



## Laudato Si Week - 16-24 May



Theme:

**Everything is connected**

At the centre of Laudato Si is a call to conversion: individual, communal and global, opening our hearts to the fire of God's love for the world.

This is a renewed plea to respond to the call of Pope Francis to care for our earth, "our common home". As we prepare to participate in whatever way we can in this special week of prayer let us ponder some of the following quotes from the Laudato Si document.



For other ways to become involved and for other prayers and images: Check the following websites:

[laudatosiweek.org](http://laudatosiweek.org)

[laudatosi quotes](#)

There are many other helpful sites as well but those two are very easy to follow.



"If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously."

Pope Francis  
*Laudato si*

*from*  
*Ellen O'Leary*  
*on behalf of*  
*the JPIC Team*



Laudato Si week may be coming to an end but the work of “**Caring for our Common Home**” is certainly not! Last week Mary Jo shared the **Laudato Si Goals** with us and how they were the guiding principles that motivated the Bishops of Brazil to challenge the plans that the Government of Brazil are trying to implement in the Amazon region.

Following that I thought it might be nice to share the goals again with a short commentary on each one that might also inspire us to action - no matter how small. It could still make a difference as the 14<sup>th</sup> Century proverb reminds us: “**Great Trees from little acorns grow**”.



## Laudato Si' Goals - LSGs

### Measuring Integral Ecology in the spirit of Laudato Si'

1. **Response to the Cry of the Earth** (greater use of clean renewable energy and reducing fossil fuels in order to achieve carbon neutrality, efforts to protect and promote biodiversity, guaranteeing access to clean water for all, etc.)

2. **Response to the Cry of the Poor** (defence of human life from conception to death and all forms of

life on Earth, with special attention to vulnerable groups such as indigenous communities, migrants, children at risk through slavery, etc.)

3. **Ecological Economics** (sustainable production, Fair-trade, ethical consumption, ethical investments, divestment from fossil fuels and any economic activity harmful to the planet and the people, investment in renewable energy, etc.)
4. **Adoption of Simple Lifestyles** (sobriety in the use of resources and energy, avoid single-use plastic, adopt a more plant-based diet and reduce meat consumption, greater use of public transport and avoid polluting modes of transportation, etc.)
5. **Ecological Education** (re-think and re-design educational curricula and educational institution reform in the spirit of integral ecology to create ecological awareness and action, promoting the ecological vocation of young people, teachers and leaders of education etc.)
6. **Ecological Spirituality** (recover a religious vision of God's creation, encourage greater contact with the natural world in a spirit of wonder, praise, joy and gratitude, promote creation-centred liturgical celebrations, develop ecological catechesis, prayer, retreats, formation, etc.)
7. Emphasis on **Community involvement and participatory action** to care for creation at the local, regional, national and international levels (promote advocacy and people's campaigns, encourage rootedness in local territory and neighbourhood ecosystems, etc.)

### LAUDATO SI ACTION PLATFORM:

At the end of Laudate Si week (16-25 May), the **Dicastory for Promoting Integral Human Development** (Rome) launched a seven year action plan to ensure we remain faithful to the integral ecological vision of Laudato Si. This involves journeying together on this mission. In order to bring people together to care for our common home, seven key sectors have been identified: Families, Parishes and Dioceses, Schools and Universities, Hospitals and Health Care Centres, Economy groups, Movements and Organizations and Religious Orders.

Pope Francis sent the following message on the occasion of the launch:

#### Message of the Holy Father

*Dear brothers and sisters,*

*With the Encyclical Laudato si', promulgated in 2015, I invited all people of good will to take care of the Earth, which is our common home. For a long time now, this house that hosts us suffers as a result of wounds that we cause by our predatory attitude, which makes us feel that we are masters of the planet and its resources, and authorises us to make irresponsible use of the goods God has given us. Nowadays, these wounds manifest themselves dramatically in an ecological crisis without precedent, which affects the ground, the air, water and, in general, the ecosystem in which human*



*beings live. The current pandemic has now brought to light in an even stronger way the cry of nature and that of the poor who suffer most the consequences, highlighting that everything is interconnected and interdependent and that our health is not separated from the health of the environment in which we live.*

*Therefore, we need a new ecological approach, that can transform our way of dwelling in the world, our styles of life, our relationship with the resources of the Earth and, in general, our way of*

*looking at humanity and of living life. An integral human ecology, that involves not only environmental questions but also mankind in his entirety, that becomes capable of listening to the cry of the poor and of being leaven for a new society.*

*We have a great responsibility, especially with regard to the future generations. What world do we want to leave to our children and our young? Our selfishness, our indifference and our irresponsible ways are threatening the future of our children! I therefore renew my appeal: let us take care of our mother Earth, So I renew my appeal: let us take care of our mother Earth, let us overcome the temptation of*



*selfishness that makes us predators of resources, let us cultivate respect for the gifts of the Earth and creation, let us inaugurate a lifestyle and a society that is finally eco-sustainable: we have the opportunity to prepare a better tomorrow for all. From God's hands we have received a garden, we cannot leave a desert to our children.*

*In this context, on 24 May 2020 I proclaimed the Laudato si' Year, the organisation of which was entrusted to the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. I thank all those who have celebrated this year with many initiatives. Today I am pleased to announce that the Laudato si' Year will result in a concrete action project, the Laudato si' Action Platform, a seven-year journey that will see our communities committed in different ways to becoming totally sustainable, in the spirit of integral ecology.*



*I would therefore invite everyone to embark on this journey together, and in particular I address these seven environments: families - parishes and dioceses - schools and universities - hospitals - businesses and farms - organisations, groups and movements - religious institutes. Work together. Only in this way will we be able to create the future we want: a more inclusive, fraternal, peaceful and*

*sustainable world.*

*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*

