

Laudato Si' Schools Kit for Catholic Educators:

A Call to Global Justice

(Ontario Pilot, Version#2: January 27th, 2020)



What is a Laudato Si' School?

Laudato Si' Schools is an annual program created by Development and Peace - Caritas Canada (DPCC) to help schools reflect the vision of Pope Francis to Care for our Common Home by engaging in the global justice mission of DPCC. This vision is given to us in the teaching of his 2015 encyclical, Laudato Si'. Pope Francis says that to care for our common home, we need to nurture three fundamental and interconnected relationships: our relationship to God, to each other, and to the natural world. When we nurture these relationships, we promote an integral ecology that "takes us to the heart of what it is to be human."

How does the program work?

Schools register for the *Laudato Si'* program with DPCC each year using our <u>online registration form</u>. The program consists of a series of challenges for which schools earn badges. The aim of the program is to earn as many badges as possible in a year. At the end of the year, schools are invited to participate in a year-end online celebration where fun and unique awards are given out to all participating schools based on their engagement throughout the year (every school gets an award!)

Each badge corresponds to a particular challenge that reflects the global justice spirit of *Laudato Si'*. The entry badge is called the 'Registered World Changer.' Once this entry badge is earned, schools begin working on the other badges they have signed up for. Most badges can be done at any time during the year. However, some badges are tied to participation in particular events that take place at a particular time of year. Once you complete your school's <u>registration</u>, you will receive an email from a DPCC staff animator who will accompany you through the completion of your certification for the year. In that email you will also receive your "*Laudato Si'* School Number." This number is used to identify your school when completing the online report forms for different badges throughout the year. Your school number remains the same year over year.

How are badges earned?

When your school registers online for the program each year, you are required to select which badges your school wants to work on for the year. Schools can then immediately begin working on the tasks required to earn the monthly or yearly badges they have selected. Each badge has a unique online reporting form. Once a report for a badge is submitted and verified, your badge will light up beside your school's name on our virtual "Laudato Si' Badge Board."

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR SCHOOL FOR THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM!

Your Contact for the Program:

The staff animator for your region who contacts you following your registration is your primary contact for all questions related to the program. Be sure to make a note of their name and contact info!

For other questions about the program, including questions about enrollment, you can also contact Luke Stocking, Deputy Director of Public Engagement: lstocking@devp.org or 416-922-1592 x225.

Thanks for starting your Laudato Si' journey with us!



BADGE INSTRUCTIONS

ENTRY BADGE:



Badge: Registered World Changer

Challenge: <u>Register your school</u> for our **2020-21 Laudato Si School program** & display an "upside down" map somewhere in your school.

Badge Instructions: *Part A:* All you need to do to get halfway to earning your school's first badge towards becoming a certified *Laudato Si'* school is register for the program! Easy! When you <u>register</u>, you will be sent a free "Rethink the World" t-shirt. You will also be sent the artwork if you want to print additional t-shirts for students on your own (make sure that they are not made with sweatshop labour!). You can also order additional t-shirts for students directly from us when you <u>register</u>. The cost is \$15 per shirt plus shipping and handling. Various sizes are available in both unisex and female fits. *Part B:* The graphic on the t-shirt features an "upside down" world that challenges people to "rethink the world." To complete the badge, schools must print a copy of the DPCC <u>"Rethink the World" infosheet</u> and display it next to an actual world map somewhere in the school that has been turned upside down. <u>DOWNLOAD THE INFOSHEET HERE</u>. Take a picture of the map *with the name of your school clearly visible somewhere*. Include yourselves in the photo too if you like! You will need this photo for your badge report.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "REGISTERED WORLD CHANGER" ENTRY CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE



Badge: Party for Peace

Challenge: Attend the **Caritas Christmas: Party for Peace** online event on <u>Saturday</u>

<u>December 12th from 12:00pm-1:30pm ET</u> and share your school's commitment to Peace!

Badge Instructions: You and your students can use this zoom link to register for the party: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtc-CqrD4qHtGh1OkuT9bpte_TJ8E8yya8.

DPCC is part of the global Caritas family – the humanitarian aid network of the Catholic Church (and the 2nd largest network in the world after the Red Cross!) Christmas and New Year's is a time of peace and joy. Join us for our first annual global on-line Christmas party to promote our Catholic commitment to create peace and well-being in the world. Meet other young people involved with Caritas in their own countries. Come prepared to share how your school celebrates Christmas and what your school does throughout the year to create peace and well-being!

