

*Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation*  
May 2025  
*The 10 Year Anniversary of Laudato Si'*  
**May We Join Together to Hear**  
**The Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In May 2015 our Holy Father, Pope Francis, issued an encyclical to the whole world, calling us to hear the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor. The first two paragraphs of the encyclical are:

"1. *"LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore"* – *"Praise be to you, my Lord"*. In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. *"Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs"*.<sup>[1]</sup>

2. This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she "groans in travail" (*Rom 8:22*). We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. *Gen 2:7*); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air, and we receive life and refreshment from her waters.

*Nothing in this world is indifferent to us."*

May these beautiful and prophetic words guide our personal and fraternal prayers and actions.



**Compassionate, Loving Action**

May our prayers lead us to choose one personal and fraternal action to support our Sister Mother Earth.

*Let Us Pray*



*Show me today, Lord, how you want me to carry your Love in support of our beautiful Sister Mother Earth. I am your servant, now and forever. Amen.*

**Let Us Sing**



You will love this song. I promise. Celebrate Earth Day Everyday. John Denver.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGNWuwAJ6bM&pp=ygUcY2VsZWJyYXRlIGVhcnRlIGRheSBldmVy eWRheQ%3D%3D>

**May we pray, act, and sing as we carry God's Hope and Love into the world.**