ward in Australia
- Responsiveness to the many manifestations of diversity in all creation, e.g., support of LGBTQI staff and students

Community Engagement and Participation

- Principle of subsidiarity, personal and communal discernment at the heart of many province-wide projects and processes
- All parts of our network encouraged to get involved in the IBVM Bicentenary Ecology Project – tree-planting – across August 2021 to August 2022
- Continuous invitation to participate in advocacy and political processes; e.g., writing to/phoning and visiting members of parliament, signing petitions, organising network-wide letter-writing campaigns, attending protests

- Each week across the Season of Creation a different member of our Mary Ward network (student, Sister, staff members etc) has reflected on their engagement with one Laudato Si' Goal in a short video reflection
- Encouraging student leadership in justice arena, e.g., students hosting online webinars, speaking at conferences, formal student leadership roles related to the environment in our schools, students writing for province publications about justice issues.

Ecological Economics

- Continually learning about the impact of extractive or exploitative industries on the environment and exploring province finances in relation to same
- Working toward province-wide ethical procurement guidelines
- Strong engagement with the UN CJ/IBVM Child Labour commitment to action and awareness-raising
- Strong engagement with the CJ/IBVM anti-trafficking commitment
- Attentiveness to energy and water consumption, and waste management practices

Adopting a simple lifestyle

- Deepening awareness of this call to personal, communal and province-wide conversion

FUTURE FOCI

- A review of the Province's Loreto Justice Network will be undertaken across the latter part of 2021. We will ensure that responsiveness to the LS goals is included in the LNJ's brief moving forward
- The Province's justice priorities, and thus, the LS Goals, will be referenced in planning for the 2022 General/Province Congregation
- The Loreto Justice Network has suggested that 2022 Mary Ward Justice Lectures in different states respond to the themes of ecological conversion and justice
- The Loreto Justice Network is exploring some formation/professional development for school leaders around the SDGs and Laudato Si' 7 Year Plan

NEW RESOURCES

[August LNJ article](#) including resource list

I go among the trees and sit still

[September LNJ article](#)

Season of Creation: cry of the earth, cry of the poor – including links to Australian Catholic Bishops' annual social justice statement: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor and excellent resources

[Ecological justice resources - Province website](#)

CJ BANGALORE REGION

CJ Bangalore Region has been implementing the Laudato Si' goals in a concrete manner in our communities and schools. So, as per the guidelines of Mary Ward JPIC office, we propose to build on what is already done through various clubs; such as Friends of Mary Ward, Environmental club, Social service club etc. Having felt the need for motivating our sisters and teachers to work for the cause of JPIC, we had a joint webinar by Nepal and Bangalore Region, where maximum number of Sisters and the teacher representatives participated and were enthused to work for the cause in our schools, communities and in the society. The participants could clear some of their queries and were motivated to do their best in the practice of JPIC, which integrates all the other issues which is faced by the world today.

We had a meeting of the principals and JPIC in charges of our schools and the materials on Laudati Si' was handed over to both the school as well as the communities. The richness of JPIC movement in our schools and the enormous good that is being done was shared by many in the group. We decided to give sometime to the local coordinators to study the Laudato Si' 7 goals and draw the action plans. They came out with very creative and challenging action plans for every school. All 7 goals of Laudato Si' are taken into consideration and we are planning to network with NGO's and the elected members of the government through whom we can have greater achievements. We are also getting connected to other schools, various social clubs etc. Along with these we are also eager to celebrate the important days of the UN calendar; such as, the seasons of creation, International Literacy day, and international day of peace. All the Schools have formed JPIC clubs where the students are guided and motivated by the teachers to take initiatives and contribute wherever needed. In some of our schools, they provided with the necessities of life to those who were affected by the covid19 pandemic. The students continue to practice JPIC in their homes by planting saplings on Environmental day, on their birthday's etc. We also had a meeting with the animators of all the communities and asked the members to read, reflect and draw the action plans. The response was overwhelming. The Friends of Mary Ward had taken Laudato Si' as the theme for this year's CJ Fest in Bangalore Region. Many goals of LS, very specially Goals 4, 5, and 7 are brought out in a concrete manner in the competitions. The students of all our schools are participating in it by displaying their creativity.

Some of the proposed action plans

Goal - 1. Response to the Cry of the Earth.

- **Ban** plastics in our school campus and encourage the students to have terrace gardening.
- Setting up a nursery farm in the school in collaboration with the teachers and students. Distribute the saplings to the families of the locality.
- Adopting solar energy.



- Plan seminars for the high school students.
- Encourage students to make clothe bags with used materials and use them daily. The schools will conduct competitions based on this.
- Give importance to **rainwater harvesting and recycling of waste water.**
- **Form a GREEN COMMITTEE** of Teachers and Students. Encourage them to motivate others to make the environment green.
- Conduct a water audit and adapt green gifting.
- We encourage everyone to plant as many trees as possible and to take care of their growth.

Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor.

- Conduct essay competitions on poverty.
- Encourage the students to share their things with those who do not have.
THE REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE CONCEPT IS EMPHASISED.
- We hire vehicles of the poor thus they can earn some money for their living.
- Contribution and help is given to the disaster and COVID affected people by the JPIC movement.
- Help the poor children of our schools with food and clothing.
- Sharing food, clothes and money with the needy.
- Give awareness about the problems of children like child labour, lack of education, malnutrition, human trafficking, hunger and starvation etc.
- Survey to be done about the under privileged people especially children of our locality, so that we can address their problems directly.

Goal 3: Ecological Economics:

- Cultivate the local seed in our kitchen garden, as well as terrace farming.
- We go for homemade food and say no to fast food.
- The schools will conduct various competitions based on balanced diet.
- E-Magazines will be published.
- Responsible use of money will be emphasized.

Goal 4: Adoption of Simple Lifestyles:

- Make them aware of the fact that having a simple lifestyle is a day-to-day choice.
- Become aware of the difference between our needs and wants. And consciously reduce our needs in order to help the poor and needy.
- Cleanliness, discipline and orderly life style is maintained by all.
- Air condition to be used only when needed
- Using water carefully by not allowing it to overflow. We direct the waste water to kitchen garden.

Goal 5: Ecological Education:

- We emphasize more awareness on ecology.

- Ongoing formation of JPIC will be given to the sisters, teachers and students.
- Awareness programs will be uploaded on the YouTube channel.
- By conducting assemblies and celebrating different festivals in the schools, we teach students to be Eco-friendly and be grateful to God for our mother Earth.
- Conscientize students to avoid things that cannot be recycled.
- Avoid the use of plastic, thermocol, aluminium foils etc. and promote use of jute bags, paper bags, cotton things, bamboo bottles, palm leave plates and banana leaves.
- Promote green technology by avoiding chemicals, pesticides, taste makers etc and use organic manure.

Goal 6: Ecological Spirituality:

- Do survey of trees in the surrounding area and plant the trees that are at the verge of extinct and conduct debates on deforestation and afforestation.
- Setting up hanging garden and have flower pots with compost.
- Cultural Program of the school and other competitions will be held on Laudato Si' goals.

Goal 7: Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action:

- Conduct street plays.
- Conduct clean-up excises in local areas. Organize rallies joining with NGOs.
- In collaboration with associates, friends of Mary Ward, and with the help of different social media, we spread the awareness of the duties of members elected, towards the conservation of environment, the homeless and migrant workers.
- Get the government to fund for the homeless and needy.
- Encourage nature clubs, cleanliness drive groups, and disciplinary groups etc to have active involvement in carrying out our Action Plans.
- Teach the skills of discussions, sharing of ideas, consultation, involvement of all the members, team work etc.

We emphasize on the methodology – SEE, JUDGE, and ACT. Unless we see the situation around us, we can do little to help the situation. So, it's necessary to know the reality. We too need to judge the authenticity of the need, the pros and cons of acting upon it. And finally, we venture in to actions. As the saying goes "Small drops make the ocean," we are determined to contribute to the humanity and the mother earth which is in need, in our own small and greater ways which will indeed make a huge difference.

CJ ZIMBABWE REGION

In response to the call of Pope Francis to care for “Our Common Home”, as Mary Ward family in Zimbabwe, we have already taken steps in implementing the Mary Ward 7 years Laudato Si’ Action Plan. Since we are involved in different apostolates, some of the actions were already being undertaken and we have resolved to undertake new ones as well. We have committed ourselves to the actions below:

Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

By protecting our common home, for the well-being of all creation and ecological sustainability

- We keep on encouraging our members and those around us to use water, gas and electricity sparingly
- Embracing afforestation and reforestation at our institutions and even to our neighbours
- Taking care of the different plants that we already have e.g. lawn, flowers, trees, etc
- Keeping our environment clean
- Emphasise on reducing, recycling and re-using of plastics and bottles
- Campaigning against wild-fires



Photo: Zimbabwe Papal Nuncio P. Rudelli and Bishop M.D Bhasera planting a tree at Mary Ward Primary School on the 70th anniversary of C.J existence in Zimbabwe: 28/08/2021

Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

Promoting eco-justice, defend and protect human life from conception to death

There are various forms of poverty, we are called to recognize and listen to the voice of the poor and we need to respond to the cry of the poor through loving attentiveness which gives value to the human person by:

- taking care of all those who are in need and other vulnerable groups of our society through e.g. feeding schemes
- Caring and assisting of the sick
- Reaching out to the poor through education especially of the vulnerable girl child
- Introduction of sustainable projects e.g. green house gardening project

Goal 3: Ecological Economics

Supporting ethical and sustainable investments/businesses, promoting fair trade and the dignity of all workers

- make recycling more present in our communities, and be more aware and attentive to how we use
- We have our own organic food from the field
 - We are cultivating local seeds
 - We make use of composites
 - Earning from selling the produce from our field and garden.
 - Promoting the use of renewable energy e.g. solar energy



Photo: *Gardening: Tomatoes ready for harvesting*

Goal 4: Adoption of simple lifestyles

The Holy Father brilliantly navigates the culture and life style we find ourselves living today: wasteful, consumeristic and self-centered. This lifestyle is unsustainable and it continues to push the poor to the margins.

