

The Impact of *Laudato Si'*



What was the goal of
Laudato Si'?

Response to the Promulgation of *Laudato Si'*

“As Pope Francis has so eloquently stated, we have a profound responsibility to protect our children, and our children’s children, from the damaging impacts of climate change. I believe the United States must be a leader in this effort, which is why I am committed to taking bold actions at home and abroad to cut carbon pollution, to increase clean energy and energy efficiency, to build resilience in vulnerable communities, and to encourage responsible stewardship of our natural resources. We must also protect the world’s poor, who have done the least to contribute to this looming crisis and stand to lose the most if we fail to avert it.”

- Barack Obama



Response to the Promulgation of *Laudato Si'*

“I thank deeply Pope Francis for taking such a strong stand on the need for urgent global action. His moral voice is part of a growing chorus of people from all faiths and all sectors of society speaking out for climate action.”

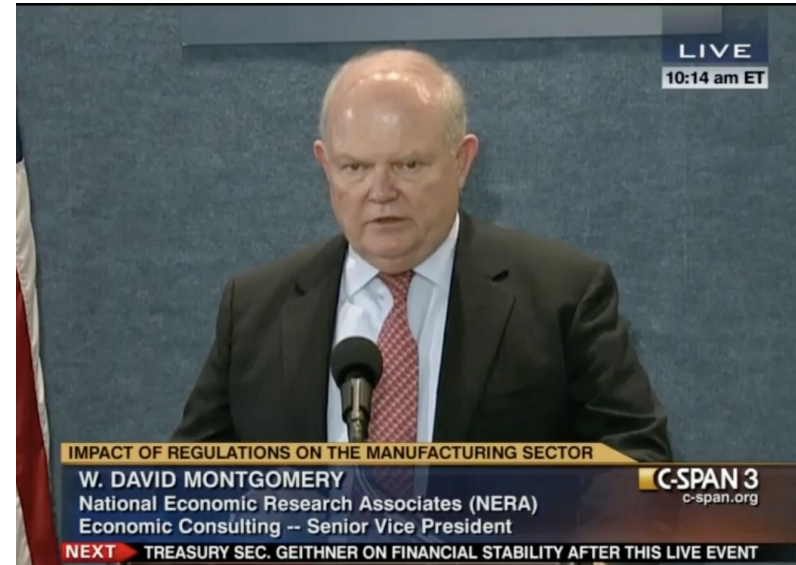
- Ban Ki Moon



Response to the Promulgation of *Laudato Si'*

“The flaws of *Laudato Si'* are not in its statements about the ends we should strive for — to help the poor most affected by climate change and to properly care for the natural goods we share — but in its choice of means for achieving them. Thankfully, the encyclical’s proposals are not logically tied to its moral basis for action — principles of Catholic social thought that include respect for the human person, the common good, improving the plight of the poor, and solidarity with past and future generations. Indeed, the encyclical could have taken a different route based on these principles, if it had recognized the key role of economic and political freedom in promoting economic growth in even the poorest countries. This route would demand support for private-sector investments in poor countries that would increase their adaptability to climate change and reduce their vulnerability to natural disasters, combined with consistent advocacy and support for the changes in their political and economic systems that are necessary to produce sustained economic growth. Those changes must occur within the developing countries; to focus instead only on slowing economic growth or reducing carbon emissions in the more developed world will harm the poor rather than help them.”

- W. David Montgomery.



Response to the Promulgation of *Laudato Si'*

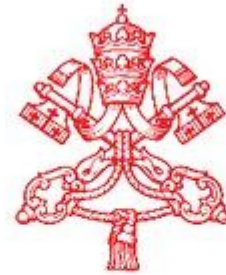
“I hope I’m not going to get castigated for saying this by my priest back home, but I don’t get economic policy from my bishops or my cardinal or my pope. I think religion ought to be about making us better as people and less about things that end up getting in the political realm.”

- Gov. Jeb Bush.



