Dear Forum Colleagues,

We are excited to share recent news articles with you about Pope Francis’ Papal encyclical on the environment: “Praised Be: On the Care of Our Common Home” (Laudato Si’).

The Vatican officially released the Papal encyclical on the environment on June 18. This is a crucial moment in the religion and ecology movement, as this is the first encyclical in the history of the Church to address environmental concerns. In the encyclical, Pope Francis highlighted issues of “integral ecology,” namely concerns for people and the planet. He addressed both the degradation of the environment and the challenge of climate change along with how this is impacting the poor and most vulnerable. Social and economic justice is an important theme along with care for Earth and for present and future generations. This teaching document could serve as a motivating force for the over one billion Catholics of the world and many other people of spiritual and environmental conviction. There are a number of resources on the Forum site (fore.yale.edu) to provide you more information on the encyclical, including “Frequently Asked Questions on the Papal Encyclical,” a video recording and transcript of the Yale panel discussion entitled “Pope Francis and the Environment: Why His New Climate Encyclical Matters,” related news articles, and more.

Within this email, you will find news related to the following topics:

1. Articles by Mary Evelyn Tucker
2. Articles published on the Earth Charter International website
3. Climate March and Vatican Conference
4. More Articles on the Encyclical

For recent news articles, visit: http://fore.yale.edu/news/

For the archive of past news articles, visit: http://fore.yale.edu/publications/massmedia

Sincerely,
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1. Articles by Mary Evelyn Tucker

**Our Common Home: Climate Change Brings Moral Change**
By Mary Evelyn Tucker
YaleGlobal
July 14, 2015
[http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/our-common-home-climate-change-brings-moral-change](http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/our-common-home-climate-change-brings-moral-change)

NEW HAVEN: On June 18th, news outlets around the world reported on the Pope's Encyclical *Praised Be: On the Care of Our Common Home*. The encyclical is a global call for creating an “integral ecology” that brings multiple disciplines together for a sustainable future. This movement reflects a major shift in thinking regarding environmental issues – one where religious, cultural and secular values are seen as crucial for social transformation.

**Pope is not alone as people of faith take up environmental cause**
By Mary Evelyn Tucker
South China Morning Post
July 19, 2015

For decades, the public has assumed that scientists or policymakers would solve environmental problems like climate change. Market-based and technological solutions were also pursued. While these approaches are necessary, we are realising they are not sufficient to resolve pressing environmental challenges. Ecological issues are no longer viewed as simply scientific or policy issues, but also moral concerns. That is the significance of the pope's encyclical "On the Care of Our Common Home" and why it is provoking such strong reactions. Ethics is meeting ecology - a powerful formula for change.

**The Emerging Phenomenon Of Religious Environmentalism**
By Mary Evelyn Tucker
Outlook
July 15, 2015

An encyclical is the highest-level teaching document in the Catholic Church, and this is the first in 2000 years concerned with the environment. On June 18th, news outlets around the world reported on the Pope's Encyclical *Praised Be: On the Care of Our Common Home*. The encyclical is a global call for creating an "integral ecology" that brings multiple disciplines together for a sustainable future. This movement reflects a major shift in thinking regarding environmental issues — one where religious, cultural and secular values are seen as crucial for
Papal encyclical calls for renewed cooperation of science and ethics

By Mary Evelyn Tucker
Ecological Society of America
July 6, 2015

On June 18, 2015 Pope Francis released *Laudato Si: On Care of our Common Home*, the first encyclical in the history of the Catholic Church on ecology. An encyclical is the highest-level teaching document in Catholicism. There have been earlier statements by popes and bishops on environmental issues, but never an encyclical on the environment. Thus this is a historic moment, especially as Francis makes it clear that he is addressing all people on the planet. Moreover, he calls for global cooperation noting that environmental problems will require both science and religion working together.

