



POPE FRANCIS **LAUDATO SI - ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME**

“ What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”

Pope Francis wrote to us to share his concerns about the state of the world.

Laudato Si means Praise Be ... The Letter takes its name from the opening of the Canticle of the Creatures by St Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology.

This is the first encyclical to address the complex social and environmental crisis. Pope Francis invited the secular and the rest of the religious world to a dialogue on this major issue.

The main challenge that humanity is facing now is climate change and there is sound evidence that human activity is a major cause. Global warming has a disastrous effect on people around the world - cyclones, wildfires, flooding, droughts, migrations...

In Laudato Si - On Care for Our Common Home, Pope Francis reminds us of our responsibility to protect the earth. We are stewards not masters. However, we tend to think that man is superior to the rest of the creation. This is linked to the technocratic paradigm - the idea we think that the power that technology provides us is progress. Production of unsustainable objects, unnecessary consumption, wastefulness and indifference to the earth's finite resources are not progress. Development that does not respect the earth is a false economy. Many lines of action at personal, political and economic levels are suggested in Laudato Si.

The Pope calls us to a profound ecological conversion restoring our relationships with ourselves, our neighbours, the environment and God. The bond between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society and interior peace is inseparable. The Pope also calls for everybody in their towns, countries and cultures to discuss, plan and act on about how best to tackle the problem we face, thus to respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

At the end, the encyclical states that human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising themselves, choosing again what is good and making a new start.

(Laudato Si 205)

SCREENING OF THE DOCUMENTARY - THE LETTER

THE LETTER tells the incredible story of the Laudato Si encyclical letter by Pope Francis, through the eyes of frontline leaders who are battling the ecological crisis across continents.

You are warmly invited to the screening of this film on Thursday 13th July in St Ann's church annexe - 7.00pm to 9.00pm.