- Promoting zero wastage of the available resources
- Living a simple life, with a simple diet
- Using our locally produced products
- Making use of public transport to reduce air pollution
- Disposal of goods and items should be considered as the last option



Photo: *Orchard with different fruit trees*

Goal 5: Ecological Education

A call to facilitate a whole new ecological conversion, bringing about an environmental awareness, responsibility and a sense of connection to the natural world. A shift in attitude and action towards integral ecology ought to become a part of us all.

- Creating awareness of our connectedness to Mother Earth
- Education on the care of our environment
- Education on the protection of our environment

Goal 6: Ecological Spirituality

We celebrate and pray for all God's creation by embracing conscious reflection on care of the earth and encouraging commitment and engagement of all

- Seeing God in all creation and helping the Creator by maintaining what He created.
- Promoting ecological awareness and education to all (ecological catechesis)
- Promoting creative liturgies

Goal 7: Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

Advocate and develop policies that advocate the promotion of resilient social action that addresses challenges against climate change

- Praying with the world on sustainability of Mother Earth
- Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults
- Promote Advocacy and preservation of the ecosystem
- Conducting clean up exercises and campaigns



IBVM CANADA

What are we already doing?

A number of our ministries are already responding to the goals presented in the Laudato Si' Action Plan, as described below. We recognize that many of these goals overlap and are interconnected.

Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

IBVM Canada works with Shareholder Association for Education and Research (SHARE), which seeks to influence companies through shareholder investment advocacy. In this way, we put pressure on the fossil fuel industry to adopt sustainable energy alternatives. All of our ministry facilities follow comprehensive waste management practices that include reducing waste through recycling and composting. We also have a 'no bottled water' policy, except where required due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We use biodegradable laundry detergents, household cleansers, again, where possible due to pandemic sanitizing requirements.

Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

We are engaged on issues of decent work in branded operations and in supply chains for our ministries. We also advocate for health access and equity, racial justice, investing in an indigenous economy, and just recovery for all. At Loretto Maryholme Spirituality Centre, we respect all life forms through the careful care of our flower gardens, meadow, forests, savannah, shoreline and the abundance of wildlife on our grounds that coexist with us. We offer the Namaste Bursary for those that would benefit from this subsidy in order to spend time in our sacred space. On the property we have a Cairn erected in honour of Sisters in Spirit (missing & murdered Indigenous Women), and outdoor Medicine Wheel, and a Land Acknowledgement which is stated at the beginning of every opening program session and is available as a laminate in every facility – in each of these ways we honour and respect the First Nations Peoples and the existing Treaties that remind us that we are merely settlers on this land. Individual Sisters participate in the Collaborative Network to End Exploitation (CNEE) which consists of organizations, faith groups, community groups and individuals who want to raise awareness about the spectrum of exploitation of human beings. Sisters are also involved on the board and as companions and prayer partners to newcomers to Canada through Becoming Neighbours, a companioning program for immigrants and refugees. Sisters pray for newcomers and assist them through activities such as English conversation sessions.

Goal 3: Ecological Economics

Through SHARE, IBVM Canada is using its investment portfolio to influence companies. Two major recent projects include: Canada's Modern Slavery Legislation Initiative and Reconciliation and Responsible Investment Initiative. In addition, the Loretto College Women's Residence has purchased fair trade coffee for many years now and has solar panels on its roof to heat water for residence use.

Goal 4: Adoption of Simple Lifestyles

Each community/residence of Sisters makes efforts to live simply according to the needs and ability of the community, for example, sustainable meals by cooking what is local and in season. We have made efforts to reduce the number of cars we own so that we are sharing cars among drivers. A few Sisters are able to use public transit regularly. At Loretto College Women's Residence we have installed lo-flow toilets, motion detectors that start/stop hallway lighting, and LED lighting throughout in an effort to reduce consumption of water and electricity. Sisters at Presentation Manor, our Seniors home, have worked with administration to implement better methods for recycling, following the guidance of the Toronto waste recommendations.

Goal 5: Ecological Education

At all ministry sites and in our community residences, we make ongoing efforts to educate residents, staff, and ourselves around recycling efforts. The Mary Ward Centre works with schools to educate about care for creation and land through programs such as the KAIROS Blanket Exercise, which educates about Indigenous experience in Canada, and ethical certification programs for high school students. Loretto Maryholme is also available to schools and groups for ecological programs in the woods, gardens, and for welcoming high school student groups new to Canada to embrace them and open their minds to the beauty of our land and water. At Loretto House ministry, a shared backyard garden allows a neighbor to teach students about ecology and sustainable practices for the earth.

Goal 6: Ecological Spirituality

The Loretto House ministry hosts a regular Monday night Zoom prayer that is 'Earth-focused,' emphasizing God's presence in all of creation and the human person's creative partnership with God. Loretto Maryholme offers its sacred space to individuals and groups needing solitude, refreshment, times of reflection, education and envisioning and prayer – all available in our facilities (dedicated prayer space, library, common living room and porch meeting spaces, enclosed porch beauty vantage points) and outside on the grounds in the form of Meditative Walks (Cosmic Walk, Stations of the Light, Labyrinth, Meadow Walk, Medicine Wheel, Memory Garden, Peace Pole, Healing Garden, Peace Fountain, Native Tree & Plant Identification walks, Docks and Water places of reflection and beauty). The Mary Ward Centre provides retreats and workshops on world religions, including on the Golden Rule and interfaith care for creation. Individual Sisters maintain a gardening ministry at Loretto College Women's Residence and Presentation Manor that provides beauty for the neighbourhood.

Goal 7: Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

We work with a number of partners to promote ecological justice, including collaboration with Joint Ecological Ministry (JEM), on issues such as fossil fuel divestment, shareholder engagement, green/alternate investments, the Paris climate talks, government fossil fuel

subsidies, decolonization, and the roles of religious communities in the ethical recovery. Residents of Loretto College are encouraged to participate in activities such as the march for Climate Action and Earth Day activities that include programming around how residents could reduce waste and become more environmentally conscious. At Presentation Manor, Sisters work collaboratively with other congregations and organizations to educate residents and to promote participatory action through various advocacy initiatives, including letters and petitions to government leaders at the local and national level.

Through the Mary Ward Centre we collaborate with the Interfaith Office of the Archdiocese of Toronto on ecological initiatives as well as with the Laudato Si' Movement (formerly GCCM Canada), the Jesuit Forum, and the JPIC Committee of the Canadian Religious Conference. Loretto Maryholme supports and endorses local initiatives through Facebook, promoting websites that highlight many ecological and global initiatives to continue to bring awareness to the many ways everyone can participate and bring love and healing to a hurting world. Loretto Maryholme has been involved in a 10-year initiative in support of a local group to save neighbouring wetlands which was passed by regional/provincial parliament and protects acres of connected native plant, tree and wildlife.

How do we proceed?

We recognize that necessary procedures/protocols required to respond to the covid-19 pandemic have resulted in increased use of chemical products for cleaning and sanitizing, as well as increased consumption of disposable products required for ministry (disposable masks, gloves, disinfecting wipes, etc.). Looking ahead, we know that careful analysis of consumption patterns will be required once the covid-19 pandemic abates. For example, at the Loretto College Women's Residence, we anticipate revising food delivery to reduce the consumption of prepackaged salads, prepackaged salad dressing, milk and cream, jams, individually wrapped bread products, and single-use take-out containers.

Where do we want to start following the SEE, JUDGE & ACT Methodology?

To begin in this first year, we propose to undertake an analysis of each of our ministries to determine the impact of the pandemic on consumption patterns and waste management. We will SEE current consumption patterns, JUDGE how can reduce/revise those patterns, and ACT accordingly when the pandemic allows.

In subsequent years, we can take additional steps to assess gaps and determine opportunities for greater action under the different goals.



CJ/IBVM JPIC NETWORK IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



“Nothing ever exists entirely alone. Everything is in relationship to everything else.”
(Attributed to Buddha)

The Launch of the Laudato Si’ Action Plan was received with enthusiasm and a sense of hope that this was something to which we could all relate. The ‘See, Judge, Act’ model is one with which we are very familiar and is a tried and trusted format for reflective living. This was highlighted by the parallel launch of the Toolkits raising awareness of International Child Labour through our NGO Office in New York. In both instances the same model to move from observation and information to positive action is central. The Laudato Si’ document itself provides the basis of the theological reflection which is at the heart of all our actions and keeps us rooted in the understanding of stewardship.

Studying and reflecting on our Action Plan has also led to a realization for many of us, that we need to be more informed about the science behind the dangers to our earth. We are trying

to reduce our use of paper, of electricity and of water, without necessarily understanding why. Conversations have arisen, for example, about the need to use less water, the dangers of fossil fuels and our duty as stewards of our planet. On a practical level we are all making at least small changes, where we can.

Here are a few examples:

We can only try, but it is good to be reminded.

- Use clean wash up water each morning to water two plants and to wash down my stoop
- Conscious of time under the shower
- Shop according to need, rather than want or like
- Use home grown mint tea. Moving to decaf coffee
- Re-cycle appropriately and avoid use of plastic.
- Buy loose fruit and vegetables rather than packaged/Keep scrap paper for notes etc.
- Buy oat 'milk' instead of cow's milk 'I have not eaten meat since 1970'.



The lavender bags made must total 1000 now. All made mostly from sample fabrics that otherwise would have been binned. Some made from discarded scarves and saris.

This is a photo of a lantern I made at a Sustainability Workshop led by two parents. Materials used were bamboo sticks, kitchen paper on which I drew the leaves using ink made from a chopped up avocado juice and some beetroot juice. The light is from three night lights. *Dorothy*



Our rain water collector for watering the garden and saving tap water - *Bernie and Catherine*

I try to recycle everything and save water as much as possible. One particular thing I do is do all the washing of the dishes in the evening which saves water.

