

News Articles on Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment

Dear Forum Colleagues,

We are excited to share news with you about Pope Francis' Papal encyclical on the environment: "Praised Be: On the Care of Our Common Home" (*Laudato Si'*).

You can read the encyclical on the Vatican site:

http://m.vatican.va/content/francescomobile/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

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," and more.

In this newsletter, you will recent news articles that address the encyclical. I'm including the articles that feature Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim first.

Background :

On June 18, the Vatican officially released the encyclical -- a letter sent by the Pope that is addressed to the world's 1.2 billion Catholics. The Pope also extended this call to action to all people around the world. 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 declared climate change and environmental protection as related moral, social, and ecological issues. 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. The encyclical will undoubtedly bring much needed global attention and focus to these issues.

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 about the Encyclical that feature Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim

How to Read Pope Francis on the Environment

Interviewee: Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim

Interviewer: Robert McMahon

Council on Foreign Relations

June 18, 2015

<http://www.cfr.org/holy-see/vatican/read-pope-francis-environment/p36665>

The new encyclical from Pope Francis about the environment, *Laudato Si*, sharply criticizes man-made abuses of the environment and lays out the church's most detailed case for urgent moves to mitigate climate change. The encyclical, a long, formal letter that conveys the pope's teachings, is both a call to action on the global stage and new guidance for how Catholics should regard ecology, say Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim of Yale University's Forum on Religion and Ecology, in a written Q&A. "While discussions about social justice have been robust in Catholic and Christian contexts, this encyclical marks the first time social and environmental concerns are brought together," write Tucker and Grim.

Pope Francis sounds the alarm on the environment and he wants everyone to listen

By Matthew Bell

PRI's The World

June 18, 2015

<http://www.pri.org/stories/2015-06-18/pope-francis-sounds-alarm-environment-and-he-wants-everyone-listen>

The head of the Roman Catholic Church released an official document in Rome on Thursday that has been creating buzz for months. It's called an encyclical, the highest form of teaching issued by a pope, and it is addressed to everyone — literally — in the whole world. "I would like to enter into dialogue with all people about our common home," Francis writes.

Listen to the interview with John Grim on the encyclical at <http://www.pri.org/programs/pris-world/pris-world-06182015> (Note: Hit the play button at the top of the page for the audio. The whole segment, including the piece on Francis, starts at 13:23. The interview with John Grim is at 17.50 – 21.17.)

Will Pope's Much-Anticipated Encyclical Be A Clarion Call On Climate Change?

By Sylvia Poggioli

NPR

June 16, 2015

<http://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2015/06/16/414666357/popes-missive-on-environment-poverty-could-affect-habits-of-millions>

In April this year, on Earth Day, Pope Francis urged everyone to see the world through the eyes of God, as a garden to cultivate.

Pope Calls for Moral Campaign on Climate Crisis

By Kieran Cooke

Climate News Network

June 17, 2015

<http://www.climatenewsnetwork.net/pope-calls-for-moral-campaign-on-climate-crisis/>

Pope Francis has challenged climate change deniers by declaring that the destruction of the ecosystem is a moral issue that has to be tackled, or there will be grave consequences for us all.

Pope Francis' climate change encyclical expected to make global impact

By Ed Stannard

New Haven Register

May 30, 2015

<http://www.nhregister.com/general-news/20150530/pope-francis-climate-change-encyclical-expected-to-make-global-impact>

Pope Francis' much anticipated encyclical about climate change will make a major impact throughout the Roman Catholic Church and beyond, propelled by the severity of the issue and the pope's personal popularity, say religious and environmental leaders in Connecticut. According to Mary Evelyn Tucker, who teaches in Yale's schools of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Divinity and Law, "This is the most important thing that will happen in our lifetime on the environment."

Pope Francis' Integral Ecology

By Dave Pruett

Huffington Post

May 28, 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dave-pruett/pope-francis-integral-eco_b_7460058.html

There's a new term being bandied about, and it's high time we paid heed: *integral ecology*. Whenever the same notion arises synchronously in a number of different contexts -- in this case the Catholic Church, the Occupy movement, the climate movement, and the new-economy movement -- it's an idea whose time has arrived.