Dicastery for Integral Human Development

1. Adopting renewable energy.
2. Achieving carbon neutrality.
3. Defending all life.
4. Solidarity with Indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups.
5. Adopting simpler lifestyles.
6. Fostering ecological education and spirituality.
7. Advocating for sustainable development.
8. Following ethical investment guidelines, including divestment from fossil fuels and other industries that harm the planet.



DICASTERY FOR PROMOTING
INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Laudato Si' Animators

“Laudato Si’ Animators are members of the Laudato Si Movement, a global community of prayer and action, who animate their local parishes and communities to engage in ecological spirituality, sustainable lifestyles and advocacy for climate and ecological justice. Animators work to bring Pope Francis’s encyclical Laudato Si’ to life and care for our common home.”

Laudato Si’ Animators lobby prime minister for ‘immediate ecological action’

Tabitha Smith, Ellen Teague

16 September 2024, The Tablet

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Guardians of Creation Project

“We have produced a systematic framework for decarbonising the Catholic Church in the UK. Despite its development in the UK, the framework has applicability to faith-based organisations anywhere in the world, especially organisations looking to translate *Laudato si'* into practical action. We present the framework as a suite of seven reports and some supplementary materials, each dealing with a separate aspect of diocesan decarbonisation.”



Ridhima Pandey

Ridhima Pandey is a young climate activist from Hadiwar, Uttarakhand, India. Ridhima has been involved in activism since the age of nine, when she joined a lawsuit against the government of India, arguing that it had not taken met its obligations under the Paris agreement. Ridhima was also a member of the UN complaint that accused five governments of violating the Convention on the Rights of the Child by failing to protect children from the dangers of a warming world. Ridhima lives with her brother and parents close to the Ganges River.



Ridhima Pandey

“I had a private audience with Pope Francis at the Vatican, representing the voice of the youth, along with the voices of the poor, indigenous people, and wildlife. Seeing him hear us made me feel heard as an activist, and that’s what we need.”



Rodne Galicha

Rodne Galicha is the lead convenor of civil society network Aksyon Klima Pilipinas in his country and has worked for environmental protection in his home-island of Sibuyan. He campaigned against nickel mining giant BHP Billiton operating there. In June 2008, when typhoon Frank hit the Philippines and a passenger ship carrying toxic materials sank near Sibuyan Island, Rodne highlighted contamination of the island with chemicals and bunker fuel, affecting the life and livelihood of our people who depend mainly on the abundance of the sea. He is currently campaigning to



Rodne Galicha

“The power of the people, when we all come together to speak out against what is wrong and violent, is the only thing that can counterbalance the power of big business and corrupt governments. But in order to maintain this balance, every voice and every arm must be lent to the struggle.”



Christian Climate Action

“We are a community of Christians supporting each other to take meaningful action in the face of imminent and catastrophic, anthropogenic climate breakdown. We are inspired by Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit. Following the example of social justice movements of the past, we carry out acts of public witness, nonviolent protest and civil disobedience to urge those in power to make the changes needed.”



Extinction Rebellion: Priest says faith motivated train-halt climate protest

🕒 12 January 2022



| Father Martin Newell and the Rev Sue Parfitt deny charges of obstructing an engine or carriage on the railway

A Catholic priest who stopped a train as part of a climate protest with two other Christian environmentalists was motivated by his faith, a court heard.

Passengers begged Father Martin Newell, 54 and the Rev Sue Parfitt, 79, to move from the roof of the rush-hour train at east London's Shadwell station in October 2019.

Philip Kingston, 85, was also part of the Extinction Rebellion (XR) protest and had glued himself to the train.

Laudate Deum

“Eight years have passed since I published the Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*, when I wanted to share with all of you, my brothers and sisters of our suffering planet, my heartfelt concerns about the care of our common home. Yet, **with the passage of time, I have realized that our responses have not been adequate, while the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point.** In addition to this possibility, it is indubitable that the impact of climate change will increasingly prejudice the lives and families of many persons. We will feel its effects in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing, forced migrations.”

