

Marianist Reflections on Laudato Si' Action Platform Response to the Cry of the Poor Goal

Wisdom From Our Marianist Founders

Let us put everything into the hands of God. If it is God's work, God will know how to make it succeed despite all contradictions; if it is not God's will and for God's glory, God will not permit it to succeed despite all our efforts. Let us abandon all to the lovable will of God and remain in peace. And so, my dear friend, let us reanimate our courage and die to ourselves in order to live the life of God. – Blessed Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon (Marie of the Conception)

Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP) Goal

The Response to the Cry of the Poor is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of life on Earth. (LSAP #2)

As Marianists, we seek to understand the effects of the ecological crisis on our brothers and sisters, especially the economically poor, vulnerable and minority communities who are disproportionately affected. As we strive for inclusivity, we must listen to the voices of our disadvantaged brothers and sisters suffering the effects of climate change and a lack of environmental justice. We must include the needs and perspectives of all as we work toward ecological, racial, climate and economic justice.

Reflection Questions

1. How do you hear the cry of the poor in your life? Where do you see the effects of the ecological crisis affecting people in your local area or around the world?
2. Recall a time when you listened to a voice or perspective that was different from your own, especially if that voice brought you awareness of injustice. How did that affect you?
3. Mother Adele teaches us to “reanimate our courage” and “live the life of God”. Where are you called to courageously listen to others and move to promote greater environmental, racial, or economic justice in the world?
4. What action will you take to respond and deepen your ecological conversion?

Mindfulness

Think about the voices you hear around you, in people close to you, in the news, and in the stranger. Do you make a point to include the voices of others in your life? Do you notice the disadvantaged around you? Pay attention to the interconnectedness of the environment with your neighborhood and those of others. Bring your concerns to God. Pray for the courage to live the life of God and to hear and respond to the cry of the poor.

Additional Resources for Individual and Group Reflection

Resource:

Catholic Climate Covenant 2023 *Laudato Si'* and the U.S. Catholic Church Conference Session on Response to the Cry of the Poor: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5CepRW6Hns>

Reflection Series Overview

The seven Marianist Reflections on the Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP) are developed to support individual reflection or group discussion on each of the seven goals identified in the LSAP <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>. Inspired by the teaching of Pope Francis in the 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'* on integral ecology – the understanding that humans and everything else in nature are inter-connected – and our rich Marianist heritage, these guides aim to support efforts to live out the principles of *Laudato Si'* through the lens of our Marianist charism. We strive to hear and respond to both “the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” (*Laudato Si'*, 49) on our journey of “ecological conversion” towards an integral ecology. The reflection guides are intended for use by individuals or groups of small or large size. Familiarity with *Laudato Si'*, the LSAP, the Marianist charism, and the Marianist founders is helpful but not required. Each reflection can stand-alone or can be used with some or all of the rest of the series. To download the complete series, visit www.marianistsjc.net/integral-ecology. Have feedback on these reflections? Send it to us at <https://forms.gle/fFJbQotrbdA2pVa8>.

Learn More

Learn about the Laudato Si' Action Platform Goals and how they integrate with the Global Compact on Education and our Marianist Charism at <https://marianistencounters.org>

This resource was developed by the Integral Ecology Team of the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative <https://marianistsjc.net> in partnership with the Marianist Environmental Education Center <https://meec.center> as part of our participation in the Marianist Family Encounters Project <https://marianistencounters.org>

Share your story (you can include photos/video) of how your group/community is responding to the Cry of the Poor as a Marianist Encounters update:
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