

Care for Our Common Home: An Australian Group Reading Guide to Laudato Si'

Bill Huebsch with Trish Hindmarsh

'A game changer for the Catholic community.'

Jacqui Rémond,
Director, Catholic Earthcare Australia



Dear Friends,

There has been a remarkable response to the Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si': Care for Our Common Home*. As Jacqui Rémond remarks, it is truly 'a game changer'. Commentators have greeted it with widespread praise and given that this year's Paris conference will again endeavour to reach an agreement on climate change, it's appropriate to bring the encyclical's contents and message to as many people as possible in the Catholic and wider community.

Care for Our Common Home: An Australian Group Reading Guide to Laudato Si' provides an accessible way to take up the Australian Bishops' invitation for the Catholic community and the wider Australian community to address the challenges and opportunities presented by the encyclical. This reading guide has been produced with the kind support of Catholic Earthcare Australia.

The original text is some 40,000 words and 184 pages long. We have taken well-known author, Bill Huebsch's plain English text, linked it to the original encyclical paragraph references, and added Australian commentary and discussion questions from noted Australian educator Trish Hindmarsh. All of this is presented in an attractive full-colour A4 magazine format with quality design and evocative photos that can be shared widely throughout your parish and school communities.

We are confident you will find this truly unique and Australian guide an invaluable resource for reading and discussion within your schools, parishes and the wider community.

Best wishes,



David Hughan
CEO Garratt Publishing

Visit

www.garrattpublishing.com.au/laudatosi
and look inside for a sample chapter

PS. Available from only \$5.76 (ex GST) a copy. To make it possible for you to purchase copies for your school or parish, we offer attractive prices for bulk purchases. If you are a member of our Sophia BookClub you can purchase 50 copies for only \$6.34ea or \$5.76 after claiming back the GST. See the order form on the reverse of this brochure for pricing details. Note, a minimum order of 20 copies applies to allow for distribution through your communities.



Features:

- » Unique plain English language summary of the text cross-referenced to the original paragraphs
- » Additional commentary relating the encyclical in a truly Australian context
- » Discussion questions across six chapters
- » Pope's concluding prayer and St Francis' *Canticle of Creation* printed in full
- » Evocative photos related to the text and the issues Pope Francis call us to address
- » Suggestions for further reading
- » 32 pp full-colour A4 magazine-style keepsake
- » Proudly printed in Australia from responsible sources that support the conservation of forests and wildlife

This encyclical, drawing its name from St Francis' *Canticle of Creation*, reminds us that earth is our common home and that we must care for it. Pope Francis calls on the entire world to take action to embrace what he calls "ecological conversion."

This uniquely Australian guide offers a summary of every article in Pope Francis' 40,000 word, 184 page ground-breaking document and offers reflections, discussion guides and case studies to help students, teachers, parish groups and families read and understand it, and take action!

An accessible guide to Pope Francis' encyclical. An excellent Australian resource for students, teachers, parishioners and



About Laudato Si'

'At this crucial time, the Australian Bishops and Catholic Earthcare Australia invite the Catholic community and wider Australian community to address the challenges and opportunities in Laudato Si'.
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Release

'A game changer for the Catholic community and it offers us in Australia a powerful moral and spiritual imperative for environmental and social action.'

Jacqui Rémond,
Director of Catholic Earthcare Australia

'Francis' encyclical... in my opinion [is] one of the most important documents of our era.'

Robert Manne,
Emeritus Professor and Vice-Chancellor's Fellow
La Trobe University

'A clarion call to every person on earth, individually and collectively.'

Fr Bruce Duncan,
Director Social Policy Connections,
Yarra Theological Union

Laudato Si'
response for
families.



Catholics meet Pope Francis

Australia Director, Jacqui Rémond (pictured above), attended a meeting in Rome to prepare for the release of 'Laudato Si'. The group met the Pope who agreed to prepare for the release of 'Laudato Si'. The group met the Pope who agreed to prepare for the release of 'Laudato Si'. The group met the Pope who agreed to prepare for the release of 'Laudato Si'.

nt and joy of the experience:

ed to stand in the hotel foyer to greet a group of people who I had been on weekly ths. Half a dozen Catholics had started a conversation in December 2014 to harness th warmth as our Argentinian friend introduced us, naming our countries of origin: Africa, and the Philippines. The Pope gave his endorsement to the petition with encouragement ed the Pope's Secretary, and six representatives were invited to meet Pope Francis. crafted GCCM Petition calling for bold climate action. Our intention was to ask Pope

us we could see that Brother Sun had brought not just beads of sweat but lines of ace. His face was radiating joy and his hand shake was firm, gentle and lasted for what felt th warmth as our Argentinian friend introduced us, naming our countries of origin: Africa, and the Philippines. The Pope gave his endorsement to the petition with encouragement ed the Pope's Secretary, and six representatives were invited to meet Pope Francis. crafted GCCM Petition calling for bold climate action. Our intention was to ask Pope

My appeal

13 We humans can shift to a more sustainable approach. God has not abandoned us; he will show us the way. My thanks go to all who are already working for this, especially those who assist the world's poorest people.

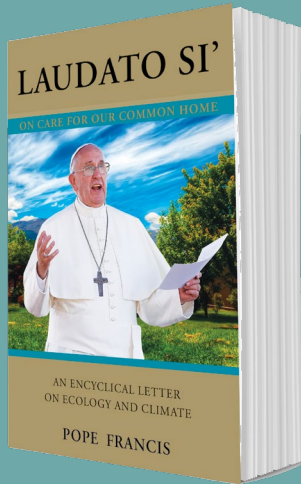
14 My urgent appeal is for dialogue. Let's tackle this together! There is a worldwide ecological movement, but powerful forces oppose it while most people simply go their merry way and ignore the problem, as though it will go away on its own. Others have come to believe that nothing can be done to repair the ecological damage we see. And still others think that all we need is more technology and development, as though adding to the problem will fix it. What I believe we need is a new and worldwide solidarity of will and talent to care for God's creation.

15 I hope this encyclical can help us all understand the urgency of the situation and face it squarely. This encyclical is now part of the church's social teaching. First, I will sketch the present crisis, drawing on the best science available today. Second, I will articulate principles drawn from the Judeo-Christian tradition that will direct our response to the crisis. Third, I will discuss the deep roots of this crisis in order to understand the causes. Toward this end, I will propose broad dialogue and action, both personal and international. Finally, because I am convinced change will only happen if we are motivated and led for it, I will offer guidelines and beliefs.

CANTICLE OF CREATION: ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

O Most High, all-powerful, good Lord God,
to you belong praise, glory,
honour and all blessing.
Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation
and especially for our Brother Sun,
who brings us the day and the light;
he is strong and shines magnificently.
O Lord, we think of you when we look at him.
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon,
and for the stars
which you have set shining and lovely
in the heavens.
Be praised, my Lord,
for our Brothers Wind and Air
and every kind of weather
by which you, Lord,
uphold life in all your creatures.
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,
who is very useful to us,
and humble and precious and pure.
Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom you give us light in the dark;
he is bright and lively and strong.
Be praised, my Lord,
for Sister Earth, our Mother,
who nourishes us and sustains us
bringing forth
fruits and vegetables of many kinds
and flowers of many colours.
Be praised, my Lord,
for those who forgive for love of him
and for those

Order your copies of this invaluable resource TODAY!



Addressed to 'every person on the planet', Pope Francis' second encyclical *Laudato Si'* (Praise Be to You) provides a biting critique of consumerism and global poverty with a plea for swift action to combat environmental degradation, climate change and inequality.

Get your copy today!

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