



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

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28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, 14-15 October, 2023

Pope pleads for urgent response to climate crisis in 'Laudate Deum'

(by Gina Christian in Melbourne Catholic Magazine)

Pope Francis' new apostolic exhortation, *Laudate Deum* ('Praise God') was published on 4 October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi. Drawing extensively on his 2015 encyclical *Laudato si'*: On Care for Our Common Home, the new document is a stark and heartfelt call for urgent practical action on climate change and is based on the premise that 'when human beings claim to take God's place, they become their own worst enemies.'

Though only about one-fifth the length of *Laudato si'*, the exhortation's message is even more urgent, warning that the earth 'may be nearing the breaking point' and that 'climate change is one of the principal challenges facing society and the global community.'

The text reiterates key messages that have resonated throughout Pope Francis' papacy—among them, concern for the marginalised, care for creation, human ecology and a 'synodal' approach to resolving global problems.

With 'the effects ... borne by the most vulnerable people,' the issue of climate change is 'one intimately related to the dignity of human life,' he says.

Addressed to 'all people of good will,' the exhortation declares that 'it is no longer possible to doubt the human ... origin of climate change,' citing data from sources such as the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

While noting that 'not every concrete catastrophe' is due to global climate change, the pope says humans bear responsibility for specific changes that have led to 'extreme phenomena'—such as storms, heat waves and flooding—that are 'increasingly frequent and intense'.

He points to rapid, human-driven upticks in greenhouse gas emissions, which trap radiation from the sun in the earth's atmosphere and warm the planet. The global average temperature—a metric that tracks changes in the earth's surface temperature against long-term averages for a given location and date—has risen over the past 50 years in particular,

at a rate that could approach the recommended ceiling of 1.5 degrees Celsius in just 10 years, says the pope.

That acceleration has a profound impact, causing dangerous shifts in climate and weather, with effects ultimately felt 'in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing [and] forced migrations,' Pope Francis says. He challenges 'resistance and confusion' regarding climate change, 'even within the Catholic Church', stressing that 'the overwhelming majority of scientists specializing in the climate' support the correlation between global climate phenomena and spikes in greenhouse gas emissions.

Pope Francis says the planet itself has become a mirror of a deeply flawed view of human life and activity. Such a 'technocratic paradigm' (as he describes it in *Laudato si'*) exalts technological and economic power as sources of reality, goodness and truth, promising unlimited potential if methodically developed.

In recent years, that paradigm has advanced still further, with a goal of '(increasing) human power beyond anything imaginable, before which nonhuman reality is a mere resource at its disposal,' he says.

Yet 'not every increase in power represents progress for humanity,' he says, especially since (as he writes in *Laudato si'*) 'we cannot claim to have a sound ethics, a culture and spirituality genuinely capable of setting limits and teaching clear-minded self-restraint.'

The poor pay the highest price while inflicting the least damage on the planet, Pope Francis says, citing the United Nations Environment Programme's 2022 Emissions Gap Report, which found that per capita greenhouse gas emissions of richer countries far exceed those of poorer ones.

The question of human power itself must be re-examined, and 'human beings must be recognized as a part of nature,' the pope says, stressing that 'everything is connected' and 'no one is saved alone.'

Lamenting the 'weakness of international politics' in addressing climate change, Pope Francis draws on his 2020 encyclical *Fratelli tutti* to call for

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Weekday Masses

Monday
9am Mass

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm

Sunday
9am, 11am and 6pm

Please note Sunday 11am is also
ONLINE

Please click on this link to follow
<https://youtube.com/live/txOHw78waSA?feature=share>

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am

Priests:

Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)
Fr Luke Bulley CP

Parish Staff:

Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

Passionist Community

Fr Brendan Connell CP
Fr Kevin Hennessy CP
Fr Luke Bulley CP
Dcn Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP

St Paul Apostle North

Primary School
Ph. 9700 6068
Principal
Mrs Mary Lucas

St Paul Apostle South

Primary School
Ph. 9700 3663
Principal
Mr Paul Gleeson

St John's

Regional College
Ph. 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan

a ‘reconfigured multilateralism’—one ‘not dependent on changing political conditions or the interests of a few’ but possessing a ‘stable efficacy’ that can resolve ‘the real problems of humanity’ by placing ‘the dignity of persons’ before all.