Pope Francis poised to weigh in on climate change with major document

By Michelle Boorstein

Washington Post

April 27, 2015

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/pope-francis-poised-to-weigh-in-on-climate-change-with-major-document/2015/04/27/d5c268b2-df81-11e4-a500-1c5bb1d8ff6a_story.html

The largely secular climate movement is about to get what some predict will be a historic boost from an intriguing source: Pope Francis.

2. More Articles on Pope Francis, Climate Change, and the Environment

Pope Francis: The Cry of the Earth

By Bill McKibben

The New York Review of Books

June 18, 2015

<http://www.nybooks.com/blogs/nyrblog/2015/jun/18/pope-francis-encyclical-cry-of-earth/>

The old conceit that the president has a “bully pulpit” needs updating; it’s clear that the pulpit at St. Peter’s Basilica is now the bulliest of all. Pope Francis may lack legions, but he has 6.3 million followers on Twitter, and for a week now the world has been following leaks of his new encyclical on climate change and the environment.

Pope Francis, in Sweeping Encyclical, Calls for Swift Action on Climate Change

By Jim Yardley and Laurie Goodstein

New York Times

June 18, 2015

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/19/world/europe/pope-francis-in-sweeping-encyclical-calls-for-swift-action-on-climate-change.html?_r=1

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis on Thursday called for a radical transformation of politics, economics and individual lifestyles to confront environmental degradation and climate change, as his much-awaited papal encyclical blended a biting critique of consumerism and irresponsible development with a plea for swift and unified global action.

Top Ten Takeaways from 'Laudato Si'

By James Martin, S.J.

America Magazine

June 18, 2015

<http://americamagazine.org/issue/top-ten-takeaways-laudato-si>

Pope Francis’ revolutionary new encyclical calls for a “broad cultural revolution” to confront the environmental crisis. “Laudato Si” is also quite lengthy. Can it be summarized? In other words, what are the main messages, or “takeaways” of this encyclical?

Francis' Momentous Encyclical: On Care for Our Common Home

By Dave Pruett
Huffington Post
June 19, 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dave-pruett/francis-momentous-encycli_b_7620554.html

"We are in trouble just now because we do not have a good story. We are between stories." --
Father Thomas Berry

I'm not Catholic. Nevertheless, fond of this pope, I've eagerly awaited the release of *Laudato Si'*, Francis' encyclical on ecology and climate. Immediately after its June 18 release, I paged wildly through it and was blown away. *Laudato Si'* is absolutely stunning in sweep, depth, and wisdom. It is exactly the right document, at the right moment, by the right person.

World View of Global Warming: The Photographic Documentation of Climate Change

By Gary Braasch
World View of Global Warming
June 2015

<http://worldviewofglobalwarming.org/>

"The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth," warns Pope Francis. *"Bring the whole human family together,"* he urges, *"redefine our notion of progress, move forward in a bold cultural revolution."*

With words that read in many places as a textbook of ecology and economics, using phrases that often ring with spiritual power, Pope Francis calls on all people to cease despoiling the Earth, stop human-made climate change, care much more for poor and indigenous cultures, and begin "redefining our notion of progress."

The pope's effect on politics

By Barrie Dunsmore
Rutland Herald
June 21, 2015

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20150621/OPINION06/706219971>

This past week Pope Francis inserted himself directly into the 2016 U.S. presidential elections. Whether or not that was the intent, it is a clear consequence of the pope's new encyclical on the environment — because this document puts him on a collision course with the Republican Party.

Tell Us How Your Church Addressed the Pope's Encyclical

New York Times

June 21, 2015

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/22/world/europe/tell-us-how-your-church-addressed-the-popes-encyclical.html>

The encyclical by Pope Francis released on Thursday did not merely present a papal view on the environment and climate change. It was also an urgent call to action. The document appeared intended to persuade followers around the world to change their behavior, in hopes of protecting a fragile planet.

For Faithful, Social Justice Goals Demand Action on Environment

By Justin Gillis

New York Times

June 20, 2015

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/21/science/earth/for-faithful-social-justice-goals-demand-action-on-environment.html>

For an earnest young Christian named Ben Lowe, revelation came on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, in Africa. A relentless warming of the lake was reducing the catch of fish, the people were going hungry — and he had learned of scientific evidence that climate change was to blame.

