

Laudato Youth Voices

First Edition/ DEC 2022



Laudato Response Youth Initiative

United for Climate Action



Youth Impacting the world



THE WAIT IS
ALMOST OVER

The Time is NOW!

Spread the word. take action.
the fruits will be good

Find us on



Laudato Response youth Initiative YouTube

VISION

To create a Laudato Si responsive and climate change-conscious society through action, attitude, and behavioral change communication.

MISSION

To promote the message of the encyclical letter Laudato Si by fostering climate response and awareness in communities through Laudato clubs in institutions, using media (audiovisual) and advocacy.

WHAT WE DO

We promote the core values of Prayer. Action. Mitigation and Adaptation for sustainable future planting carbon sinks

Going Green and Clean in all institutions by promoting the 3Rs



REDUCE



REUSE



RECYCLE



MOTTO



KIRIKUMWINO SARAH - CLUBS' PRESIDENT



United for Climate Action

Empowering young people to
ACT for a bright FUTURE



Benard Kahwa

Since 2020 Laudato Response Youth initiative has been promoting climate through uniquely societal-tailored conservational programs in institutions of learning and communities. Mentoring and Amplifying the voices of young people remains key to our activities. We want to groom young people who are responsible and Actively involved in solving the climate change crisis.

The Initiative was born out of the growing concern of climate change impact that has become a significant threat to livelihood and sustainability as evidenced by changing weather patterns and drops in water levels. The increased frequency of extreme weather events like floods and drought, whose social and economic impacts make some communities in our Country, Uganda, vulnerable. We choose to mentor and empower the youth to act within their means because according to Child empowerment Uganda 78% of Uganda's population is below 30 years old, making it the country with the youngest population in the world. Working with the youth is paving way for their bright future but also preparing leaders of tommorrow. You will hear from the president of the clubs in the next article and what her hopes for the future are.



Visiting places hit by Climate Change to
share the pain of ecological Crisis

A healthy ecology is the basis of a healthy economy. The earth provides us with enough to satisfy every man's needs but not every man's greed. In the beginning, when God was creating the universe, He needed a leader, and at last, He created mankind, the cause of the new era.

Laudato clubs in schools are a new era inspiration for the young people. It all began in 2020 with the need to act on the encyclical Laudato Si that we shared with the youth and having recognized the ecological crisis taking place in our communities during the pandemic.

As president of the clubs, my mentor inspired me to appreciate nature and learn to pass on this value to others. I have a profound passion for caring for our common home. I am also certified as a Laudato Si Animator, adding to the knowledge and training I got from my mentors. I have a deep passion for caring for mother earth and invite you to be part of my story..

The presence of our club in institutions has created a significant impact. Many schools have planted trees and done waste management and debates. I wrote, and we produced a song, 'Obutonde', to raise awareness and invite people to care for creation.



I want to believe that with the little far we have moved and done, we have inspired lives and moved hearts to join us physically and virtually, and **we all have to understand that the blaming and waiting days are over; let us be more environmental oriented than economic oriented because we have heard, seen, witnessed. the danger is increasing every day.** Our future is not certain in this situation.

It is now time to conquer. We should not ignore the nightmare of climate change. Let us take it as a huge priority. Systems may change, and people may change, but climate change needs our ACTION to normalise, and it is you and me to determine when (NOW) and how (ADAPT & MITIGATE) to create a safe future for the young generation. May we grow more profound in ACTION like the older and ancient generations that handed us a wonderful, beautiful world.

If I may ask? Which kind of world are you handing over to us? And for the young generation, which sort of world shall we hand over to others? **LET US RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH TOGETHER.** I hope you enjoy reading the brief stories and seeing pictures of our work for this past year. Join us and support our cause. We have lots of helpful content on our social media platforms. I want to thank my parents, mentors, the infinite singers family, and my school Holy Cross Lake View S.S.S - Jinja, for supporting me and helping me become the leader I am today. I love this quote from the encyclical Laudato Si.