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "PARTY FOR PEACE" CHALLENGE? No report necessary this month! After the party takes place, we will verify your school's participation from zoom registration report and light up your badge!





Badge: Lesson Learned

Challenge: Carry out one social justice activity from our activities database as a group **and** get at least one teacher in your school to use one of our many lesson-plans available to teachers.

Badge Instructions:

DPCC has a <u>large database of fun social justice activities</u> your group can do. Choose and carry out one activity from this database as a group. Many of these activities can also be used as lesson plans for a classroom. DPCC also has specific <u>lesson plans</u> that teachers can use in your classrooms! For grades 8-12 specifically, we have an <u>extensive set of lesson plans</u> focused on Laudato Si and caring for our common home. Get at least one teacher to use a DPCC lesson plan in their class (it is fine if that person is you!)

Click here to find your fun activity

Click here to find a lesson plan (k-12)

Click here to see the Laudato Si' focused lesson plans (8-12)

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "LESSON LEARNED" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE



Badge: Fast Planner

Challenge: Set up your school's fundraising page for our <u>National THINKfast (March 11-12)</u> and start collecting pledges. **Optional Challenge:** Join us on <u>Thursday February 18th at 8pm ET</u> for a Lenten gathering to meet one of our partners from the Philippines.

Badge Instructions:

Join the National THINKfast: Visit our 2021 National THINKfast page and click **'Join this team'** to set up your school's team page. <u>Click here to go to the National THINKfast page</u>. Once your school's page is registered you can start recruiting students to participate in the THINKfast and collect pledges for your school's page. Pledges



can be collected online and offline. For assistance with registration and promotion contact your DPCC animator.

Meet a DPCC partner: Click here to register for our Lenten gathering on Thursday February 18th at 8pm ET

At our Lenten gathering you will learn more about the National THINKfast and hear from one our partners from the Philippines about the work they are doing in their community with our support. *Note: your school does not need to attend this gathering to earn the Fast Planner Badge.*

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "FAST PLANNER" CHALLENGE? No report necessary this month! As soon as you have registered your school's THINKfast page with our National THINKfast, your Fast Planner badge will automatically light up within 48 hours!



Badge: Master Faster

Challenge: Complete your school's planned THINKfast (either on the date of the National THINKfast March 11-12 or on the date chosen by your school) and send any offline funds raised to DPCC with your financial report.

Badge Instructions:

Participate in the National Online THINKfast on March 11-12, 2021 with other schools and students from across the province and country. If it does not work for your school to do your THINKfast on the same day as the National THINKfast, you can still join the national THINKfast team on-line but organize your THINKfast locally on the day that is best for your school. Our THINKfast guide is useful if your school is holding your THINKfast on a different day or if you will be organizing your own activities locally to complement the ones being held nationally on-line.

Click here to register for the zoom link for the National THINKfast online activities March 11-12.

Once your school finishes the THINKfast, be sure to complete and submit the financial report found in the THINKfast guide if you collected any cash or cheques as part of your fundraising efforts.



HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "THINKfaster" CHALLENGE? No report necessary this month either! As soon as your financial report (found in your THINKfast guide) has been submitted for your THINKfast, your badge will automatically light up!

Because of all the hard work involved in earning the THINKfaster badge, schools that earn this badge are also mailed a THINKfast pennant to hang in their school!





Badge: Seed Planter

Challenge: Plant a mustard seed anytime in April to start growing your mustard seed plant. Start collecting loonie and toonie "mustard seeds" that you will need to "Harvest" in May for your May badge. **Optional Challenge:** Join us on Earth Day, April 22nd at 4:00pm ET to meet a special Development and Peace partner in the Global South who is working for Ecological Justice.

Badge Instructions:

Plant a Seed: Spring is a time of new growth! To earn this badge, your school must plant at least one mustard seed and nurture its growth. You can have one plant for your school or encourage multiple classes to grow their own plants. We want to see how high you can grow your plant!

Collect Loonies and Toonies: Once your seed is planted, find a creative way to tell your school about the parable of the mustard seed – where Jesus showed us how the Kingdom of God is like the smallest of seeds that becomes the largest of shrubs. For example, you could use the <u>Mustard Seed Planting prayer</u>. Challenge your school to help your plant "grow" toonie and loonie "Mustard Seeds" to support our work in the Global South! Be as creative as you like in how you choose to grow them!

