



# Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia

Spirituality of the Heart in an Australian Lay Context

30 April 2022

## Laudato Si Endorsement

### “From Little Things Big Things Grow”

The *Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family (Australian Council)* supports the 'Doing Our Part to Care for the Earth' Declaration by the International Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family and Tri-Generalate (the general leaders of the three Chevalier Family congregations) in response to *Laudato Si*.

The *Australian Council* commits to a “greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share” (*Laudato Si*, 14). Our choices show where our heart lies and that we, who live in the *Spirituality of the Heart*, are called to love and care for Creation.

The *Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family* make the following concrete promises:

- Continue to raise awareness of the ‘Doing Our Part to Care for the Earth’ Declaration with the Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia members.
- Create and distribute Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia calendars with a *Laudato Si* and indigenous focus.
- Encourage people to act for *Laudato Si* in their own lives (e.g., by using an email signature endorsing *Laudato Si*, using social media and the website to promote possible actions).
- Sustainably organise events.
- Reduce reliance on paper for meetings, gatherings, and events.
- Avoid the use of single-use objects, such as plastic plates and cutlery.
- Ensure recycling of any recyclable materials.
- Use electronic means of communication rather than paper.
- Pay carbon offsets for flights involved in *Australian Council* operations.
- Wear warm clothes in cold rooms instead of relying on heating.
- Encourage Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia members to purchase ‘green’ energy.

While the *Australian Council* acknowledges that these actions alone will not combat climate change, they are a means to start a changing mindset.



With deep respect and love, we acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (the traditional custodians of this land) and their Elders - past, present, and emerging.

We support the *Uluru Statement From The Heart* and recognise the importance of ensuring First Nations people have a voice in Australia.



We commit to a "greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share". (*Laudato Si* 14).

We live in the *Spirituality of the Heart* and are called to love and care for Creation.