Mary Evelyn Tucker: Climate Change Brings Moral Change
Earth Charter International
June 25, 2015
http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/content/articles/1157/1/Mary-Evelyn-Tucker-Climate-Change-Brings-Moral-Change/Page1.html

Pope Francis is clearly one of the most popular people on the planet at present. With his love for the poor, his willingness to embrace the outcaste, and his genuine humility he has captured the hearts of millions - Christian and non-Christian alike. He has inspired minds as well by his willingness to take on difficult issues such as ecology, economy, and equity, which he sees as inextricably linked. Indeed, these three interwoven issues are at the heart of his Papal encyclical released this week. An encyclical is a letter to the Bishops and all Church members. It is the highest level of teaching in the Catholic Church and this is the first encyclical on the environment in the history of the Church.

An Ode To Climate Trolls (interview with Mary Evelyn Tucker)
Green Majority Radio
July 10, 2015
Listen to the episode here:

Mary Evelyn Tucker is a Senior Lecturer and Research Scholar at Yale University where she has appointments in the School of Forestry, Environmental Studies and the Department of Religious Studies. Mary Evelyn joins us to dig deeper into the contents and impact of Pope Francis’ Encyclical. Particularly, we discuss the science heavy (for a religious proclamation) contents and
tone and the effect this will have on the future of the climate and more generally the environmental movement.

2. Articles published on the Earth Charter International website

The Encyclical Laudato Si’ and the Earth Charter
Earth Charter International
June 25, 2015
http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/content/articles/1148/1/The-Encyclical-Laudato-Si-and-the-Earth-Charter/Page1.html

Earth Charter International joins the millions of people and organizations that have congratulated Pope Francis and are hopeful about the release of the highly anticipated Laudato Si’ Encyclical Letter on Care for Our Common Home, which significantly echoes the ethical vision proposed in the Earth Charter. This encyclical has generated great expectations and commentary around the world. World leaders are expressing their satisfaction with this document and the social doctrine of the Catholic Church, which will have great influence at the COP 21 climate change negotiations in Paris later this year, but also in the transition to a new paradigm of human coexistence with the environment. The document calls for the cultivation of responsible care for creation, with special attention to the poorest who suffer most from environmental damage.

Steven Rockefeller on Laudato Si’ and the Earth Charter
Earth Charter International
June 25, 2015
http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/content/articles/1161/1/Steven-Rockefeller-on-Laudato-Si-and-the-Earth-Charter/Page1.html

Laudato Si, the new encyclical issued by Pope Francis, is to a large extent a carefully crafted Christian theological discourse in support of ethical and spiritual values that are also fundamental to the Earth Charter. Pope Francis, therefore, chose to include a quotation from the Earth Charter in the encyclical, the first and last sentences of “The Way Forward”: “As never before in history, common destiny beckons us to seek a new beginning….Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.”

The Magna Carta of integral ecology: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the poor
By Leonardo Boff
Earth Charter International
June 18, 2015
Before making any comment it is worth highlighting some peculiarities of the Laudato Si’ encyclical of Pope Francis. It is the first time a Pope has addressed the issue of ecology in the sense of an integral ecology (as it goes beyond the environment) in such a complete way. Big surprise: he elaborates the subject on the new ecological paradigm, which no official document of the UN has done so far.

**Laudato Si’ — The Ecological Ethics and Systemic Thought of Pope Francis**
By Fritjof Capra
Earth Charter International
June 22, 2015

The title of the Pope’s new encyclical, Laudato Si’ (“Praise Be to You”), dated May 24, 2015, and published in eight languages on June 18, is an Umbrian phrase from the famous religious song “Canticle of the Sun” by Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology. The encyclical’s subtitle, “On Care for our Common Home,” refers to the Earth as oikos (“home”), the Greek root of the word “ecology,” while caring (curando in Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese) is a practice characteristic of the liberation theology of Latin America.

**Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp comments on the Pope’s Encyclical**
Earth Charter International
June 25, 2015

Taking in the extraordinary message of the Pope word by word I am reminded of two seemingly contradictory commentaries on how the Jewish People received the Ten Commandments. In the first, the wandering tribe of Jews expressed their willingness to receive and implement them out of free choice. In the other commentary, the Jewish people refused to accept them, as had all other peoples, because they were too demanding. G-d brought the Jewish people to Mount Sinai. He then lifted the mountain above their heads and declared, “When you choose to accept the commandments you will live. If you don’t accept them I will drop the mountain on you and this will be your grave.” Pope Francis points to the overwhelming scientific evidence, coupled with our own local and global experiences, that we, by our own wrong and egocentric choices, have lifted the mountain of waste and neglect above our own heads.

**Ruud Lubbers comment on Laudato Si’**
Earth Charter International
June 22, 2015
In 2015, the U.N. will agree on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Conference of Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change will offer nations the opportunity to make a choice for Our Common Future. Pope Francis has just gone on record with Laudato Si’; the Encyclical Letter on Care for Our Common Home. This gives me an immense joy. As a Roman Catholic, born in 1939, I have lived my life according to the teachings of Christ, my beliefs based on Love as His most important lesson. Also, I have been greatly influenced by Teilhard de Chardin, the Jesuit cited by the Pope in Laudato Si’, whose Le Phénomène Humain taught me in terms of science what our history and future is about.

Elizabeth May: Why Pope Francis’s statement is important
Earth Charter International
June 24, 2015
http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/content/articles/1152/1/Elizabeth-May-Why-Pope-Franciss-statement-is-important/Page1.html

It is increasingly odd to realize that the voices of the established order, sources of top-down control and out-dated structures, are suddenly allies. My experience for decades was to deride the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for perverse "structural adjustment,” the World Bank for bad development, the International Energy Agency for focussing on expanding fossil fuel reserves, and the Vatican for policies so opposed to contraception as to ignore the threat of HIV-AIDs. I now find myself in the oddest of positions as a Canadian. They are all more progressive than my own government.

3. Climate March and Vatican Conference

Pope Francis’s environmental message brings thousands on to streets in Rome
By Rosie Scammell
The Guardian
June 28, 2015

Thousands of campaigners and religious leaders have marched through Rome, backing Pope Francis’s uncompromising environmental message ahead of a Vatican conference on climate change, and urging world leaders to take action. Holy See officials will this week discuss the environment with activists and scientists at a meeting at which Naomi Klein, a prominent social activist, will take centre stage alongside Cardinal Peter Turkson, one of the pontiff’s most senior aides.
Climate Marchers Gather to Show Rousing Support for Pope
By Elisabetta Povoledo
New York Times
June 28, 2015

VATICAN CITY — When Pope Francis appeared on the balcony of the Apostolic Palace, where he delivers an address each Sunday, he was met by the usual cheers and by an unusual forest of bright green oversized paper leaves. Had he been able to read what was written on the leaves — which he could not because he was too far away — the pope would have found quotes from “Laudato Si’,” or “Praise Be to You,” his encyclical on the environment published this month.

People and planet first: the imperative to change course
Vatican Information Service
July 1, 2015

Vatican City (VIS) – This morning a press conference was held in the Holy See Press Office to present the high-level Conference “People and planet first: the imperative to change course” (Rome, Augustinianum, 2-3 July) organised by the Pontifical Council “Justice and Peace” and CIDSE, an international network of Catholic non-governmental development organisations.

A Radical Vatican?
By Naomi Klein
The New Yorker
July 10, 2015

When I was first asked to speak at a Vatican press conference on Pope Francis’s recently published climate-change encyclical, “Laudato Si’,” I was convinced that the invitation would soon be rescinded. Now the press conference and, after it, a two-day symposium to explore the encyclical is just two days away. This is actually happening. As usual ahead of stressful trips, I displace all of my anxiety onto wardrobe. The forecast for Rome in the first week of July is punishingly hot, up to ninety-five degrees Fahrenheit. Women visiting the Vatican are supposed to dress modestly, no exposed legs or upper arms. Long, loose cottons are the obvious choice, the only problem being that I have a deep-seated sartorial aversion to anything with the whiff of hippie.

