

the Common Good

*Secular Franciscan JPIC Monthly
Newsletter
from Franciscan Voice Canada*



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"I Have This Hope"

Let us begin with this song can be seen as a prayer



Tenth Avenue North "I Have This Hope"

Here's a comment: This song and his voice touches deep inside. The emotions come out and tears are non stop, because my spirit speaks to the God Almighty. Jesus has held me throughout every storm. What is your storm, how is Jesus holding you, are you holding on to him? **A great song of hope.**

Journey through Advent 2021: Towards Healing & Reconciliation

The *Journey* series started on the Solemnity of Christ the King and will continue through each of the four Sundays of Advent. **Every week, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops [CCCB] will be releasing a reflection by Archbishop Don Bolen, on the Gospel Reading for that Sunday. Each reflection is based on one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, making amends, and reconciliation.**

[Learn More at Andrew's Blog](#)

Also read about:

- **Nadia Murad, is a former Islamic State sex slave, and her effort to promote her book. (# 4)**
- **See pictures of the Beauty of Dancing Twigs and Snowflakes. (#6)**

COP26 Climate March



Dr. Lorna Gold (pictured left) Board chair, Laudato Si' Movement (Alphonse Muia/CYNESA)

To learn more go to [Earthbeat](#) or [Andrew's Blog #7](#)

And so did some courageous Bishop Servant Leaders who set

an example at COP26 for all our Bishops.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS MARCH IN CLIMATE MARCH

Huge Glasgow Climate March for the Global Day of Climate Action. It is estimated that at least 120,000 people marched in Glasgow including some Catholic Bishops and priests with laity. ... all of us have a contribution to make, no matter how small our contribution, be it using less power, planting a tree, stop using plastics, whatever. All of us have and can contribute to restoring God's creation to what it was.”

Another world is needed. Together it is possible!

Read more at Andrew's Blog #8.



Calling for a new way of thinking, feeling, understanding and living

The Laudato Si' Action Platform empowers the universal Church and all people of good will to respond to Laudato Si', Pope Francis' encyclical on caring for our common home.

THE SYNOD & LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM

In the spirit of *co-responsibility* with the clergy: “At this stage in history, work in the light of the Church’s social teaching to become a laboratory of “globalization of solidarity and charity”, in order to grow with the entire Church in the co-responsibility of offering a future of hope to humanity, by having the courage to make even demanding proposals.” There is a Canadian group that is, among other things, promoting and monitoring the synod listening phase that should be taking place in every diocese - Concerned Lay Catholics - which informs us that the synod listening period has been extended; the CCCB has until 15 August 2022. [Read more at Andrew's Blog #9](#)

Read the article by Richard Shields entitled, **Synodality: *Pope Francis’ invitation to be part of a Church that listens, learns, and teaches.***

“All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents.” (LS 14)

Laudato Si' Action Platform

What can we do?

toward sustainable lifestyles concrete steps Catholics
Official launch of Laudato Si' Action Platform offers

Have you registered?

More than 4,200 entities have already pre-
registered Worldwide...

With registration, you are given additional access to excellent
resources for your group. **Make Laudato Si' a part of your
fraternity's ongoing formation and action.**

Bishop Arnold said never underestimate, "that by your personal
example you can make a difference." Surely that example now
includes bishops & priests marching!

[Read more at Andrew's Blog #13](#)

Course on Laudato Si on Franciscan JPIC Website



Another option for fraternities is to consider using the [CIOFS Franciscan JPIC website](#).

The Inter-Franciscan Commission for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (informally known as Romans VI) has turned a webinar on “Laudato Si” into an online self-study course. The **“Laudato Si” Action Platform** course incorporates video, PowerPoints and text from the webinar’s morning and afternoon presentations.

The material is ready to use. Check it out.



Laudato Si'

“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” (*LS160*)

“Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.” (*LS 217*)

COP26 failures no obstacle to real climate action

Disappointment and even anger at the end of the Glasgow climate summit is not the end of hope for Catholic climate action, said **Laudato Si’ Movement - Canada** co-ordinator Agnes Richard. “Hearing the news of missed opportunities for solid targets to phase out not only coal, but also oil and gas, is hugely disappointing,” said Richard.