"If the simple fact of being human moves people to care for the environment of which they are a part, Christians in their turn realize that their responsibility within creation, and their duty towards nature and the Creator, are an essential part of their faith." Think about it





**Br. Adolf Mugume, CSC
Laudato Response Youth Initiative
MENTOR**

LS,25. "Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods."

"The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast".

Benedict XVI.

LS,46. The social dimensions of global change include the effects of technological innovations on employment, social exclusion, an inequitable distribution and consumption of energy and other services, social breakdown, increased violence and a rise in new forms of social aggression, drug trafficking, growing drug use by young people, and the loss of identity.

A multitude of environmental challenges face our world today, and Climate Change is a reality everywhere. Environmental Action and education are successful means of understanding those problems and their potential solutions.

Informal outdoor practical education has the potential to provide an unparalleled learning experience for youth in institutions, families, and communities to foster their mindset change.

Outdoor activities like tree planting, waste management are a path to explore strategies that would explore the inquisitiveness of young people, thus bridging the gap between the old generation and the young generation to be able to work together and care for creation to aid the development of an environmental ethic mind in today's youth.



Clubs in Schools



United for Climate Action



Make a commitment to act with Laudato Response Youth Initiative, a Catholic Youth Led Initiative to restore mother earth through mindset change mitigation and adaptation activities. You will have a chance to Unite with us for a climate action legacy.

Global deforestation statistics indicate that ONLY 18% of the world's forests are on land protected from deforestation. Over 420 million hectares of forest have been lost since 1990.

This gives us a task

Responding to Pope Francis's Call by building a generation rooted in love of care for creation with Ugandas youth population of 78% by providing an amazing educational experience that focuses on environmental action and Climate Change mitigation.





YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE LEAD

19th OCT 2022



COUNTDOWN TO THE 27TH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (COP27) LINKING THE LOCAL TO THE GLOBAL ACTIONS THROUGH NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS

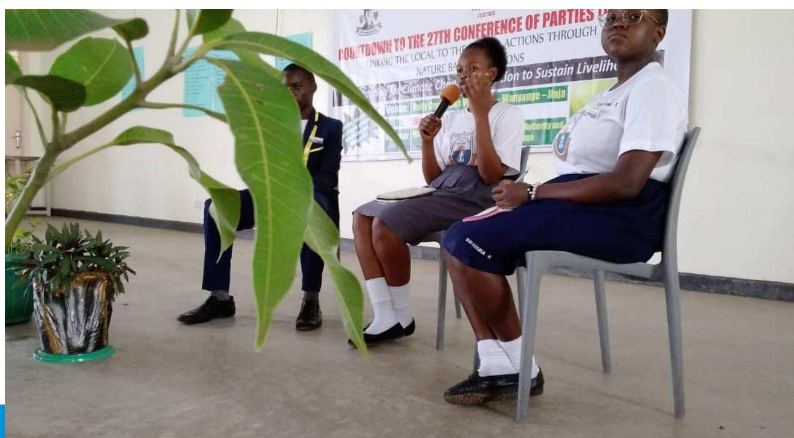
Tree planting for Climate Change Mitigation to Sustain Livelihoods



Venue: Holly Cross Lake View S.S.S. - Wanyange – Jinja

Date: Wednesday 19th October 2022

Organiser: PACJA Uganda in Collaboration with Jinja City Authority and Holly Cross Lake View S.S.S. Wanyange



HCLV hosted a pre COP27 event

The twenty-Seventh session of the Conference of Parties to be held in Egypt Between 6-18 Nov 2022 comes at a time when we are facing challenging situations driven by Climate Change and Ecological Crisis resulting from over-dependence on the ecosystem and an inadequate response to Climate Change Action. A theme that drives the initiative of our club to unite young people in institutions and communities for Climate Action. Through Mitigation, adoption and advocacy.



The School planted 100 fruit trees in the school orchard a head of COP27.

