

“Hold Fast to Love & Justice” (Hos 12:6)



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A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.



O God of the poor, help us to rescue
the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

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Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature,
as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.
Amen.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 246.

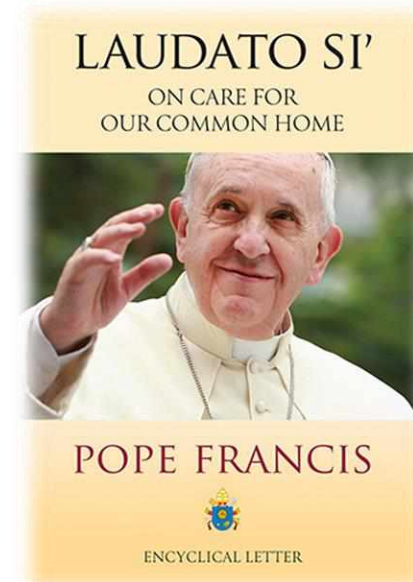


“Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a **sister with whom we share our life, and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us....**

I wish to address every person living on this planet ...

I urgently appeal for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes **everyone**, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all”

(Laudato Si’, 1, 14)



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LAUDATO SI'

ON CARE FOR
OUR COMMON HOME



POPE FRANCIS



ENCYCLICAL LETTER

Overview of Laudato Si

- Chapter 1: "What is happening to our common home?"
- Chapter 2: "The Gospel of Creation"
- Chapter 3: "The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis"
- Chapter 4: "Integral Ecology"
- Chapter 5: "Lines of Approach & Action"
- Chapter 6: "Ecological Education & Spirituality"

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“Standing awestruck before a mountain, he or she cannot separate this experience from God” (Laudato Si', 234)

The call to reconnect:

- “We are not meant to be inundated by cement, asphalt, glass and metal, and deprived of physical contact with nature.” (LS 44).
- **“Live wisely, to think deeply & to love generously”.**
- Pope Francis calls us to see people, creatures, the soil, water, mountains, **“everything as a caress of God”.** (LS 84)



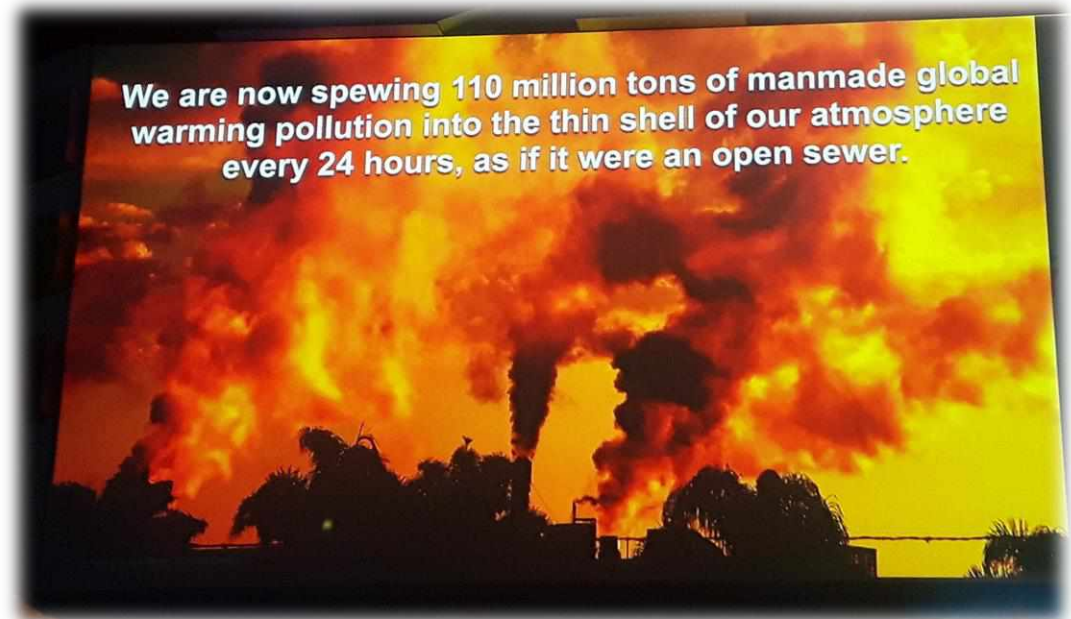


Laudato Si urges us all to
listen to the signs of the
times in light of the
Gospel:

- **the cry of the earth**
- **the cry of the poor**
- **the science**
- **call of our faith**
- **the youth of the world**



@catholicbishops



“The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.”