4. More Articles on the Encyclical
What you need to know about Pope Francis’s environmental encyclical
By Christiana Z. Peppard
Washington Post
June 18, 2015

How does one read an encyclical? Even as an expert on Catholic social teaching, the answer to that question still eludes me. Anyone who has glimpsed *Laudato Si*: *On the Care of our Common Home*, released today by Pope Francis, can see that the genre is unique. It’s dramatically different from our habitual scans of texts and tweets and the sorts of messages sent with thumbs. Yet even while it requires different dexterityes, reading the encyclical — the whole thing, yes — is within our grasp. Francis himself says, bluntly: “I wish to address every person living on this planet … I would like to enter into dialogue with all people about our common home.”

An Eastern Orthodox Perspective on Laudato Si: A Personal Response, An Ecumenical Reflection
By John Chryssavgis
First Things
July 6, 2015
http://www.firstthings.com/blogs/firstthoughts/2015/07/pope-franciss-laudato-si

It was a special privilege for me to attend the formal publication of the green encyclical by Pope Francis on June 18, 2015. *Laudato Si*: *On Care for our Common Home* was jointly released in the new synod hall of the Vatican by His Eminence Peter Cardinal Turkson of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and His Eminence Metropolitan John [Zizioulas] of Pergamon, a senior bishop and theological spokesman of the Church of Constantinople, the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Theologians and environmentalists, politicians and pundits have interpreted the encyclical in numerous ways, often—as Cardinal Turkson would say—reading into the text more than even the drafters envisaged. However, I would like to offer some personal insights into the ecumenical context of this important papal statement, which is not just destined for the followers of the Catholic Church and indeed not even for Christians alone.

In Bolivia, Pope Francis Apologizes for Church’s ‘Grave Sins’
By Jim Yardley and William Neuman
New York Times
July 9, 2015

SANTA CRUZ, Bolivia — Pope Francis offered a direct apology on Thursday for the complicity of the Roman Catholic Church in the oppression of Latin America during the colonial era, even
as he called for a global social movement to shatter a “new colonialism” that has fostered inequality, materialism and the exploitation of the poor.

**From Pope Francis to Green Muslims, faith groups steadfast in push for clean energy**
By Kari Lydersen
Midwest Energy News
July 9, 2015

Rev. Booker Steven Vance took to the pulpit in historic Old St. Patrick’s Church in downtown Chicago on June 22 to praise Pope Francis’ groundbreaking encyclical on climate change and sustainability. Vance attached a very concrete and local element to the Pope’s sweeping call to action. He and other religious and environmental leaders hosting a press conference declared that passing a proposed Clean Jobs bill in the Illinois legislature is one way the Pope’s call to action should be answered.

**Pope Francis, in Ecuador, Calls for More Protection of Rain Forest and Its People**
By Jim Yardley
New York Times
July 7, 2015

QUITO, Ecuador — Pope Francis on Tuesday called for increased protection of the Amazon rain forest and the indigenous people who live there, declaring that Ecuador must resist exploiting natural riches for “short-term benefits,” an implicit rebuke of the policies of President Rafael Correa.

**8 Ways Pope Francis Is Changing the Direction of the Catholic Church**
New York Times
July 6, 2015
http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/06/13/world/europe/francis-the-activist-pope.html?_r=0

The first Jesuit pope and the first non-European pope in more than 1,200 years, Francis has differed significantly from his predecessors with his outspoken style and his approach to leading the church. His comments on poverty, church reform, climate change and divorce have made headlines around the world. Here is a look at some of them.