Over the past few months, we have noted the changing weather patterns with great concern. Apart from the pandemic, Uganda has experienced several hazards like droughts, flooding, landslides, and heat waves, threatening food security and accelerating Poverty. Each citizen has a role to play in fighting this crisis. Uganda whose young people are 78% of the total population empowering them with knowledge and skills to act will see a great impact in our country to embrace the change we want to see in the future says our youth leader

Institutional and Global commitment is needed. Unity and Climate Action is a break through #spreadtheword #takeaction the fruits will be good.

FORT PORTAL CITY GOING

GREEN



And this is the SEED #LaudatoSi Together with His Lordship, the Mayor of Fort Portal City, held a campaign to inspire young people in schools to care for creation. We now have environmental Clubs in some city schools. In the pictures, the Lord Mayor, Fair Ventures, the community, and our environment clubs in Fort Portal City Kicked off the activities of making fort portal city green again with tree planting to promote a clean and green city.



BUHINGA PRIMARY SCHOOL - FORT POTAL CITY

EDUCATING CHILDREN ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF TREE PLANTING IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The Laudato club members at Buhinga primary school are working hard to make a difference in their school and communities back home. They manage a backyard vegetable garden in school, collect plastic waste, and plant trees and flowers to make their school green and clean. They also participate in the fort portal city Go Green Campaign, where they have tremendously contributed to planting green zones in the city.



The students joined fair ventures in tree planting along river Mpanga to promote the Go Green campaign by the city. Young people are a vital force in climate action. We appreciate the administration of schools like Buhinga PS and the city leadership of Forportal, Like-minded organizations like fair ventures that support our club initiatives in care for creation action response [#climateactionlegacy](#)





United for Climate Action

Backyard Garden

Remember the 3 R's!



Make less waste in the first place

Use things again instead of throwing them away

Recycle the correct things as much as possible so that they can be made into new things



Modern farming using waste materials

Decomposables form manure and sacks are used to plant vegetables
Tr. Tina and Mr.

Urban Backyard farming

Laudato club
Students engage in backyard farming, where they grow vegetables. They take some time off to learn gardening as a way to care for the environment in their school



United for Climate Action



Buhinga P.S Laudato club promotes a Talking Compound



United for Climate Action

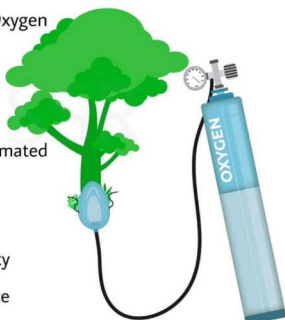


Students showing Fr. Berry, CSC some of their Trees

Club Patron Master Deogratias

There is a machine with following specifications,

- supplies pure Oxygen
- can absorb CO2
- completely automated
- easy to handle
- costs very less
- life long warranty
- less maintenance



The name of the machine is 'TREE'



The club address by the headteacher Rev Bailnda.E.B Richardson

Tree planting with the headteacher & Kenneth of Fortportal city Council

Nyakasura School



Tree planting with Br. Adolf, CSC & NDRI



United for Climate Action



NDRI's CHRIS, Br. Adolf and Master Deogratias join the students of Nyakasura school to visit their tree planting activities around school



Club performance with Master Deogratias



Nyakasura School



Group photo with some club members

Staff at kyembogo health center

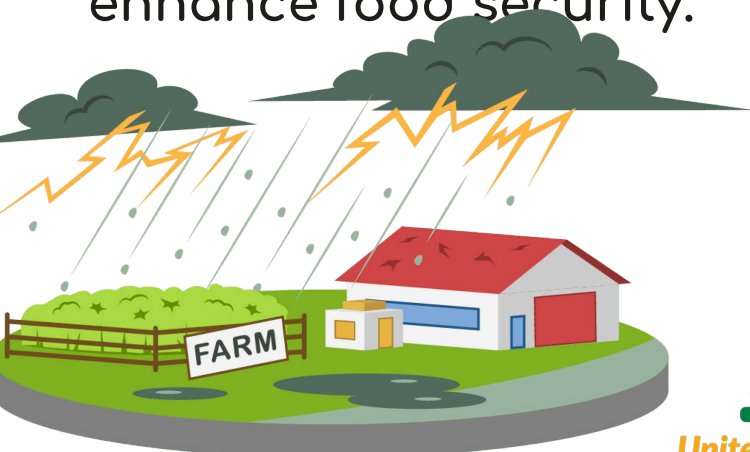
Embrace fruit tree planting,
fight hunger and malnutrition in your community



