



## **“Laudato Si’, On Care for Our Common Home”.**

**Encyclical, Pope Francis, 2015.**

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience. "Laudato Si', 217 ...life giving trees....."

### **Creation Care:**

#### **Free trees for planting at all mainland Masses on September 7th and 8th.**

Did you know that planting trees is one of the most effective acts of earth care we can do? Trees love inhaling CO<sub>2</sub> and exhaling oxygen. They clean the air, reduce ozone layers and keep us healthy by helping to prevent asthma and other lung diseases. A mature tree can change 48 lbs. of carbon into oxygen and keep two people alive. Trees keep soil from eroding while also ensuring that roots can store needed water. A canopy keeps the roads cool and disperses heavy rainfall. In your yard, they will reduce both your heating and air conditioning costs and they provide a balanced eco system for animals and insects to find homes and food. Conifers, in particular, shade the ground all year allowing snow to hang around longer for a slower melt. They also have special air pollution abatement ability through the terpenes they release and are critical players in cloud formation and rain making. Conifers have a higher survival rate from bareroot transplanting.

Because of the value of trees, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ephraim and Climate Change Coalition of Door County are reaching out to our inter-faith community to add to Door County's inventory of trees.

Ten churches in Door County including Stella Maris have said “yes” to receiving and distributing trees (species: Balsam Fir, Red or White Pine, White Spruce). They have been procured through a grant and **trees will be yours to take home within instructions to lovingly care for them.**

Quantities are limited, so please look for them at church entrances the weekend of September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Stella Maris Creation Care Mission and “Our Common Home” the earth thanks you for your participation!