



## *Earth Week Celebration*

### *April 2018*

Dear Parents & Guardians,

During the week of April 22nd-April 27th, we will be celebrating God's creation by focusing on what we can do both in school and at home to become good stewards of our earth and its life-sustaining blessings.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, encourages us to build an understanding and heightened responsibility for God's creation that surrounds us. We are responsible for protecting God's beautiful creation. In our own small way, the students, faculty, and families of Saint John will create a special focus on this message during Earth Week and beyond. The activities throughout the week and the suggestions listed are designed to bring attention to real ways each of us can reuse, recycle, and reduce consumption in order to take care of our Earth.

We ask that our students and our family continue to be the "Good Soil" of Saint John the Evangelist School by committing to protect the precious gifts that God has given us. We thank you, in advance, for supporting our children and our school in this effort.

### **What can your family do to reuse, recycle, and conserve?**

#### **Reuse**

- ♻️ Glass Jars, Containers or Cans
- ♻️ Gallon Jugs, Plastic Soda Bottles, Takeout and Other Plastic Containers
- ♻️ Newspapers, Magazines, and Paper Bags
- ♻️ Clothes, Towels, and Bedding
- ♻️ Plastic Bag
- ♻️ As you pack your lunch this week be conscious of the type of containers that you use.

#### **Recycle**

- ♻️ Junk Mail and Cards. You can recycle most of the mail that comes into your home.
- ♻️ Books. Donate or sell any books that you no longer read.
- ♻️ Shredded Paper
- ♻️ Ink Cartridges
- ♻️ Disposable Plates and Cups
- ♻️ CD and DVD Cases
- ♻️ Cardboard
- ♻️ Household Batteries

### Conserve water

- 🌱 Limit bath and shower time
  - See how many gallons of water are used in the tub for a bath
- 🌱 Turn water off when you are brushing your teeth
- 🌱 Wash your car in a car wash (A car wash only uses 50 gallons of water compared to your hose in the driveway.)
- 🌱 Put your left-over ice cubes from a glass of water in potted plants to water them
- 🌱 Only run washing machine and dishwasher when they are full
- 🌱 Water plants outside in the early morning or in the evening to limit water evaporation
- 🌱 Check for leaky pipes, toilets, and faucets
- 🌱 Mulch your outdoor plants and trees
- 🌱 Use 1 cup all day to drink from...limits dishes to wash
- 🌱 Reuse a plate or a dish if there were only a few crumbs on it
- 🌱 Create a rain barrel and catch rain off your roof and use it to water your plants

### Conserve energy

- 🌱 Take an inventory of the things in your house that are plugged in, but rarely used...unplug them
- 🌱 No electronics for a day/ limit screen time
- 🌱 Turn lights off when you leave a room
- 🌱 Turn TV off when not watching it
- 🌱 Create a meal that uses no energy
- 🌱 Adjust the thermostat to a temperature so the air conditioner and heat do not run much
- 🌱 Wash clothes in cold water
- 🌱 Open blinds to let the sun in to warm the house
- 🌱 Turn lights off during the day when it is sunny
- 🌱 Switch to energy efficient light bulbs
- 🌱 Use solar lights to light your yard instead of lights that run on electricity