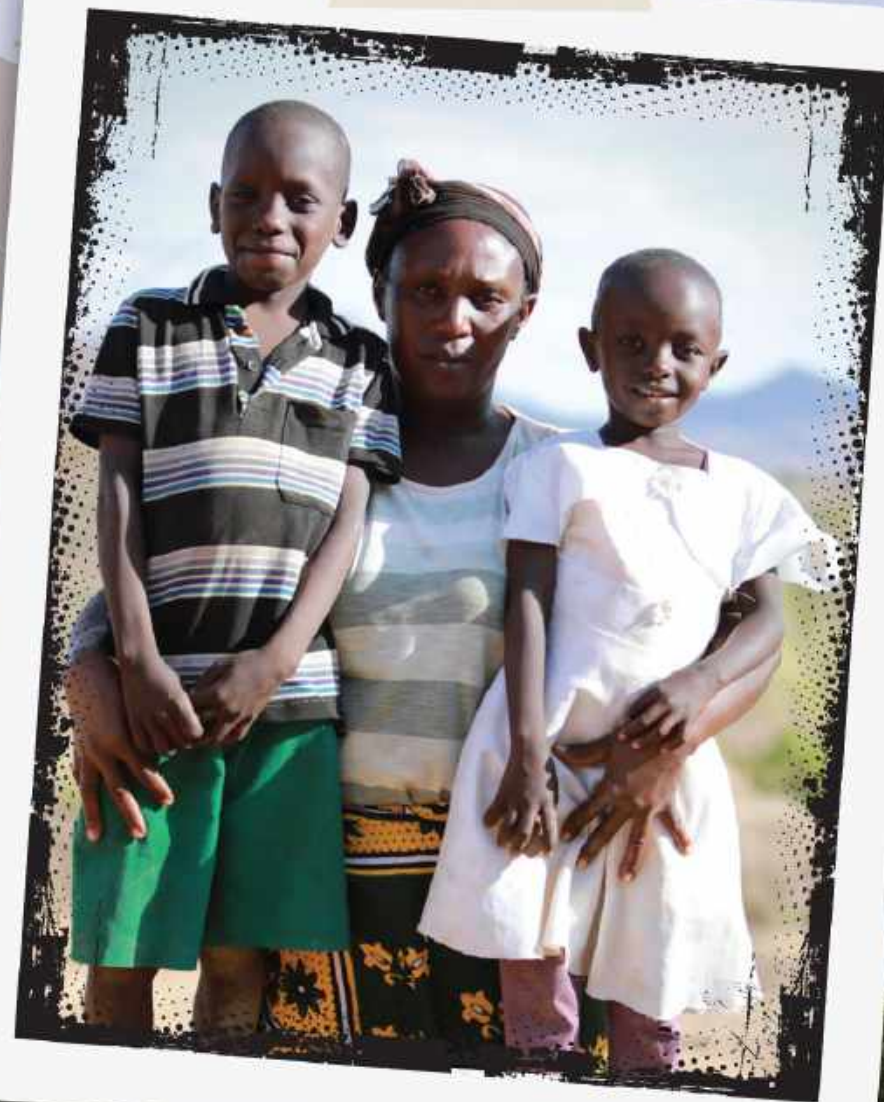
Laudato Si’, 66

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“We have to realise that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (LS, 49)

“Hope would have us recognise that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps” (LS, 61)





Meet our Lenten families....

