

Laudate Deum

Praise God for all his creatures!

A new teaching document for the Church from Pope Francis Issued on 4th October 2023 At the conclusion of the Season of Creation, the Memorial of St Francis of Assisi.

A follow up to the previous teaching document of Pope Francis on the Environment
Laudato Si' (Italian for Praised be to you) - 2015 - a call to see the earth as our Common Home.

Taken directly from the teaching of St Francis of Assisi on his love for creation.

Not forgetting that Pope Francis is massively influenced by St Francis of Assisi - the first Pope in history to choose the name Francis!

What was meant by our Common Home?
Given to us all by God
Responsibility to be stewards of creation by God.
A planet that is shared by all living things.

Now - 8 years on - Pope Francis says that the urgency to respond to this call is growing and we can no longer afford to say that it's not our problem or not the fault of human beings.

1. Climate change seen in the increasing extremes of the weather.
2. Pollution of the seas - leading to the destruction of different sea life
3. The human cost of droughts and floods
4. Richer nations contribute to the problem and poorer countries suffer more.
5. Governments are not prepared to make a difference because people are only interested in short term thinking and not long term care of the planet.
6. Covid 19 reminded us that what happens in one part of the world is not only connected with us but affects us all.
7. AI - a sign that human beings can simply increase in knowledge and power.
8. Not all advances in science and technology have been positive. The power in the wrong hands can be destructive.
9. Goodness, together with justice, love and solidarity are not achieved once and for all: they have to be realised each day.
10. Climate change is everybody's responsibility - not enough can happen if major nations do not act but any one person changing their lifestyle makes a difference
11. Pope Francis addresses the various international gatherings that have attempted to address this subject over recent years.



The full document, *Laudate Deum*, can be found here: [“Laudate Deum”: Apostolic Exhortation to all people of good will on the climate crisis \(4 October 2023\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

CAFOD is holding an [online event](#) to reflect on this document: online event on Thursday 12 October at 7pm to reflect on what Pope Francis' *Laudate Deum* means for us. Please do join us and share this [invitation](#) with others.