

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B

28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015

### ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH STANTHORPE

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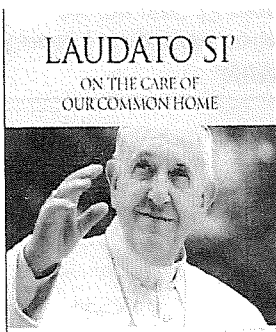


## LAUDATO SÍ

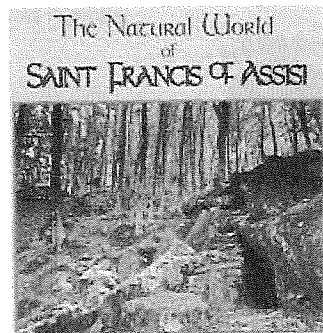
Over the coming weeks, months and years we will be reflecting on the first Encyclical of Pope Francis, entitled "**LAUDATO SÍ**" (literally "**Be PRAISED**" or better "**PRAISED BE TO YOU**"). An encyclical is a teaching document addressed by the Pope not only to Catholics, but also to all people of good will.

### AN OVERVIEW

"What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" (160). This question is at the heart of *Laudato si'* (Praise be to you), the new Encyclical on the care of the common home by Pope Francis. "This question does not have to do with the environment alone and in isolation; the issue cannot be approached piecemeal." This leads us to ask ourselves about the meaning of existence and its values at the basis of social life: "**What is the purpose of our life in this world? What is the goal of our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us?**" "Unless we struggle with these deeper issues – says the Pope – I do not believe that our concern for ecology will produce significant results" (160).

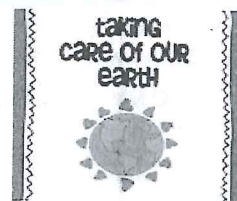


The Encyclical takes its name from the invocation of Saint Francis, "Praise be to you, my Lord", in his Canticle of the Creatures. It reminds everyone that the earth, our common home "is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us" (1). People have forgotten that "we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters." (2).



Now, this earth, mistreated and abused, is lamenting, and its groans join those of all the forsaken of the world. Pope Francis invites us to listen to them, urging each and every one – individuals, families, local communities, nations and the international community – to an "ecological conversion" in the expression of Saint John Paul II.

the task of "caring for our common home". Happily, Pope Francis recognizes that "there is a growing sensitivity to the environment and the need to protect nature, along with a growing concern, both genuine and distressing, for what is happening to our planet" (19). A ray of hope flows through the entire Encyclical, which gives a clear message: **"Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home"** (13). "Men and women are still capable of intervening positively" (58). "All is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start" (205).



The following are 10 of the key passages/ideas that will be read closely and which give us a "taste" for this long and serious document. It is a far reaching document that discusses everything from climate change and global warming to abortion and population control, and warns of harming birds and industrial waste and calls for renewable fuel subsidies and energy efficiency. Here are 10 of the "key passages".



**1) Climate change has grave implications.** "Each year sees the disappearance of thousands of plant and animal species which we will never know, which our children will never see, because they have been lost forever," he writes.

**2) Rich countries are destroying poor ones, and the earth is getting warmer.** "The warming caused by huge consumption on the part of some rich countries has repercussions on the poorest areas of the world, especially Africa, where a rise in temperature, together with drought, has proved devastating for farming."

**3) Christians have misinterpreted Scripture** and "must forcefully reject the notion that our being created in God's image and given dominion over the earth justifies absolute domination over other creatures."

**4) The importance of access to safe drinkable water** is "a basic and universal human right."



**5) Technocratic domination leads to the destruction of nature and the exploitation of people,** and "by itself the market cannot guarantee integral human development and social inclusion."

**6) Population control does not address the problems of the poor.** "In the face of the so-called culture of death, the family is the heart of the culture of life." And, "Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion."

**7) Gender differences matter,** and "valuing one's own body in its femininity or masculinity is necessary if I am going to be able to recognize myself in an encounter with someone who is different."

- 8) **The international community has not acted enough:** "recent World Summits on the environment have not lived up to expectations because, due to lack of political will, they were unable to reach truly meaningful and effective global agreements on the environment." He writes, "the Church does not presume to settle scientific questions or to replace politics. But I am concerned to encourage an honest and open debate so that particular interests or ideologies will not prejudice the common good." And, "there is urgent need of a true world political authority, as my predecessor Blessed John XXIII indicated some years ago."



- 9) **Individuals must act.** "An integral ecology is also made up of simple daily gestures which break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness," he writes. We should also consider taking public transit, car-pooling, planting trees, turning off the lights and recycling.



- 10) **By the way, why are we here on Earth in the first place?**

"What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" he writes.



The document is a call to conversion and action.

It is saying with new force that concern for the environment is no longer "optional" for a believer. Caring for the environment is now very clearly and surely part of Church teaching.

