



ON CARE FOR OUR
COMMON HOME
LAUDATO SI'

“Praise be to you, my Lord.”

This series of bulletin inserts will focus on the SUNDAY SCRIPTURES in light of LAUDATO SI'

Three of the four scripture readings today refer to the great heavenly banquet described by the prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures and by the Parable of the Wedding Feast in Matthew’s gospel. We hear of a foreshadowing of the heavenly banquet in the story of Jesus’ multiplying the loaves and fishes. The feast foreseen by Isaiah was for the people of Israel. Matthew’s story tells us that the heavenly banquet is for anyone and everyone. “they all ate and were satisfied.”

Psalm 145 assures us four times that God loves and satisfies all people. God is near to all of us. Paul shares his confidence that nothing will separate us from that love. This love is proven in the abundance of food and drink God provides for all. This abundance is not only for all humans; it is for all God’s creatures. Yet, TV and radio news, the internet, and newspapers are full of accounts of people suffering want and injustice: drought and locusts in Africa, starvation in Yemen, food insecurity in rural and urban areas. Whole groups of people are unjustly excluded from this abundance because of racial and ethnic prejudice. Wild animals are losing their habitat and starving. They then migrate to cities and farms which gives rise to zoonotic diseases like **Corona virus** and Ebola in humans. Sea creatures are being harmed by huge amounts of plastic in the oceans.

God invites us, “Come to me heedfully. Listen that you may have light.” Perhaps we might take some time to heed God’s voice calling us to care for our common home so that it can provide for those who have no resources because climate change is destroying their lands and polluting their water. Like the disciples we might heed a call to be God’s instruments in finding ways to see that more of God’s creatures share in the abundance that God has created in the heavenly banquet and that of the earth.



Passages from Laudato Si' to note:

Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods...many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry. They have no other financial activities or resources which can enable them to adapt to climate change or to face natural disasters, and their access and protection is very limited.... [#25]

God has written a precious book, “whose letters are the multitude of created things present in the universe. The Canadian bishops rightly pointed out that no creature is excluded from this manifestation of God. “From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine.” The bishops of Japan, for their part, made a thought-provoking observation: “To sense each creature singing the hymn of its existence is to live joyfully in God’s love and hope.” This contemplation of creation allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us, since “for the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice. [#85]

Indeed, the Eucharist is in itself an act of cosmic love...The world that came forth from God’s hands returns to him in blessed and undivided adoration: in the bread of the Eucharist “creation is projected towards divination, towards the holy wedding feast, towards unification with the creator himself. Thus, the Eucharist is also a source of light and motivation for our concerns for the environment, directing us to be stewards of all creation. [236]



This resource is provided by the Integral Faith Team in collaboration with the [Catholic Climate Covenant](#), the [Global Catholic Climate Movement](#), the [Association of U.S. Catholic Priests](#), and the [Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center](#)

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Laudato Si page >>>**

**THE COLUMBIA
RIVER WATERSHED:
Caring for Creation
and the Common
Good.**

