Laudato Si' Project



Restoring Our Natural Connection

Mission: To restore humanity's connection to the natural world through faith, education, stewardship and recreation.



Summer 2019

Taking Time to Take-In the Summer

The summer months offer a plethora of opportunities to be with family, gardening or exploring our beautiful state. How often though, we forget to take the time within our week to be present in the moment, to pray and to appreciate where we are and what we are doing at that exact time. It is easy to be thinking of the next summer project, family gathering or vacation. Treating our time more like a checklist than a gift.

As we enter the months of fall, let's seize those moments when they come and let's even ensure we create moments that we can be still, pray and soak in the beauty of the people and places the Lord puts all around us.



Laudato Si' Project planted the Schoofs Legacy Butterfly Garden on the Schoofs Preserve near Holy Hill in 2017.

-Joe Meyer, Executive Director

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2019 Sustainability Fair

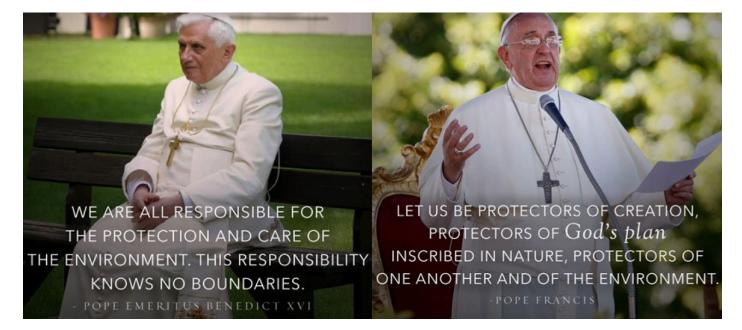


The Sustainability Fair 2019 is a free event put on by a collaborative group of organizations, Laudato Si' Project being one of them. It was held at Retzer Nature Center near Waukesha and brought in over 1000 visitors! The fair had over 50 exhibitors and vendors and also had presentations, guided activities, planetarium shows and an electric vehicle showcase.



The Consistent Call of 3 Popes

"The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship." -St. Pope John Paul II

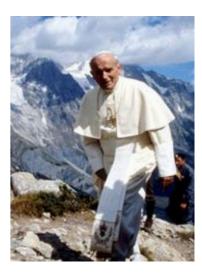


The Catholic Church's teaching on care for creation has been very consistent, especially during the last 3 pontificates. Although the call has been consistent, it remains a difficult daily choice of how to live our lives as true stewards of this earth.

"Beauty as a teacher" was a popular saying of now St. Pope John Paul II. Young Karol Wojtyla knew the adventure and solitude that creation could give. Even when he became Pope, he sought the refuge of the Alps for hiking and skiing; Re-creational time. He is a beautiful example for our young people of the integration of an adventurous spirit within the desire of holiness.







Jesuit Volunteer Corp: Pollinator Planting





We are very excited about our new partnership with the Jesuit Volunteer Corp (JVC). Laudato Si' Project conducted a two-part retreat for JVC consisting of an evening presentation of living Laudato Si' and a stewardship service day putting our faith into action.

We planted another amazing native butterfly garden on the Schoofs Preserve, which is owned by the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust. Over 750 native plants now border the preserves 1 acre pond and will serve as an important food source and habitat for wildlife.

Prairie Walks

This summer was busy with prairie tours and restoration talks led by Joe Meyer. These were done at the 8-acre Heiliger Huegel Ski Club prairie, 14-acre Meyer property prairie and the Schoofs Legacy Butterfly Garden. Laudato Si' Project is also contracted to plant the 6.75 acre prairie on the Schoofs Preserve this Fall (see upcoming events on page 5.) Thanks to HH Ski Club, Wild Ones Menominee River Area Chapter and Ozaukee Washington Land Trust for making these events so successful.





Upcoming Events

Join us for these great public events. Check facebook for up to date information.



Monday, September 16th 6:30pm Fruits of the Earth Presentation

Laudato Si' Project will be presenting at St. Catherine of Alexandria Church in Milwaukee about Laudato Si' and the Fruits of the Earth.

Season of Creation 2019 the web of life

<u>September 1 – October 4 Season of Creation</u>

The *Season of Creation* is an ecumenical celebration in which Christians from around the world journey toward care for our common home. It begins with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and ends with the Feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. More at SeasonofCreation.org



Saturday, September 28th 9-11:30am Preserve Stewardship

As part of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's 7-days of service, Laudato Si' Project will be hosting St. Theresa of Calcutta on the Schoofs Preserve. We will be doing trail maintenance and invasive species removal. Come join us!

Schoofs Preserve: 5401 Shannon Road, Hartford WI 53027



Sunday, October 13th 9:00-10:30am Living Laudato Si' Presentation

Come out to St. Jerome parish in Oconomowoc for our between the Masses presentation on how to live out our faith through stewardship of our common home.

Saturday, October 26th 9-12:00am Seed Schoofs Preserve

Help us this fall as we seed a 6.75 acre pollinator planting at the Schoofs Preserve near Holy Hill. No prior knowledge of seeding necessary, just stop by and we will help you learn.

Meet at the Schoofs Preserve at 5401 Shannon Road, Hartford



Sunday, October 27th 10:00-11:30am Living Laudato Si' Presentation

Come out to Good Shepard parish in Menomonee Falls for our spotlight series presentation on living Laudato Si'.

Prairie Research at HH Ski Club

LSP Board of Directors

This summer we welcomed researchers from UW-Madison to our prairie planting at the HH ski club. This 8-acre pollinator planting was done by Laudato Si' Project in 2016. Dr. Renz, agronomist at UW-Madison, is conducting a study on the pressures of non-native weeds on pollinator planting establishment. Graduate student Jasmine and undergraduate student Mary were conducting the field work sampling. Nathan Lasnoski *Chairman* Ryan Grusenski *Secretary* Andy Schoofs *Treasurer* Matt Vogel Quentin Maxwell



By The Numbers: Summer Care for Our Common Home

Education

Laudato Si' Project has conducted **16 hours** of presentations, educational programs and retreats.

Stewardship

Laudato Si' Project has contributed **49 volunteer hours** in stewardship projects to better the ecological value of our world's outdoor places.

Recreation

Laudato Si' Project has sponsored **6 hours** of recreational outings to visit, explore and learn about our natural world.

Laudato Si' Project is a 501(c)3 tax deductible organization that depends on membership and donations to continue its vital mission. Thank You!