Planting the right tree in the right place can improve nutrition and enhance food security.

Trees have more other benefits

- Pollinators: Honeybees, bumble bees, orchard mason bees, wasps, flies, butterflies
- Predator Insects: Spined Soldier Bugs, Lady Bugs, Praying Mantis, Lace-wings, Spiders (not insects) and more
- Parasitizing Insects: Various wasps and flies that lay eggs within the pest insect in order to raise their young



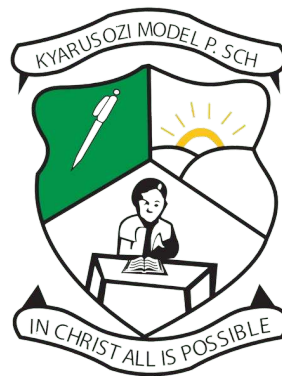


Kyarusozi Model Primary School

Involving parents



Mr. Tusiime Jose. The chairman PTA interacts with learners and joined them in planting trees as a way to support the commitment of the young stars. Children get motivation from parents and mentors in climate action



Tree planting by club members and patrons



Collecting plastics to make their compound green and clean

Students conduct periodic cleaning of the school compound and the surroundings to clear them of plastic and paper waste, ensuring their school is clean and green.



United for Climate Action

Club activities

The club conducts timely meetings, uses poems to raise awareness, and visits sister schools that run the LSRI clubs to exchange ideas and community involvement. They also make nursery beds and raise trees in small nursery beds.



Kahongi High School Girls engage in a climate action by planting trees. Its a joy to see young people giving their whole for mother earth.

Be the Change you want to see!



Nuwatuha Brendah at her former school St. Francis Primary and Nursery school Kirihura District

I established and explained laudato si and it's aims to the people pupils showing them the importance of nature and why we should protect it.



Jenipher Planting her age

I also demonestrated to them how to use empty bottles for planting seedlings.. We later planted some trees around the compound.

Our members at MUBS Mbarara pause for a group photo after a planning meeting





Moreau Nursery and primary School - Kyenjojo

The Laudato club members at Moreau engage in care for creation by planting flowers around their school to make it green and clean



ST. JOSEPH'S HILL S. S. S Kyembogo



Our club at St. Joseph's Hill S.S - Kyenjojo is doing great. This term we have been able to;

- ✓ Plant flowers in the school premises
- ✓ Have carried out environmental debates.
- ✓ Conducted environmental talks between students and teachers
- ✓ Dug composite pits at school for proper disposal
- ✓ Recycling plastic bottles to (raise plants/seedlings)
- ✓ Frontline in school cleaning and (community work)
- ✓ and Community cleaning up day (playground after functions)