Maybe after COVID there may be opportunities to do more.

Watering nasturtiums with washing up water



Here in York we continue to recycle, compost our waste, rewild part of the garden, collect rain water, shop ecologically and generally become more aware of actions which will improve our care of the earth.

It is heartening to hear that our former school, now All Saints Comprehensive School, is not allowing any plastic bottles to be used as from the beginning of the new term in September 2021. All pupils are to bring durable containers. Water butt and bicycles which many staff use for travel to work



Bird feeder



Rewilding

“I had the great privilege with Sr. Kathryn Keigher of attending the annual Conference of the National Justice and Peace network at the end of July. The theme of the conference was “Action for Life on Earth” looking very much towards COP26.

The following quotation I found on a calendar and it sums up very aptly the experience of the conference.

*“Nothing ever exists entirely alone
Everything is in relationship to everything else
We are part of a global humanity, my humanity bound up in yours.”*

There were three wonderful speakers at the conference: firstly Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy who spoke on the three documents given to us by Pope Francis - Laudato Si’, Fratelli Tutti, and Let us Dream. His enthusiasm and knowledge were such gifts to all. About 200 attended the conference and the talks can be found on YouTube. The title is ‘Let us Dream together, Pope Francis Gospel Vision for an Integral Humanity’.

Our second speaker was Mark Rotherham. Again the talk can be found on YouTube, entitled ‘Framing the Global Crisis: Integrating Ecological and Economic Change’. He was a hugely knowledgeable person where he put before us, if the economics are right, justice will ensue. Sadly, that is not the case at present. The rich are getting richer and the poor, poorer. We are ravaging the earth and not working to make it sustainable.

Our final speaker was a woman, a mother and lecturer whose deep desire is for her children and grandchildren. She spoke about our wonderful world with all its gifts in nature. Our relationship with the earth is flawed with all the use of carbon fuels. Species are disappearing so we are impoverishing our children and grandchildren of many of the diversities in nature. She wants them to be able to enjoy all the wonders we have had. Her name is Lorna Gold and her talk was entitled ‘Our children’s future’. Again, the talk is on YouTube.



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

Cop 26 was on everyone’s lips and how important it is for us to pray for the success of this global meeting. We were encouraged to write to people taking part so the outcome will help to change our climate by cutting greenhouse gases. It was a privilege to be present and meet so many committed people especially young members who are working so hard to look after our precious earth. Everyone needs to do their bit however small. Key milestones before the meeting takes place include the following: Many people are walking

from Cornwall to Glasgow where Cop26 is taking place. The group are visiting as many cities as possible and will be here in York at the end of September. We pray this conference will indeed help all of us to be more aware of our vulnerable earth and do everything in our power to be stewards rather than greedy takers.

1. There will be a National Climate Sunday event in Glasgow Cathedral on 5 September at 4pm. It will be available on YouTube. This will celebrate the commitments made by churches, and present the Government with a list of those commitments and the signatories of all churches who have signed the declaration - **“The Time is Now”**.
2. CAFOD is organising a COP reflection afternoon for religious clergy and members of Third Orders on Thursday 23 September at 2pm. It is accessible to all who register for it.

Looking ahead: Our Schools and College

1. Currently discussions are taking place with both IBVM and CJ schools’ Network regarding the Laudato Si’ Road Map for Schools to be launched during the coming weeks. This is a combination of our Laudato Si’ Action Plan and the United Nations International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour, adapted for the academic year of our schools/college.
2. Exploring a joint document from our schools/college to be written by our students for COP 26 underpinned by their knowledge and understanding of Mary Ward, especially as visionary **and** realist and the way she might react today, the messages she would want to give to governments and the messages she would want to give to us. This will be based on the ‘See, Judge, Act’ principles enshrined in our Laudato Si’ document.
3. Exploring the possibility of specific youth groups to lead our students based on point 2 above. Looking beyond schools to past pupils and other young people.
4. Whilst COVID restrictions continue we hope to engage more in zooms to assess our progress in terms of ‘See, Judge, Act’.
5. Ensure that our Trust Board (IBVM) and governors are aware of and involved in as much of our project(s) as possible.
6. Provide input for staff new to our schools as part of their Induction weekend in October.

Looking Ahead: Our Communities and the wider network

1. Keep everyone informed and make sure those who do not have Internet are not left behind.
2. Remain open to ideas.
3. Try to meet in person or on zoom when possible and be aware of the age profile of our communities.
4. Remind ourselves that our greatest gift is that which Mary Ward described as

“Free and Open Access to God”



CJ - DELHI PROVINCE

“Compassionate action emerges from the sense of openness, connectedness and discernment you have created in your community”.



The communities in Delhi province came together weekly, after personal reading and reflection of the 7-year plans, to discuss, share and discern about what we as individuals and as a community can contribute to the promotion of JPIC. In our planning we followed the SEE, JUDGE & ACT Methodology.

We evaluated on what we are already doing on to respond to the 7 goals and what we can start and what we can continue.

At first the need of forming a strong JPIC Club in all our Institutions was felt and we proceeded to forming the JPIC club in all our Institutions. The objectives, values and way of proceeding of the club focus on instilling character and competence needed to promote Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation. Once the JPIC Club was formed, all the JPIC members of the various Institutions came together on zoom platform wherein we discussed how JPIC can be more effective and the importance implementing of 7 Laudato Si' goals locally.



Some of the action plans proposed are:

Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

- Use of water sparingly and make use of the solar energy as much as possible
- The use of plastic is completely banned in some institutions like Nainital and in some institutions paper bags are made and distributed to the local shops. Use of cloth and jute bags encouraged.
- The teachers and students were given the **water audit google form** to become aware of the daily consumption of water.
- Encourage children to plant their own garden in their homes.
- Some of us have already started making herbal garden.



Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

- Communities will continue to sponsor poor children for their education and continue with the evening school specially meant for children from poor families.
- Motivate our students to reach out to the poor/ introduce a poor child to a class and encourage the students of that class to educate the child. (They will be able to sponsor clothes, stationery etc.)
- Ration kits consisting of rice, wheat flower, pulses, oil, sugar, tealeaves, soap and detergent powder were distributed to those finding difficult to meet both ends, due to the Corona Pandemic. This work of charity will be continued all the more during these difficult times



Goal 3: Ecological Economics

- Digitalizing the newsletters and other information in order to reduce the use of paper.
- We are already having a kitchen garden. But we will use more of local seeds.
- Use more of the re-cycled papers for creative items rather than buying them.
- We will plan out and try to combine the shopping so that the use of fuel is reduced.
- Support fair-trade - shopping from poor vendors.



Goal 4: Adoption of Simple Lifestyles

- We refrain from impulse buying and think carefully before buying
- We inculcate the habit of using more of re-usable products,
- We educate ourselves no wastage of food



Goal 5: Ecological Education

- Bring to the notice of students and teachers about environmental issues through awareness orientation program for JPIC members and the entire staff.
- POCSO is already functional in our school.
- We include ‘creation spirituality’ into our prayers and recollections.
- Encouraging children to create flower garden in our compound
- Encourage students to draw and paint on environment
- Celebrating environmental days, which all our institutions are already doing.



Goal 6: Ecological Spirituality

- Some communities already have rain water harvesting system and compost pit using dry leaves, water etc.
- Vegetable garden in sacks and bags/ making use of them
- We will have potted plants inside for decoration purpose rather than using plastic flowers.



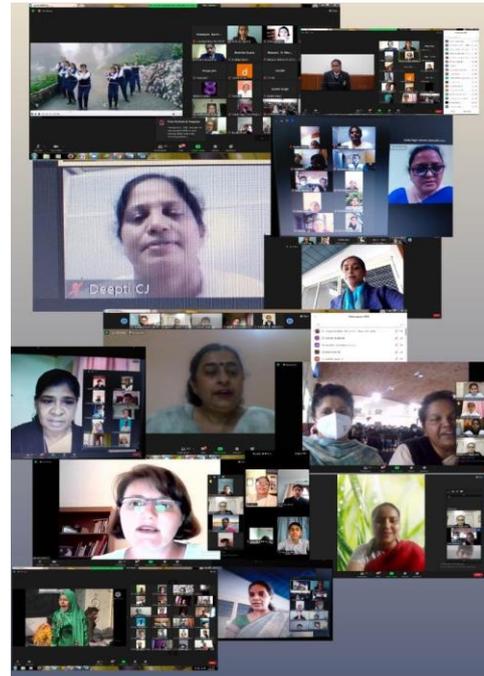
Goal 7: Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

- Clean up the surroundings/locality removing plastic etc.
- Conduct awareness programmes. We have already put up assemblies and webinars on human trafficking, youth day, girl child, and gender equality.





We respond to issues that affect people globally by awareness programmes. In solidarity with the people of Afghanistan an online prayer assembly on peace was conducted on 29th August by the JPIC Magnet Club SMC Ramnee, for sisters, teachers and students from COIN i.e. Patna, Allahabad, Nepal, Bangalore and Delhi. We were also happy to have teachers and students from Loreto schools. During this webinar Sr. Elsy our provincial Superior spoke on the history of Taliban, Sr. Adina, Mary Ward JPIC Coordinator, enlightened us on the Laudato Si' goals and Mrs. Kawaljeet, the national JPIC coordinator, highlighted the importance of peace. Thus, we respond to the 7 goals looking at what we can start and what we can continue.



ACTION PLAN FOR THE LORETO SCHOOLS IN MAURITIUS

“Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.” (Proverbs 14:31, NIV)

The veracity of these words surely cannot leave anyone insensitive.

In fact, the COVID-19 pandemic, the relentless civil wars, the frequent natural calamities and many more have accentuated on the problem of poverty. Under such crises, it has become imperative for all of us to join hands in order to help each other mutually. *As per the United Nations, more than 700 million people — or 10 per cent of the global population — still live in extreme poverty.* Experts predict these figures will continue to rise as a result of the COVID-19 crisis alongside the ongoing impacts of conflicts and climate change. Improving the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable — ensuring no one is left behind — is an overarching theme of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the primary focus of Goal 2. In order to achieve the vision set out in the SDGs, the fundamental issue of poverty must be addressed. In Mauritius too, poverty rate is increasing drastically and our Loreto schools are leaving no stone unturned to combat poverty in the school community.