International climate conferences held over the past several decades have had mixed results, says Pope Francis, labelling some as ‘failures’ and others, such as the UN’s 1997 COP3 (Conference of the Parties 3) in Kyoto—which sought to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 5 per cent by 2012—as noteworthy. While the Kyoto goal was not met, the 2015 COP21 in Paris marked ‘a new beginning’, says the pope, as it aimed to hold the increase of average global temperatures to under 2 and, eventually, 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The COVID-19 pandemic and Russia’s war in Ukraine both hindered progress in tackling global warming, says Pope Francis.

He says COP28, set to take place from 30 November to 12 December in Dubai, will either prove to be a turning point for decisive action or ‘a great disappointment’ that imperils any progress made so far.

‘Binding forms of energy transition’ that are ‘efficient, obligatory and readily monitored’ are essential, says Pope Francis, given that ‘the necessary transition towards clean energy sources such as wind and solar energy, and the abandonment of fossil fuels, is not progressing at the necessary speed.’

The pope invites Catholics and those of other faiths to recall their ‘spiritual motivations’ for addressing the climate crisis, asking ‘everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and to help make it more beautiful, because that commitment has to do with our personal dignity and highest values.’

Humility is essential in this journey, he says, ‘for when human beings claim to take God’s place they become their own worst enemies.’

Readings for Next Week

First Reading

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other

Psalm

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor;

tremble before him, all the earth.
Say among the nations, “The Lord is king!
He will judge the peoples with equity.”

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the Gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction Amen.

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

Questions for reflection

Q. The Pharisees deliberately set out to trap Jesus. Why did they fear him?

Q. How can we apply today Jesus’ words, ‘give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God’?

Q. What are some of the ‘obligations’ of society that ‘get in the way’ of giving to God what belongs to God?

Q. In what ways can you better give to God what belongs to God?

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults



MASS RE-LOCATION !!!

We are installing a new air conditioning system in our Church (finally) just prior to the really hot weather arriving. In order to facilitate that we need to **move our weekday Masses to the Annexe from the 23rd to the 25th of October**. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Below are important information for all candidates. Please take note on the time of the Sacrament of Confirmation Mass

4 classes either at Parish Schools or ASRE for those who attend non parish schools.
Last Family Night on Tuesday, 14 November at 7pm
Meeting with Bishop on Friday, 17 November at 2pm
Sacrament of Confirmation Mass is on
Saturday, 18 November at 2pm

ASRE (After School Religious Education)

The next ASRE classes are **17, 24 & 31 October at 4pm in the Church**. Parents/guardian, please ensure that you sign the in/out record as you drop off your child (the same for the time you pick up your child) All candidates who attend outside our parish schools are required to attend ASARE classes

PARISH BINGO

Our last bingo for the year will be on **FRIDAY, 10 NOVEMBER FROM 7.30pm in the Annexe**. You can come on your own or come as a group. For more information please contact Louis 0419 008 173, Vianney 0438 700 675 or Joe 0419 385 441. Please note that this activity is strictly only for anyone older than 18 yrs old. Unfortunately, we are bound to a policy which states that anyone under this age is not permitted inside the hall during Bingo

PARISH MEN'S GROUP TRIVIA NIGHT

After a long pause, including the COVID affected period, the Men's group Trivia Night is back, **FRIDAY, 17th November at St Paul Apostle South School Hall**. Arrival time is 7pm for 7.30pm start. Cost to join the night is \$15per person. BYO drinks and nibbles. There will be a silent auction, raffles and great prizes. **All payment is on a CASH BASIS** as there will be no card payment facility available. You may come on your own or in a group. Contacts for booking and additional information are Peter 0418 345 576 or Dick 0438 701 284. All are welcome

YOUNG ADULT (Year 12 and older)

Gathering for this age group will be on **SUNDAY, 5 November** at 7pm in the Annexe. This time we will be focusing on 'Exam Stress'



YOUTH GROUP (grade 5 to year 9) next gathering will be on **Friday the November 17 at 7pm in the Annexe**. If you'd like any more info, either speak to Fr Luke, or call Trish Brown on 0412 357 350.

ADORATION GROUP—UPDATED INFORMATION

It's with great pleasure to say we are up and running in our adoration chapel and would invite you to call in during the day and say a prayer and visit our Lord in the blessed sacrament. We have permanent Adorers who take up an hour a week but can also accommodate you if you wish to call in for 15 minutes and worship. Anyone wishing to do, please contact John Hendriks on 0418308051 for further information.

