

Pope Francis:
'People must change lifestyles and attitudes.'



A central theme of the encyclical he accredits to St. Francis stating that:-

"He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace".

The cry of the earth and the plight of the poor are one and the same and we are called to ecological conversion which is both personal and communal. Climate Change, pollution in diverse forms, loss of biodiversity, waste and rampant consumerism leading to the destruction of our forests, oceans and land are challenged by Pope Francis as are the decline in the quality of human life, weak responses and lack of leadership of governments and the lack of a biblical -spiritual framework.

While we humans are implicated in the devastation of the planet and suffering of the poor there is hope, we can change. Pope Francis calls for a change of lifestyle, a new politics and economics based on equality, focus on the interconnectedness of all, intergenerational concern, concern for the common good, preserve the dignity and beauty in all which is God's gift.

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Clogher Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Group



"In union with all creatures, we journey through this land seeking God... Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope"

Laudato Si

Pope Francis' Encyclical - June 2015

The launch of Laudato Si' - Care of our Common Home – Pope Francis' second encyclical in June 2015 is timely.

Laudato Si' is a clarion call to action, addressed 'to every living person on this planet... I would like to enter into dialogue with all people about our common home'.

Pope Francis draws on the wisdom and inspiration of his patron, St. Francis of Assisi, and ecumenically, he welcomes the deep concern and valuable reflections on the disturbing issues of our time from ' other Churches and Christian communities as well as other religions'.

"God has joined us so closely to the world around us that we can feel the desertification of the soil almost as a physical ailment, and the extinction of a species as a painful disfigurement"

The title 'Laudato Si' comes from St. Francis of Assisi's famous 13th-century prayer "The Canticle of the Creatures". Translated into English as either 'Be praised' or 'Praised be', it is an Umbrian-Italian phrase used throughout the prayer to give thanks to God for creation.

What We Can Do About Climate Change

- 🌱 Join a Climate Change Campaign Group
- 🌱 Reduce significantly your use of electricity, coal, oil and gas and products produced using these fossil fuels
- 🌱 Cut out unnecessary air travel, eat a lot less meat and grow as many trees as you can!

Reduce - Reuse - Repair- Recycle

WEBSITES:

- 🌱 Friends of the Earth - www.foe.ie and www.foe.co.uk/northern-ireland
- 🌱 Young Friends of the Earth - www.youngfoe.ie
- 🌱 Trocaire - www.trocaire.org
- 🌱 www.avaaz.org

"The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth"

Mission Statement of CJPIC Group



Inspired by our belief in the dignity and wellbeing of all creation we seek to empower and enlighten people to explore the root causes of injustice, work for peace and promote the integrity of creation as integral to the practice of our faith. We will to do this through reflection, awareness raising and action.

Our Objectives

1. We will communicate with the Clogher Diocese using a variety of means including Diocesan Website, Parish Bulletins, Public talks, campaign actions) with a view to encouraging people in every parish to engage with Clogher JPIC group and/or its activities.
2. We will organise and/or promote at least one mobilisation event or campaign action related to our focus issue(s).
3. We will seek to involve youth (16+) by making contact with them through schools and youth organisations. As part of this we will explore the possibilities for setting up a shadow youth JPIC.
4. We will network and coordinate with the National JPIC and other relevant groups including statutory bodies where necessary.
5. We will seek to connect with other Churches and Faiths as a way of strengthening the Justice message throughout the Diocese.
6. Internally we will continue to educate ourselves as a group by inviting a minimum of two speakers throughout the year who can speak to us about our chosen focus issue or themes related to JPIC.
7. We will invite an external facilitator to help us identify the different expertise in the group with a view to appreciating and nourishing the individual and collective wisdom of the group.
8. We will network with likeminded groups to enable ongoing learning and transformation.
9. We will continually promote health and wellbeing among ourselves as we move forward with our work.

"Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise"