

Faith in Action Beyond The Letter

For the care of our Common Home for the sake of future generations

From the St John Vianney
Social Justice Commission.
Join us Wed, Sept 13, 7pm at
SJV for a follow-up
discussion of The Letter.

Identify one concrete, impactful change that works for you at home:

Plan one meat-free meal every week. Start this week.

Industrial ranching is a big driver of climate change and accounts for 80% of deforestation in the Amazon.

Eat the food you buy and set up a composting bin or service.

Food loss and waste make up between 6% and 10% of the greenhouse gases that drive climate change.

Eliminate one item that is packaged in disposable plastic from your home.

Items that are put into recycling bins are very often not actually recycled. Approximately 85% of single-use plastic products like beverage bottles end up in landfills. Carry a re-usable water bottle with you.

Improve your energy use by adjusting your thermostat by just 1 degree

Recent studies show that households are responsible for 72% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and 21% of this comes from heating and cooling homes.

Save & bring your Styrofoam to our Recycling Event at SJV, Sunday Sept 17 10am - 3pm.

Styrofoam takes hundreds of years to break down and threatens the health of wildlife and contaminates our groundwaters.

Start a conversation with a friend or family member by sharing the trailer of the Letter.

The single greatest way to protect our common home is getting more people to take action.



Be part of a growing movement of neighbors committed to caring for our common home:

Create a pollinator friendly garden to help provide habitat to bees, birds, bats, and butterflies, among other pollinators, which are critical to our food web:

- Grow a variety of pollinator friendly plants that bloom from Spring through Fall.
 - Plant native flowering trees, shrubs and wildflowers.
 - Avoid using chemicals, especially insecticides and herbicides.
 - Talk to your neighbors about the importance of pollinators and their habitats. Consider yourself part of the local pollinator pathway movement to connect pollinator species in developed areas with the resources they rely on to survive.
- For more information and to see the growing network, go to:
www.pollinator-pathway.org

Support local farms and markets. Eat food that is local and in season

Read the label and eat food that is produced in the area; avoid imports which create more emissions due to transportation.

Eating seasonal items support more sustainable production methods.

Avoid excess packaging and processed foods as much as possible.

Practice water-wise gardening and choose drought-tolerant plants.

Visit your local garden center to find plants more suited to increasingly hotter and drier summers. "One of the biggest misconceptions about climate change and gardening is that they can't make an impact...Roughly 185 million people garden in the US...Imagine if all those gardeners made a water-wise gardening choice." - Nancy Goodwin, WSU Extension Master Gardener

Join local Buy-Nothing Groups Embrace Reuse

The Buy Nothing Project, founded in 2013 in Bainbridge, WA, is a global conglomeration of community-based groups that encourages giving of no-longer needed consumer goods instead to sending them to the landfill.

Go to buynothingproject.org for more information.

Join the Catholic Climate Covenant

Founded by the USCCB, the Catholic Climate Covenant invites us to "Take Action Together." Join at: catholicclimatecovenant.org to stay up to date on climate change actions.

Think globally, act locally.

"Protect Life. Preserve that which sustains Life. Care for our common home." - Pope Francis, Laudato Si'