[Read more about results at COP26 at Andrew's Blog #10,11&12](#)

LAUDATO SI' MOVEMENT

EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP in an AGE of SCIENCE

CATHOLICS AT COP26

JOIN US TO ENGAGE WITH CLIMATE SCIENCE, EXPLORE INSIGHTS FROM THEOLOGY, AND DISCUSS THE CHURCH'S ROLE IN COMMUNICATION AND ACTION AROUND THE CLIMATE CRISIS.

Wednesday, 10 November 2021 18:00 - 20:00 GMT

If you have some time you might like to watch or listen to “#Live: Catholics at COP26” which gives some enlightening points from excellent speakers.

For example, Dr. Carmody Grey, (Catholic Theologian, Durham University (at the 25 min 45 sec mark to 26:34) says, “Narratives of hopelessness don’t inspire action. Narratives of hopelessness instill fatigue and cynicism. Hope is a spring of action. The Church is a sort of specialist in hope. ... Our faith is founded on such a moment ... the life and death and ultimately the resurrection of Jesus.”

From Gospel to Life

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the
captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's
favor.” Luke 4:18-19



Photo by Rachel

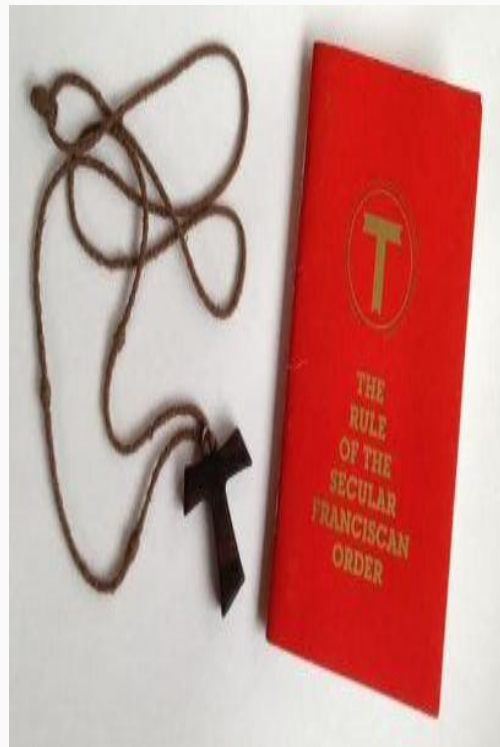
Strong on Unsplash

OFS Rule

Rule 19. Mindful that they are
bearers of peace which must
be built up unceasingly, they
should **seek out ways of unity
and fraternal harmony
through dialogue**, trusting in

the presence of the divine seed in everyone and in the transforming power of love and pardon.

Messengers of perfect joy in every circumstance, **they should strive to bring joy and hope to others.**



Pope's Prayer Intention for December

Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

2021/12
CATECHISTS



[Reflection: The importance of lay catechists](#)



Prayer



God of communion, enables us to become *communities* of participatory action and advocacy, for the Earth and the poor. Enable our religious communities, in particular, to be prophetic servant leaders in the care of our common home and of the least among us.

BOOK: Capitalism is killing the planet

It's time to stop buying into
our own destruction

**Instead of focusing on
'micro consumerist bollocks'
like ditching our plastic
coffee cups, we must
challenge the pursuit of
wealth and level down, not
up - by [George Monbiot](#),
The Guardian**



Here are a couple of quotes from the article:

- Rich people can persuade themselves they've gone green

because they recycle, while forgetting they have a second home

- The main cause of your environmental impact is your money. You persuade yourself you're a green mega-consumer, but you're just a mega-consumer

This is a worthwhile read

Pope Francis, Martin Scorsese, Jane Goodall and a group of less famous "over 70s" talk to young filmmakers about love in the first episode of a four-part documentary available worldwide on **Netflix on Christmas Day**. The documentary is based on "Sharing the Wisdom of Time," a book in which Pope Francis called for creating "an alliance between the young and old people" by sharing their stories.

