



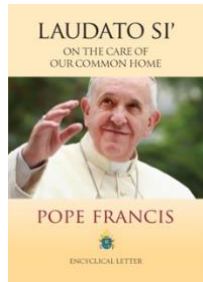
Laudato Si' Week 2025

24th - 31st May

Laudato Si' Resources



Read Laudato Si'



The document is obviously the starting point and even if you have read it before it deserves to be reread in the light of the current signs of the times.

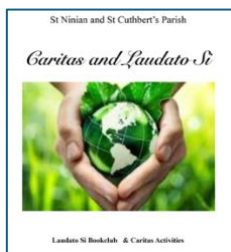
It can be purchased or downloaded from the Vatican website:-

[ENCYCLICAL LETTER *LAUDATO SI'* OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME](#)

Book Club

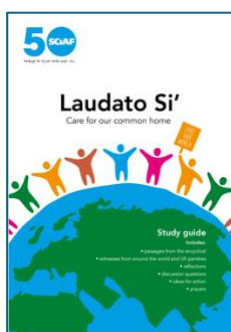
Whilst the encyclical is great for individual reading it is even better for a book club. Throughout Laudato Si' there are calls to dialogue and this reflection and sharing can help u discern how we are called to respond individually and as a group. It can also be an important step on our synodal journey.

Below we offer a variety of resources to support the running of a Book Club. Each cover the material in their own way and we invite you to use the one that you feel most comfortable with.



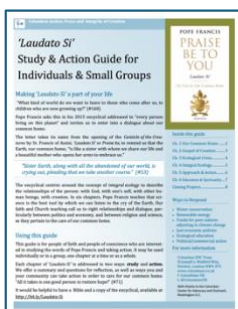
[St Ninian and St Cuthbert's Parish Care of Creation Group](#) have produced an excellent resource that they have successfully used in their parish and local High School.

You can download it here [St Ninian and St Cuthbert's LSi Bookclub and Caritas Activities](#)



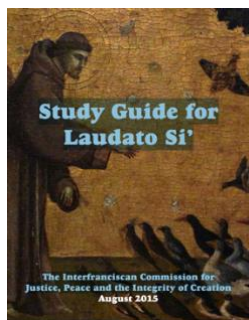
SCIAF and CAFOD offer a [Laudato Si' Study Guide](#) that includes:

- passages from the encyclical
- witnesses from around the world and UK parishes
- reflections
- discussion questions
- ideas for action
- prayers



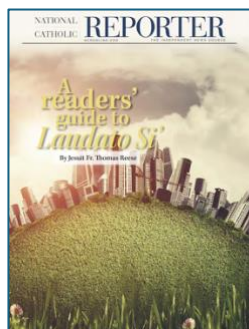
The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Group of the **Columban Missionaries** offer a [Laudato Si' Study & Action Guide for Individuals & Small Groups](#)

Their website [Columban Missionaries Britain](#) is well worth visiting, as is subscribing to their Newsletter.



The spirituality at the base of *Laudato Si'* is profoundly Franciscan and the Conference of the Franciscan Family charged the **Interfranciscan Commission for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation** (more commonly known as Romans 6), to prepare a Study Guide.

It can be downloaded here [Interfranciscan Commission for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation - Study Guide for Laudato Si'](#)



Fr Thomas Reese, SJ, produced, for the **National Catholic Reporter**, [A readers' guide to Laudato Si'](#)

Acknowledging that the climate is changing, posing serious questions and consequences for the planet and people both today and in the future. [EarthBeat](#), a project of the National Catholic Reporter, is an excellent way of finding out how Catholics and other faith groups are speaking out and taking action.

The Letter



The film *The Letter: A Message For Our Earth*, is based on Pope Francis' and it features activists: Chief Cacique Odair "Dadá" Borari from the Amazon rainforest in Brazil; Ridhima Pandey, a 13-year-old climate activist from India; Arouna Kandé, a climate refugee from Senegal; U.S. scientists Greg Asner and Robin Martin; and Lorna Gold, president of *Laudato Si'* Movement.

They were invited to Rome for a private audience with Pope Francis during which they shared their personal story and that of their country.

What emerged was an overview of the state of our planet and the need for us to fully appreciate the interconnectedness of all life on the planet and the impact of human activity in creating an environmental crisis that is already causing devastation amongst poorer countries who have contributed least to the crisis.

You may have already watched it but, like the encyclical, it is well worth another viewing. And again, like the encyclical, it would be good to so with others.

The film is free on YouTube: [The Pope, the Environmental Crisis, and Frontline Leaders | The Letter: Laudato Si' Film](#)

Prayer Resources

At the conclusion of Laudato Si' Pope Francis offered the following two prayers.

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.
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.

