

Changing the Ecological landscape in Australian largest employer outside government



Sue Martin Acting Director CEA 2019
NSW EE conference October 4th 2019

Dharug – Acknowledgement of Country in language



- Traditional Acknowledgement
- We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the country on which we meet today, the Boandik people and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.
-
- Dharug language Acknowledgement – using the 1990 Dharug Dictionary
- Jumma paialla mittigar Boandik. Kullea coco jumma ngubafy dubbar burdo bija burriiong burrapur.
- We talk to our friends Boandik, Request to the head, we love ground and water here, today and tomorrow.

(Respecting where we are)



My story:



Catholic
Earthcare
AUSTRALIA



Schools

JPII

Marian

Emmaus

Riverview

MSB - Board

State government

EPA

DLWC

HNCMT

Sydney University / UNE

BScAgrDipEd

University

ACU

UWS



Local
government

BHSC

LGSA

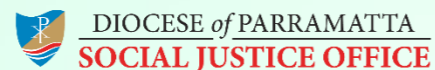


NGO

WSEDB

Catholic Mission

Earth Ministry



**The only planet
we can live on.**





LAUDATO SI'

AN URGENT APPEAL FOR ACTION

YOUNG PEOPLE DEMAND
CHANGE.

THEY WONDER HOW ANYONE CAN

CLAIM TO BE
BUILDING A
BETTER **FUTURE**

WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT THE

ENVIRONMENTAL

CRISIS AND THE SUFFERINGS
OF THE EXCLUDED.

- LS:13

Catholic Earthcare 2019

- Catholic Earthcare networks
- Youth Eco-summit
- Steps towards caring for our common home
- Laudato Si' gathering October
- 2020 gatherings - Convocation Melbourne
- Future Fund campaign



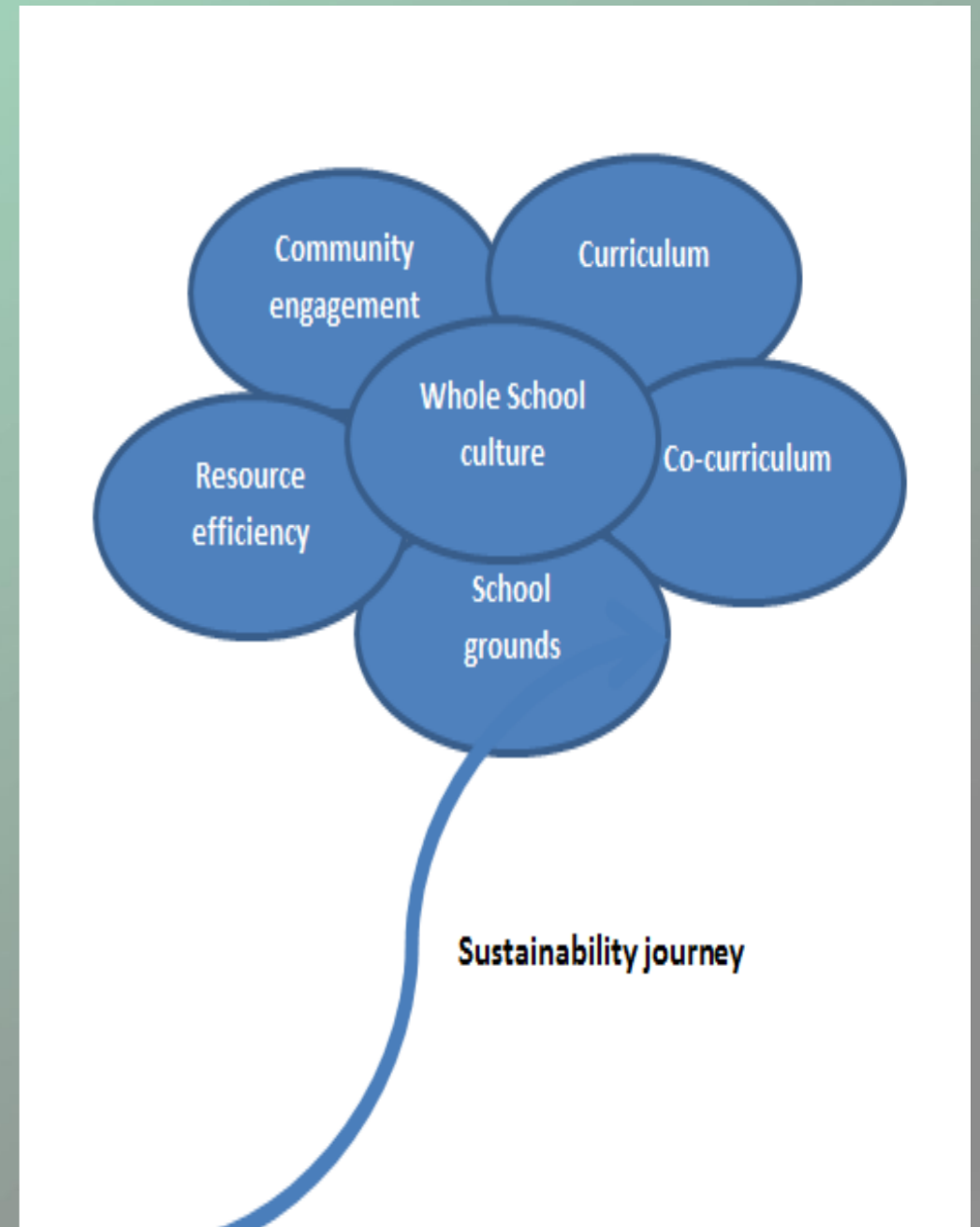
Our Good News

Dr Richard Leonard SJ.



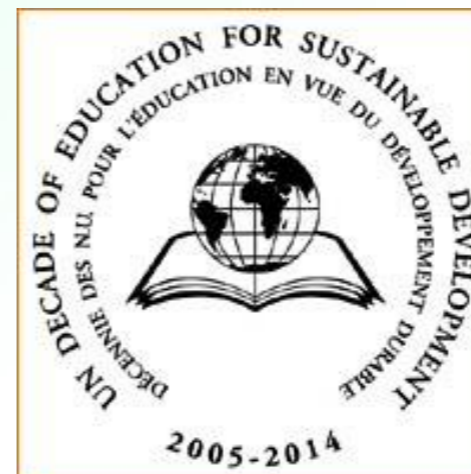
- Largest non-government employer and 3rd largest employer (75% women of 221,000 jobs)
- 1 in 5 schools seats
- 2 in five health sector beds
- 20% of all medical research (St Vincent's and Mater Healthcare)
- Largest volunteer network in Australia in St Vincent de Paul Society with 18,000 members and over 30,000 volunteers
- Largest provider of trained personnel for developing counties
- Raised over \$30m for the poor through Caritas and \$12m through Catholic Missions.

Helping to create Earthcare schools



A sustainable school:

- works towards ecological sustainability by reducing its ecological impact
- fosters lifelong environmental citizenship among students and teachers, and
- encourages the local community to join in its commitment to ecological sustainability
 - SS NSW website



Prayer for Ecological Conversion

God of the sun and the moon,
of the mountains, deserts and plains.
God of the mighty oceans,
of rivers, lakes and streams.
God of all creatures that live
in the seas and fly in the air,
of every living thing that grows and moves
on this sacred Earth...

Help us to love and respect it.
To repair what we have damaged.
To care for what you have made good and holy.
Give us the wisdom and the passion
to change our minds and hearts and our ways.

Let us be mustard seeds in our world
bringing about ecological conversion which
grows and spreads to every corner of the earth
for our sake now and for every generation
which is to come.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.
(Adapted from Catholic Earthcare Launch 2002)

Contact Catholic Earthcare Australia
Email: catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au

Pope Francis is committed to

"...we should all commit ourselves
to promoting and implementing the
development goals that are supported by
our deepest religious and ethical values."

Pope Francis, Agenda 2030, 2015



Laudato Si'

On Care for
Our Common Home



As members of the Catholic Earthcare
network we are called to care for creation...

