



Laudato Si' Theme

Response to the Cry of the Poor

-a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of life on Earth.

From Laudato Si':

"In the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good immediately becomes, logically and inevitably, a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters." (LS #158)

From Our Charism Statement:

"As pilgrims we pray for the wisdom to know the needs of our sisters and brothers and we dare to risk a caring response."

Optional: "Speaking of Poverty, Differently" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31xY6rYiu2E>
(2:33 minutes)

For Reflection:

- What does the common good mean to you?
- What do you understand by Pope Francis' summon to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters.?"
- How are you called to dare to risk a caring response?

Prayer:

"Almighty God, who are mother and father to us all, look upon your planet Earth divided. Help us to know that we are all your children; that all nations belong to one great family and that all of our religions lead to you. Multiply our prayers in every land until the whole Earth becomes your congregation, united in your love. Sustain our vision of a peaceful future and give us strength to work unceasingly to make that vision real." (Helen Weaver)

Optional: Optional: Musical rendition of "The Lord Hears the Cry of the Poor" with photos from around the world. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_QOFjuAUZY

Actions:

- Donate groceries and/or money to a local food bank.
- Clean out closets and give clothing, towels, sheets, etc. to St. Vincent de Paul.
- Support a microfinancing project.
- Learn more about the poverty in your own community.