Sisters of Providence
OF SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS
Breaking boundaries, creating hope.®

2026-2027 LSAP Plan

Who Are We?

- Saint Mother Theodore Guerin founded the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in 1840. Gifted as a healer with knowledge of medicinal herbs and plants, Mother Theodore knew the value of caring for all of Creation. Growing in love for the Indiana wilderness, she wrote: "*… nature unfolds in our forests and along our rivers in so grand and marvelous a manner that describing even with the greatest simplicity seems an exaggeration to those who, not having seen it, cannot form an idea of its splendor.*"
- The legacy of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin infuses the contemporary life of the Providence Community with deep trust in the Providence of God, inclusivity of the diversity of creation, and active response to God's call to care for all creation.
- Providence Community has a strong commitment to love, mercy and justice. This is expressed in love for all of creation, deep trust in the mercy of God for the harm humans have done to Earth, and the social mission of Jesus the Christ who calls us to co-create and care for all of creation.

Significant Milestones in Our Care for Creation:

1996 Chapter: Established the White Violet Center. https://spsmw.org/about/justice/white-violet-center-for-eco-justice/

2011 Chapter: Adopted Sisters of Providence Land Ethic. https://spsmw.org/about/justice/laudato-si/land-ethic/

2016 Chapter: Established the Climate Change Task Force (CCTF)

2018 Annual Meeting: Committed to the Providence Climate Agreement**:** https://spsmw.org/about/justice/providence-climate-agreement/#agreement

2021 Chapter: Prior to this Chapter, the General Council of the Sisters of Providence invited the Climate Change Task Force to engage the Providence Community's participation in the *Laudato Si* Action Platform.

2022-2023 LSAP Plan: https://spsmw.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/SP-LSAP-Plan-22-23_bb030323-small-file.pdf

2023-2024 LSAP Plan: https://spsmw.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=89d3f43af48dc9163140a5f55&id=3a0fb90b08&e=ab741527c1

2024-2025 LSAP Plan: https://spsmw.org/2024/12/18/our-2024-25-lsap-plan/

2025-2026 LSAP Plan: https://spsmw.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/LSAP-Plan-2025-2026-for-Sister-Marilyn.pdf.pdf

2026-2027 *Laudato Si'* Action Platform Plan:

Purpose of the 2026-2027 LSAP Plan

The purpose of the 2026-2027 *Laudato Si'* Action Platform Plan is to engage the Providence Community in an Ecological Examen that reflects on our ecological journey from the founding of the Climate Change Task Force in 2017 through the completion of the sixth year of the seven-year *Laudato Si'* Action Platform.

Through remembering, reflecting, and renewing, we will celebrate how Providence has guided our ecological growth, assess the challenges and opportunities that have emerged, and discern the commitments and priorities that will shape our response to God's call in the years ahead.

Grounded in Providence spirituality and the 2025-2031 Chapter Vision, this communal reflection will help us recognize God's presence in our ecological journey, celebrate signs of growth and transformation, acknowledge ongoing challenges, and discern the next steps to which we are being called.

Hopes and Goals of the Ecological Reflection Process

Through prayer, storytelling, listening, and discernment, we hope to:

- Reflect on how our ecological awareness, commitments, and practices have evolved since 2017.
- Celebrate accomplishments and identify areas calling for deeper conversion and renewed attention.
- Gather wisdom, hopes, and priorities that can guide future ecological initiatives.
- Strengthen our shared commitment to responding to the cry of Earth and the cry of the poor.

Desired Outcomes

Through this reflection process, the Providence Community will:

- Celebrate ecological growth, accomplishments, and commitments that have emerged since 2017.
- Deepen awareness of God's presence in creation and our call to ongoing ecological conversion.
- Identify priorities and practical actions that advance sustainability and climate justice.
- Renew commitment to the Chapter Vision, Providence mission, and care for our common home.

Conclusion

While this LSAP Plan invites the Providence Community to remember, reflect upon, and celebrate our journey of ecological conversion since 2017, it also calls us to discern how Providence is inviting us to respond in the years ahead. As we look to the future, we renew our commitment to the practices and priorities embraced in previous plans, seeking ever deeper ways to live in right relationship with all creation. Each member is encouraged to continue recycling, reusing, repurposing, and reimagining how we can lessen our ecological footprint, while embracing new opportunities to care for our common home with creativity, courage, and hope.

Rooted in the mystery of Providence and in communion with Earth and all living beings, we commit ourselves to the ongoing work of ecological conversion. Guided by the Spirit and strengthened through communities of participation, compassion, and justice, we journey forward together as faithful stewards of God's creation, trusting that Providence continues to lead us toward healing, wholeness, and right relationship with all life.