We must care for creation

"Ex Amore" St Francis

**Listen to the cry of the earth
and cry of the poor (NB9)**

Form intimate connections to place (NB4)

Take the long view

- that life is made up of networks
of dynamic interactions
- that change is ongoing and
necessary for life
- that humans are dependent on the health of
these networks *Douglas Christie 2013*

Live simply so others can simply live

Gandhi

Dialogue, Dialogue, Dialogue

...as we move towards an ecological vocation

Catholic Earthcare Steps to Ecological Dialogue



WATER



ENERGY



WASTE



HEALTH & WELL BEING



GREENING & BIODIVERSITY



ETHICAL INVESTMENT



Create a Climate for Change

1. Form the Heart through

a) Ecological Literacy

Understanding your connection to nature "It is part of our responsibility [to be] looking after our country. If you don't look after country, country won't look after you"

(April Bright in Rose, 1996: 49)

b) Our Theological and Moral Imperative to Care for Our Common Home

Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. [N1]



Engage and Enable the Whole Community

2. Build an Apostolate by:

- Involving multiple stakeholders
- Selecting a coordinator

3. Prepare Ye The Way

- Collect data and select a theme
- Form a strategic plan with prioritised goals and set targets

4. Create Discipleship

- Communicate the plan
- Involve all stakeholders in decision making and resulting actions

Implement and Sustain the Transformation

5. Empower Others

- Remove barriers and sponsor initiatives

6. Harvest Easy Wins

- Build momentum 'early and often'
- Choose achievable goals by 'picking the low hanging fruit first'

7. Sustain and Go Forth

- Embed action plans within renewal processes
- Track progress and energise others through networking
- Gently 'raise the bar' in each cycle of action
- Integrate multiple themes over time

8. Animate Others

- Build our mission by connecting to the like-minded. Share, educate and celebrate

Steps are Adapted from John Katter (1996)

Catholic Earthcare networks



Youth Eco Summit 2019



Schoolgirl inspired by Laudato Si lobbies for environmental change

By David Ryan - March 14, 2018

Share



FEATURES



Faith

Holy Spirit urged take off



Arts & Entertainment

Sacred art a bridge to heaven



Features

A Cracking Idea For The Homeless



News

Blessing of animals great and small

Healing Earth

- <https://healingearth.ijep.net/>



It's about head, heart, and
hands

"Our world is a fragile place. If we want to make sure it is safe, just, clean and viable for future generations, it is up to all of us to look after it."

Susan.martin@caritas.org.au



“On Holy Ground”





