



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Sacred Trust: Our Children's Right to a Livable Future

Earth Day is on April 22, and **Faith Climate Action Week** begins on that day and ends on May 1. This year's theme, *Sacred Trust: Our Children's Right to a Livable Future*, "examines our responsibility to safeguard our Earth for future generations, and how our faiths call us to respond with bold and just solutions." (Interfaith Power & Light)

The Social Justice Committee is planning activities for this special Earth action week, including



Stories for our children that aim to inspire them to safeguard our Earth in ways that are both honest and empowering.



A film, *Youth v Gov*, that follows the story of a courageous group of young people fighting to secure their constitutionally protected rights to a safe climate through the court system.



Pledge to Vote postcards with climate justice and creation in mind.



A climate prayer and blessing.



Opportunities to take action.

We hope you will look forward to this week and join in the activities with your families. We know many of you are environmental stewards.

It is no surprise that a small but potentially potent force in the climate movement are **mom**s, who have been catapulted into action by the hazards facing their children. (Somini Sengupta, Climate Fwd, *The New York Times*, 3/11/22)

Children too have demonstrated amazing and inspiring determination and leadership in caring for our Earth and one another. The Kid of the Year featured in TIME's February/March issue is 11-year-old Orion Jean who sees himself as an ambassador for kindness. "For Thanksgiving 2020, he organized the donation and delivery of 100,000 meals to food-insecure families across the country. Over summer break, he got 500,000 books to kids in their homes. And he always brings others with him" (TIME, February 28/March 7, 2022). Eighteen other children are also featured, including Cash Daniels, an environmental activist; Lino Marrero, an inventor; Mina Fedor, a campaigner against Anti-Asian hate; and Samirah Horton, an antibullying advocate.

Our children's voices have an outsized impact when they speak and act on climate change. **We need to listen to them.** They deserve our active support in how we respond to climate threats in ensuring a livable future for generations now and to come.

In the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, an advertising blitz will share an [Earth Day web page](#) with Catholic K-12 schools. The page contains resources for students, parish religious education programs, and families. They are also planning their first young adult event in coordination with the archdiocesan office of youth and young adult ministry.