**Episcopal Church Votes To Withdraw Investments In Fossil Fuels**
By Emily Atkin
Think Progress
July 6, 2015
http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2015/07/06/3677181/episcopal-church-climate-change-divest/

Leaders of the Episcopal Church voted to divest its holdings from fossil fuels on Friday, citing the fact that fossil fuel burning causes catastrophic climate change. Calling it a “moral issue,” leaders of the 2 million member Christian denomination said fossil fuel investments would be purged from the church’s holdings, which total approximately $380 million. The vote, however, does not cover the denomination’s $9 billion pension fund, or the $4 billion controlled by parishes and dioceses, the Guardian reported.

A Revolutionary Pope Calls for Rethinking the Outdated Criteria That Rule the World
By Ellen Brown
Common Dreams
July 6, 2015
http://www.commondreams.org/views/2015/07/04/revolutionary-pope-calls-rethinking-outdated-criteria-rule-world

Pope Francis has been called “the revolutionary Pope.” Before he became Pope Francis, he was a Jesuit Cardinal in Argentina named Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the son of a rail worker. Moments after his election, he made history by taking on the name Francis, after Saint Francis of Assisi, the leader of a rival order known to have shunned wealth to live in poverty.

Shifting the Climate Debate Onto Sacred Ground
By Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee, Sufi teacher and author
Huffington Post
July 2, 2015

"The ecological crisis is essentially a spiritual problem." These words spoken by an Eastern Orthodox theologian, Metropolitan John Zizioulas, at the Vatican news conference on the papal encyclical are profoundly important. The release of the encyclical was soon followed by a new study that confirmed the Earth has now entered a new extinction phase, its sixth great mass extinction event.

Laudato Si’: A political reading
By Robert Manne
The Monthly
July 1, 2015
The papal encyclical is the first work that has risen to the full challenge of climate change. When I was young the intellectual milieu was shaped by the need to come to terms with the unprecedented crimes and the general moral collapse that had taken place on European soil following the outbreak of great power conflict in August 1914 – Hitler and Stalin, the Holocaust and the Gulag, the concentration camps and genocide, the tens of millions of deaths that had occurred in two unprecedentedly barbarous wars. For me the most important book on the contemporary crisis of civilization was Hannah Arendt’s Origins of Totalitarianism, a complex study of racism, imperialism, anti-semitism and the regimes that had emerged in Hitler’s Germany and Stalin’s Soviet Union.

Pope Francis’ LAUDATO SI and the New Consciousness
By Mike Bell
Deep Time Journey
July 1, 2015

This article is a commentary on Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment: Laudato Si. It describes the unique nature of the encyclical, the challenge of developing a new consciousness in the face of climate change, and the potential acceptance or rejection of the encyclical both within the church and in the wider world.

Clergy and People of Faith Arrested in Civil Disobedience Blockade at Crestwood Midstream
By Sandra Steingraber
We Are Seneca Lake
June 30, 2015
http://www.wearesenecalake.com/faith-arrests/

Protesters Read from Pope Francis Encyclical on Climate Change; Rev. Jane Winters, Former Reading Resident, Among 17 Arrested. In an act of civil disobedience, 17 gas storage protesters led by former Reading Center resident Reverend Jane Winters, formed a human blockade shortly after sunrise this morning at the north entrance of Crestwood Midstream on Route 14. The participants, from ten counties across New York State, included members of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Islamic faiths.

ESA commends Pope Francis for encyclical on the environment
By Monica G. Turner, David W. Inouye, and Jill S. Baron
Ecological Society of America
June 29, 2015
“The Ecological Society of America commends Pope Francis for his insightful encyclical on the environment. Addressed to everyone on this planet, the letter issued on 18 June 2015 is an eloquent plea for responsible Earth stewardship. The pope is clearly informed by the science underpinning today’s environmental challenges. The encyclical deals directly with climate change, its potential effects on humanity and disproportionate consequences for the poor, and the need for intergenerational equity. The document is remarkable for its breadth, as it also addresses pollution, overuse of natural resources, landscape change, sense of place, and the loss of biodiversity. The pope recognizes that slow rates of change can mask the seriousness of environmental problems and the urgency to act. Pope Francis also acknowledges the importance of all taxa and all levels of biodiversity in sustaining our global commons.