Indeed, in Mauritius we, the Loreto schools are doing our best in order to comply with the above goal. Bearing this problem in mind, our Loreto schools have come up with various projects, aiming to curb the effects of poverty on our school communities. The motto of all our Loreto schools for this action plan is ‘**Anou solider pou enn lavi meyer**’ which means ‘Let’s work together for a better life’ though the action slightly varies from one Loreto school

to the other. For instance, there is “la roupie du vendredi”, (a fund-raising activity) organized by the school staff members and students every Friday; we also have “a rupee for a meal”, aiming at distributing food packs to about 10 families in the short run. Additionally, some schools are also focusing on launching clubs like the Social Club or the Solidarity Club and the Care and Concern Club. These clubs have a common aim that is to provide a breakfast and lunch to our needy students on a daily basis.

Our Loreto communities are also encouraging needy students to come to school by providing them with the basic materials and uniform. Moreover, one school is also planning to encourage the students, moving to another grade to either gift or sell their textbooks at an affordable price to the students joining that grade. Moreover, sanitary packs are being gifted to our needy students. These packs consist of a transparent pencil case, a mask, a sanitizer bottle and soap. This aims at promoting equity among the students. One of our schools is also keen to organize a monthly activity whereby on one Saturday, a group of teachers and students will distribute food packs to a number of needy families living in the region.

The “book swap” programmed is also noteworthy, whereby some of our students will be able to swap textbooks, stationery, pencil cases and bags that they do not need or use anymore. In fact, one of the Loreto schools is aiming at using scrap fabric to make pencil case and key rings for the students. The process is intended to benefit our students who encounter difficulties to afford the above items.

The COVID-19 pandemic has completely changed the school time-table. Online classes have become mandatory these days; unfortunately, many students fail to have the required devices to follow online classes. Therefore, bearing this in mind, one of our institutions has been looking for sponsors or even funds to provide these children with the necessary technological equipment and facilities to put them at par with the others (mobile phones, tablets, internet/mobile data access). If some of these projects have been ongoing ones, others have recently been launched and a few are still in the pipeline. But our schools are optimistic about the implementation of all these projects. Bearing in mind this saying of Mary Ward ‘*Be kind and merciful towards the poor and do not call them beggars*’, we are looking forward to implement all of our projects.

We must consider ourselves blessed to have been given the opportunity to help those who are underprivileged. The Loreto schools in Mauritius keep on inculcating such values in each and every student, who never hesitate to lend a helping hand to their friends in need. We surely have a long way to go. To love the poor, persevere in the same, live, rise and die with them, was all the aim of Mary Ward. To combat poverty by giving a ‘*response to the cry of the poor*’ as mentioned in *Laudato Si*’, is the way forward adopted by the whole Loreto Community in Mauritius who will do its level best to combat poverty.

CJ NEPAL REGION

CJ Nepal Region is planning to integrate the 7 goals of Laudato Si' in our daily life and Mission. As per the guide lines of Mary Ward JPIC Office we propose to build on what is already there. We choose not to abandon what we have been doing through various clubs like Environment Club, Social Service Club, Friends of Mary ward Student Unit, Scout Club etc. However, during the South Asian JPIC Coordinator's meeting, CJ Provinces had realized the importance of introducing the JPIC Structure so that it becomes much easier to carry out the planning and implementing JPIC related activities.

Thus the Nepal Region organized an orientation to all the sisters as well as the chosen teachers from our schools. Since CJ Bangalore Region also did not have, and given that the resource persons, our Loreto team under the leadership of Nirmala A IBVM was the same so we planned and joyfully did this orientation in collaboration. (The screenshots of the meetings are attached). There was lot of eagerness from the participants side, many of them expressed the importance of understanding the various concepts, and terms, then discovering the CONNECTION, the above all the dire need of our understanding to COLLABORATE with likeminded organizations in order to arrive at better results. Almost all the participants were motivated to carry forward this noble initiative which inevitably INTEGRATES every issue faced by the world today. As one participant distinctly expressed this kind of initiative is the need of the hour. The group joyfully realized we have been doing lot of activities, now we need to connect it internationally, broadening our network.

When we collaborate with the other, we close the boundaries, understand the other, express concern over the difficulties and challenges faced by that part of the world.

After this motivational orientation Nepal JPIC group had another meeting in order to plan further. As a result of that meeting where our local coordinators and the national coordinators participated came to be still more clear of this noble journey. All the rich resources of JPIC were shared among us. Every school begins to share all the rich learning they gained in the series of these orientations. We have planned to give sometime to the Local Coordinator who will plan locally along with her local members the possible ways of implementing and integrating the 7 Laudato Si' Goals. It would be very interesting and we are looking forward to have the celebration of important days Nationally as well as Internationally. During our meeting we became aware of the hurdles we may face due to stress our students go through due to online classes, the pandemic etc. However, there is lot of eagerness to identify the local Non-Governmental Organizations, nearby Government schools, various social clubs, Women's Groups etc, invite them, as well as join them in working for a common cause.

In our religious communities, there are various proposals and here too few programs are organized nationally where all the communities will participate. We also take the lead to involve other congregations as well in addressing the common themes. Precisely through local (CRN Conference of Religious of Nepal) we had Prayer Service on 7th September,

participated by the religious of Nepal Vicariate. Our Bishop in his address expressed the need to have a National CRN Team, where we could have few programs nationally for all the religious from East, West, North and South. Each one of us is now aware that the challenges the world, the church faces are common and complex thus we need to address it together. As per the 7 Goals of Laudato Si' which involves every issue facing the humanity today, we have planned to use asses alone as well as together (SEE), discern (JUDGE) then join where possible, courageously risk and take the lead in this journey of Transforming oneself and the surroundings.

As we SEE and ASSESS where and with whom shall we locate our self in order to begin this noble process of joining the whole universe in the implementation of these 7 goals. We asked ourselves whose experience is being considered. Are there groups left out when the experience is being discussed? Where are the poor and oppressed in this process? As we go through answering these soul-searching questions, one could easily feel the opening up of our locked selves to the wider horizons of the world.

In short our network is very eager now to continually celebrate the Season of Creation, International day of the Girl Child, International Day of Peace 21st September, International day of Awareness of food loss and waste 29th September. All of us are very eager to immerse ourselves into the whole world as we clearly see the NET WORK of Mary Ward Family.

CJ SPAIN

The Plan of Action sent from the JPIC office in Rome to the entire Mary Ward family seems to us to be a very interesting proposal and call to respond to both the cry of the earth and the poor. In this document, we will outline the actions that we are already carrying out and those that we are going to initiate over the next 7 years.

1. Responding to the Cry of the Earth:

It is a call that that deeply affects our lives. Perhaps we do not do enough and maybe we do not respond wholeheartedly enough to this cry, but we do want to highlight our contributions and commitments in this regard.

Our Care of the Environment: We are committed to the care, respect and cleanliness of our environment by collecting everything that prevents us from enjoying and appreciating the beauty of creation. In both our communities and educational institutions, we collect plastics, paper and everything that can destroy our gardens, backyards, etc. We take care and respect the plants of the school and community terraces too. We take advantage of the grass cut from the lawn in order to use it as manure. We take care of the correct use of water, gas and electricity, valuable and necessary resources. We have decided to use certain electrical appliances only on weekends since electricity is expensive in Spain. We reuse plastic bags;

we recycle plastics, paper, glass, oil, organic matter and other waste (in the classrooms, playground, and community there are bins of different colors for this purpose which are then put in large containers). We minimise the use of all polluting materials. We get involved in "composting" by taking advantage of organic matter. We have taken up once again the project "Patrulla verdea" with the students to recycle, reduce, take care after the pandemic. We participate in contests of drawings, stories, and projects that have to do with all this, in order to raise awareness, and commitment.

2. Responding to the Cry of the Poor:

We are concerned about human life and dignity, especially that of the most vulnerable and who are at the risk of social exclusion; hence our involvement and work with immigrants in "Caritas parish" is a priority.

Welcoming, assisting, listening, guiding, helping homeless people, those without papers, without income, without food is part of our commitment. We help in school support: adult literacy, teaching the Spanish language to Moroccans, Algerians, Pakistanis and we refer them to governmental or other entities, for creation of projects, reinsertion training. We collect and distribute food, and also participate in different campaigns organized by the Red Cross or Caritas. We distribute clothes, toys, school supplies, items for personal hygiene, and cleaning materials to people who lack the most basic necessities.

We are involved with students in Teresa de Calcutta's soup kitchens, and also with an NGO. "Association of Latin women without borders" which is an enriching educational initiative. The welcome, listening, understanding and training of these women to get a job, to live with dignity and to be able to help their families is crucial. We collaborate with the parishes: preparation of the liturgy, Eucharist, singing, confirmation and communion catechesis, parish office and distribution of communion to the sick and the elderly. We collaborate closely with "Loiola Etxea" Association of the Jesuits for social integration and reintegration, especially in prisons. Two people who were released from prison are now working in our school in San Sebastian and in two communities of the Spanish province. We work in an "Apartment Home", which is a special mission in our province. We also provide shelter, care, give attention to and provide integral education for children from dysfunctional families.

The "apartment home" is their home and the workers are their real family. This year, not for the first time, we have had the joy of knowing that one of the children is studying in our school in San Sebastian. His integration in the school environment is very good. We deliver basic foodstuffs to families in need and care for the elderly is key. They are our most precious gift. They have given everything and now they need us. Together with our Sisters, we also take care of people in nursing homes because they need our love and concern.