Meet a DPCC partner on Earth Day: Click here to register for our Earth Day celebration on Apr. 22nd at 4pm ET

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Seed Planter" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Major Mustard

Challenge: Submit a picture of the Mustard Plant that you grew and harvest all the loonies and toonies it produced to send to DPCC for the people of the Global South working for ecological justice in their communities.

Badge Instructions: Continue to promote the message of the mustard seed parable and your efforts to collect loonies and toonies for your plant. Catholic Education Week can be a good time to do a special promotion of your efforts. On or before **May 21**st, take a picture of your Mustard Plant(s) along with all the loonies and toonies that you harvested from it. The picture should clearly show how tall the plant grew using a ruler or tape measure. There will be prizes for the tallest plant grown by a school, the greatest number of plants grown by a school, and the most loonies and toonies harvested! These winners will be announced by email at the end of the month!

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Major Mustard" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Laudato Si' Singer

Challenge: Write and record a new verse to add to the Laudato Si Song! (And perform it for your school for bonus points!)

Badge Instructions: You may want to enlist the help of a music teacher for this one! We learned the Laudato Si song at World Youth Day in Panama and we have been teaching

it to people ever since! Now it is your turn to learn it! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to download the sheet music for this simple song. It includes some special verses that were written by high school students from the Catholic Student Leadership program at Camp Olympia in Huntsville Ontario. Your job is to learn a little bit more about the pope's encyclical letter, <u>Laudato Si</u>, and then write a new verse – just like they did! You can also check out this little video where we sing the chorus for you! Just fill in the space where the verse goes! (Clue: the verse has the same melody as the Chorus). For Bonus Points, perform the song for your school (for eg. at a school mass)

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Laudato Si Singer!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: FUNdraiser

Challenge: Raise money and donate it to our work in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Badge Instructions: We rely on the generosity of schools across Canada to be able to carry out our work of Solidarity with the people of the Global South. You can raise money by completing the Major Mustard or Master Faster badges, or through your own creative fundraising idea! Every school that donates to our work receives this badge.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "FUNdraiser!" CHALLENGE? If you complete either the Major Mustard or Master Faster badges, this badge will light up automatically for you. Otherwise, you can CLICK HERE TO
COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: 1000+ Club

Challenge: Want to be part of a special club? Raise \$1000 or more and donate it to our work in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Badge Instructions: We rely on the generosity of schools across Canada to be able to carry out our work of Solidarity with the people of the Global South. Your school can be part of a special club by raising \$1000 or more this year. You can accomplish this by completing the different fundraiser badges, or through your own creative fundraising idea!



HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "1000+ Club!" CHALLENGE? If your school raises a total of \$1000 or more, you qualify to join the club. CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Retreat Leader

Challenge: Use our retreat package, <u>"On Earth as it is in Heaven,"</u> for one of your school retreats. *Note that this retreat package has been designed for a secondary school level.*

Badge Instructions: Our retreat package <u>"On Earth as it is in Heaven,"</u> contains everything that you need to run a retreat for students that is focused on Catholic Social Teaching and the importance of nourishing a spirituality of solidarity. Simply download the retreat package here and use it for one of your school retreats during the year. It contains everything that you need for your retreat!

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Retreat Leader!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Liturgy Leader

Challenge: Incorporate the theme of *Laudato Si'* and Global Justice into one of your school liturgies.

Badge Instructions: DPCC has lots of prayers, videos and other resources that can help bring the theme of Global Justice and the message of *Laudato Si'* to your school liturgies on our <u>Laudato Si resource page</u>. You can also find lots of other resources for your liturgy in our <u>activities database</u> as well. Simply use any of these resources or resources of your own to plan a beautiful liturgy focused on the theme of Laudato Si and Global Justice!

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Liturgy Leader!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: CST Promoter

Challenge: Learn and promote all 10 Catholic Social Teachings (CSTs) in your school setting.



Badge Instructions: Inspired by Gospel values and in particular the 'Preferential Option for the Poor', DPCC supports actions for justice of people in the Global South so that they can take control of their own destiny. What about the other CSTs? Explore the Catholic Social Teaching Principles and how they guide the work of DPCC.

