ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO













"When we speak of the 'environment,' what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it." (LS 139)





"We need an 'economic ecology' capable of appealing to a broader vision of reality. We urgently need a humanism capable of bringing together the different fields of knowledge, including economics, in the service of a more integral and integrating vision. There is an interrelation between ecosystems and between the various spheres of social interaction, demonstrating yet again that 'the whole is greater than the part'." (LS 141)





"If everything is related, then the health of a society's institutions has consequences for the environment and the quality of human life. Every violation of solidarity and civic friendship harms the environment. In this sense, social ecology is necessarily institutional, and gradually extends to the whole of society, from the primary social group, the family, to the wider local, national and international communities." (LS 142)





"Ecology, then, also involves protecting the cultural treasures of humanity in the broadest sense. More specifically, it calls for greater attention to local cultures when studying environmental problems, favoring a dialogue between scientific-technical language and the language of the people. Culture is more than what we have inherited from the past; it is also, and above all, a living, dynamic and participatory present reality, which cannot be excluded as we rethink the relationship between human beings and the environment." (LS 143)





"Authentic development includes efforts to bring about an integral improvement in the quality of human life, and this entails considering the setting in which people live their lives." (LS 147) Human ecology also implies another profound reality: the relationship between human life and the moral law, which is inscribed in our nature and is necessary for the creation of a more dignified environment." (LS 155)





"An integral ecology is inseparable from the notion of the common good the common good is 'the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfillment'." (LS 156) "Underlying the principle of the common good is respect for the human person as such, endowed with basic and inalienable rights ordered to his or her integral development." (LS 157)





"The notion of the common good also extends to future generations. We can no longer speak of sustainable development apart from intergenerational solidarity. The world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others. Since the world has been given to us, we can no longer view reality in a purely utilitarian way, in which efficiency and productivity are entirely geared to our individual benefit. Intergenerational solidarity is not optional, but rather a basic question of justice." (LS 159)







"The Response to the Cry of the Earth is a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability."

LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org





"The Response to the Cry of the Poor is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of life on Earth."

LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org





"Ecological Economics

acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere

- our common home."
- LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org





"The Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles is grounded in the idea of sufficiency, and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy."

LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org





"Ecological Education is about rethinking and re-designing curricular and institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology in order to foster ecological awareness and transformative action."

LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org





"Ecological Spirituality springs from a profound ecological conversion and helps us to 'discover God in all things,' both in the beauty of creation and in the sighs of the sick and the groans of the afflicted, aware that the life of the spirit is not dissociated from worldly realities."

LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org





"Community Resilience and Empowerment envisage a synodal journey of community engagement and participatory action at various levels."

LaudatoSiActionPlatform.org