Says the club leader Rehema
Says the club leader Rehema





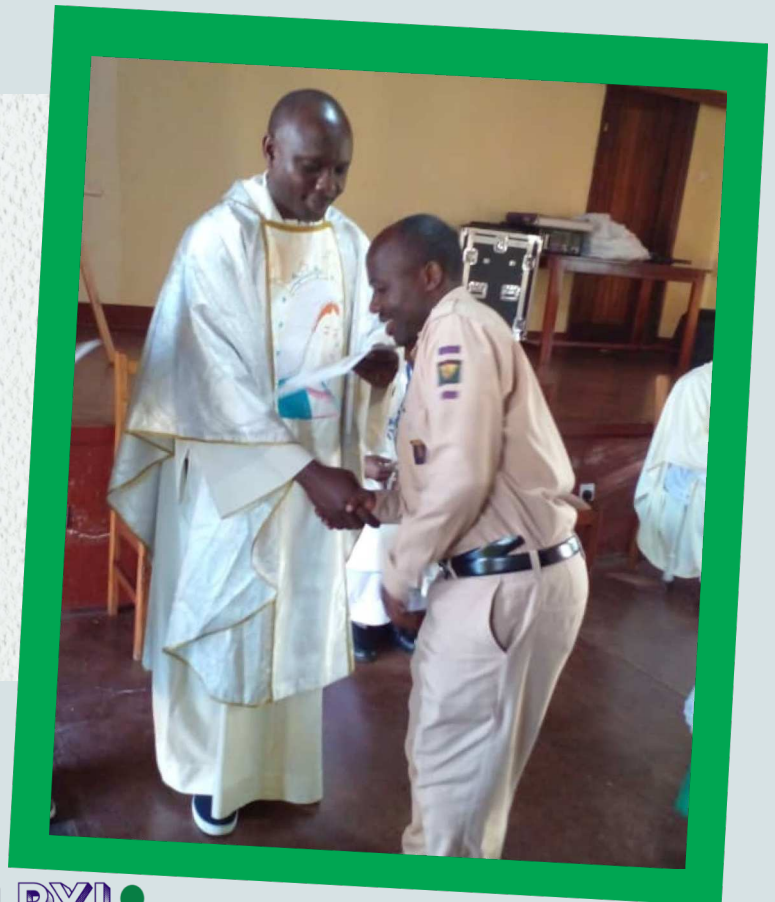
Fr. Paul Mugabi Akikki, The youth chaplain Fort-Portal diocese is dedicated to the cause for care for creation and mentorship of Laudato Si Response clubs . In the pictures he joined St. Mary's Kinyamasika Primary School Students and Staff to plant tree seedlings that he had delivered.



The Xaveri Movement promoting Laudato si activities. Photo taken today at St.Adolf ongoing formation center Mukabura!!!

