

POPE FRANCIS ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME



"Laudato si', mi' Signore" – "Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, 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.



- This encyclical was published on the 18 June 2015.
- The encyclical discusses the damage being inflicted on the Earth by humans and calls on 'every person living on this planet' to make urgent changes to our lifestyles.
- We need to think about how we consume energy in order to protect the planet.

The title of the encyclical -"Care for Our Common Home"

and the opening quote ...

An "urgent challenge to protect our common home ... to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change". (St. Francis)

establish the focus of the letter.



Laudato Si' deals with many environmental issues including:

- Pollution
- Climate change
- Water
- Loss of biodiversity
- Decline in the quality of human life.

Laudato Si'

- The encyclical is divided into six chapters.
- Each chapter examines different aspects of the split between humans and creation.
- It looks at the prospects for healing this relationship.



Laudato Si'

- 1. What is Happening to our Common Home?
- 2. The Gospel of Creation
- 3. The Human Roots of Ecological Crisis
- 4. Integral Ecology
- 5. Lines of Approach and Action- Government
- 6. Ecological Education and Spirituality

<u>What Is Happening to Our</u> <u>Common Home?</u>

The change in temperature means more **extreme weather.** We have seen more storms, floods and droughts than ever before. Pope Francis tells us that climate change is one of the **biggest challenges** that faces our planet today.

We all depend on our planet earth to survive.

There is no substantial discussion of the science of global warming;

 instead, it simply points to the overwhelming consensus concerning the negative impact of carbon-intensive economies on the natural world and human life







Extreme weather is already affecting people around the world. But we can all make changes in our life to take better care of God's creation and help tackle climate change. We can do things like putting on another jumper rather than turning up the heating, or cutting out short trips in the car and walking or cycling instead.

Pope Francis invites us all to play our part.

Eco-Actions

In his letter, Pope Francis challenges us to play our part to look after our common home.

We are invited to take simple eco-actions like turning off lights, reducing water, waste and recycling.



Pope Francis reminds us that the earth is God's gifts to us, filled with beauty and wonder. It belongs to everyone.

But we have mistreated it and taken more than our fair share.

So we must act now to protect the earth, God's gift to us.

We are asked to open our eyes and see the earth as a gift.

This enables us to treat it with care, just like Jesus would.



- Earlier this year, people from all over the UK travelled to London to ask their MPs to take action on climate change, for the love of the world's poorest people.
- The world leaders met in Paris for the United Nations climate talks in December.

Lines of Approach and Action

- In September, world leaders met to agree on a new set of Global Goals for Sustainable Development, to help make our world fair, healthy and sustainable.
- The goals cover a range of issues, from ending poverty and hunger to improving health and education, and tackling climate change.
- Pope Francis has a vision for a sustainable, just world, where we all work hard to protect our common home, the earth.



In Laudato Si', Pope Francis asks us to put love for the world and for our neighbours into action.



He asks us to work for the common good and commit to caring for our sisters and brothers living in poverty. Pope Francis implores us to **work together** to create a **better world for future generations** and asks us to **make the necessary changes in our lives** in order to take care of, respect and value our 'common home.' "Laudato si', mi' Signore" – "Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, 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.