[READ the NCR story](#)

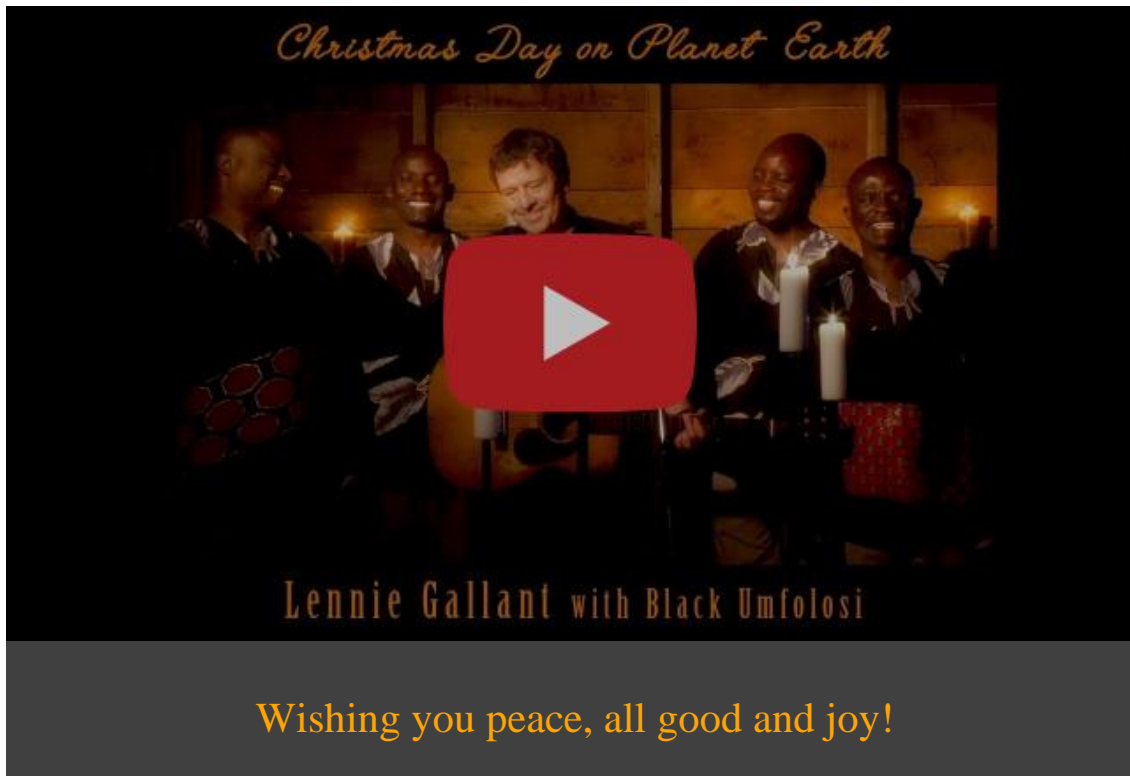
Film Series

Love: Stories of a Generation

- Netflix



Christmas Day on Planet Earth



Now a tradition, we are posting but this song and video *Christmas Day on Planet Earth* by Lennie Gallant, Atlantic Canada songwriter. It expresses wonderfully the relationship between the gift of the birth of Christ and the work of Franciscans for justice, peace and care of creation.

Important Dates on the JPIC Calendar:

- + **December 10** - [Human Rights Day](#)
- + **December 12** - [National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples](#)
- + **December 12** - [Our Lady of Guadalupe](#) (Video 4:04)

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patron of the Americas, appeared in Mexico in 1531 as an Indigenous woman to Juan Diego, whose Indigenous name was Cuauhtlatoatzin ("Eagle Who Speaks"), and spoke to him

in his Indigenous language of Nahuatl. Around her waist she is wearing an Aztec maternity sash that

Mexican women would wear to indicate they were with child.

+ **December 19** - Gaudete Sunday, "The third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday

– ‘gaudete,’ that is, rejoice. We hear St. Paul in today's reading from the letter to the Philippians tells

us “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice.” -

Archbishop Donald Bolen

+ **January 1** - [World Day of Peace](#)

Other Recent Postings on
Franciscan Voice Canada

- [Recycling was a lie — a big lie — to sell more plastic](#)
- [Carbon tax should fund free public transport](#)
- [St Francis of Assisi, PEI, JPIC Committee Sharing](#)

Earlier Posts you may want to check:

- [Shoal Lake 40 First Nation can drink from the tap](#)
- [The Economy of Francesco - Dr. Vandana Shiva](#)



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Note the calls for "Action" in some of the postings

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