Operation Noah welcomes 'timely' climate encyclical

Independent Catholic News

June 18, 2015

<http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=27727>

Operation Noah has welcomed Pope Francis' 'bold stance on climate change ahead of the critical COP21 UN climate negotiations this December'. "His concerns for people and the planet resonate loud and clear at a time of increasing climate instability affecting the world's poor and vulnerable and threatening the integrity of God's creation. His council urges us to take seriously the complex moral and social issues that climate change poses."

Church of England Welcomes Climate Encyclical

Church of England

June 18, 2015

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-centre/news/2015/06/church-of-england-welcomes-climate-encyclical.aspx>

The Church of England's lead on the environment, Bishop of Salisbury the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, has given a wholehearted welcome to today's Papal Encyclical on climate change.

Anglican environmental network chair welcomes Papal climate encyclical

Anglican Communion News Service

June 18, 2015

<http://www.anglicannews.org/news/2015/06/anglican-environmental-network-chair-welcomes-papal-climate-encyclical.aspx>

People of faith need to focus on the moral and spiritual elements of the crisis brought about by rapid climate change, Archbishop of Cape Town Thabo Makgoba, chair of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network, said today in response to Pope Francis's encyclical on the issue.

Archbishop joins faith leaders calling for action on climate change

Archbishop of Canterbury

June 16, 2015

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/5569/archbishop-joins-faith-leaders-calling-for-action-on-climate-change>

The Archbishop of Canterbury has joined faith leaders in Britain pledging to fast and pray for the success of key international negotiations over climate change, in a new declaration warning of the “huge challenge” facing the world over global warming.

Pope Francis warns of destruction of world's ecosystem in leaked encyclical

By Stephanie Kirchgaessner and John Hooper in Rome

The Guardian

June 15, 2015

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/15/pope-francis-destruction-ecosystem-leaked-encyclical>

Pope Francis will this week call for changes in lifestyles and energy consumption to avert the “unprecedented destruction of the ecosystem” before the end of this century, according to a leaked draft of a papal encyclical. In a document released by an Italian magazine on Monday, the pontiff will warn that failure to act would have “grave consequences for all of us”.

Pope Francis' encyclical: PIK-scientists to speak in the Vatican and in Berlin

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)

June 12, 2015

https://www.pik-potsdam.de/news/in-short/pope-francis-encyclical-pik-scientists-to-speak-in-the-vatican-and-in-berlin?set_language=en

When the much anticipated environmental encyclical will be launched on 18 June, John Schellnhuber, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) will give a speech in the Vatican. He's the only scientist to join Cardinal Peter Turkson for the presentation.

On the ethics of energy

By Bill Patenaude

Catholic Ecology

June 10, 2015

<http://catholicecology.net/blog/ethics-energy>

Just in time for the Pope's eco-encyclical, moral theologians offer guidance on ethical energy production and use. A copy of "Catholic Moral Traditions and Energy Ethics for the Twenty-First Century" can be downloaded here: http://msmary.edu/College_of_liberal_arts/department-of-theology/jmt-files/Energy%20Ethics.pdf

Torah, Pope Francis, & Crisis Inspire 300+ Rabbis to Call for Climate Action

Religion News Service

June 10, 2015

<https://theshalomcenter.org/torah-pope-crisis-inspire-300-rabbis-call-vigorous-climate-action>

PHILADELPHIA – More than 300 rabbis — inspired by the climate crisis, the Torah's call for a Sabbatical Year of releasing the Earth from overwork, and the impending Papal Encyclical on the climate crisis — have joined their voices in the *Rabbinic Letter on the Climate Crisis* — a call to action to prevent further climate-fuelled disasters and work toward eco-social justice.

Climate encyclical expected to send strong moral message to the world

By Barbara Fraser

Catholic News Service

National Catholic Reporter

June 8, 2015

<http://ncronline.org/blogs/eco-catholic/climate-encyclical-expected-send-strong-moral-message-world>

Lima, Peru -- Pope Francis' upcoming encyclical on ecology and climate is expected to send a strong moral message -- one message that could make some readers uncomfortable, some observers say.