Dalai Lama tells Glastonbury of the need to speak out on climate change
By Hannah Ellis-Petersen and Josh Halliday
The Guardian
June 28, 2015

The Dalai Lama has endorsed the pope’s radical message on climate change and called on fellow religious leaders to “speak out about current affairs which affect the future of mankind”. The spiritual Buddhist leader was speaking at Glastonbury festival on a panel discussing issues of global warming alongside Katharine Viner, the Guardian’s editor, and the Guardian columnist George Monbiot.

The Pope's Ecological Vow
By Paul Vallely
New York Times
June 28, 2015

In the days just before its publication, those involved in drafting the pope’s controversial ecological encyclical Laudato Si’ were much exercised about how it would be received by conservative critics. But Pope Francis, Vatican insiders tell me, was unfazed. He remains so in the face of the onslaught of criticism that has indeed ensued.

Love Conquers Hate, Amazing Grace
By Dana Beach
Coastal Conservation League
June 27, 2015
http://fore.yale.edu/news/item/love-conquers-hate-amazing-grace/

President Obama visited Charleston on Friday to deliver a eulogy for Senator Clementa Pinckney. Senator Pinckney and eight of his parishioners were murdered last week in the sanctuary of his church, the historic Mother Emanuel AME on Calhoun Street. President Obama
ended his eulogy in the TD Arena by singing "Amazing Grace." You can watch, and hear, it on this CNN video: http://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2015/06/26/obama-sings-amazing-grace-during-pinckney-eulogy-sot-nr.cnn Across the Atlantic, another towering religious leader, Pope Francis, has released his much anticipated, and revolutionary, encyclical on the environment, Laudato Si, (Praise Be). Like the Emanuel AME community, Francis emphasizes the central role love must play in our world, in this case, to stop catastrophic environmental degradation. From his extensive declaration, "A sense of deep communion with the rest of nature cannot be real if our hearts lack tenderness, compassion and concern for our fellow human beings."

Next Steps: After Pope Francis
Catholic Climate Covenant
June 25, 2015
http://fore.yale.edu/news/item/next-steps-after-pope-francis/

As I read Laudato Si’, I was deeply touched by the clear and compelling case Pope Francis made that our relationships with God, with one another, and with the planet are not as they should be—not by a long shot. The result is that We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. The encyclical is a call to recovery. When we think about our place in this created world, Pope Francis says, we must hear "both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."

Religions for Peace New Faiths for Earth Campaign
Religions for Peace International
June 24, 2015
Watch the video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_3EuybS9Mk

Laudato Si’ – Becoming Painfully Aware
By Chris Crews
State of Formation
June 23, 2015
http://www.stateofformation.org/2015/06/laudato-si-becoming-painfully-aware/

On Thursday June 18th, Pope Francis released his much-anticipated Encyclical Letter on the environment, Laudato Si’. The Encyclical began making headlines months ago as the deadline for its release approached, with commentators on all sides of the political and religious aisle eagerly awaiting its release. The encyclical’s six chapters each deal with different themes, but all lead to the same conclusion—mankind is sinking deeper into sin and ecological destruction, we need to change our ways drastically, and the climate clock is running out of time.
In a brief article in an unassuming 1967 edition of *Science*, a medieval historian from the University of California argued a now infamous thesis in my own field of religion and ecology. “Christianity,” Lynn White wrote, “is the most anthropocentric religion the world has seen.” The notion of “dominion,” he argued, allowed human beings to exploit the ecological world in unprecedented ways. But what most people generally forget about that now-canonical article is in the final eight paragraphs. After charging the cultural influence of Western Christian thought, White then argues for an equally *religious* response. “Possibly,” he offers, “we should ponder the greatest radical in Christian history since Christ: Saint Francis of Assisi.”