Pope Francis, *Laudate Deum* (2024)

POPE FRANCIS LAUDATE DEUM



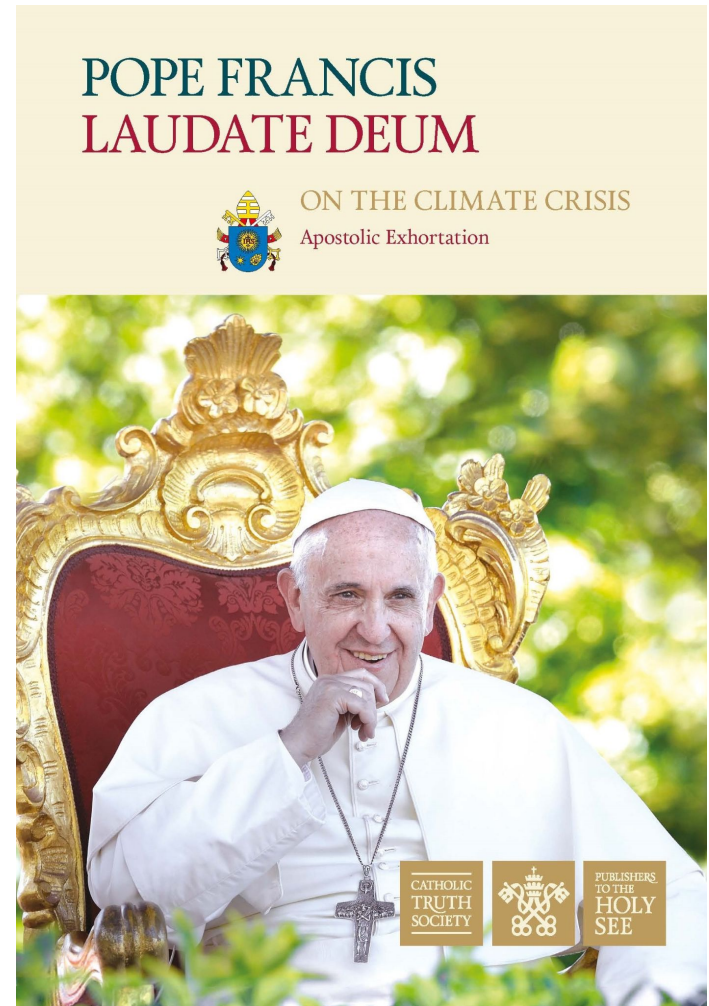
ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS
Apostolic Exhortation



Laudate Deum

“In recent years, we have been able to confirm the diagnosis [of the technocratic paradigm], even as we have witnessed a new advance of the above paradigm. **Artificial intelligence and the latest technological innovations start with the notion of a human being with no limits, whose abilities and possibilities can be infinitely expanded thanks to technology. In this way, the technocratic paradigm monstrously feeds upon itself.**”

