

## Table Conversation Output

### The Francis Effect II Albury Colloquium – 1 November 2015

*How can we go forward from today and take action? What changes might be needed in our behaviours, language and practice?*

*What resources / networks are available to us?*

*What additional support might we need?*

What **changes** might be needed to overcome the challenges and take up the opportunities?

What additional **resources and networks** are available to make this ecological conversion happen?

- How can we go forward from today and take action?
  - Report to parish council
  - Live a more simple sustainable life for me
  - Tutorial at school with fellow teachers
  - Display videos – with Jacqui and bishop
  - Article for heartbeat
  - Awareness (self)- priority
  - Be more mindful – being aware of earth footprint
  - Use of plastic bags – No. No
  - Reuse zip-lock bags – wash and reuse again
  - Document of Pope Francis sent to local members in Diocese
  - Try P.P
  
- What challenges might we face? How can we overcome these?
  - Sense of own action not making difference to big picture
  - Remembering one person makes a difference
  - Remembering one country makes a difference
  - Negativity of religious message – pointing out balance between science and religion
  - People not agreeing with Pope Francis. Never had that message before
  - From other Popes – not passed down by bishops and Pope's

- People being on their agenda – not acting in faith – wish Pope would talk about something else
- Getting people to listen to message not switch off (too overwhelming?)
- Finding people with a calibre of Andrew, Jacqui, Carmel and Lana – getting people to listen
- Getting priests on our side
  
- What resources and Networks so we have available to us?
  - Building on existing networks
  - Supporting initiatives such as halve waste
  - Church version of getup?
  - Earthcare website
  - Tell others about Earthcare
  - Earthwatch and Earthout
  - Cleanup Australia
  - Community garden
  - Cafe repair – (Lizetle Salmon)
  - Anglicare Innovations – Ian McBurney sharing resources
  - National Environment Centre (Thuigoona)
  - U.S catholic Bishops website
  - Support of Bishop Gerald

## Personal

- Read *Laudato Si'* and reflect deeply on the key messages and share them with others – family, friends and colleagues.
- Seek like-minded people and share this journey of care for our common home.
- Talk to your parish community about starting a group to lighten up your footprint and promote environmental education.
- Host a program for small groups using *Catholic Earthcare's Encyclical Discussion Guide* and watch the Encyclical video [www.catholicearthcare.org.au](http://www.catholicearthcare.org.au).
- Read to inform, inspire and support your actions.
- Rediscover your sense of wonder and awe of creation and encourage a conversion of heart – e.g. engage soulfully and pray deeply in nature: walk on the beach, stop and smell the flowers, sit at the foot of a rainforest waterfall, go for a bushwalk, tend a garden, climb a tree, swim in the ocean, plant a tree, stand atop a mountain, enjoy the feeling of grass, dirt, water beneath your feet and between your toes.
- Separate rubbish and recycle items – e.g. printer cartridges, mobile phones, electric cables and batteries. Seek out specific recycle bins often found where these items are sold.
- Reuse instead of disposing.
- Use fewer paper and plastic products – e.g. use a reusable water bottle, use cloth bags for shopping. Compost instead of disposing of food.
- Reduce water consumption – e.g. take shorter showers, fix leaking taps.
- Celebrate 'Meatless Friday' to reduce your carbon footprint.
- Purchase ethically produced goods and services.
- Check your consumption – e.g. food, electricity, gas, solar panels and use energy-efficient appliances. Move to renewable sources of energy where possible.
- Share your voice publically, call for strong leadership and affirm positive governance for an ecologically sustainable society.
- Consider where your investments, including superannuation, are placed.
- Use public transport, carpool, walk, or ride a bike.

## **ORGANISATIONAL & COMMUNITY**

- Examine *Laudato Si'* and the relevant chapter (s) to your sector, ministry or workplace and discuss at your next executive leadership, board or staff meeting.
- Use the ideas and questions from the reflections as formation during your professional development days or retreats.
- Ensure that learning about care for God's creation is part of formation for both adults and youth, so that it becomes 'core' business.
- Complete an energy audit identifying where energy consumption could be reduced. This benefits both the earth and your organisation's budget.
- Join Catholic Earthcare's National Energy Efficiency Network and cut your energy consumption.
- Investigate the possibilities for using solar power.
- Buy energy efficient appliances and conserve electricity by turning off lights, air conditioning and stand-by appliances during non-business hours.
- Use recycled and non-carbon paper and/or convert to soft-copy usage.
- Replace disposable cups, plates and cutlery with washable or compostable items.
- Implement a 'people and planet first' approach for business in a strategically integrated model for progress in organisational documents, in values, in activating behaviours.
- Donate leftover food to local soup kitchens or cook only what will reasonably be consumed.
- Offer employees incentives for using public transport or carpooling.
- Plant trees on your institution's property, especially local species.