

***Forum for Parishes
Living Laudato Si'
Saturday 14 September 2019, 9.00am for 9.30 – 1.00pm***

**St Ambrose Community Centre
259A Sydney Rd, Brunswick**

In 2005, Pope Benedict XIV said “The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast. The earth’s treasures no longer serve to build God’s garden for all to live in, but have been made to serve the powers of exploitation and destruction”¹. Drawing on this passage in his 2015 Encyclical *Laudato Si’ – Care of our Common Home*, Pope Francis added: “For this reason, the ecological crisis is also a summons to *profound interior conversion*” (n217).

Some parishes have been able to respond to Pope Francis’ urgent call to action, but many have found it challenging to put it into practice. How might we as individuals and communities achieve a change of heart, live more simply, care better for the poor, endangered species, our world?

Purpose

The Forum will assist participants and parishes respond to Pope Francis’ call to:

- Move towards a “profound interior conversion”
- Identify practical, important actions individuals, families and our parishes can take
- Outline processes for initiating and maintaining parish engagement
- Assist parishes to join with others to form a network of response to “Care for our Common Home”

Expected Outcomes

- Parish representatives better informed, enthused and empowered to take some specific action to care for our common home
- A stronger network of individuals and parishes to sustain support initiatives and advocacy

¹ Pope Benedict XVI ‘[Homily for the Solemn Inauguration of the Petrine Ministry](#)’, 24 April 2015

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PROGRAM

Time	Topic	Speaker/Facilitator
9.00 – 9.30	Registration	
9.30 – 9.35	Welcome and Introduction	Kerri-Anne Brussen, Catholic Social Services, MC
9.35 - 9.45	Liturgical Reflection	Fr Joe McKay OFM
9.45 – 10.10	Laudato Si' – a call to interior conversion	Pat Long
10.10 – 10.40	Parishes implementing <i>Laudato Si'</i> – parishes discuss their initiatives	Parish Leaders
10.40 – 11.10	Break	
11.10 – 12.10	Workshop: <i>Laudato Si'</i> – what can parishes do?	Claire Griffin csb
12.10 – 12.35	Establishing a Care for our Common Home parish network	Joan Kennedy pbvm, Caroline Vaitkunas rsm
12.35 – 12.50	Closing remarks	Bernard Holland, Director, Catholic Earthcare, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Caritas Australia
12.50 – 12.55	Evaluation	Kerri-Anne Brussen, MC
12.55– 1.00	Liturgy	Fr Joe McKay OFM
1.00pm	Lunch	