WELLSPRINGS FOR WOMEN

is having their annual fundraising on **FRIDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2023**. At Killester College, Kennedy Hall, 433 Springvale Road, Springvale. It is from 6.30pm to 10.30pm
There will be door prize, raffles, silent auction and bargains sale. Cost is \$100per person (includes Food and drinks)
This fundraising is to support the works of Wellspring for Women. This year the special guest is the honorable Gabrielle Williams MP. Please RSVP by 13 October using this [link](#)
For more information please call 9701 3740 or email to jasmine@wellspringsforwomen.com

COME AWAY DAY

The Come Away Days program resumes at Holy Cross Retreat Centre (the home of Passionists order in Melbourne) on **Tuesday, 28 November**. The theme of the day is "Invitation to new beginnings." at **Holy Cross, situated at 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe**. All are welcome. BYO lunch. Registration is from 9.30am. The day concludes at 2pm with a celebration of the Eucharist. You are invited to support these days financially according to your means, using \$25.00 per person as a guide. For further details contact Frank Burke on 0407998781 or burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au

Readings:

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Isaiah 25: 6-10;
Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20;
Matthew 22: 1-14

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6;
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 ;
Matthew 22:15-21

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Joaquina Braz, Norah Ekanayake, Grace Sprigg, Lara Moyle, Michael D' Silva, Lina Jom, Giorgia Vella, Lucia Lay, Marie Kronomberg, Bernardo Cabrera, Anne Ghatt, June Enright, Leang Diep, Sonia Singh, Roger Gray, Anthona Henderson, Nimal Pandithakoralage, Cecil Harper, Nicole Pinto, Toni Celona, Shinead Kralj, Carlos Aquino, Jamie Cabrera, Angela Schink, Roy Conyers, Sandra D'Costa, Annette Perera, Ronald Peters, Godfrey Joseph, Camilla D'Rozario, Esric Jackson, Emily Broadbent, **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Monica Loh, Domenico Folino, Horace Stolke, Sr. Robyn Reynolds OLSH, Lino Mainolfi, Fr Rob Egar, Fr Brian Gleeson, Isabel Stefanovic, Nekita Araujo Boavida, Anna Fabian D'Lima **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace

2023 Roster

MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS

	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Mary Pegram Liz Spear	Virendra Jayetileke Alvita Dias	Anne Astin Rinku Arora	Lakni Weerasekera Diane Heaton
2nd Sunday	Marg Daly Liseby Lapierre	Grace Sudjono Rosa Mitchell	Mars Sota Beth Sota	Charlene Nheu Mignonne Meerwald
3rd Sunday	Liz Flood Trevor Saldanha	Agnes Giam William Round	Diane Allegany Anne Astin	Jeremy Ferrao Reg Young
4th Sunday	Mark Rolfe Karen Rolfe	Mary Moore Grace Sudjono	Mary Heaton Yvonne Sherwin	Marg Keating William Roncon
5th Sunday	Marg Daly Trevor Saldanha	Alvita Dias Virendra Jayetileke	Jennifer Tanti Diane Allegany	Melissa Krajacic Charlene Nheu

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn Lien Phan	Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell Rohan Wickramasinghe	Glenn Todd Antoniette Gargano Florence Madeira	Anne Kankanige Peng Chee Vonny Lai
2nd Sunday	Gertrude Akom Mima Arena Carmeline Don Paul	Sig Romano Esteban Morales Aloma Pereira	Sharon Normington Jean Jansz Naomi Falo	Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Lakni Weerasekera
3rd Sunday	Celine Quinless Peter Miller Lionel Alveyn	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Rosa Mitchell	Anabela Costa Sai Dilinger Binitha Mathew	Vonny Lai Charlene Nheu Marg Keating
4th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Lien Phan Celine Quinless	Aloma Pereira Mary Moore Rohan Wickramasinghe	Vianney Clark Stephen Herbert Lauren Rafferty	Swineetha Disanayake Dominique Maclou Neha Cherayath
5th Sunday	Riona Alveyn Carmeline Don Paul Peter Miller	Sig Romano Esteban Morales	Binitha Mathew Glenn Todd Sharon Normington	Ayomi Fernandez Peng Chee Jenny Catania