



Living Laudato Si'
St. Bartholomew Parish
CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

NEWS RELEASE
ST. BARTHOLOMEW CATHOLIC CHURCH
COLUMBUS, INDIANA
CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME MINISTRY

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St. Bartholomew Catholic Parish in Columbus, Indiana will sponsor a Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation on Saturday, September 13th, 10:00 am at the Touch the Earth Natural Area, a Sycamore Land Trust property located on Country Club Road west of Columbus. The pilgrimage is part of the 2025 Jubilee Year celebrations inviting pilgrims from around the world to take part in a sacred walk of faith and ecological responsibility.

Participants will hike the trail with five stations along the way where they will stop to reflect on creation and how everything is connected, the land, water, plants, animals, and people. At each stop there will be a scripture verse, statement from the Laudato Si encyclical by Pope Francis, and a prayer.

The pilgrimage will be approximately one to one and a half hours. Participants are encouraged to dress appropriately with long pants and closed shoes. Bug spray highly recommended to guard against ticks.

Directions to Touch the Earth Natural Area:

From Columbus, go west on SR 46 to Country Club Rd and turn left. From Bloomington/Nashville, go east on SR 46. Four miles after crossing the Bartholomew County line (look for the water tower), turn right onto Country Club Road. The entrance is on your left after 0.5 mile. There are eight spaces in the gravel parking lot; carpooling is encouraged.