

# Laudato Si' Strategy 2025+





# Background

In 2015, Pope Francis issued his encyclical, *Laudato Si'* which called for an ecological conversion in response to the many ecological crises facing the planet.

## CatholicCare Laudato Si' Strategy focuses on the following goals:

- 1 Response to the cry of the earth
- 2 Response to the cry of the poor
- 3 Ecological economics
- 4 Adoption of sustainable lifestyles
- 5 Ecological education
- 6 Ecological spirituality
- 7 Community resilience and empowerment

From these seven goals, we have set practical objectives as the framework for the Action Plan. Underpinning each objective will be detailed initiatives which will be implemented, monitored, measured and reporting on.



*Laudato Si'* is highly relevant to the work of CatholicCare Wollongong as it aligns with the organisational mission and values. It emphasizes the need to protect our common home and promote eco-justice, which are principles that resonate with CatholicCare's commitment to social justice, community support and range of services provided.

CatholicCare Wollongong has, based on the nature of services provided, already integrated a number of the goals of *Laudato Si'* into its quality services.

Overall, *Laudato Si'* provides a framework for CatholicCare Wollongong to advocate for environmental stewardship and social justice, ensuring that our work continues to align with the integral ecological goals of the Catholic Church.

## Goal 1.

# Response to the cry of the earth

## Protect our planet

The response to the cry of the earth is a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.

## Objectives

- 1.1 Use indoor spaces in energy efficient ways.
- 1.2 Advocate in relation to social and environmental related justice issues
- 1.3 Expand services and programs that provide support to those in the community requiring assistance / support.
- 1.4 Encourage the planning of native trees
- 1.5 Respond to emerging social crises
- 1.6 Reduce travel-related emissions





## Goal 2.

# Response to the cry of the poor

### Prioritise the needs of the vulnerable

The response to the cry of the poor is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, at the same time protecting nature.

### Objectives

- 2.1 Develop plans and actions to mitigate modern slavery risks in our supply chains
- 2.2 Continue to implement our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
- 2.3 Support initiatives which provide dignity, respect and support for people at risk or who are vulnerable.
- 2.4 Advocate for social justice issues