3. Ecological Economics

Bearing in mind what is said in LS 16 and, with the intention of implementing our "Action plan" we mention below what we do:

Digitalization of newsletters, letters, UD (Digital Units of each subject) to avoid using paper and eliminate textbooks. Daily review and care of all technological means: computers, digital whiteboards, lights and taps in our homes and work centers to avoid unnecessary expenses. We re-use paper that can be recycled. We plan purchases of all kinds in places where the cost is less.

We support the food banks in our cities. We generally use the city bus to reduce costs. Sometimes we walk instead of taking the bus. The cost of electricity in Spain is very high; to reduce costs, we have plan to use some appliances only on weekends and holidays, which is cheaper. This is a commitment and awareness that we have just started.

4. Adoption of simple lifestyle

As it is said in the Action Plan, we try to see that our lifestyle is simple and avoid waste, consumerism and self-centeredness.

Several of the actions that are ongoing have already been mentioned above (most of them in point 3); therefore, we will only mention a few of them below:

- The 3 “Rs” (Reduce, recycle, re-use): zero waste, care with electricity, water, gas, use of public transport, recycling and reuse of clothes, toys, and generally making the most of what we have. Continue and improve.
- We will resume our actions: not to waste; take advantage of natural resources; not to waste food, buy what is necessary and not the most expensive. The COVID-19 pandemic, that we have lived through and is still present with us, has made us more sensitive and collaborative with the most vulnerable and we have tried to help where we can. Now our work is more focused on migrants as already mentioned above.

5. Ecological Education

We raise awareness and educate the entire PAS, and our students from different areas: Pastoral Department, biology classes, research, participation in projects, creation of small jobs about the care of our Common Home. They participate in scientific quizzes, create their own videos on these topics, help in the care of what surrounds us. In our school lunchrooms they are educated not to waste, to make use of everything (not to throw away food), not to complain, to be grateful because they have something to eat when others have nothing. They are aware and deposit plastics and organic waste in their respective bins. They are aware of and put into practice the preparation of "compost". Last year we had to stop, but we will re-start this year.

Although several actions are being carried out, we are aware that we still have a long way to go. We have in mind actions that we will carry out, but we have to agree on them.

With the motto of the course, a project "Kokedama" has been started in the school at Badalona, in which students, teachers and all the staff participate.

6. Ecological spirituality

It is clear what our attitude should be towards the need for an ecological spirituality. To begin with a personal conversion is needed in order to reach a community conversion and to be able to act and work together.

"Undoubtedly the value of ecology is the "golden thread" that binds many pieces together. The Pope wants respect for nature to become a value that is part of man's behavior and to be the "human" criterion that allows him to be in harmony with his environmental surroundings, promoting positive actions that stimulate an ethical use of natural resources for an ecological and social balance" (Ion Aranguren in *Caring for the Common Home*)

We have in mind at this moment the article of Ion Aranguren that appears in the magazine "Descálzate" about "The 8 Rs" of an Ecological Spirituality": re-think, respect, reject, reduce, re-use, recycle, re-claim and pray and we are aware that we still have a long way to go, but also that there is in each one of us a positive attitude to carry out our "Action Plan". We will mention actions we are carrying out, projects in progress and our calls to reflect according to "SEE, JUDGE AND ACT".

We care for, respect, and decorate our schools and homes with plants. We start classes and activities with a special prayer prepared by the Pastoral Team. It is usually very creative, and we consider the celebration of special days: "Water Day", "Human Trafficking", "Environment", "Mary Ward's Day", etc. In our communities we have this in mind, we also share and participate with other sisters, parishes, not only in prayer, but also in retreats, talks and conferences.

We will try to raise awareness and teach them gratitude for the gifts of nature that God gives us; to enjoy, for example, the fragrance of a flower, the caress of the wind, the clean air, the warmth of the sun, the beauty of the mountains, the singing of the birds. The setting of some centers and houses in our province is ideal for this. It is a privilege.

7. Emphasis on community involvement and participatory action

We have reached the end of our objectives, and this is, in our opinion, a compilation of all that has been said above. The Pope offers us a road map to learn how to live this hope of the Gospel, a hope that invites us to a commitment to justice, peace and the integrity of creation. A door is open wide for us which we should enter and commit ourselves to and although it may seem an arduous task, there is no doubt that community commitment and active participation will make us strong and capable of carrying the work forward, as Mary Ward tells us "God has a time for everything" and we should not "do alone what we can do together". We undertake and follow this path with great enthusiasm.

We are aware that we cannot do great things or commit ourselves to great projects. The CJs in Spain is a province of few members and older people, but we are open and willing to do whatever we can.

IBVM SPAIN

The date of 8 September has been too hasty for the Spanish province. In some communities, they have not yet had time to meet after the summer break in August to reflect on the action plan and think about how to proceed with it. Barely 20% of the province has sent their feedback.

The general feeling is that this action plan, as well as Laudato Si' and the broader framework of the SDGs is very important and needs to be central in the province now and for the future. The following key points emerged from the responses received:

1. Interact with the plan of Action.

- All religious have read and interacted with the Plan of Action, and found it very important, at personal, community and provincial levels.

2. Regarding the question "What are we already doing?"

- There is a more moderate and conscious use of water, gas and electricity.
- The garden, the trees and the nature around us are carefully taken care of.
- We recycle plastics, paper and glass as well as electronic devices and medicines, taking each of them to clean collection points/Less plastic is used.
- To collaborate with platforms working on climate and poverty issues, even if it means supporting them with the signature.
- Donate what you no longer use to charities. (Clothes, devices etc.)
- Become aware of creation and thank God for nature and clean air.
- To become aware of the need for creativity, inspiration and critical thinking to imagine solutions. We become aware of the costs of our standard of living, of our carbon footprint and start to think seriously about how to live with less, how to live responsibly, to live more austerely, but with joy and freedom.
- Spiritual Exercises uniting Ignatian spirituality with Laudato Si'.

3. With regard to the question of where do we want to start in our planning?

- The IBVM members have observed (SEE) the energies used in the communities and in the educational centers; and have thought (JUDGE) that we can pollute less, live with less on a personal and community level. Therefore, they suggest (ACT) measures such as implementing in the medium and long term in the buildings cleaner and renewable energies, such as solar panels, and changing the cars that pollute most.
- Start by carrying out a study to find out what is needed to increase the energy efficiency of all our buildings.
- Having seen that the earth crisis is rooted in economic, social and environmental systems, it is important that we have a presence and participate in long-term actions to try to bring about the necessary change, such as NGOs, parishes and organizations like the UN or the EU, etc.

- Work to understand the whole food system and other commonly consumed products, the supply chain, sustainability and human rights involved. Take appropriate action based on what we discover.
- In the long term, eliminate investments that harm the planet.
- Review the Aid Fund, to include criteria that look for projects or organizations with responses to the climate crisis. Seek collaboration from people who can help us discern this.
- Continue to emphasize education as a means for all of us to be agents of change.
- Create spaces to share our understanding of ecological spirituality and lived experience.
- Provide guidance with suggestions for literature, to nurture our spirituality from the perspective of the SDGs and the LS goals, such as Theillard de Chardin and Jesuit's documents. JPIC Mary Ward could suggest further reading along these lines.
- Let us use creativity and critical thinking to innovate, to inspire and act on the current situation.
- Not forgetting the struggle for justice, and against the great inequalities.
- Use in our prayers, reflections in groups (circles Mary Ward, Charism group, accompaniment and in all ministries) the images of Susan Daily, for example.

This image, for example, is inspiring:



As are these quotes from Steve Jobs and Mary Ward:

"Creativity is simply connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do anything, they just saw something. And after a while it seemed obvious to them. That was because they were able to connect experiences they'd had and synthesize them into new things." - Steve Jobs.

"However, it will be arranged in such a way that it does not appear that you are trying to instruct others." - Mary Ward.



CJ LATIN EUROPEAN PROVINCE

Preamble:

We are a young Province, born in the midst of the pandemic - January 1, 2021, we are already 9 months old, trying to live the dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises - that of seeking and finding God in everything especially in the beauty of Creation, strengthened and encouraged by the impulses of Holy Father Pope Francis, not least of his Encyclicals *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*!

The situation of the world, with its many natural disasters and crises, sometimes with a domino effect, has shown us exactly where human folly has led. As followers and companions of Mary Ward at personal, community and provincial levels, we are aware that we need integral, constant conversion, both in big and small things, in what concerns ecological conversion.

Response to the Cry of the Earth

- we continue to encourage, at all levels, in our communities and institutions, with our collaborators, beneficiaries, but also with our students, the use of water, electricity, food, etc. with more responsibility (also economy).
- in many of our communities and institutions rainwater is collected for re-use in gardening;
- selective collection has become, even in some of the Institutions where we serve, an everyday practice;
- due to the implementation of new policies, the use of bags, cups, plastic bottles, etc. has been further reduced.
- at Province level - the encouragement of the use of solar energy continues, in some communities this has already been implemented and the installation of solar energy is continuing;
- lockdown has made us even more aware and grateful for all that Our Common Home - the Earth - gives us; the green spaces in some generous parts of Congregatio Jesu in the countries of our Province have led us and our collaborators to deepen even more our ecological sensitivity; the same can be felt in the beneficiaries, friends, students and all those with whom we collaborate who cross the threshold of our houses;
- the students of our institutions or where we work, to a greater or lesser extent, have taken part in actions in favour of Our Common Home, either awareness-raising actions, or actions of planting, nature care, common, institutional or private green spaces;
- through the media, we try to promote and encourage actions that support and protect Our Common Home and to disapprove of anything that goes against its good, in short - our good;
- we are on our way, aware that there is still much to do!



