



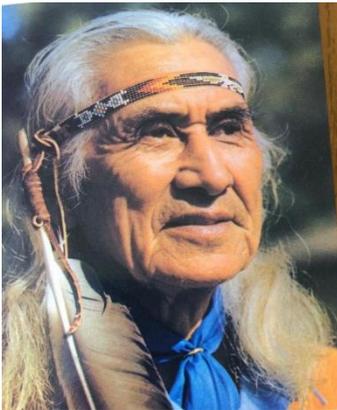
# NEA NEWSLETTER



21 September 2021

## My Heart Soars - Chief Dan George

*Contributed by Breda Byrne*



The beauty of the trees,  
the softness of the air,  
the fragrance of the grass,  
speaks to me.

The summit of the mountain,  
the thunder of the sky,  
the rhythm of the sea,  
speaks to me.

The faintness of the stars,  
the freshness of the morning,  
the dew drop on the flower,  
speaks to me.

The strength of fire,  
the taste of salmon,  
the trail of the sun,  
and the life that never goes away,  
They speak to me.

And my heart soars.

## The Bright Field – R S Thomas

I have seen the sun break through  
to illuminate a small field  
for a while, and gone my way  
and forgotten it. But that was the  
pearl of great price, the one field that had  
treasure in it. I realise now  
that I must give all that I have  
to possess it. Life is not hurrying

on to a receding future, nor hankering after  
an imagined past.



It is the turning  
aside like Moses to the miracle  
of the lit bush, to a brightness  
that seemed as transitory as your youth  
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.

# LIFE LONG FORMATION



## Theme: Creation

The link below is for the video called "Creation Calls", as we are reflecting on the Season of creation this year. Put this link in your search bar and you will be able to watch the video.  
*Sent by Deborah, Zambezi.*

<https://youtu.be/b-kVMcvMWcg>

*Thanks to Deborah for the very beautiful and inspiring video sent recently celebrating Creation. For me it was very inspirational and provided much thought for reflection and prayer, Virginia*

Virginia responded to the video with the following poem:

### CELEBRATING CREATION

The beauty of the world just makes me glad  
My spirit is enthralled, excited  
By the rhythmic ebb and flow of waves,  
And the music of their breaking on the sand.  
I rejoice at the feel of refreshing water as it  
Tingles, mingles 'tween misshapen toes  
And gives solace and balm to tired feet,  
That have trod on many paths and shorelines  
Some rough, some smooth, some comforting;  
And as I paddled slowly through the breaking waves,  
Gently playing on the sands in early morning light  
Injecting new life into tired feet,  
I realised something of the marvel of the moment  
The miracle of being alive and being part  
Of the wonder of the mystic world all around me.



### Ecological Examen



*Pray As You Go*, the audio prayer website of the British Jesuits, offers materials for Creation and an Ecological Examen or 'examination of consciousness' during the Season of Creation. People are asked to reflect on their personal relationship with creation and to promote ecological justice by standing in solidarity with those most impacted by environmental harm.

If you have the app you can click on this picture and you will be led through the examen. As an alternative I am attaching the text of the examen with this Newsletter for those who find it easier to read a text.





## Response to the Season of Creation.

Ellen

JPIC is a natural part of On-Going Formation with emphasis on implementing Laudato Si' and now responding to the Laudato Si' Action Platform Invitation to Religious and the implementation of the Laudato Si' Goals which are all very much part of our Chapter and JPIC Statements. Combining JPIC and Formation it might be

helpful to all of us if you would share your "action steps" - just small ways that we could all relate to and inspire each other in the process.

*Contributions will be published in future Newsletters.*

### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO MARK THE LAUNCH OF THE "LAUDATO SI'" ACTION PLATFORM

*"On a journey that will last for seven years, we will let ourselves be guided by the seven aims of Laudato si', which will show us the direction while we pursue the vision of integral ecology: the response to the cry of the Earth, the response to the cry of the poor, the ecological economy, the adoption of a simple way of life, ecological education, ecological spirituality and community engagement.*

*There is hope. We can all collaborate, each one with his own culture and experience, each one with her own initiatives and capacities, so that our mother Earth may be restored to her original beauty and creation may once again shine according to God's plan.*



*God bless each one of you, and bless our mission to rebuild our common home. Thank you."*

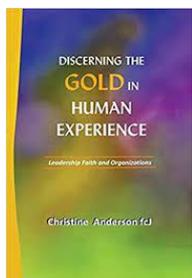
#### Further resources on YouTube:

**'Way of Beauty (14 stations of Creation) based on Laudato Si'.**

**'Laudato Si animation CAFOD'**

**'The Laudato Is Way of the Cross'**

#### A book suggestion:



On Friday 17th September Sr Christine Anderson FCJ, trained in Organisational Analysis, published a book titled '**Discerning the Gold in human experience**' In this book she talks about the process of integrating faith and life, living with reality and uncertainty, coping with faith and crisis, working on our inward journey. She also mentions a Systems Theory, emphasising that what holds our system together is our mission.

Yes, you've guessed, it uses the methodology of See, Judge and Act.

I would strongly suggest that before you think of buying the book, if you do, have a look at YouTube where Christine is part of a question and answer session with two members of UISG, Pat Murray IBVM and Micheline Kennedy HF.

Well worth a listen and a read the book is written in a reflective style rather than a quick read through.

*Kathleen Buckley*