## Goal 3.

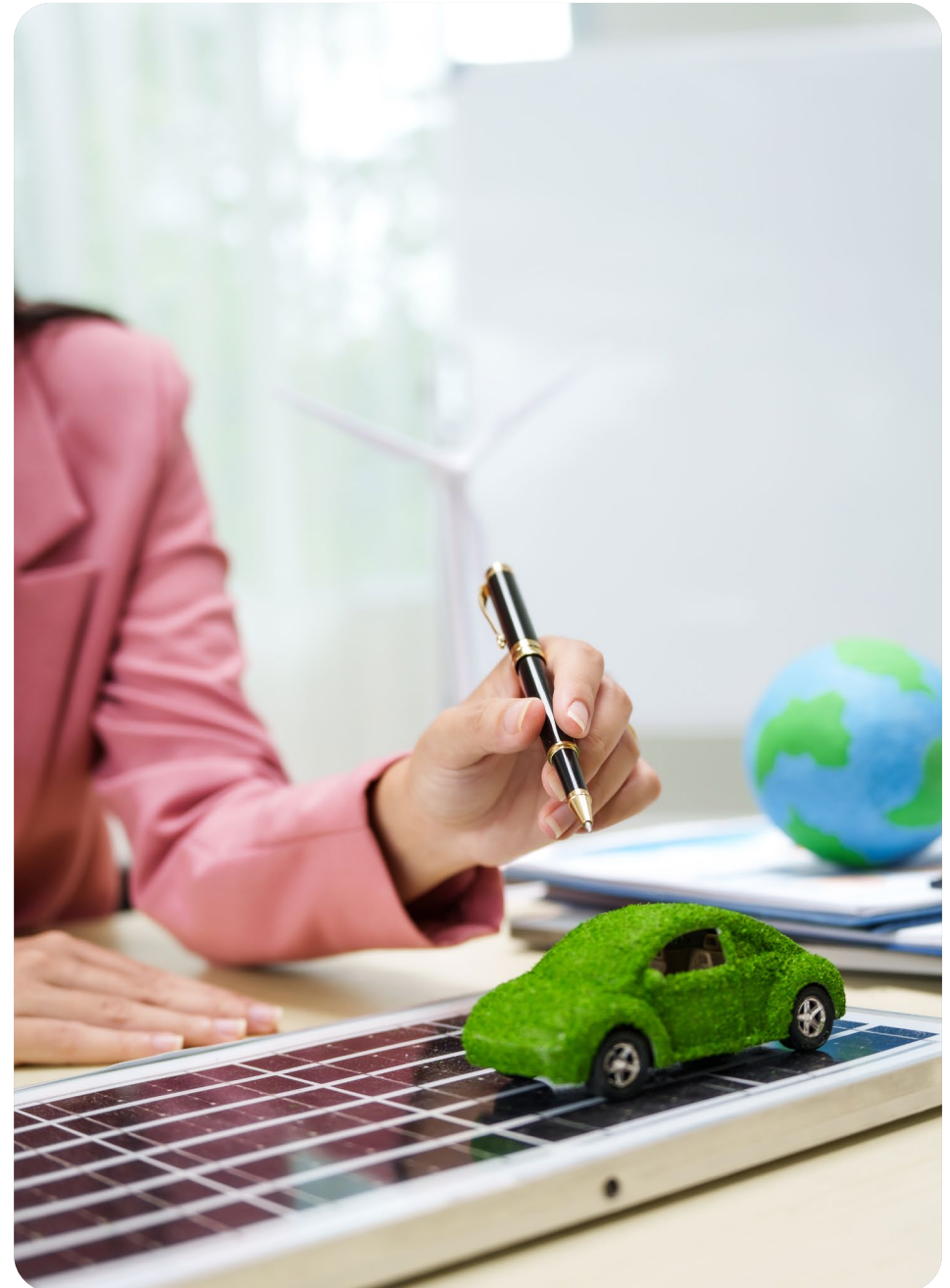
# Ecological economics

## Adopt ethical economic practices

Ecological economics acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the human biosphere – our common home.

## Objectives

- 3.1 Investigate sustainable development options for new buildings
- 3.2 Implement social and environmentally responsible purchasing
- 3.3 Investigate the use of a 'green' renewable energy provider



## Goal 4.

# Adoption of sustainable lifestyles

## Simplify personal and communal habits

The adoption of sustainable lifestyles is grounded in the idea of sufficiency and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy.

## Objectives

- 4.1 Implement environmentally responsible waste disposal solutions
- 4.2 Progressively introduce energy efficient appliances, lighting and air conditioning
- 4.3 Progressively introduce energy efficient fleet vehicles





## Goal 5.

# Ecological education

### Promote a culture of care and environmental awareness

The adoption of sustainable lifestyles is grounded in the idea of sufficiency and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy.

### Objectives

- 5.1 Provide resources and promote recognition and commemorative events
- 5.2 Incorporate Laudato Si concepts into service programs and education (e.g. in our Early Learning Centres and Outside of Hours School Care)
- 5.3 Acknowledge, support and promote social awareness days ie Earth Hour
- 5.4 Promote awareness of ecological impacts



## Goal 6.

# Ecological spirituality

## Reflect on spiritual connection with creation

Ecological spirituality springs from a profound ecological conversation and helps us to “discover God in all things”, both in the beauty of creation and in the sighs of the sick and the groans of the afflicted, aware that the life of the spirit is not dissociated from worldly realities.

## Objectives

- 6.1 Encourage ecological literacy and awareness of Laudato Si’ and ecological conversion
- 6.2 Promote creation-centred prayer and ecological conversations
- 6.3 Continued commitment to Catholic Social Teaching





## Goal 7.

# Community resilience and empowerment

## Build partnerships and engage in collective efforts

Community resilience and empowerment envisage a synodal journey of community engagement and participatory action at various levels.

## Objectives

- 7.1 Respond to emerging social crises
- 7.2 Expand services and programs that provide support to those in the community requiring assistance / support.
- 7.3 Continue and deepen our partnerships with mission driven organisations
- 7.4 Provide educational group work / workshops to our communities
- 7.5 Promote strong social cohesion among our staff



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## Goals

1

### Response to the cry of the earth

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