Response to the Cry of the Poor

- we are aware that poverty has many faces, and we want to make all those with whom we collaborate, work, serve, etc. aware of this, especially our students: because any lack - of attention, care, respect, understanding, kindness, is also a form of poverty;
- those who have no hope, who have no God, because they do not accept Him in their lives, for whatever reason, are still poor, and we want to help them;
- lockdown by forcing families to spend a lot of time together has made it even more transparent, revealing the many faces of poverty - domestic violence, abuse in its many forms.
- several of the sisters tried, during the pandemic, to come to the aid of the poor, in turn mobilising many to come to the aid of those who had been brought to the edge of existence by hunger and deprivation;
- the refugees, whom we have welcomed, (House of Hope...)
- abused women or those who have suffered from domestic violence (SOLWODI...)
- the girls and young women cared for by our sisters in Iasi, as well as the students at the boarding school in Timișoara - orphans in spirit because their parents have been away, in some cases for many years... or pupils belonging to broken, single-parent families, abused by one or both parents or relatives.

Ecological economics

- We try to promote local economy and accept its limitations, make an effort to cultivate local seeds rather than genetic modified seeds, using kitchen gardens in some of our communities.
- Make recycling more present in our communities, be more aware and attentive to how we use food, how often we travel and cut down our use of resources.
- Using and supporting more fair-trade products.
- Supporting the food banks organizations collaborate with them.
- Reusing things and repair things.
- Do more in renewable energy in more our communities (solar panels).

Ecological Education

- in all of our schools and kindergarten there are some projects and actions for ecology but we need also to improve ecological education and how to go in line with Laudato Si' Encyclical and its goals;
- As a Province in the process of being constituted, with the election of the Delegates by areas of ministry, we intend to implement the Plan by introducing the 7 goals into the Province Project;

Adoption of Simple Lifestyles

- the relativity of life, the imminence of death, especially during the pandemic, led us to try to live more of the essential - the value of authentic relationships, of the present moment, of running away from what we thought was important but turned out to be temporary.



- More awareness of the fact that having a simple lifestyle is a day-to-day choice.
- Changing our attitude, heart, mind and decide to do things differently, out of freedom and not out of duty.

Ecological Spirituality

- Finding God in all things is fundamental in Ignatian Spirituality which gives us the awareness that God can be found in everyone, in every place and in everything. This reflection helps us not only to love God the Creator but all his creations.
- We are grateful that there has been a lot of awareness and action in the area of ecological dimension. MORE can still be done in order to bring ecology more and more into our spirituality.
- We take care of reserved natural grounds in our communities for prayers and meditations.
- We encourage creative liturgies highlighting passages from Laudato Si'.
- In some of our services we plant trees and try to discourage the custom of cutting down the trees.

Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

- We continue to work with our collaborators, youth groups and schools to bring the message to a wider public.
- Some in our services, the sisters, together with the students and collaborators continue to be involved in clean-up campaigns.

Our hope is to be more involved in the global movement for justice, peace and the integrity of creation, according with Laudato Si' invitation and the Just Soul vision.

CJ PATNA PROVINCE

We as a province studied the document in all our communities and each community made its action plans. I have summarized all our plans. I realized that a lot of it is being done in the province through our ministries. As a province we re-commit ourselves to be the agents of change towards integral ecology. Now we are in the process of finding creative and innovative ways to do more.

Response to the cry of the earth

- Minimum use of electricity by installing solar panels and energy even for generators, (in all our houses we have solar water heating and fans and lights. All our health centres are solar power powered.
- We will have the solar panels for the schools in the future.
- The teachers and students will be made aware of the use of solar energy in their homes
- Students and staff are made aware to save water, save electricity



- We have banned the use of plastic bags in our school campus. For the competitions we gave Jute bags as prizes for some items.
- We also encourage our students to use Jute bags to carry their lunch boxes. However, it will take more time to achieve it. We constantly endeavour to have this dream accomplished.
- Turning off the water taps in all our institutions, houses and communities and even in a public place.
- Most of the students come by bicycle and walking in the rural schools thus less carbon is produced.
- Encouraging the students, parents and teachers towards Pooling of cars, private vehicles for the transporting children to school in urban areas so that air pollution can be reduced.
- Our teachers have set up organic Kitchen garden in their homes for their daily use, will motivate the students also to do the same mainly in the urban areas.
- All our institutions are neat and clean, and there is greenery as we have plants and trees, we do have fresh air and good oxygen in our campuses.
- We will motivate and impart some awareness to students, teachers and parents to be more eco-friendly.
- Practicing the “R”’s in life- Repair, Re-use, Re-new,
- Help children to cultivate the attitude of gratitude to the Environment by teaching and by exploring./ Take the students to a Garden walk in our gardens
- Encouraging children/ women parents to plant more trees rather than cutting them.
- Water harvesting, creation of fish pond and plant trees around it, even the birds will have a shelter.
- We will network with our village mukhiya (Local Governance) and others to get saplings to be planted by our students, women and staff.
- We will conduct prayer service and liturgy with our students based on creation and environment.
- We will also conduct some creative activities such as- drawing, quiz competition etc on the following topics -to take care of creation, to save electricity and water, healthy eating and sustainable living a complete no to junk food; climate change, SDGs and the Laudato Si’ Goals.
- We plan to use Bio – gas in future to avoid fossil fuels in our communities where it is not yet installed.
- Each student in our school taking a special interest and responsibility to plant flower plants and trees in their own homes mainly oxygen producing ones.
- Switching off the lights and fans when not in use, removing the cellophane and laptop charger once it is charged/ Recycle water/ Terrace gardening.
- Use technique to preserve water in the fields by making small ditches to collect water rather allowing it flow out of the fields to maintain group level water, placing earthen pitches near the plants with water filled in.

- Creation of Seed banks and carry it when travelling on road ways and plant it in vacant road sides or throw it to grow as it wills.
- Use part of the paddy field that get flooded for planting fruit bearing and shady trees.

Response to the Cry of the Poor:

- Counselling the parents/ couples against abortion and instil the value of human life.
- Endeavour towards promoting gender justice by working against female foeticide and infanticide.
- Bringing about an inclusive approach in all the we do
- Practice of holistic health and use of herbal medicines.
- In response to the cry of the poor, we distributed food and gave medical help to the poor, the differently abled, widows and widowed especially during the COVID-19 lock-down and the flood affected people in Bhiar.
- As a step towards ensuring that no one is left behind we provide free hostel facility to the most needy and vulnerable to access schools, thus to have a bright future mainly for the girls.
- The students from the low socio-economic background is educated both in rural urban schools, well to do schools support some bright students in the rural areas their education.
- The rural youth are trained in vocational training and placed with jobs for a sustainable living.
- Through the social action ministry, the most vulnerable women and children from the lower social strata are our focus.
- Women in the rural areas are organized through SHGs, SHG Federations and Women's bank and as a result, they are freed from the clutches of money lenders who used charge them very high interest rate.
- Livelihood opportunities are promoted among the rural poor, mainly among women through which they earn their living.
- Being kind and merciful towards the poor and care for them in the ways possible is our motto
- Bringing in an attitudinal change in our approach and feeling towards the poor, that is to say poverty is a human made crisis than caused by the poor themselves.
- Just and fair dealing with the people at all levels to each other.
- We are attentive to the food we cook and eat no wastage of food.
- Children from the privileged background is being made aware as to how to show respect and help the poor children from lower strata of the society.
- The poor are also motivated to claim their rightful places in the society by leading a dignified life.
- Occasionally provide food for the destitute living around us.
- During COVID-19 during 1st wave and the second wave were engaged in caring for the most vulnerable by providing dry food packets to them.



JPIC SOUTH ASIA ACTIVITIES IBVM SCHOOLS



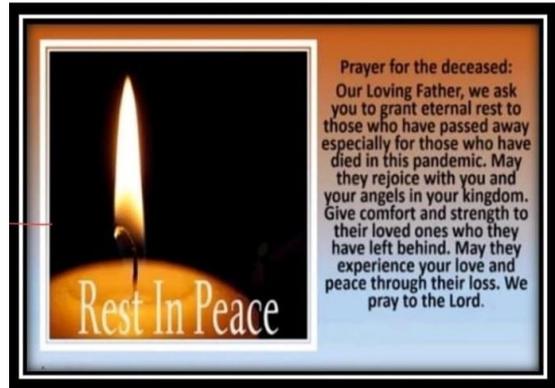
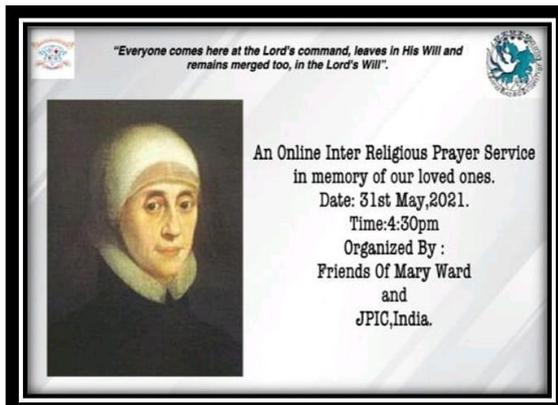
Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

- Mary Ward JPIC South Asia General Meet 2021 CJ and IBVM Schools.
- Global Girls' Conversation Circle-Discussion by students on Rights of Women.
- Awareness on challenges faced by transgender –Project Work. Participation in One Billion Rising program: In collaboration with KMWSC –Rising Gardens; Empowerment of Women; Webinars; Kitchen Gardens/Herb Gardening/Organic Methods
- Launch of International Women's Day Booklet
- Awareness Sessions on JPIC Structure for the CJ Schools (National and International Provinces of South Asia).
- Distribution of dry ration and meals to Covid affected families and to those in need.
- Webinar on Human Trafficking and Child Labour
- Free Vaccination drive organized in School Campus for the Students, Staff and their families and the neighbourhood.
- Awareness on challenges faced by differently abled children.
- Acknowledgement of the role of Doctors, Nurses and Medical Fraternity



Ecological Spirituality

- Inter-Religious Prayer Service involving Indigenous Communities Organized by JPIC, INDIA and Friends of Mary Ward.
- Prayer Service for deceased and their families affected by COVID
- Peace Prayers every Month.
- Retreat and Recollection for Students and Teachers



Ecological Education

- Awareness of Compost making at Home
- Making of Eco-bricks by recycling plastic packets and bottles
- Webinars and Sessions on Water Management and Sustainable Energy Resource attended by Students and Teachers Organized by TERI and TARUMITRA
- A Workshop was organized by Bengal Clean Air Network creating Awareness on Air Pollution and its impact on health.
- Making of Seed balls.