A Christian prayer in union with creation

Father, we praise you with all your creatures.
They came forth from your all-powerful hand;
they are yours, filled with your presence and
your tender love.
Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus,
through you all things were made.
You were formed in the womb of Mary our
Mother,
you became part of this earth,
and you gazed upon this world with human eyes.
Today you are alive in every creature in your
risen glory.
Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light
you guide this world towards the Father's love
and accompany creation as it groans in travail.
You also dwell in our hearts
and you inspire us to do what is good.
Praise be to you!

Triune Lord,
wondrous community of infinite love,
teach us to contemplate you
in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you.
Awaken our praise and thankfulness.
for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined
to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good,
advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!

Amen.

Liturgy Resources

Penitential Rite¹

O Gracious God, Creator Spirit, Source of life,
you have given order, light and life to the world around us,
and you have expressed delight in your creation.

You commanded us to till and care for the garden of life.
And yet, we have trampled on the beauty of your creation
and neglected to keep your Word.

As we begin Mass today, we seek God's mercy and forgiveness
for the times that we have offended against the integrity of God's creation.

And so, O God of Creation:

You have created land and trees, animals and all living creatures on the earth.
We are destroying the forests through poisons and logging, the voices of the birds,
insects and forest dwellers are silenced,
Lord have mercy.

You created a world that produces enough food for all humanity,
and yet millions of people go hungry
while food wastage is a huge problem in our society,
Christ have mercy.

You created Mother Earth, our common home, who sustains us.
Human activities are causing the destruction of her delicate ecosystems
as we contaminate the atmosphere with harmful emissions,
Lord have mercy.

May Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our ecological sins, and inspire us to care for our common home, Amen.
Lord, hear us.

¹ From the Laudato Si' Working Group of the Irish Bishops' Conference.

Prayer of the Faithful

For the Church:

that we may listen and respond with boldness and imagination
to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor
by becoming, in word and deed, Prophets of Hope².

For the gift of listening:

that, empowered by the Spirit, we may listen with our hearts
to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor.
May our hearts be dedicated to justice and peace
as 'fratricidal wars kill children, destroy cities, pollute the environment
and leave mother earth violated and devastated'³

For the gift of conversion:

that empowered by the Spirit we may be guided to a true ecological conversion,
that manifests itself in 'a change in lifestyle
in order to resist the degradation of our environment
and to an engagement in a dialogue that witnesses to the real possibility of change'⁴.

For open and courageous hearts and minds:

that we may allow the Spirit to empower us to challenge 'the great economic powers,
whose concern is with the greatest profit possible at minimal cost
and in the shortest amount of time'⁵.

For the courage to challenge those who 'possess power and money'⁶:

that we may be empowered by the Holy Spirit
to 'enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good,
advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live'.

² Spes Non Confundit

³ Message of Pope Francis for the World Day of Creation 2024 - 4

⁴ Message of Pope Francis for the World Day of Creation 2024 - cf5

⁵ Laudate Deum 13

⁶ A Christian prayer in union with Creation

Action that we can take

Laudato Si' is a call to action. Pope Francis clearly states: 'The effects of the present imbalance can only be reduced by our decisive action, here and now.' LS'161

There are various actions that we can take and we offer just a few here.



Justice and Peace Scotland offers some excellent *Practical Advice for Parishes* as well as *Environment Campaign Resources*.

You can access the material at [J&P-Campaigns-Care for Creation](#)



SCIAF invite us to put pressure on governments to care for the planet and create a fairer, more peaceful world.

Check the [Campaign section of their website](#).

Sustaining Ourselves in our Eco Spirituality Journey

With all the challenges we face it is essential that we nurture our inner self and allow the Spirit to lead us. There are many resources available to help us do this and we will share information about them in a future resource document.

Many people have found the following prayer helpful in allowing us to see our actions within the context of God's plan. Pope Francis shared this version of it in his address to the Roman Curia on 21st December, 2015

Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

Every now and then it helps us to take a step back
and to see things from a distance.

The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is also beyond our visions.

In our lives, we manage to achieve only a small part
of the marvellous plan that is God's work.

Nothing that we do is complete,
which is to say that the Kingdom is greater than ourselves.

No statement says everything that can be said.

No prayer completely expresses the faith.

No Creed brings perfection.

No pastoral visit solves every problem.

No programme fully accomplishes the mission of the Church.

No goal or purpose ever reaches completion.

This is what it is about:

We plant seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted,

knowing that others will watch over them.

We lay the foundations of something that will develop.

We add the yeast which will multiply our possibilities.

We cannot do everything,

yet it is liberating to begin.

This gives us the strength to do something and to do it well.

It may remain incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way.

It is an opportunity for the grace of God to enter

and to do the rest.

It may be that we will never see its completion,

but that is the difference between the master and the labourer.

We are labourers, not master builders,

servants, not the Messiah.

We are prophets of a future that does not belong to us.

This prayer is often known as **The Romero Prayer** and is misattributed to Oscar Romero.

For further information see [The Romero Prayer](#).