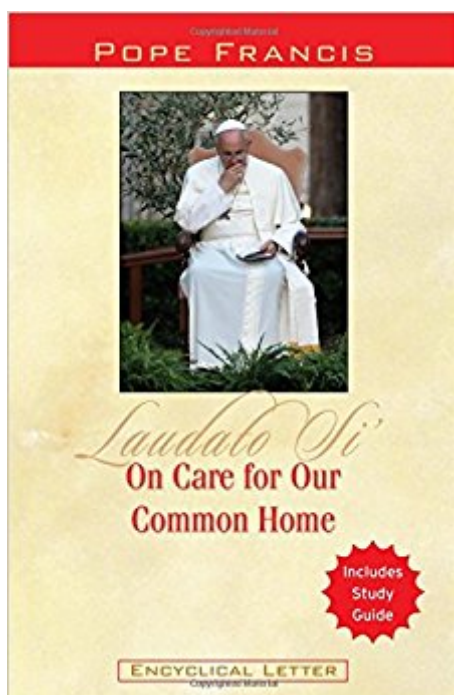


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On Care For Our Common Home (Laudato Si')



Synopsis

Study Guide Included for Reflection and Discussion. Addressed not only to Catholics but to every person living on this planet, Pope Francis second encyclical is a challenging call for a bold cultural revolution in how we think about technological progress and economic growth. The degradation of our environment, he says, is a symptom of deeper problems: rapid change, unsustainable overconsumption, indifference to the poor, and the decay of social values. He offers a variety of solutions, including a change in lifestyles away from extreme consumerism and towards a greater sense of social responsibility. For Christians, an ecological spirituality one that is grounded in the convictions of our faith is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience. Drawing on the rich social teachings of the Church, *Laudato Si* is a groundbreaking document that will be discussed and studied by both believers and non-believers for years to come.

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Customer Reviews

I have friends that raved about this book, So I bought it, despite the fact that I am an atheist. Now I share their enthusiasm. It is very informative and very beautifully written: a great book.

Very inspirational insights on global warming and caring for our common home!

Building on a rich Catholic tradition of the goodness of the created world, Pope Francis issues a call and challenge to protect and care for the earth in the face of the many threats to the quality of our

existence. While there are several editions of this encyclical available, this edition has an introduction by Msgr. Kevin Irwin, a theologian renowned for his work on the sacraments and sacramentality.

It has been a little over three months since Pope Francis released his encyclical *Laudato si'*. People have read it and misread it; interpreted it and misinterpreted it, but it has been anything but ignored. A big reason for this is because of the "Francis effect," which is surprisingly still going fairly strong. The liberal media still are trying to convince us that he is going to "bring the Church into the 21st Century" with women priests and accepting same-sex unions. To that I say, "Never going to happen!" We can also see their spin in their "reading" of this encyclical. They chose to focus only on the part about the environment, and completely ignored Pope Francis' message of human ecology, which includes respect for all of humanity the evils of abortion. The encyclical is not addressed to just bishops or the lay faithful (like most all encyclicals), but is instead addressed to all people. It is divided into six chapters: 1. What is Happening to our Common Home 2. The Gospel of Creation 3. The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis 4. Integral Ecology 5. Lines of Approach and Action 6. Ecological Education and Spirituality

There are many good points in this document that it is hard to pick your favorite passage. In one part, Pope Francis reminds us that the earth was here before us and has been given to us. He makes it known though that this doesn't give us the right to abuse the earth, but we must treat it as a gift from God, because that is what it is. Another part I particularly like was when he addresses our technological "progress." He goes on to list important inventions of the past two centuries and the good it has accomplished. However, technology has also given us "tremendous power" in terms of nuclear energy, biological knowledge, and information technology that can easily be used for evil. We must therefore use technology as a tool to better people's lives and not a mere distraction or superficial object for our amusement. The last part I will discuss that I really like is where Pope Francis talked about us not putting the environment over people. It is all well and good to protect the earth and animals, but not at the expense of people. So while you can read this document for free online, it is quite long and I recommend you buy a copy to read and mark up, if you so wish. But which edition should you get, because nearly every Catholic publisher printed a copy? When it comes to encyclicals, I always get copies from two different publishers. The first one I get is the Ignatius Press version, because it is a beautiful hardcover and they have been publishing beautiful hardcover encyclicals since Pope Benedict XVI. Now, if only they would go back and print Pope John Paul II's also! The other version I get depends on which publisher provides supplemental material with their copy. Several did that this time, but I ended up with the Word Among Us Press version this time because of the study questions. The study questions proved

helpful for individual and small group study with their release of *Evangelii Gaudium*, so I trusted that it would be the same for *Laudato Si*, and I was not disappointed! It's up to you which version to get, but my advice if you have the funds is to get both.

This book is very helpful in giving readers a clear analysis and understanding of this important papal encyclical. It is easy to read and presents the topic in a balanced and insightful way. A must read for those who care about the world as our home!

It is a great document, well worth the read.

'The Marxist Baby loosely swaddled in Ancient Catholic Terminology'; please read: 'The Jesuits: The Society of Jesus and the Betrayal of the Roman Catholic Church' by Father Malachi Martin; a Jesuit INDEED. [John 1:47] The most evident mark of God's anger, and the most terrible castigation He can inflict upon the world, is manifest when He permits His people to fall into the hands of a clergy who are more in name than in deed, priests who practice the cruelty of ravening wolves rather than the charity and affection of devoted shepherds. They abandon the things of God to devote themselves to the things of the world and, in their saintly calling of holiness, they spend their time in profane and worldly pursuits. When God permits such things, it is a very positive proof that He is thoroughly angry with His people and is visiting His most dreadful wrath upon them. St. John Chrysostom[...]

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