“Ridiculous” to tell pope to butt out of climate change debate
By Douglas Todd
The Vancouver Sun
June 19, 2015

Those who claim Pope Francis should keep quiet about the disastrous consequences of climate change are, in effect, trying to silence almost half the Canadian population, says a Jesuit scientist. “The Pope feels the volume needs to be turned up on the climate change discussion. And it’s a ridiculous anti-democratic statement to say he should butt out,” says Father Rob Allore, a Jesuit priest who works for a University of B.C. science laboratory and teaches at adjacent St. Mark’s College.

Pope Francis' Encyclical: Hearing the Cry of the Earth
By Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee
Huffington Post
June 19, 2015

The Earth "now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her." So begins Pope Francis in his powerful and long-awaited encyclical on ecology. "The earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor."
Pope Francis and Integral Ecology  
By Sam Mickey  
Becoming Integral  
June 18, 2015  
http://becomingintegral.com/2015/06/18/pope-francis-and-integral-ecology/

The new encyclical by Pope Francis, *Laudato Si’: On the Care of our Common Home*, contains many references to “integral ecology,” including an entire chapter by that title. It’s relatively clear that Francis is working with the integral ecology proposed by the Brazilian liberation theologian Leonardo Boff, who draws on the general ecology of Félix Guattari and the integral ecology proposed by the cultural historian Thomas Berry. The Pope’s sense of integral ecology is also clearly influenced by the ecological sensibility of St. Francis of Assisi, whose phrase “Laudato Si’” (from his Canticle of the Creatures) provides the title and opening line for the encyclical.

Pope Francis' Encyclical: Clean Energy and the Moral Case for Climate Solutions  
By Gabe Elsner, Executive Director, Energy and Policy Institute  
Huffington Post  
June 18, 2015  
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gabe-elsner/pope-francis-encyclical-c_b_7613666.html

Today, Pope Francis officially released his encyclical, "Laudato Si (‘Be Praised’), On the Care of Our Common Home”, calling on “every person living on this planet” to urgently address climate change, reduce the use of fossil fuels, and transition to clean energy.

Laudato Si' and Water: The Vatican's Encyclical Letter and Global Water Challenges  
By Peter H. Gleick, President, Pacific Institute  
Huffington Post  
June 18, 2015  

The official text of the much-anticipated Vatican's Encyclical Letter, "Laudato Si" ("On Care for our Common Home") was released today. While considerable attention is being devoted to the sections of Pope Francis's new Encyclical related to the threats of climate change, the letter also tackles many other environmental challenges, including biodiversity, food, and especially the critical issue of freshwater. Woven throughout is attention to the social and equity dimensions of these challenges and a deep concern for the poor.

Why Pope Francis' encyclical matters  
By Thomas Reese  
National Catholic Reporter  
June 18, 2015  
Some of the most frequently asked questions I have gotten from journalists this week: Why does the encyclical matter? What impact will it have? Why is it getting all this attention? Let's start with the last question: Why is it getting all this attention?

Pope Francis is actually bringing America’s environmentalism movement to its religious and moral roots
By Mark Stoll
Washington Post
June 17, 2015

Pope Francis is set to publish “Laudato Si’: On the Care of Our Common Home” on Thursday, the first encyclical on the environment by any pope. U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon and many others have expressed hopes the encyclical will put the moral weight of a popular pope and the world’s largest Christian church behind meaningful action on environmental problems, such as global warming.

How Pope encyclical could affect more than just Catholics
By Kelsey Dallas
Desert News National
June 17, 2015

In a highly anticipated encyclical on the environment, Pope Francis this week condemned widespread disengagement with the issue of global warming, using both scientific and theological arguments, and creating an opportunity for leaders from all faiths to address what their religion teaches about caring for creation.