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Meet Madris

Erick, Joy Faith, Alex, Madris, Julius and Eugene at their home in Kenya.

Photo credit: Gary Moore

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‘I feel very bad when the rains don’t come because all my plants depend on rainfall.’ Madris says.

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Madris & Joy Faith at their home

- 'I draw my strength from God because I am Christian. I pray to God. God helps me to teach good values to my family.'
- Madris has been supported by Trócaire's local partner, Ishiara Parish.
- She has received chickens, and has learned new eco-friendly methods of farming, how to harvest rainwater and how to prevent livestock diseases.

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IN ISHIARA, EASTERN KENYA



Fr Patrick Barasa, Ishiara Parish and Trócaire Partner

‘I would like to thank you so much. The people of Ireland have really contributed to many parts of the parish.

I would like to ask them to work together against climate change. Let us pray for rain and support each other so this planet may still be here for the next generations, so that we may not be the last ones to live here.’

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“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”

-Pope Francis, Laudato Si’



“I want you to panic, as if your house was on fire, because it is” Greta Thunberg.

“I have come that they have life and have it to the full.” (Jn 10:10)

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- “Faced with a climate emergency, we must take action accordingly, in order to avoid perpetrating a brutal act of injustice towards the poor and future generations.”
- “Civilization requires energy, but energy use must not destroy civilization. Today a radical energy transition is needed to save our common home.”

Pope Francis to fossil fuel CEOs in June 2019









In 2018 Irish Bishops Conference, Church of Ireland and many Irish religious orders publicly commit to divesting from fossil fuels.



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Irish Catholic Church to divest from fossil fuels

Updated / Friday, 24 Aug 2018 09:01



The Church will divest from the top 200 oil and gas companies by reserves within five years.

The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference has announced that it's to divest from fossil fuels.

Church of Ireland to end investments in fossil fuel companies

'Divestment from all fossil fuels is the right thing to do'

© Fri, Mar 15, 2018, 21:13

Patsy McGarry



The Church of Ireland has made a significant advance to end its investments in all fossil fuels at its General Synod in Armagh.

It voted to exclude fully companies with a turnover of greater than 10 per cent from fossil fuel production, by 2022.

As part of its ethical stance in climate change the church has made a major shift in its investments over the past seven years from fossil fuels towards renewable energy and forestry. In 2011, its investment funds exposure to fossil fuels was at 10 per cent and by this year it is down to 2.5 per cent.

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**The environmental crisis calls each of us
to a profound interior conversion.**

“Christians need an **‘ecological conversion’** where the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our lives and in our relationship with the world around us. 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)



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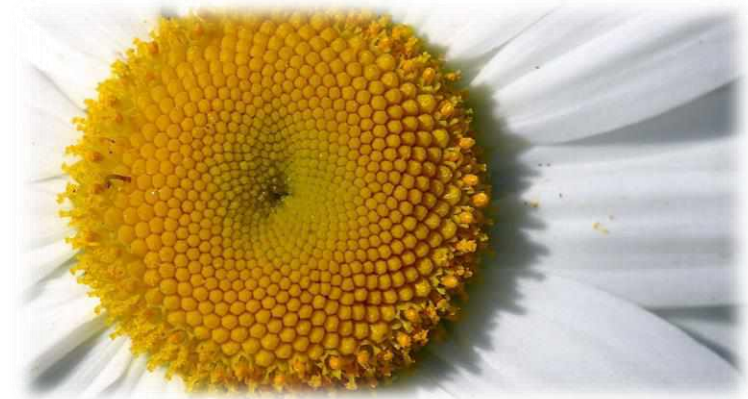
What can we do to Live Laudato Si? “Truly much can be done!” (Pope Francis)

1. Read Laudato Si together!

Host a Laudato Si book club webinar / group.

2. Spend more time in nature. Notice the trees, wildlife, sounds, smells, the soil, air, sky.... Reconnect.

‘The divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God’s creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet’ (Laudato Si', 9).