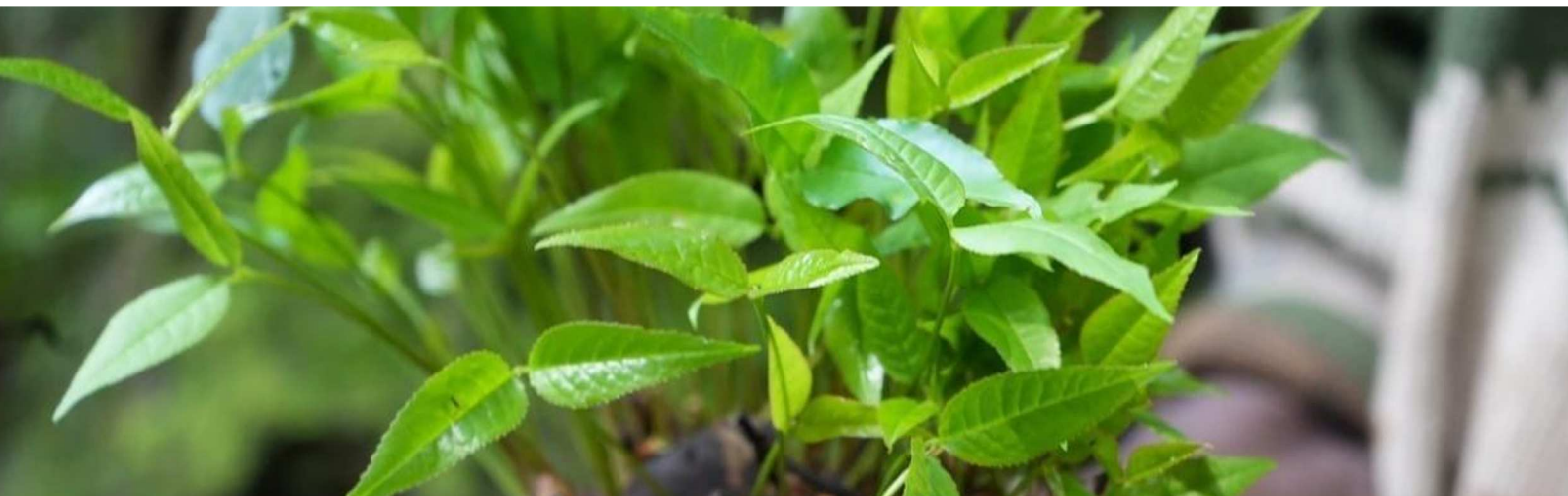


Fr. Paul Mugabi Amooti and Fr. Muhumuza Edward Akiiki joined by religious sisters concluded the Xaverian training with the award of certificates and planting trees



ASSOCIATION OF

CONSECRATED WOMEN EASTERN
AND CENTRAL AFRICA



OBSESSION

OVER THE PAST

Agriculture is the back born of Uganda's economy. . Food security i

IN

**MASAKA GOGONYA
SISTERS**

Are doing a lot for the social and economic development of the people. They are using the sustainability approach of growing coffee and planting trees, teaching people better tree planting methods: Leading by example.

UNDER

**THE ACWECA
PROGRAM**

Sponsored by Strathmore University, sisters got together to talk about Laudato Si and share experiences on what they are doing. Sr. Margret, a member of the Infinite Laudato Si Response initiative, was happy to share her experience working with the Infinite Laudato Si Response Clubs in schools. We believe religious communities have a significant role to play in environmental conservation



United for Climate Action



Did you know trees make use of Carbodioxide to from the air we breather to produce the oxygen?

So when you plant a tree you are paving way to the creation of more clean air.



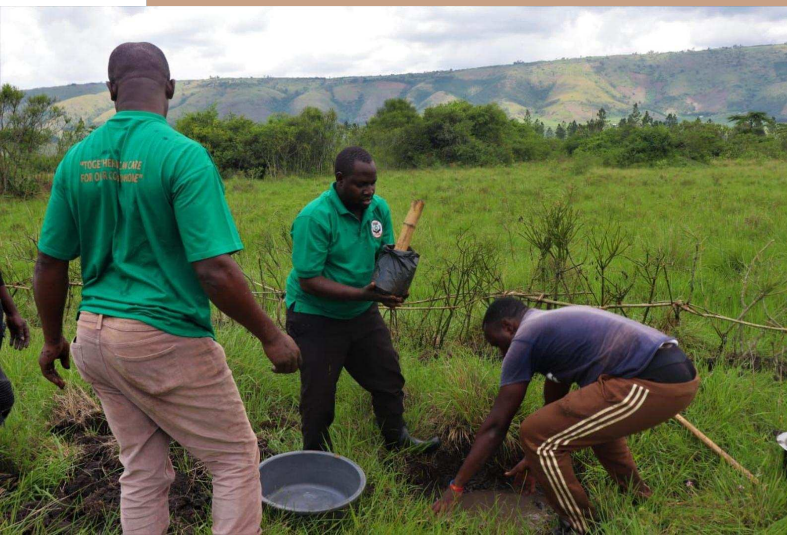
Working with parents at home to plant trees is a good guesday. Young people need to be keen and learn from their parents but also share the knowledge learnt at school with parents and siblings.

The heroes of our generation

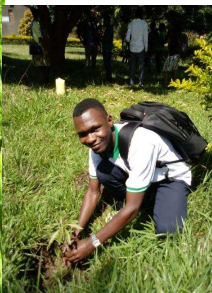
The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast".

Benedict XVI.





When planted along river banks, they help control soil erosion and regulate water levels in watersheds



DID YOU KNOW? Why bamboo is awesome

It grows super fast:
up to 3 feet per day!



