

Wednesday, November 21



Message From Reclaiming Earth Committee

What do you consider to be the connections of Providence spirituality or Dominican spirituality as you reflect on integral ecology? You might remember that science, morality, ethics and spirituality are foundational to this perspective.

Would you consider mission as an expression of spirituality? Constitution #7 of the Sisters of Providence states: "The mission of our community is to proclaim Providence as the loving presence of God watchful over the created universe, attentive to the needs of all, active in us and through us... We live these mysteries primarily by our compassionate love of the poor."

Constitution #7 of the Sisters of St. Dominic (Tacoma Dominicans) states in part: "Our study is nurtured in the spirit of silence, the silence that enables us to listen actively to God revealed in Jesus Christ, the Word of God, in ourselves and in all creation."

Number 9 includes the statement, "Our spirituality integrates love of God and love of neighbor."

Laudato Si' is a reflection on integral ecology. Paragraph #159 begins: "The notion of the common good also extends to future generations."

Paragraph 162 reads, "Our difficulty in taking up this challenge seriously has much to do with an ethical and cultural decline which has accompanied the deterioration of the environment."

Paragraph 231 states in part that, "Love, overflowing with small gestures of mutual care, is also civic and political, and it makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world. Love for society and commitment to the common good are outstanding expressions of a charity which affects not only relationships between individuals but also 'macro-relationships, social, economic and political ones.'"

This is a lot to take in but the common thread is love of God and neighbor, expressed in many ways as levels of charity for the common good. Think about it, reflect on it and note where integral ecology has been an ongoing part of your life.