



CATHOLIC DIOCESE *of* DODGE CITY

The Catholic Diocese of Dodge City has a long history of living the spirit of *Laudato Si'*.

Long before Pope Francis wrote his encyclical, the people who settled southwest Kansas understood that caring for the land was both practical and spiritual. The land fed families, provided livelihoods, and sustained communities. Farmers and ranchers knew that caring well for the land today would help provide for the generations that followed.

That same spirit continues today.

In our diocesan pastoral plan, **Jesus in Our Midst**, we are invited to recognize that Christ is already at work in our parishes, schools, families, and communities. The same is true of our care for creation. Throughout our diocese, individuals, families, parishes, and schools are already taking simple, faithful steps to care for God's gifts.

Our *Laudato Si'* plan begins by recognizing those efforts. Rather than asking everyone to start something new, we invite each parish, school, and family to build on the good work that is already taking place.

Our goal is simple: recognize the many ways we are already caring for creation, celebrate those efforts, and then take one small step further. In doing so, we continue our tradition of faithful stewardship, accompany one another in this work, and leave a legacy of gratitude and responsibility for future generations.

Together, we can care for God's creation in ways that are practical, local, sustainable, and rooted in our Catholic faith.