5 Reasons Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment Matters

By Reynard Loki

AlterNet

June 7, 2015

<http://www.alternet.org/environment/5-reasons-pope-franciss-encyclical-environment-matters>

Pope Francis' forthcoming encyclical on the environment has been described as "long-awaited" and "much-anticipated." In addition to being Francis' first encyclical, it will be the first encyclical on the environment in the history of the Roman Catholic Church.

About Pope Francis' Encyclical, "Laudato sii"

By Terri MacKenzie

Ecospirituality Resources

June 5, 2015

<http://ecospiritualityresources.com/2015/06/05/popese-encyclical-laudato-sii/>

In keeping with the Lent material I have been writing since 2004, I shall provide a 5-session program – "Praised be: On the care of the common home" — for those who wish to integrate Lent's 2016 Scripture readings and the encyclical. It will be available free by November 1st: <http://ecospiritualityresources.com/lent>.

All children deserve a healthy climate

By Mitchell C. Hescox

Eco Catholic

National Catholic Reporter

June 3, 2015

<http://ncronline.org/blogs/eco-catholic/all-children-deserve-healthy-climate>

Pope Francis' increasingly powerful statements on global warming highlight that climate action is becoming a growing moral imperative for all people of faith. Why? Because climate action is about saving people.

"Cultivating and Caring for Creation," 12 new on-line videos and study guides in anticipation of Pope Francis' coming encyclical, "Praised Be," on the environment

Green Spirit Television

June 2, 2015

http://fore.yale.edu/files/Cultivating_and_Caring_for_Creation.pdf

Produced by greenspiritv.com (GSTV), a participant in romancatholicv.com (RCTV), "Cultivating and Caring for Creation" is narrated by Bishop Donald Bolen, chair of Justice and Peace, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) and includes content from several Canadian Catholic eco justice leaders.

Awaiting ecology encyclical, Catholic groups prepare for pope's message

By Dennis Sadowski

Catholic News Service

May 27, 2015

<http://cnstopstories.com/2015/05/27/awaiting-ecology-encyclical-catholic-groups-prepare-for-popes-message/>

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Few papal encyclicals have been as eagerly awaited as Pope Francis' upcoming statement on the environment.

Encyclical on environment sparks hope among academics, activists

By Thomas Reese

National Catholic Reporter

May 26, 2015

<http://nconline.org/blogs/eco-catholic/encyclical-environment-sparks-hope-among-academics-activists>

The encyclical on the environment, which Pope Francis is expected to release in June or July, is stimulating a great deal of discussion and hope in academia and the environmental movement.

Catholics organize to promote pope's climate change message

USA Today

May 25, 2015

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/05/24/catholics-sierra-club-pope-francis-climate-change/27896225/>

NEW YORK (AP) — When Pope Francis releases his much-anticipated teaching document on the environment and climate change in the coming weeks, a network of Roman Catholics will be ready.

Catholics prepare for pope's climate stance

By Rachel Zoll, Associated Press

The Columbian

May 23, 2015

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/may/23/catholics-prepare-for-popes-climate-stance/>

NEW YORK — There will be prayer vigils and pilgrimages, policy briefings and seminars, and sermons in parishes from the U.S. to the Philippines.

The Catholic Case for Tackling Climate Change

By Stephen Seufert

The Huffington Post

May 21, 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stephen-seufert/the-catholic-case-for-tackling-climate-change-b_7363650.html

Pope Francis's much anticipated encyclical on the environment and address to the UN provides Catholics a rare opportunity to take the lead on presenting the moral argument surrounding climate change.

Nuclear weapons: the greatest threat to the environment

By Thomas C. Fox

National Catholic Reporter

May 20, 2015

<http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/nuclear-weapons-greatest-threat-environment>

As the Vatican gets set to roll out its highly anticipated encyclical on the environment, it is wise to recall the greatest signal threat to the global environment is the explosion of a nuclear weapon.

Pope Francis endorses climate action petition

By Brian Roewe

National Catholic Reporter

May 15, 2015

<http://ncronline.org/blogs/eco-catholic/pope-francis-endorses-climate-action-petition>

A petition calling for world leaders to address climate change and “drastically cut carbon emissions” received a big endorsement last week in Rome from the pope.

