

**Wednesday, March 28**



**Message From Reclaiming Earth Committee**

At the heart of *Laudato Si* is a proposal of integral ecology as a new paradigm of justice; an ecology “which respects our unique place as human beings in the world and our relationship to our surroundings.” (15). Ecology is the relationship of living organisms and the environment: “Everything is closely interrelated.” All of creation is a web of life that includes “human and social dimensions.” By environment we mean the relationship existing between nature and society. We ourselves are a part of nature.

Francis “calls for an integrated approach to a complex crisis. We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, at the same time protecting nature.” (139)

[Catholic Global Climate Movement](#)

“Catholic social teaching has developed over the past century as new problems — human, social, economic and environmental — come clearer into focus and call out for a faith-based response.

“ ... One of the biggest challenges of Pope Francis’ approach is a spiritual one, the Argentine Priest (Father Augusto Zampini Davies) said. It involves conversion.”

[Catholic News](#)

For 175 years, the Sisters of Providence have cared for the poor. Many other religious congregations have also, but it is only in a comparatively recent time that faith-filled folks have begun to make the connection to integral ecology/science, ethics, morality and spirituality as an interconnected part of our faith. There are exceptions of course, such as Teilhard de Chardin, SJ.

Conversion is a process; taking time, reflection, prayer and openness. Where are you in the process?