



A Lenten Message...

Let us consider...

...But Jesus called the disciples together and said:

“You know that foreign rulers like to order their people around. And their great leaders have full power over everyone they rule. But don’t act like them. If you want to be great, you must be the servant of all the others. And if you want to be the first, you must be the slave of the rest. The Son of Man did not come to be a slave master, but a slave who will give his life to rescue many people.”

(Matthew 20: 25 - 28)

In his Third chapter of *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis outlines a critical analysis of the human root of the ecological crisis. The causes of this crisis: a technocratic perspective (where society is controlled by technology, its advances and technical experts) and by anthropocentrism (the belief that human beings are the most important entity in the universe).

“Neglecting to monitor the harm done to nature and the environmental impact of our decisions is only the most striking sign of a disregard for the message contained in the structures of nature itself. When we fail to acknowledge as part of reality the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities – to offer just a few examples – it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself; everything is connected. Once the human being declares independence from reality and behaves with absolute dominion, the very foundations of our life begin to crumble, for “instead of carrying out his role as a cooperator with God in the work of creation, man sets himself up in place of God and thus ends up provoking a rebellion on the part of nature.” (LS #117)

During this Lenten Season...

How do I experience being God’s servant in the Care of Creation?

How does my own autonomy, God’s plan and my role as “steward” intertwine?

Where do I need to be converted...changed?