

## May 24 marks the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, **Laudato Si'**

As Catholics we are called to:

- uphold the dignity of each human person
- support families and future generations
- love the poor and vulnerable
- advocate for basic rights and a just economy
- be in solidarity with all, as one human family
- care for all of God's Creation

**Grounded in our Catholic tradition. Laudato Si' urges us to protect the earth for our children and grandchildren.**

**PRAY** to hear God's call to live our faith for the common good, knowing everything is interconnected.

**LEARN** how the climate crisis is a profound moral issue greatly affecting the poor and vulnerable.

**TELL** your local and national leaders to protect creation.

As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds before us we see the many times that if we knew beforehand we could have done things sooner or done things differently and reduced the pain, suffering and hardship that is unfolding in front of us today. We could have listened to the scientists sooner and acted.

We are making changes in our personal and social life today that were unimaginable just a few months ago. But we make those changes for the common good.

The Care for our Common Home – addressing climate change – is an unfolding story that also calls us to make some changes in our personal and social lives. As we read the church's teachings in Laudato Si' we are called to make changes in our lives for the common good. First we need to realize that we are changing the climate by our current actions. Climate change is real, it is us, It is serious, and there is something that we can do about it but we must act now.

The COVID-19 pandemic teaches us that we need to listen to the scientists, and act now. Protecting our common Home will require making decisions and making changes in how we live will help the poor and help future generations. As with COVID-19 we need to work together for the common good.

Do you have time to learn more? See the booklet "A Catholic Response to Global Warming" or these online resources.

[usccb.org/environment](http://usccb.org/environment)

[weaaresaltandlight.org/cst101](http://weaaresaltandlight.org/cst101)

[catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://catholicclimatecovenant.org)