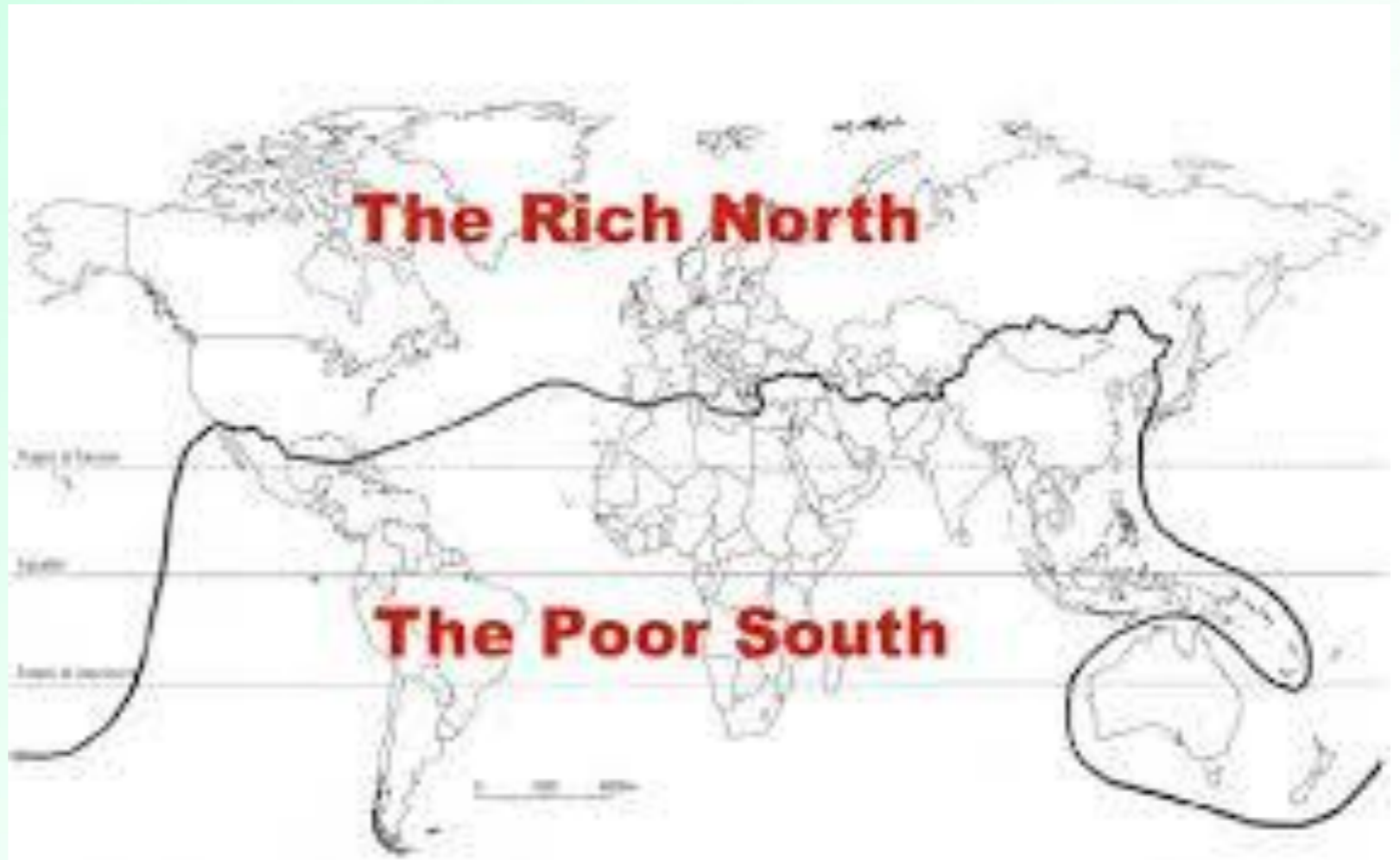
NASA

Our global
environment

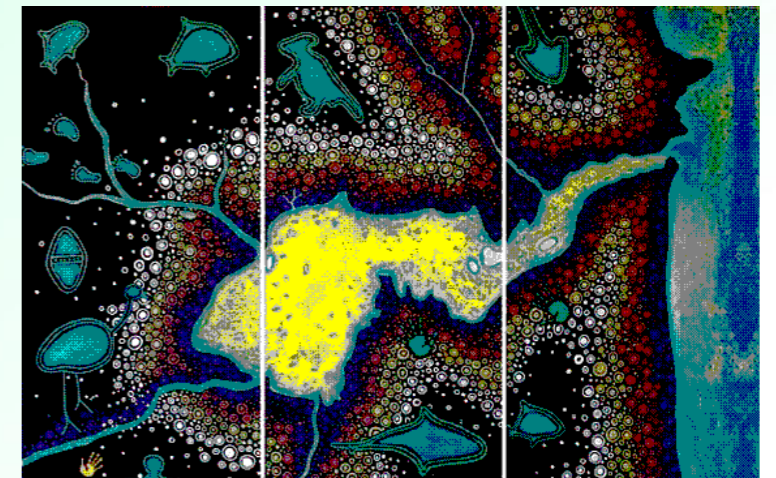
“Listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor”

LS 49

- Who are the poor
- What is listening







<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/environment/EnvironmentalCommittee/Pages/default.aspx>



Did we cover....

- Exploring our green hearts, listening to the call to an ecological vocation
- How Catholic Earthcare can support the journey
- How we can grow the green heart of our school, creating a sustainable school



20 mins

- Change is inevitable, but for Australia's second largest employer, it is awkward and fragmented, yet driven by passion, deep commitment and so much heart that one can only be amazed at the drive of those working in this space.
- Working with local champions in the NSW Catholic education sector, Catholic Earthcare Australia is attempting to bring together the fragmented efforts of the church so that collectively the major issues of climate change, loss of biodiversity, pollution, and political