Adoption of Simple Lifestyle

- Milk Day observed by encouraging people to buy from local producers.
- Best out of Waste.
- Re-using of old material for making utility items.
- Drinks made from fruits and vegetables grown locally.

Ecological Economics

- Solar Panels installed in Schools.

- Different technique of Rain Water Harvesting is practised.
- Making Compost from Kitchen Waste and using it in School Campus and homes.
- Waste water from RO filters is used for watering plants and other domestic purposes.

Response to the Cry of the Earth

- Earth Day –Activities based on the theme, “Restore Our Earth”.
- Students made immunity boosting summer drinks, chutneys and salads using locally grown fruits and vegetables.
- Environment Day – Literary and Aesthetic Activities.
- Awareness on Sustainable Cities and Nurture mother Earth.
- Awareness through webinars to save Sparrows and Tigers.
- Van Mahotsav celebrated by all schools with other NGO’s like TARUMITRA.
- Plantation of saplings.
- Plastic Freedom Challenge.



RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR

- Contribution to the Food ATM.
- Making Digital devices available to students for Online Education.
- Recharging Mobile Data.
- Ration provided to the needy.
- Panel Discussion on World Refugee Day.
- Donation of books, stationery and clothes.



IBVM PERÚ

A. A New Ecological Project for the 7year Laudato Si' Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT in FE Y ALEGRIA N° 58 MARY WARD. JICAMARCA, LIMA, PERÚ.

NAME OF THE PROJECT: IRELAND BLOSSOMS IN PERU.

We are grateful to the Irish IBVM/Loreto Province which will give us the funding of this project.

Introduction. The Peruvian people are a very spiritual people and have their roots deep in the earth and nature as evidenced by their love of the Pachamama, the spiritual Mother Earth figure in Peruvian culture, a goddess revered amongst the indigenous people of the Andes. Therefore, we propose to develop a large garden area over the next year which will include the following:

- Bio-gardens for Nursery and Primary school;
- A mini school farm, stocked with small animals.
- A unit for the hydroponic cultivation of vegetables.
- A section for the development of endangered Peruvian plants.
- Composting corners in the Bio-gardens.
- Breeding of earthworms to produce humus for vegetable production.
- Experience the benefits of Bio fertilizers.
- The cultivation of different varieties of potatoes, native to Peru.
- A medicinal and herb garden.
- A butterfly and humming bird habitat.
- Broadleaved Molle trees for shade.

The whole school community, parents and extended community guided by the nursery, primary and secondary teachers and members of the school administration will be involved in the implementation of this project. The whole school community which consists of 1040 students, (510 girls and 535 boys), 600 families, 55 members of staff and women from the parish will benefit from this experience.

To support our project, we will designate an area in the school which will be enclosed by a small wall and fencing. Within this area we will create learning gardens of moderate size which will be easily managed by students, teachers and parents. Production methods will be kept simple so that they can be easily replicated by students and parents at their home. The area will also include a seating area for demonstrations or class discussions which will be handicap accessible. Pathways will be of small local stones.

The experience will promote the environmental, social and physical well-being of the school community and foster a better understanding of how the natural world sustains us. Links with home gardens will reinforce the concept and open the way for the exchange of knowledge and experience between the school and the community.



The Parish Chapel of Ease

As part of this project the parish Chapel garden will also be renovated by fixing the wall, fence and flower beds and the women in the parish will resume growing, tending and harvesting vegetables.

An area in front of the Chapel will be planted with drought resistant plants by the local community.

Sowing Hope

As well as the above project the student leaders have launched a project called Sowing Hope (05 July -12 November) directed at their fellow students and aimed at raising awareness of their responsibilities towards the environment. As we are still in lockdown and school is virtual they promote this project on line with catchy posters; one on planting, taking care of plants and reusing and recycling plastic bottles.

B. International Days

Fe y Alegría 58 Mary Ward continues to mark with student activities of the international days related to the physical environment and human environment, the “cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” All classes will present projects on Child Labour over the next few weeks.

From our Mary Ward International Office, we continue to highlight important issues and campaigns on Facebook: international days of social and environmental significance; while referring continually to Laudato Si’ and the Sustainable Development Goals.

C. A group of IBVM sisters, associates and collaborators in San Martin de Porres who will continue in the following areas of response.

See: Awareness raising.

- Members are encouraged to participate in webinars, conversations and other zoom activities related to the themes of Laudato Si’ and Fratelli Tutti with follow up conversations and reflection on the same.
- Of particular interest are the care of the Amazon rain forests; the Agreement of Escazú which the Peruvian Government failed to sign last October; the webinars organized by the inter-confessional IRI Group related to lobbying for care of the forests, protection of carers of the forests (several of whom have been killed this year), and inter-confessional conversations and contributions relevant to care of the earth.
- This group also participates in inter-congregational formation for associates of congregations and in a workshop on Laudato Sí by zoom. The focus for this group is Integral Ecology.
- This group also participated in the last few months in zoom meetings in preparation for the Ecclesial Assembly for Latin America and the Caribe in November in Guadalupe in Mexico. There were two parts: (i) group reflection and conversation and prioritization of points well attended and/ or not attended in the pastoral work in our parishes and (ii) listening sessions to all that was submitted. There was a huge cry for



inclusion of ecological and environmental themes in parish pastoral activities. Our voice is included in the working paper for this important Ecclesial Assembly.

- One of our IBVM sisters is working voluntarily as a nurse in an inter-congregational, intercultural mission in Puerto Maldonado in the southern part of the Amazon Forest. Her contribution has heightened our awareness of the urgency of the care of the indigenous peoples, and the importance of the preservation of their cultures and way of life; issues seemingly peripheral for the Peruvian Government. The Laudato Si' theme that 'everything is interconnected' is so relevant, in this case where the loss of a way of life will affect not just Peru but the whole world through the loss of bio diversity due to logging, air pollution and illegal mining. To protect the people of the forest is to protect the forest.

Judge: Reflection on Laudato Si' and Fratelli Tutti

Act: Taking part in team preparation of prayer and reflection on LS themes for JPIC and Human Trafficking groups at Conference of Religious Peru.

- Collecting plastic bottle tops to help buy special milk for children with a rare disease of the membrane of the mouth. We sent 4 big sacks recently to the children's hospital in Lima.
- An activity around climate change and environment in Lampa de Oro, prepared by the San Martin de Porres group of associates, with posters hung on walls in principal streets inviting awareness.
- A 'plogging' campaign - jogging and picking up rubbish as we go.
- A workshop on the creation of Christmas decorations from re-usable goods,
- One member has a box garden on her roof where she has even grown potatoes!
- We will make Laudato Si' the basis of our formation programme for associates as from 2022.

D. Another very significant on-going project is WARMI WASI. This is designed to support and empower women in situations of poverty and domestic abuse/violence.

Two fulltime workers and many volunteers provide support for women who seek protection against violence in the home or sexual harassment. They are accompanied to the police to ensure they are responded to in a positive way and there is follow up to ensure their rights are respected and that they receive the care they are entitled to by law.

During the Pandemic much of the work of Warmi Wasi involves organizing food packages and events to relieve the food needs of families in the area. This project is directly funded by IBVM Peru from donations received.

- E.** We have with the encouragement of the UN NGO: we done some advocacy; a school street walk (pasacalle in Spanish) to the Municipality on Earth Day and a visit to the

Department of Foreign affairs bringing a large petition asking that Peru would sign the Paris Agreement.

- F.** Alliances with other groups with similar aims and values are mainly through the Conference of Religious of Peru. These have been very effective especially in the area of Human trafficking where using a red tent, placed in schools and public places to attract interest, we drew attention to its dangers for young people.

IBVM - USA



The US JPIC of the IBVM have selected their agenda for the upcoming Creation of Earth Eco project. JPIC committees all over the world have been asked to participate. The US plans to call theirs, “Our New Environmental Conscientiousness.” Here’s what it will entail:

- Online links to recycling sites in Sister and Companion based areas of the country.
- Eco Tips that will publish weekly to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) so be sure to follow us on both!
- Hands on challenges and projects in Sister and Companion areas
- Art projects done by Sisters, Companions, and others that showcase the wastefulness (but also some hopefulness) of current human behavior.

In addition to this new initiative and commitment to our planet, US JPIC also works on other issues related to Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation such as human trafficking, immigration, social and racial justice, environmental policies, and more. Examples include ministry at the El Paso/Juarez border, supporting Catholic initiatives against human trafficking, support of Bethany House in Chicago, volunteer presence at Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Arizona, and participation with the IBVM/CJ NGO at the United Nations.

IBVM EASTERN AFRICA

What we have done so far

In Eastern Africa, different communities and schools have taken up various activities to live out the Laudato Si' goals.

Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

As a province we have planted many trees in some of our schools and convents to ensure reforestation and this is still on-going.

We are involved in planting and taking care of flowers and plants in our schools and communities.

We have planted beautiful flowers and plants (potted) that we are taking care of.

Each year during the World Environment Day, we engage the students in restoring the plants and flowers already planted

We have also committed to more humane ways of animal rearing

 Planting tree exercise at Loreto Msongari



Potted plants at Kangemi

Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

The Loreto Eastern Africa JPIC reached out to vulnerable families and groups during the Covid-19 crisis by giving foodstuff to families that had lost their livelihoods during the pandemic. They also reached out to the prisoners, to the elderly and the disabled.

We are supporting women and men in informal settlements with small loans to start small scale businesses. At the same time, we help these clients make small savings in order to expand their businesses or use their savings to fend for their families. This year, we have supported 24 people with money for start-ups. In our schools, the students also reach out through donations to the vulnerable people every year during Lenten season and also on other occasions.