### **NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**

Could you please collect your new Thanksgiving (Planned Giving) Envelopes for the next 12 months in the foyer **this weekend**. It is always a big task distributing the envelopes at this time of year. Please assist by collecting your envelopes before or after Mass. Dorothy is available to assist you. **The new envelopes commence next weekend 4/5 July. Please do not use your new envelopes after this weekend.** Thank you for your assistance. **Please destroy all old envelopes when you begin using the new ones as most of the numbers have changed.**

**SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER:** This weekend we join Parishes throughout the world with a special collection to assist the Pope in his universal mission and as an expression of our unity under the leadership of Pope Francis. Each year this Collection is taken up on the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, (29<sup>th</sup> June) which this year is Monday. This special collection will be taken up after Holy Communion. Thank you for your contributions which Pope Francis will be grateful to receive, and will assist him in his ministry, and especially in helping the poor and disadvantaged for whom he has a special love and closeness.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Giovanni Gottardo (Husband of Gina, Father & Father-In-Law of Maria & Luigi Ponzo, Nita & Louie Primiano, Elena & John Girgenti, Josie & Ivan Bryant – *Funeral Mass:* Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 10.30AM),

David Barker (Husband of Juanita, Father of Robert & Amy, Jason & Catherine, Andrew & Samantha, Sharn & Candice, Son of Dick & Laurel, Brother of Jim & Madeline – *Funeral Liturgy:* Tuesday 30 June 1PM),

Bruce Peter Smith (Husband of Anne, Father & Father-In-Law of Penelope & John Emerson, Michele & Tony Cozzi & Michael [Dec] – *Funeral Mass:* Monday 29th June 11AM),

Ottavio Cattarin (21.06.2015 – Husband of Ausilia, Father & Father-In-Law of Margaret & Derek, Sandra & Jeff, David & Rosalind),

Lawrence 'Laurie' Reedy (Toowoomba: Formerly of Wallangarra: Husband of Margaret, Father of Kathy, Joanne, Trish, Sue, Peter, Paul and Bernadette – *Funeral Mass:* St. Anthony's Toowoomba Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 11AM),

Catherine Coleman (Toowoomba – 19.06.2015: Grandmother of Tina Green),

Pamela Skuse (Sister of Annette Russell [was Anne Pollard when teaching at St. Joseph's] – *Memorial Service:* Heritage Park, Rose Street 10AM Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June ),

Fr. Jeff Skully (24.06.2015 - Priest of the Toowoomba Diocese – Seminary classmate of Fr. Brian – *Funeral Mass:* St. Patrick's Cathedral 11.30AM Monday 29th June),

Sr. Valerie Cuthbert RSM (23.06.2015 – Former Music teacher at St. Joseph's & one of the original Sisters of Mercy in Wallangarra – *Funeral Mass:* St. Vincent's Chapel, 131 Queens Road, Nudgee – 1PM Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June),

Santo Grasso, Michele (Mick) Messina, Cirillo Carniel, Mario Giacomantonio, Hans Hack

**TO REMEMBER:** Col Osbaldeston, Gloria Vedelago, Mollie Dickenson, Giovanni & Domenica Brisotto, Ermenegildo Carniel, Luigi Gasparin

**FOR THE SICK:** Ken McQualter, Gloria Keats, Bro. Ed Collins OH, Vincenzo Di Raimond, Marie Hindmarsh, Karen Anderson, Juan Pereira, Lisa Hopgood, Greg Keen, Trish Hancock, Julia Johnstone, Sarah Leonardi, Mario Costanzo, Joe Costanzo, Danny Mahoney, Cathy Sullivan, Linda Vinciguerra, Debra Micallef, Ev Hayes, Rosemary Paget, Marie Keen, Bridey Kelly, Enid McCarthy

**CONGRATULATIONS** to *Brian and Mary Burnell* who have celebrated their **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**. We wish them good health and happiness for the years ahead, as they look back in gratitude to God for the blessings for the past 50 years.

#### **THIS WEEK:**

**MASSSES: MON: 11AM Funeral Mass for Peter Smith; TUES: 7AM; WED: 10.30AM Funeral Mass for Giovanni Gottardo; THURS: 9.15AM; FRI: 5.30PM; SAT: 7AM; SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.30PM; SUNDAY: 8.30AM**

**FEAST DAYS: MON: SOLEMNITY OF STS. PETER & PAUL, Apostles; FRI: ST. THOMAS, Apostle**

**MEETING: MON: 5.30PM BALL COMMITTEE**

#### **NEXT WEEKEND: ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER**

**SUNDAY** will be celebrated in Parishes throughout Australia **next weekend** with the theme **"We All Stand On Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect & Celebrate!"** It is the beginning of a week of celebrations throughout the nation when we celebrate with Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islander peoples their spirituality, identity, culture