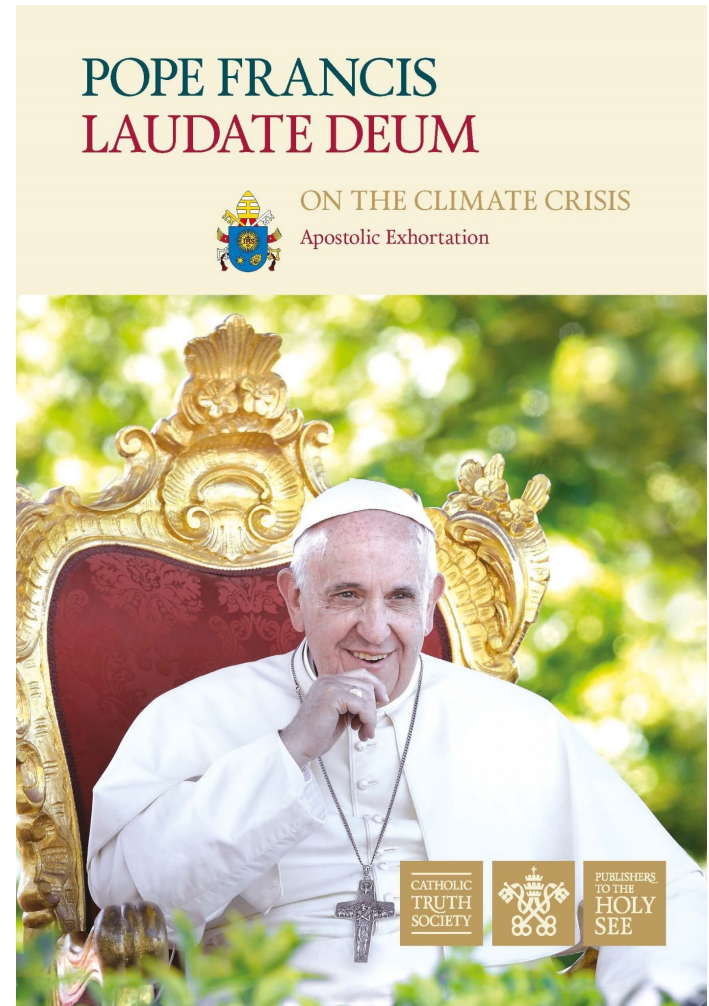
- Pope Francis, *Laudate Deum* (2024)



Laudate Deum

“A new multilateralism “from below” [is needed]. Demands that rise up from below throughout the world, where activists from very different countries help and support one another, can end up pressuring the sources of power.”

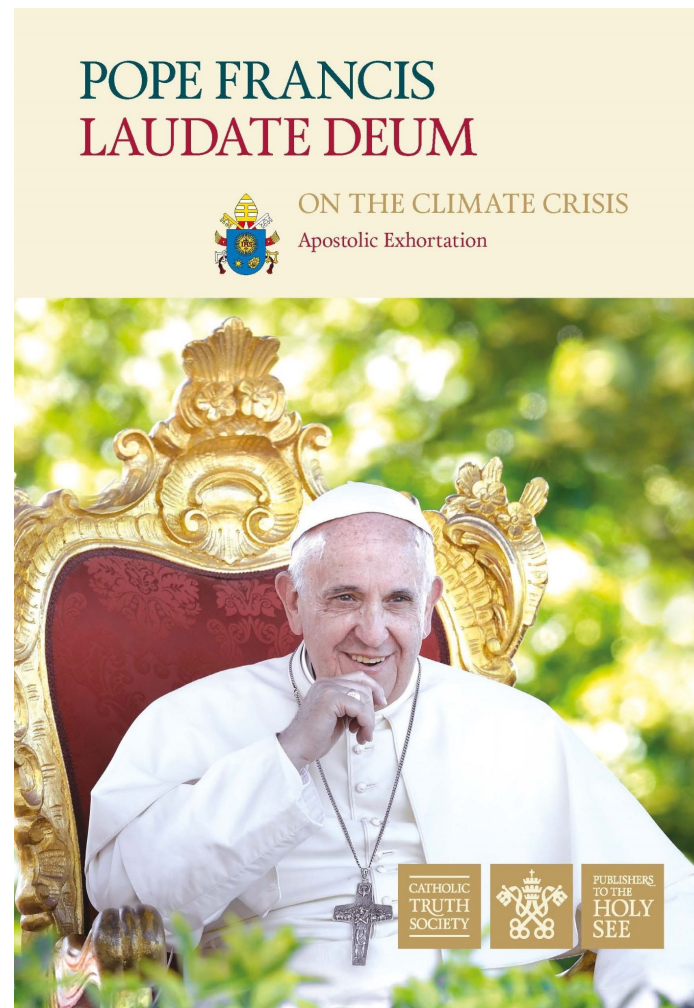
- Pope Francis, *Laudate Deum* (2024)



