

Wednesday, September 12



Message From Reclaiming Earth Committee

A recent seminar held at Fordham University's Lincoln Center Campus featured Cardinal Joseph Tobin of New Jersey and Jeffery Sachs, a well-known and respected Columbia University economist who has also advised the United Nations on topics of environment and economics.

Quoting Pope Francis' remarks made during a video to the 2017 World Meeting of Popular Movements held in California, Cardinal Tobin stated: "The system's gangrene cannot be whitewashed forever." Tobin also addressed the impact of Francis on church social teaching, which has encountered resistance.

"Francis' rhetoric can be blunt," said Tobin but, being from Argentina, "he has seen the same played far too long, in which inequality becomes part of the established order.

"Francis links the two aspects, said Tobin, seeing a necessary critique of capitalism and its resulting economic inequality as part of the church's efforts in evangelization, becoming a voice for the poor."

Peter Feuerherd, *2018 Pope Francis' blunt critique of capitalism praised as needed warning*
NCR September 6, 2018

Economist Jeffery Sachs agreed "that the pope's sometimes-scathing statements on capitalism are a needed counterweight to American overconfidence that unfettered capitalism can provide a pathway out of the dual crises of climate change and economic inequality." He described "*Laudato Si'*" as "one of the great messages of our time," which "tells us things that we will not hear from any other place."

Peter Feuerherd's [article in the NCR](#) is rich in history: actions and consequences that we may not be aware of existing. It is short but recommended reading.