Get creative in promoting the CSTs! Examples of what you can do:

- Share and promote them on a dedicated hallway bulletin board. Take a picture to send to us and/or post on social media @devpeace
- Make short little videos of skits, songs, poems or artwork about the CSTs to share on social media! Don't forget to tag @devpeace
- An activity of your choosing that promotes the CSTs in the school setting.

Suggestion: tackle 1 or 2 per month to make it more manageable.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "CST Promoter!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Dress Down and Speak Up

Challenge: Hold a non-uniform day to raise awareness about the impacts of sweatshops and fast fashion. Donate the proceeds to DPCC.

Badge Instructions: Did you know that DPCC helped organize catholic schools in the 1990's to build more accountability from uniform providers like McCarthy's to ensure that workers in the Global South who make their uniforms have their dignity and rights respected? Unfair working conditions continue to exist for the people who make our clothes, largely due to the pressures of the fast fashion industry. Research the issue to develop an announcement that you use to promote your non-uniform day (an excellent resource is www.cleanclothes.org.) On your non-uniform day, put a world map up in a public place ('upside down' of course!) and invite students to put a pin on the map in the country where the clothes they are wearing were made to create a "Clothes Map" and raise awareness about where are clothes come from and who makes them

Optional: research the countries that appear on your clothes map. What are the issues that textile workers in those countries face and what is being done to protect their rights?

Optional: write to McCarthy's or other uniform provider to ask them to send you a copy of their most recent Corporate Social responsibility report. Look at it with your students. Does the report do a good job explaining what the company does to protect the rights of workers?

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Dress Down and Speak Up!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!





Badge: Tree-Planter

Challenge: Plant a tree in your schoolyard or community and raise awareness about the benefits of trees.

Badge Instructions: As with most DPCC initiatives, the Tree-Planter badge involves a two-fold approach: action and education.

- 1. **ACTION:** Investigate the plants that are native and hardy to your school's specific ecozone (this will ensure a healthy tree for many years to come!) Check out TreeCanada's grants and resources, then get planting!
- 2. **EDUCATION:** Grow Green Awareness in your school and community.

Optional: Planting a tree is a wonderful way to start (or continue!) a conversation around <u>ecological justice</u>. We encourage you to hold a school mass outside by the new tree, using readings and reflections from Pope Francis' Laudato Si.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Tree-Planter!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Bottled Water Free Zone

Challenge: Make your school a Bottled Water Free Zone.

Badge Instructions: Going bottled water free benefits not only our planet, but our brothers and sisters in the Global South, too! DPCC's 2010 Fall Action Campaign <u>"Water for All: Let Justice Flow"</u> educated Canadians on the many reasons to "take back the tap". We encourage you to use resources from this campaign when carrying out this initiative at your school.

Becoming "bottled water free" involves a two-fold approach:

- 1. **ACTION:** You guessed it! Eliminate single-use bottled water as a school community. This means not providing or allowing bottled water to be given away or sold at your school (including all food/beverage vendors and vending machines!) Note: Your school board may have existing contracts with bottled water companies, making it difficult to make immediate change. If you're actively working to convince your school or school board to *terminate* those contracts, we'll still consider you bottled-water free.
- 2. **EDUCATION:** This is the perfect opportunity to educate your school community about <u>ecological justice</u> and the many benefits of "taking back the tap"!



Optional: Share this video on <u>"The Story of Bottled Water"</u> as part of your morning announcements or in religion classes.

FUN FACT! Did you know that each plastic bottle takes over 400 years to decompose? So, by becoming bottled-water free, you'll help us to save millions of bottles from ending up in our landfills today, and in our great grea

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Bottled-Water Free Zone!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Prayer Power

Challenge: Use any one (or more) of our prayers and reflections in your school setting, found in our Activities Database.

Badge Instructions: Our Activities Database has over 35 choices for "Prayer and Reflection." Go to our <u>Activities Database</u> on our website. Click the "Prayer and Reflection" checkbox on the top left-hand corner under "Type" to narrow the search. You may even find a prayer or reflection with a particular theme you want to focus on, like Forced Migration, Water, the Environment, Food and Hunger or Mining. Nourish your spirituality by using one or more of the prayers or reflections in your school setting, such as:

- in the classroom,
- over the morning announcements,
- at a retreat,
- assembly,
- another school event,
- after a liturgy.
- Or use your imagination!