It's hard and long-lasting, perfect for furniture and objects



It doesn't die when it's cut so it doesn't need to be replanted



It doesn't need much water to grow



It is naturally anti-bacterial



It doesn't need pesticides

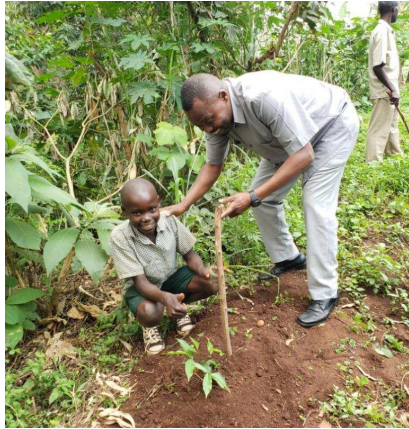


Bamboos can nearly replace all textile materials while sequestering more carbon than trees every could.

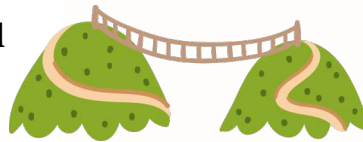


United for Climate Action

A synodal approach to care for creation



E 'spirituality for synodality' very time the youth come together with their parents they come to realise the ways in which the Holy Spirit graces the life of the Church, drawing each one into a deeper love of Christ and moving us to desire an ever greater communion, participation, and mission of Christ even in care for Creation. In the Picture Fr. Berry and Deo Look on as his father teaches them how to plant a tree. Our elders have so much to give with Love.



What is synodality?

Synodality means journeying together as the People of God. It indicates a way of listening to each individual person as a member of the Church to understand how God might be speaking to all of us. In this way, synodality reminds us of the work of the Holy Spirit through each of us and through all of us working together for our common mission. Unity is a big message in care care for creation



KYARUSOZI SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL LAUDATO CLUB



The school uses debates to raise awareness among students of the need to care for creation.

They also conduct weekly activities of cleaning and collecting plastic bottles and bags around school and the neighborhood.

On MDD they adopt environmental themes as a way of raising awareness among students, staff and the school

community.



Use of Talent to Communicate Environmental Conservation



Our students paint artworks in line with Climate Change, Engage in Debate, Music , Poetry etc to communicate Laudato Si. Every opportunity to use a talent is an opportunity to impact the world around them and chance to learn skills that will help them change home.



Unite with talent to fight climate change



Students Debating



Laudatos Si Clubs President in debate



Staff involved in Climate Change Debate



Tree planting after debate





United for Climate Action

Greening the city by planting trees through involving schools, beautifying the towns with flowers, planting trees along the rivers among others are strategies schools in Fort Portal are undertaking with the support of the city council authority.



At Excell _Uganda

Excell charity organisation - In Mityana also engaged in tree planting with the children they planted *Vangueria Apiculata*. A fruit plant they can't wait to see them growing.



Laudato Response Youth Initiative team with the deputy mayor of Fort City before commissioning the clubs in Fort City schools

Role of the Church in caring for creation

WE CAN USE GOD'S CREATION TO SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST?

We have only one world

“For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.” (Romans 1:20)

Fr. Richard Ssserungu and his parishioners planting trees at the parish



Fr. Sebatsina Trinonungabe and his parishioners picking trees



Holy Cross sisters join the community clean up campaign with schools



United for Climate Action



Laudato Si - 2015 The Letter Film - 2022

The role of the church in the 21st-century is critical because it bridges the gap between the reality of life and God's creation. It explains the interconnection that exists between human beings and nature. Besides being a sacred institution for people in need of spiritual healing. In reality, many people are wounded because of the ecological crisis, so they need the church to stand with them for healing. This is clearly defined in Laudato Si.

LS,7. When we can see God reflected in all that exists, our hearts are moved to praise the Lord for all his creatures and to worship him in union with them

LS,1. "Laudato si', mi' Signore" – "Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. "Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs".¹

Have you watched "The letter film" by Pope Francis?

