**JAEI Enviro-corner**

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| **C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\Lent 1.jpg** | **Lenten Fast for the Environment - 2016** |
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| Before God gave the human race the ten commandments, before God told us to go and make disciples, he gave us a simple commandment - **“Take care of my Earth”**We have not done a good job of caring for God’s Earth. According the Living Planet Index, Biodiversity has declined by more than a quarter in the last 35 years. …. And that’s not good news!Globally, we now require the equivalent of 1.4 planets to support our lifestyles. This is humanity’s current Ecological Footprint – the demand people place upon the natural world.We are polluting our rivers and seas, creating piles of waste and toxic chemicals. It is time for us to change. During this Lent – Let’s examine our lifestyles and see where we fall short of God’s commandment and how we can help others, our Church and Community to be faithful Earth Keepers. |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\Lent 2.jpg | **Wednesday, 10 February****Care for our Common Home***The Pope’s appeal to the world: “We all must work together to protect our planet - I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.”* |
| Download and read the *Laudato Si’* – Care for our Common Home - <https://laudatosi.com/watch> |
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| **http://t1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQfSnjipVAFemO2cFZZ_dhIlL6DZwZf7fwnsyRqGKGyt0mSFzV6xA** | **Thursday, 11 February****Today – give something away***“Be rich in doing good things. Give freely. Be willing to share” Tim 6:18* |
| Today practice sacrifice.Give something small of yours away. Before you leave the house, pick up something that you can take with you and give it to someone that it would benefit during the course of the dayWhether that is a basic necessity like shoes or just calling someone to let them know you are thinking about them or going through your cupboards and donate clothes you no longer wear.There is a need for people to do good deeds for others not just for one day but every day. |
| **http://www.truckinmovers.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/helping-hands.jpg****Magic Penny**Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it awayLove is something if you give it away, you end up having more.It’s just like a magic penny.Hold it tight and you won’t have any.Lend it, spend it and you’ll have so manyThey’ll roll all over the floor. ForLove is something if you give it away, give it away, give it awayLove is something if you give it away, you end up having more.Money’s dandy and we like to use itBut love is better, if you don’t refuse itIt’s a treasure and you’ll never lose itUnless you lock up your door.  ForLove is something if you give it away, give it away, give it awayLove is something if you give it away, you end up having more.So let’s go dancing ‘till the break of dayAnd if there’s a piper, we can payFor love is something if you give it awayYou end up having more.*(Song written by Malvina Reynold)* |
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| http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTMAZXFCR0rVvKtfSYbHF8nhc4rbPLZ3tU9vuMrNUjb6HcEYDSneg | **Friday, 12 February****What am I doing? – Water***Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feed and rest under this tree. – Gen 18:4\* |
| Take time today to make a note of each time you use water – and how much. Your water use could be from your taps in your home, at work, school. It may be in that take-away cup of coffee you grab on the way to work. It could be flushing the loo at a friend’s house. By the way – every time you use electricity, you are using water as well – so make a note of that as well!Over the course of the day, you will be surprised just how much water you DO use!Acknowledging that you do need to drink enough liquid to keep well hydrated and heathy – take a look at your list – were there times when your water usage was not crucial? Will you be able to address water wastage going forward? |
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| http://greensavingsco.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/save-energy-jj-001.jpeg | **Saturday, 13 February****What am I doing? – Energy***You are my lamp, o Lord, the Lord turns my darkness into light – 2 Sam 22:29* |
| Just as you did yesterday with water – today is energy’s turn.Take time today to make a note of each time you use electricity – and how much. This could be switching on your kettle for your first cup of coffee, turning on lights, computers, TVs, vacuum cleaners, to going through the check-out at the supermarket.Over the course of the day, you will be surprised just how much electricity you DO use!Don’t forget, when you use electricity – you are also using water!Take a look at your list – were there times when your electricity usage was not crucial? Will you be able to address electricity wastage going forward? |
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| C:\Users\User\Pictures\000 Newsletter cut & paste\lent3.jpg | **Sunday, 14 February****Earth keeping in the Church Kitchen*****The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. - Genesis 2:15*** |
| Let’s look at food. How does my church cater? Where do we buy our food, is it local or shipped in from far away. Do we use free range chicken or factory farmed? What happens to leftover food? Do we use Styrofoam or do we wash up?**Styrofoam (polystyrene) Non-Biodegradable**Styrofoam appears to last forever, as it is resistant to photolysis, or the breaking down of materials by photons originating from a light source. This, combined with the fact that Styrofoam is lightweight and therefore floats, means that over time a great deal of polystyrene has accumulated along coasts and waterways around the world. It is now considered the main component of marine debris.**Food Contamination**When Styrofoam containers are used for food, chemicals can leach into the food, affecting human health and the reproductive systems. This is accentuated if people reheat the food while still in the container.Let us be Earthkeepers, starting in our Church Kitchen! |
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***We continue to pray for our Planet:***

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,

help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,

that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen

* *Pope Francis*