



ECOLOGICAL ACTION PLAN

PARISH OF DONABATE,
PORTRANE AND BALHEARY



FORWARD

DEAR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY,

IT IS WITH GREAT JOY AND A PROFOUND SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY THAT I INTRODUCE TO YOU OUR INITIAL PARISH ECOLOGICAL ACTION PLAN. THIS DOCUMENT REPRESENTS THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS OF OUR PARISH GROUP, INSPIRED BY THE PROFOUND TEACHINGS AND PRINCIPLES OUTLINED IN LAUDATO SI', POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL ON THE CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME.

IN LAUDATO SI', POPE FRANCIS ELOQUENTLY REMINDS US THAT OUR WORLD IS A PRECIOUS GIFT, A SHARED HOME FOR ALL LIVING CREATURES. HE CALLS UPON US, AS CATHOLICS, TO RECOGNISE OUR MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THIS GIFT FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS. THE ENCYCLICAL SPEAKS DIRECTLY TO THE URGENT NEED FOR ECOLOGICAL CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP.

OUR PARISH ECOLOGICAL ACTION PLAN OUTLINES A SERIES OF INITIAL CONCRETE ACTIONS THAT WE ARE TAKING TOWARDS HELPING TO ACHIEVE THAT VISION. AS WE EMBARK ON THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER, LET US REMEMBER THE WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS: "ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD PERSON TO RESTORE HOPE." LET US BE THOSE GOOD PEOPLE, UNITED BY OUR FAITH AND GUIDED BY THE WISDOM OF LAUDATO SI'. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A PROFOUND DIFFERENCE IN OUR PARISH, OUR COMMUNITY, AND THE WORLD.

YOUR COMMENTS ON THE PLAN ARE VERY WELCOME AND CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS; LAUDATOSI2023@YAHOO.COM.

WITH GRATITUDE AND HOPE,

FATHER PAT REILLY, P.P.

Initial Action Plan for the Parish of Donabate, Portrane and Balheary

Issue	Actions	Who	When
<p>Sustainable Energy</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Promote saving energy and use of energy from sustainable sources within our parish and wider community.</p>	<p>Carry out an energy audit of the parish.</p> <p>Call public meeting to discuss the formation of a Sustainable Energy Community in Donabate and Portrane</p>	<p>Fr Pat</p> <p>Steering Group</p>	<p>31st December,2023</p> <p>October/November 2023</p>
<p>Education</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Understand better how we can work together to address the ecological crisis. Help spread the message of Laudato Si'.</p>	<p>Participate in the Fingal Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Training Sessions</p> <p>Contact other Parishes to learn from them (eg Shankill)</p> <p>Understand how Tidy Towns is engaging on these issues</p> <p>Study Laudato Si 2 when released</p> <p>Sponsor schools project on tidal energy</p>	<p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p>	<p>September-November 2023</p> <p>Done</p> <p>In Progress</p> <p>4th October,2023</p> <p>Contact made with Local Secondary School</p>
<p>Biodiversity</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Help to increase biodiversity within our Parish and wider community and raise awareness of the biodiversity crisis.</p>	<p>Wilding area of the grounds of Saint Patrick's Church</p> <p>Distribution of seeds at mass during season of creation</p>	<p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p>	<p>To be determined</p> <p>Masses 7th-8th October</p>

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<p>Prayer</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Help bring about an ecological conversion in people's hearts</p>	<p>Permanent addition of prayer for creation to the bidding prayers</p>	Fr Pat	Done
	<p>Ask the community members to make a personal private commitment to a number of small actions to promote.</p>	Steering Group	9th October
	<p>In addition to the season of creation and the celebration of the feast of St Francis of Assisi mark the anniversary of another patron saint of ecology; Kateri Tekakwitha "the Lily of the Mohawks".</p>	Steering Group	17th April, 2024
<p>Sustainable Agriculture</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Farmers are the custodians of the land and their input on these issues is critical</p>	<p>Look for participation in the steering group from members of the farming community</p>	Steering Group	31st December,2023
<p>Social Justice</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>The cry of the earth is also the cry of the poor and marginalised. Ensure that the actions of the group are supportive of these groups.Ensure that the interconnectedness of everyone globally is at the forefront of our</p>	<p>Work with VDP to develop initiatives that recycle resources to the benefit of the poor.</p>	Steering Group	In progress
	<p>Develop linkages with communities in developing countries impacted by climate change and with</p>	Steering Group	In progress

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minds.	indigenous communities.		
<p>Advocacy</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Ensure that policy makers and corporations are made aware of the messages in Laudato Si'.</p>	<p>Input to Fingal Consultation on Climate Adaptation and Mitigation</p> <p>Letter writing campaign to reduce use of single use plastics by companies</p> <p>Write an article for the local free magazine explaining more about the need for ecological action.</p>	<p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p> <p>Steering Group</p>	<p>1 November 2023</p> <p>In progress</p> <p>Completed</p>