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Prayer Power!" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: Essay Contest

Challenge: One or more of your students writes an essay in the form of a letter about why they support the work of DPCC and submits it/them to your DPCC animator by the May 19th deadline.

Badge Instructions: Write an essay in the form of a 250-500-word letter about why you support the work of DPCC using the suggested resources below. Include the following:



- What does DPCC do; and why it inspires you? Make sure to include examples from both our in-Canada and international work
- Your most important learnings through your participation in the Laudato Si' Schools program
- An invitation to donate at https://www.devp.org/en, by clicking on the "Give Now" Tab

Elementary students can write an essay at an age-appropriate length to be determined by their homeroom teacher using one of the following resources.

Suggested Resources:

- Latest Annual Report: https://www.devp.org/en/resources/annual-reports
- Catholic Social Teaching Principles: https://www.devp.org/en/cst
- Advocacy Materials: https://www.devp.org/en/resources/advocacy
- Our History: https://www.devp.org/en/50years
- DPCC Historical Timeline: https://www.devp.org/sites/www.devp.org/files/documents/materials/50years-timeline-en.pdf
- About Us: https://www.devp.org/en/aboutus/identity
- Videos from our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/DevPeaceTV

*** Ensure any resources you use are properly referenced; you can ask a teacher to help you with this. It doesn't matter what format; just be consistent. Remember to proofread! Finally, email a copy of your essay-letter to your DPCC animator by May 19th to ensure it is entered into the contest. Be sure to include the following:

- Full name
- Grade
- School
- City/Town

Prizes will be announced at the June 10th Awards Ceremony; (see the "Happy Badger Challenge")

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Essay Contest" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: #hashtag

Challenge: Spread the good news of #LaudatoSi and #GlobalJustice on your school's social media accounts. Follow @devpeaceon and tag us in your world-changing posts!

Badge Instructions: "Go out into all the world [wide web] and tell the good news" (Mark 16:15) Social media is a powerful tool to spread solidarity. Post a picture of your #upsidedown map, create a TikTok video promoting #plasticfree, or do an IG Live

#LaudatoSi liturgy... the possibilities are endless! Don't forget to follow/tag @devpeaceon

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "#HASHTAG" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!





Badge: Graphic Novel Bookworm

Challenge: With the help of our partners and local artists in their countries, we have developed two graphic novels: The themes address the injustices and violence surrounding the global trade of popular commodities like coffee and minerals necessary to create technologies we use and discard sometimes yearly. Meet Roza or Kaneza and Kagabo and explore their realities through an experiential learning activity.

Badge Instructions: Choose between our graphic novels <u>Burundi: Kaneza and Kagabo under the shade of the coffee tree</u> (Kaneza and Kagabo) or <u>DRC: Roza or the Courage to Choose Life</u> (Roza) Read and discuss and do the activity associated with the respective graphic novel: <u>Kaneza and Kagabo</u> or <u>Roza</u>. Bonus: get signatures for and send in the petition for the <u>Kaneza and Kagabo</u> found on the main graphic novel page. *N.B. Due to mature content, Roza is best suited for high school (i.e. discussion of sexual violence)*.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Graphic Novel Bookworm" CHALLENGE? CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR REPORT AND LIGHT UP YOUR BADGE!



Badge: The Happy Badger

Challenge: Send your favourite photo from your year of becoming a Laudato Si school by June 4th to <u>schools@devp.orq</u> or your local animator. Then join us online on Tuesday June 10th at 4pm ET to celebrate with all the other schools that earned their Laudato Si certification for 2020-21!

Badge Instructions: This is our moment to say THANK-YOU to your school for all your hard work throughout the year towards becoming certified Laudato Si school! We will light up the badge board for the final time of the year! There will be a slideshow from our school year with the photos you send us. We will announce the total number of badges earned as well as the total money raised collectively by all schools in Ontario for the year. We will also give out fun awards (every school will get one!) and have draws for some fun prizes! Then we take a break for the summer and get ready for next year!! CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE YEAR END AWARDS CEREMONY ON JUNE 10th AT 4PM ET

HAS YOUR SCHOOL COMPLETED THE "Happy Badger" CHALLENGE? Your badge will automatically light up as soon as you have sent your photo and registered for the year end!

Note: These are the badges available to earn as of January 27th, 2021. There may be more that are added throughout the year. Contact your staff animator to ensure you have the most recent version of this guide.