Laudate Deum

“The old diplomacy, also in crisis, continues to show its importance and necessity. Still, it has not succeeded in generating a model of multilateral diplomacy capable of responding to the new configuration of the world; yet should it be able to reconfigure itself, it must be part of the solution, because the experience of centuries cannot be cast aside either. **Our world has become so multipolar and at the same time so complex that a different framework for effective cooperation is required. It is not enough to think only of balances of power but also of the need to provide a response to new problems and to react with global mechanisms to the environmental, public health, cultural and social challenges,** especially in order to consolidate respect for the most elementary human rights, social rights and the protection of our common home..”

- Pope Francis, *Laudate Deum* (2024)



Laudato Si' at Cop 29

- At the COP29 climate summit in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024, President Ilham Aliyev called oil and gas a "gift from God."
- Over 1,700 coal, oil and gas lobbyists granted access to Cop29
- Cop 29 failed to deliver on an expected announcement of a new commitment to cut greenhouse gas emissions.
- 200 nations agreed on a pact to triple finance to developing countries, from the previous goal of USD 100 billion annually, to USD 300 billion annually by 2035 and to secure efforts of all actors to work together to scale up finance to developing countries, from public and private sources, to the amount of USD 1.3 trillion per year by 2035.

Laudato Si' Movement participates in meeting with Brazilian delegation at COP 29

by Letícia Florêncio | Nov 18, 2024 | 0 comments



From left to right: Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Marina Silva; Vice-President of Brazil, Geraldo Alckmin; Minister of Indigenous Peoples, Sonia Guajajara.

