

# EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED

CELEBRATING 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAUDATO SI

(MAY 16 – 24, 2020)

In response to Pope Francis' invitation to act against climate and ecological injustices, to protect all God's creation, the poor and future generations; our communities reflected (encyclical, climate refugees, plastic), prayed (common prayer, prayer service) and acted (twitter, email, letters to Congress, personal and communal actions). Below are responses from two communities:

We celebrated the 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si on May 19 with Evening Prayer Service. During prayer we watched a short TEDTalk about plastic "What Happens to the Plastic You Throw Away" and had a brief sharing about "How are we called to care for God's creation?" Through this sharing we realized that we are all connected with the universe. We need to be more conscious with environmental issues, such as recycling. We ended with the Common Prayer for the 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si.

*(Epworth Community: Srs Aprilia Untarto, Carol Welp, Margaret Kissani, Yustina Intan)*

On May 26, we had a half day reflection on the Encyclical, followed by Holy Hour. After the reflection, we discussed the action plan for our community. We continue to recycle used wax and compost food waste for the vegetable garden. Personally, we decided to be conscious of using water and energy. As a community, we plan to

- Introduce and increase awareness of Laudato Si in our parishes, parents & catechists; inculcate some of the prayers into the Religious Education program.
- Reduce printing to minimize the use of paper, move towards paperless.
- Be empathetic to elderly, living alone and share in their struggles.
- Telephone the elderly and checking in with them if help is needed.
- Every 3rd Sunday, dedicate the prayer to reflect and pray for the current JPIC issues.
- Helping the parish food pantry with distribution of the food (weekly/ monthly).

*(New York Community: Srs. Ancy Jacob, Helen Saldanha, Xaveriana Ngene)*

