

NEWSLETTER

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Monday 19th August – Sunday 25th August 2019

Monday	10:00am	Homeless People
Tuesday	10:00am	Fr Michael Purbrick R.I.P
Wednesday	10:00am	Liturgy of the Word
	7:00pm	Holy Souls
Thursday	10:00am	World Peace
Friday	10:00am	People of Yemen
Saturday	6:00pm	In Thanksgiving
Sunday	<i>Twenty-first week in Ordinary Time</i>	
	8:30am	Pope's Intention
	10:00am	People of the Parish
	12 noon	False Imprisonment

Confessions Saturday mornings during August, please speak to Fr Simon after mass or ring 0207 639 1947 to arrange time.

Laudato Si (continued)

15. It is my hope that this Encyclical Letter, which is now added to the body of the Church's social teaching, can help us to acknowledge the appeal, immensity and urgency of the challenge we face.

I will begin by briefly reviewing several aspects of the present ecological crisis, with the aim of drawing on the results of the best scientific research available today, letting them touch us deeply and provide a concrete foundation for the ethical and spiritual itinerary that follows. I will then consider some principles drawn from the Judaeo-Christian tradition which can render our commitment to the environment more coherent.

I will then attempt to get to the roots of the present situation, so as to consider not only its symptoms but also its deepest causes. This will help to provide an approach to ecology which respects our unique place as human beings in this world and our relationship to our surroundings. In light of this reflection, I will advance some broader proposals for dialogue and action which would involve each of us as individuals, and also affect international policy.

Finally, convinced as I am that change is impossible without motivation and a process of education, I will offer some inspired guidelines for human development to be found in the treasure of Christian spiritual experience.

Fr Simon

The Narrow Door: Make Yourself Small

When I served as a co-pastor in Our Lady of Help Catholic Parish in Uganda, during Eastertide every year we undertook this elaborate activity of blessing the houses of all the faithful. There were over 1200 households spread out in over 15 villages. And in that part where the Parish is located, villages and houses are spread out over a vast area. We had to walk long distances, and often the doors to the houses were rather narrow. We had to bend down, and as soon as you entered the house you found yourself in a dark space filled with smoke. It was really a humbling experience for us adults. But often, I noticed, children ran in and out of these houses as a matter of fact.

Elsewhere in the gospel of Luke, Jesus uses the child as the image of greatness and invites us to imitate children in our attitude towards the kingdom of God. "He took a little child whom he set by his side, and then he said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me... The least among you all is the one who is the greatest'" (Lk 9:46-48). And again in another part of the Gospel, "Jesus called the children to him and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. In truth I tell you, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.'" (Lk 18:16-17).

The gospel of today simply invites us to "welcome the kingdom of God like a little child" – to enter through the narrow door we have to make ourselves like little children who always trust their parents without question, who are often natural, who are innocent in that they do not look at others and presume the worst rather, they will often see others as good.

Why is there suffering in the world?

**Politics without principles
Wealth without work
Pleasure without conscience
Knowledge without character
Commerce without morality
Science without humanity**

**In short, there are three things that last:
Faith, Hope and Love.
and the greatest of these is Love**