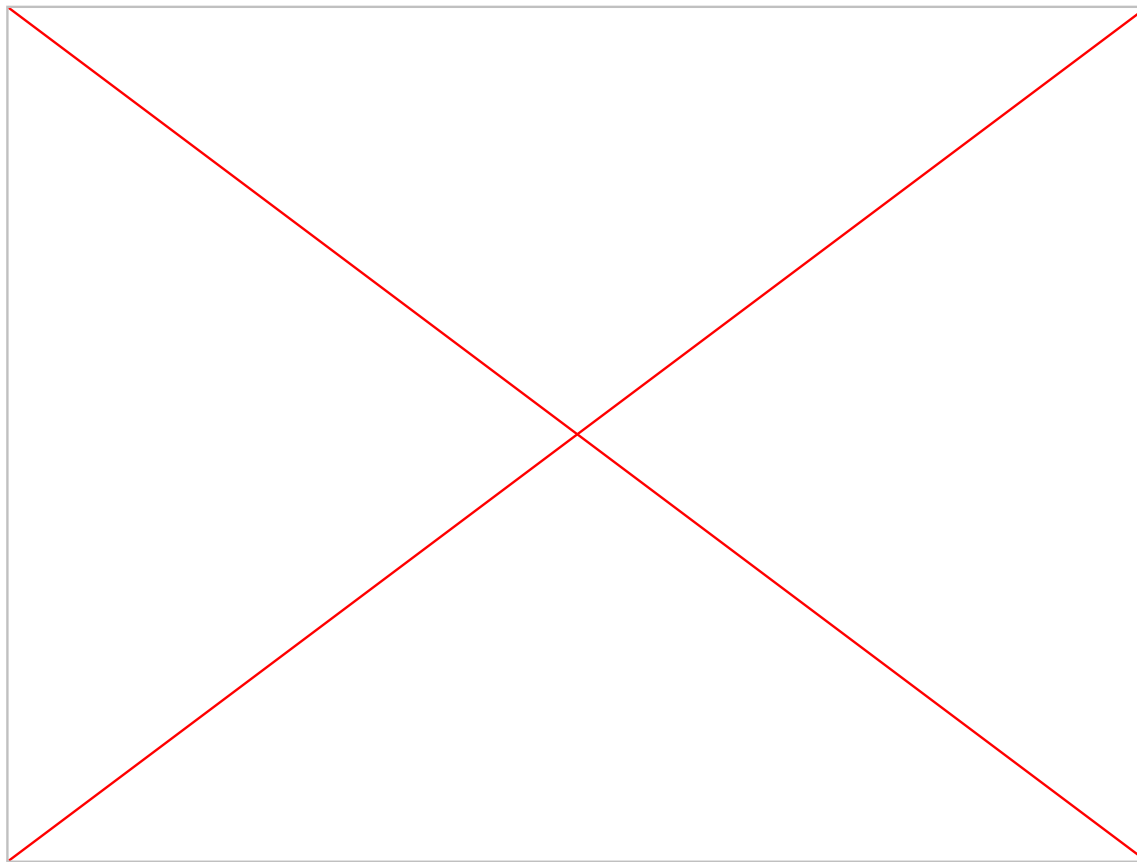
JD Vance v Pope Francis

“I exhort all the faithful of the Catholic Church, and all men and women of good-will, not to give in to narratives that discriminate against and cause unnecessary suffering to our migrant and refugee brothers and sisters. With charity and clarity we are all called to live in solidarity and fraternity, to build bridges that bring us ever closer together, to avoid walls of ignominy and to learn to give our lives as Jesus Christ gave his for the salvation of all.”

- Pope Francis, *Letter of the Holy Father to the Bishops of the United States* (10th February 2025).



JD Vance v Pope Francis



JD Vance v Pope Francis

“Christians know very well that it is only by affirming the infinite dignity of all that our own identity as persons and as communities reaches its maturity. Christian love is not a concentric expansion of interests that little by little extend to other persons and groups. In other words: the human person is not a mere individual, relatively expansive, with some philanthropic feelings! The human person is a subject with dignity who, through the constitutive relationship with all, especially with the poorest, can gradually mature in his identity and vocation. The true *ordo amoris* that must be promoted is that which we discover by meditating constantly on the parable of the “Good Samaritan” (cf. Lk 10:25-37), that is, by meditating on the love that builds a fraternity open to all, without exception.”

- Pope Francis, *Letter of the Holy Father to the Bishops of the United States* (10th February 2025).



JD Vance v Pope Francis

“Pope Francis claims to be taking the side of the vulnerable, but his rhetoric aligns with attitudes and statements characteristic of progressive elites...Mass migration concerns more than economic dislocations for working-class citizens of Western countries. As voters increasingly recognize, as numbers increase, society is transformed. Populism in the United States represents a reaction against this transformation. It’s a call for the reconsolidation of national identity, a demand that elites serve their fellow citizens and promote a shared civic culture, not a seemingly superior cosmopolitanism that conveniently aligns with elite interests and excuses them from the need to make sacrifices for the sake of the nation.”

- R.R. Reno, ‘Pope Francis’s Apocalyptic Dream,’ in *First Things* (11 February 2025)



Laudato Si' in the Rear View Mirror

“It is my hope that this Encyclical Letter, which is now added to the body of the Church’s social teaching, can help us to acknowledge the appeal, immensity and urgency of the challenge we face... Although the post-industrial period may well be remembered as one of the most irresponsible in history, nonetheless there is reason to hope that humanity at the dawn of the twenty-first century will be remembered for having generously shouldered its grave responsibilities.”

- Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* (para. 165)

LAUDATO SI'

ON THE CARE OF
OUR COMMON HOME



POPE FRANCIS



ENCYCLICAL LETTER

Questions

1. What does the Pope mean by Multilateralism from below?
2. Has the rise of social media in the past decade been a help or a hindrance to integral human development?
3. Is the concept of 'ordo amoris' an “old school Christian” concept or a “pagan tribal” concept?
4. Is the Pope right to defend those who participate in civil disobedience in their protests for climate justice?
5. Has Laudato Si' been a failure?