How will the world react to Pope Francis's encyclical on climate change?

By Neil Thorns

The Guardian

May 14, 2015

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/may/14/how-will-the-world-react-to-pope-franciss-encyclical-on-climate-change>

Whatever the Pope says in his highly-anticipated climate message it will present challenges - not just for climate sceptics, but for all Catholics, on how we should act to protect our environment and the world's poorest people

Key advisor blasts US criticism to pope's environmental stance

By Inés San Martín, Vatican correspondent

Crux

May 12, 2015

<http://www.cruxnow.com/church/2015/05/12/key-advisor-blasts-us-blowback-to-popes-environmental-stance/>

ROME — Pope Francis' closest cardinal advisor on Tuesday blasted “movements in the United States” hostile to the pontiff’s forthcoming document on the environment, claiming the criticism is fueled by a form of capitalism protecting its own interests.

Pope says environmental sinners will face God's judgment for world hunger

AFP in Vatican City

The Guardian

May 12, 2015

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/may/12/pope-environmental-sinners-will-face-god-judgment>

Pope Francis has warned “the powerful of the Earth” they will answer to God if they fail to protect the environment to ensure the world can feed its population.

A papal statement on climate change could lead to greener Britain

By Soli Salgado

National Catholic Reporter

May 8, 2015

<http://ncronline.org/blogs/eco-catholic/papal-statement-climate-change-could-lead-greener-britain>

A third of British Catholics say they would consider “greening” their lifestyles should Pope Francis make an official statement on climate change.

Pope Francis: ‘If We Destroy Creation, Creation Will Destroy Us’

By Kieran Cooke

EcoWatch

May 6, 2015

<https://ecowatch.com/2015/05/06/pope-francis-moral-dimensions-climate-change/>

A declaration at the end of a meeting in Rome hosted by the Vatican made a plea to the world’s religions to engage and mobilize on the issue of climate change.

Pope Francis has given the climate movement just what it needed — faith

By Chris Mooney

Washington Post

April 30, 2015

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/04/30/pope-francis-has-given-the-climate-movement-just-what-it-needed-faith/>

This week — and it still feels strange to write this — the major climate change news story came out of the Vatican.

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Global Warming

By Henry Auer

Global Warming Blog

April 30, 2015

<http://warmgloblog.blogspot.com/2015/04/pope-francis-encyclical-on-global.html>

Pope Francis, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church, will soon issue a papal encyclical on global warming. An encyclical is a document transmitted through the church hierarchy to its 5,000 bishops, and from them to all 400,000 parish priests. In this way its contents are presented to the parishioners of every Catholic church throughout the world, about 1.2 billion people.

Blessed Are the Climate Advocates

By Michael Shank

May 1, 2015

Slate

http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/science/2015/05/pope_francis_ban_ki_moon_climate_change_talks_renewed_faith_from_vatican.html

This week, while at Vatican City in Rome to manage press for the first-ever meeting on climate change between Pope Francis and United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, my faith in a force more powerful was renewed.

Pope Francis Unlikely to Sway Catholic Republicans on Climate Change

By Katherine Bagley

InsideClimate News

May 1, 2015

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/01052015/pope-francis-unlikely-sway-catholic-republicans-climate-change>

As Pope Francis steps up his moral campaign for global action on climate change, Republican Roman Catholics in Congress are more likely to listen to fossil fuel interests and party leaders than their pontiff, religious and political researchers say, based on lawmakers' track records.

Vatican presses politicians on climate change

By Roger Harrabin, BBC environment analyst

BBC

April 28, 2015

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-32487874>

The Vatican Science Academy has challenged politicians to end their "infatuation" with a form of economic growth that is ruining the Earth.

Pope Francis Steps Up Campaign on Climate Change, to Conservatives' Alarm

By Coral Davenport and Laurie Goodstein

New York Times

April 27, 2015

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/28/world/europe/pope-francis-steps-up-campaign-on-climate-change-to-conservatives-alarm.html?emc=eta1&_r=1

WASHINGTON — Since his first homily in 2013, [Pope Francis](#) has preached about the need to protect the earth and all of creation as part of a broad message on the environment. It has caused little controversy so far.
