

Continuing our commitment to the seven goals of Laudato Si' and the part we have to play in following the call from Pope Francis to care for creation and our common home, this month our focus is on Goal 2 (Response to the Cry of the poor).

We are very fortunate to have a hard-working group in our Parish who reach out every week to the disadvantaged and vulnerable in our community – the local chapter of St Vincent de Paul. working under their Vincentian mission to respond to 'The Cry of the Poor'. Their motto – A hand up, not a handout – drives their commitment to actively speak out against the causes of poverty and inequality on behalf of the people they serve.

As we heard over a recent weekend at all Masses, their driving passion is not only to help the vulnerable in our community on a practical level but also to be a listening ear to those who have no one to hear them.

The hope and love SVDP bring to each person they encounter is an act they perform on behalf of our St Joseph & St Anthony community.

It is our job then to support them in the important work they do – whether that be in prayer, as a volunteer, or in a financial capacity.

The Parish website contains details about the work they do, and the weekly newsletter has contact details if you would like to gain further information including how to provide financial support.

How are you playing your part to respond to the cry of the poor?

Any comments to the Laudato Si' team via the Parish Office email bridge@bne.catholic.net.au

"The Response to the Cry of the Poor is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of life on Earth. Actions could include projects to promote solidarity, with special attention given to vulnerable groups such as indigenous communities, refugees, migrants, and children at risk, analysis and improvement of social systems, and social service programmes. (Laudato Si Goal 2)

We acknowledge the Turrbal people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship Parish of St. Joseph & St. Anthony, Bracken Ridge / Bald Hills, Queensland, Australia