<https://www.ecocongregationireland.com>

Sign the Laudato Si pledge , encourage others to do the same.

5. Plan what your parish / community can do to celebrate the Season of Creation (1st September – October 4th).

6. Need support? Contact jane.mellett@trocaire.org

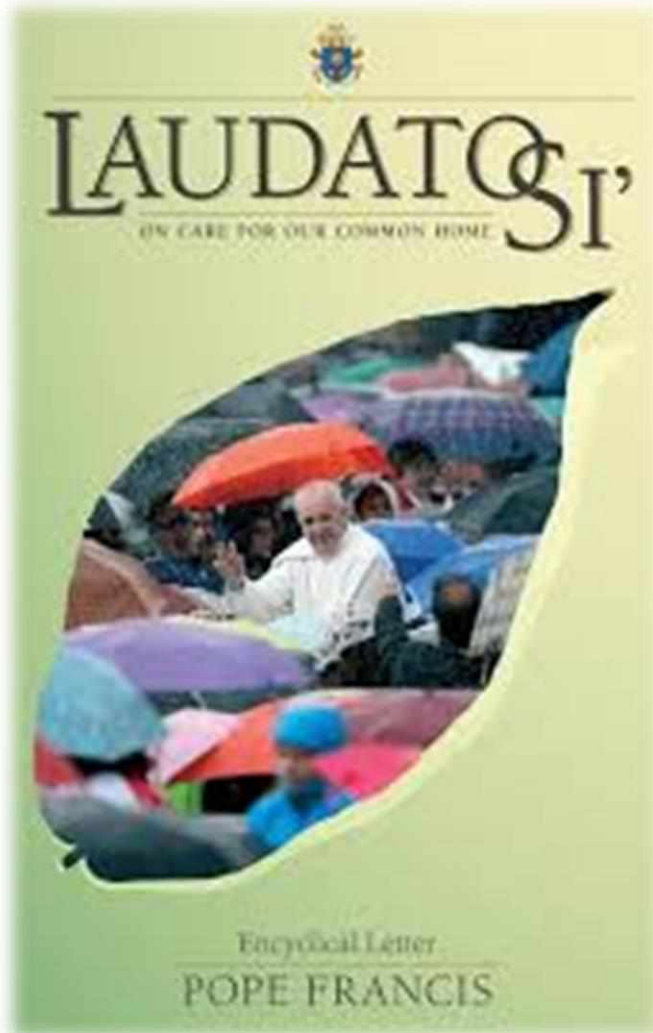
“Everyone’s talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God’s Creation” (LS, 14) **Trócaire**



**CLIMATE STRIKE: WHEN THE WHOLE
WORLD COMES TOGETHER TO
SAVE THE WHOLE WORLD**

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Join us for a Laudato Si book club



- When?
- Access the document free online here:
http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html
- Take a chapter a week.
- There will be a short presentation
- We will share our thoughts and insights from our reading.
- Opportunity for Q&A
- Pray together for our world.



Our Lady in the Parish Church in Ishiara

God our Father, we thank you this time for the gift of life, The gift of the world you gave to us. We also thank you for the gift of faith That keeps us going.

Lord, I pray for rain, especially in this Ishiara Parish and in all parts of Kenya that are dry. You, Lord, are the provider of everything. You are the one who brought us where we are and you have a good plan for us.

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Lord, I pray you may look at the suffering of your people, especially those who lack rain, those who have nothing to eat because of the effects of drought and hunger that is caused by climate change.

I pray, Lord, that you may give us your graces and you may send rain to this area; therefore, your people will be able to live a good life. I pray, Lord, you will give us courage to preserve our environment so that the environment may provide for us as we continue to preserve it.

May we also have the investment for future generations. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

By Fr. Barasa

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“Let us sing as we go.
May our struggles & our
concern for this planet
never take away the joy
of our hope.”

“Truly, much can be
done!”

Laudato Si', 244 , 180