The Letter, is an 80-minute documentary film produced by Oscar-winning Off the Fence Productions in collaboration with Laudato Si' Movement and the Vatican is now available on YouTube Originals. The film brings to life the transformative vision of Laudato Si', Pope Francis' encyclical letter on the environment, to inspire lasting action for our common home.

with Laudato Response Youth Initiative WE AMPLIFY
YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICES and Act

Activities include; COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION
THROUGH CLIMATE CHANGE Action MITIGATION
AND ADAPTATION

LAUDATO
YOUTH
RESPONSE
INITIATIVE

WE RESPOND TO THE MESSAGE IN THE LETTER



THE LETTER FILM BY POPE FRANCIS

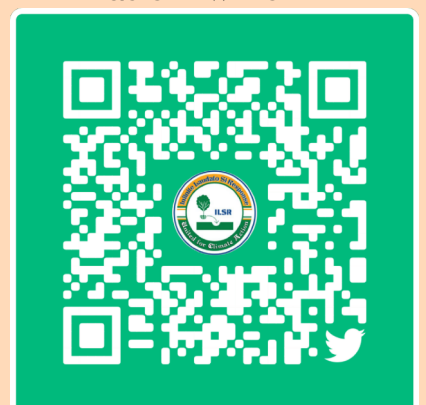


*Merry Xmas!
offer green
gifts this
xmas*



United for Climate Action

Scan to follow
us on twitter



LS, 139. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behavior patterns, and the ways it grasps reality.



TO SAVE NATURE



Scan to follow us on YouTube



United for Climate Action

-Technology -

KEEP WATCH AS YOU USE TECHNOLOGIES

LS,47. "Their influence can stop people from learning how to live wisely, to think deeply and to love generously. In this context, the great sages of the past run the risk of going unheard amid the noise and distractions of an information overload."



LS,47. "True wisdom, as the fruit of self-examination, dialogue and generous encounter between persons, is not acquired by a mere accumulation of data which eventually leads to overload and confusion, a sort of mental pollution."

Keep watch on how you dispose garbage and avoid burning bushes. Listen carefully to hear the cry of the earth and the poor.



United for Climate Action

Plant a tree for the future

UNITED FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Our children spend time in school studying how to pass exams. That's not enough for them to nurture a bright future.

Their talents and skills too need to be nurtured, getting involved in community service activities that build their social life and add value will transform their lives into better people



Mr. Kenneth and Fr. Berry together with other creation leaders visit a fruit and indigenous tree nursery bed in Jinja to learn how to care for trees and best ways of planting trees

The community has a big Role in care for creation

Community activities pictorial



Pope Francis urges us to protect 50% of lands and oceans for the survival of biodiversity and humanity. All of us in our communities have a role to play. The leaders have a challenge to embrace. Mr. Deo and Gerald join the youth in bugembe for a community tree planting event.

Holy Cross sisters in Community Cleanup exercise in Wanayange



Our President Sarah and Jovia Planting flowers at home



Sam planning to plant fruit trees in the community





Green Friday



Mr. Yasin has done much with rotary in the communities of Jinja, buluba and Nyenga where the deputy speaker and other dignitaries attended the recent tree planting event.

All we can do is move forwards



Beginners are many, but enders are few. All we can do is endure with faith.



We also inspire youth in faith & Music Ministry

St. Augustine tell us that he who Sings Prays Twice!



The Infinite Singers



To access our Youtube channel scan this QR Code



United for Climate Action

Let the word of the Lord dwell in you richly. Singing Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual songs.. (Colossians 3:16)
Singing is an integral part of any liturgical celebration. Hence, celebrating the liturgy singing is not to be regarded as an embellishment superimposed on prayer; rather, it wells up from the depths of a soul intent on prayer and the praise of God and reveals fully and completely the community nature of Christian worship. (General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours, 270). The Infinite Singers are dedicated to making God known, Loved, and Served through Singing. For inquiries write to us: theinfinitesingers@gmail.com. YouTube Handle @TheInfiniteSingers