 We have committed to practice more humane ways of animal rearing





Loreto convent Mombasa sorting out foodstuff for donation to vulnerable children



Small scale businesses being supported by Loreto Neema



Goal 3: Ecological Economics

At Loreto Abundant Life Center, we are using composting and manure in the farm. Instead of using electricity, we use solar panels to pump the water that is being used to do drip irrigation. We also use solar lights to light the compound. So far, we have 10 solar lamps at different spots at the center.

At the center, we have placed an order for 2000 acacia trees to plant during the coming rainy season. Acacia produces pods which the animals at the center can eat.

We also use waste from the animals and the household to produce biogas which is then used to cook at the Abundant Life Center.

At Loreto Convent Msongari, we engage the students in collecting plastics which we then send to companies that do recycling.



Vegetable garden at Loreto abundant life center irrigated through solar powered pumps



Solar powered water pump



A sister working in their kitchen Garden



A sister planting pawpaw seeds at Loreto convent Msongari





Goal 4: Adopting a Simpler Lifestyle

Our sisters are using local seeds in their kitchen gardens and in our farms rather than genetically modified seeds to reduce the buying culture.

Loreto convent Msongari has planted 100 pawpaws using local seeds to mark Laudato Si’.



Biogas plant at Loreto abundant life center



Biogas Burner at Loreto abundant life center



Goal 5: Ecological Education

We have a functional child safeguarding policy in our schools as well as in all the ministries and we train all our staff on this policy. One sister has been seconded by the province to undertake these trainings in all our schools and ministries.

So far, all our staff in all the schools have been training on child safeguarding. A child safe guarding officer has been appointed in each of our schools who is given any reports on issues of child abuse and liaises with the provinces child safe guarding officer. The East Africa child safe guarding officer is in the process of partnering with Communications Authorities in Kenya so as to creating online safety awareness in our various schools and Institutions. Most of our students have received a training on cyber bullying and the there are plans to roll this out to parents with children in Loreto schools.

At Loreto Convent Valley Road, we have educated all the students on Laudato Si’ and have formed a Laudato Si’ club.

Goal 6: Ecological Spirituality

We have Created beautiful pathways that can be used to by the sisters to pray through nature



Creating pathways to help sisters pray with Nature



Teaching the students to level in nature



Goal 7: Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

We have gone round schools, polytechnics (both Loreto and non-Loreto schools) and created awareness on issues of human trafficking.

We have trained community health 30 community health volunteers comprising

- 2 police officers and 2 local government administration (chief/elder)
- 2 paralegal officers and 24 community health volunteers.

This team has formed a network among themselves and are able to rescue and refer human trafficking cases accordingly. We hold regular meetings with the community health volunteers to check on progress

We have printed and distributed brochures on human trafficking to schools and other institutions. We are in the process of developing a video on human trafficking to help in awareness creation.

 Community health Volunteers trained to disseminate messages on human trafficking to the community



What we hope to do

- Form more Laudato Si' clubs in all our schools, replicate the Loreto Valley Road Model.
- Engage our students and co-workers to share and express ways in which we can respond to the Laudato Si' goals. E.g. through creativity.
- Continue to care for the plants that we have planted while endeavoring to plant more trees
- Engage ourselves in raising awareness about the modern way we have adopted of rearing all animals
- Conserve the environment especially Nature, e.g. River beds.

 Police officers, paralegal personnel, area chiefs trained on human trafficking by Sr. Jackline



Students in an informal school undergoing training on human trafficking by sr Jackline



IBVM IRELAND

As the academic year in Ireland begins in September, we do not have any contact with the school community until then. We had 2 committee meetings and decided to launch the 7-year plan as a Webinar for the Mary Ward family here in Ireland, at the end of September. We are in the process of compiling that now.

The following suggestions were made at our committee meetings:

Gender Equality:

It was suggested that there is still a huge amount of work to be done on gender equality in schools. It was noted that in co-ed schools' girls are still inclined to see boys as more obvious leaders. It was suggested that work could be done especially during Mary Ward week to highlight the feminist aspect of her life and its' relevance for today.

Continue to build and develop the contact that we have now made with the school community

Environmental Event:

The zoom event for the prize-winners of the environmental project as a great success. Many of the schools took part in the competition and also in the Zoom event in May

Prize-winners:



Loreto Environmental Competition The 2Q Tree Project at Loreto Swords



By Sharlene Tutor, Shonah -Juliette Byrne, Vanessa Eghrudje, Abbie Doherty, Alisha O'Keeffe, Savannah Malin, Ruby Breen, Orlaith Corcoran, Alannah Gallagher, Aoibheann Ní Scanail, Rebecca Kenny

The event went very well. It was suggested that, as this was an extraordinary year, it was great to have so many participants and the hope was expressed that more schools would probably get involved in future events.

IBVM– SOUTH AFRICA

*“All of creation testifies to the power and presence of God.”
(Margaret Feinberg)*

The Laudato Si’ goals give us hope that by responding as best we can, in whatever ways we can, we may draw ever closer to God.

What are we already doing?

Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth

Loreto Schools in South Africa are very involved in eco-projects. All schools are involved in collecting bottle tops and bread tags which are then given to an organization that exchanges the plastic for wheelchairs for the needy. Eco-bricks, filled with the not-so-easy-to-recycle plastic, are put together to create viable building materials for poor communities. Litter clean ups around the school communities and on the beach take place annually or biannually. Recycling is also encouraged at all schools. Loreto School Queenswood has achieved green flag status through Eco-Schools for their recycling efforts. Global warming issues and pollution leading to the Pacific Garbage Patch are addressed in classes. Loreto Nana Sita Street has launched a Spekboom project where learners grow spekboom plants and sell them to other learners. These plants improve the quality of the air we breathe and help to fight air pollution.



Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor

“God’s name is Mercy” and Loreto Schools in South Africa are very involved in works of mercy. Numerous projects are in effect and items are regularly collected or made for disadvantaged communities and charities. Learners, parents and staff have been involved in knitting projects, making sleeping bag for the homeless, making and distributing soup, planting gardens for families affected by HIV, painting shacks, making recycled paper for an impoverished pre-school using waste paper, supporting disabled people and visiting animal shelters.

Goal 3: Ecological Economics

“A healthy ecology is the basis for a healthy economy.” (Claudine Schneider) With the current global economic crisis, it is imperative that schools re-think budgets and economics. Switching from paper to digital newsletters saves a significant amount of paper. Changing our stationery requirements to include only the essential items and encouraging learners not to buy new stationery items purely for the sake of having new stationery at the beginning of the year, are some ways we promote better use of resources.

Goal 4: Adoption of Simple Lifestyles

This is a challenging goal, given our materialistic lifestyles. We try to create awareness of sustainable options and to draw attention away from consumerism. Encouraging the use of re-usable shopping bags and the buying of products with less packaging are simple steps to a better, more sustainable lifestyle.

Goal 5: Ecological Education

Gospel values are at the heart of all we do. Religious Education and Life Orientation curricula provide many opportunities to address the Laudato Si’ goals. Lessons are also easily linked to the Sustainable Development Goals. Much is covered in class with as many topics in each subject as possible. For example, English themes cover environmental issues such as Deforestation of Tropical and Coniferous Forests. Technology includes textile manufacturing and the impact on the environment, Economic Management Sciences covers the impact of China and America’s industries on people and natural resources, etc.

Litter analyses from the practical projects such as Loreto Primary School’s beach clean ups, raise much awareness of the negative impact of litter on bird and marine life. For example, fishing tackle getting tangled on sea animals, oil spills and penguins, glitter and fish, plastic straws, tiny plastic balls and birds, etc.

Goal 6 Ecological Spirituality

We open our hearts to the plight of the earth through scripture, prayer and liturgy. Meditation helps us to meet God in his creation. Retreats in nature help learners appreciate our connection to the earth and learn not to destroy it or take it for granted, but to find sustainable solutions for the future. Having tree planting ceremonies to mark special occasions and creating beautiful places for children to sit, such as the peace garden and garden of remembrance, helps to connect our spirituality to nature.

Goal 7: Emphasis on Community Involvement and Participatory Action

The broader community is integral to the effective running of our schools and ensuring that issues of JPIC get addressed and promoted. The Mary Ward Open Circle in the Cape assists in many outreach projects. Parents attend and support our functions and efforts, encouraging their children and building community.

- **What do we need to do – what needs do we see and therefore what actions do we need to take? Some might be a continuation of some activities and projects**

We will continue working on the projects we have for continuity and because these projects depend on our support, but we will be looking at areas where we can improve, add and make positive changes. We will focus on our wastefulness and see if there are ways to cut costs (e.g. more energy efficiency, less wastage). We will also need to engage all role players in our communities to take part in addressing and promoting these Laudato Si’ goals.

- **Where do we start with implementing our plan?**

It seems that a meeting of the three schools to discuss ways forward would be the first step to clarifying the direction we are moving in and also to allow for “bouncing” and exchange of ideas. Then we will be able to set up the necessary structures to implement those ideas. As some schools have only recently gone back to full function following lockdowns, and a lot of catch-up work is happening, most schools are focused on getting through this academic year’s curriculum. A Zoom meeting will happen early next year, before any reports are due, to allow for planning and implementation of ideas within the new school year. We will also use our biggest tool, prayer, to unite our schools and ensure that we are in touch with whatever it is that God asks of us, knowing, as Mary Ward did that we should have freedom to refer all things to Him.



Conclusion

We are grateful to the Province JPIC Coordinators and all involved in putting together these responses. There is evidence that through our mission and living, the different activities touch the sectors espoused by Laudato Si': schools, health centers, families, agriculture, communities, parishes and even at individual level. Thank you for going the extra mile to put the responses together. We invite you to read them and to appreciate the depth of our collective engagement with Laudato Si' Action Plan.

May the responses encourage us to do more as individuals and collectively in responding to the call to taking urgent care for Our Common Home. May the next year be a time for each member of Mary Ward Family to respond to the invitation for a deeper and visible engagement towards a continued conversion of heart to live in right relationships with self, others, creation and with God.

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