

# Just Now



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## Care for Creation

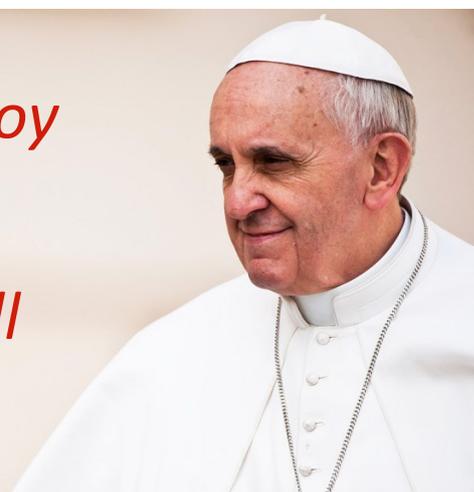
# THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL— CLIMATE CHANGE

Pope Francis has released his nearly 200-page Green encyclical, entitled *Laudato Si* (May You be praised). This comes shortly after last month's gathering of thousands in St Peter's Square, Rome, when the Pope told the crowd *'If we destroy Creation, Creation will destroy us. Never forget this.'*

Climate change is one of the biggest problems we are facing in today's society. The timing of the encyclical is significant— a new government has just been elected, and the Paris climate conference is in December 2015. We need to make sure that tackling climate change is as high priority as it should be, in order to protect our Earth for our future children and grandchildren.

Pope Francis recognised that nations working together was important for caring for our creation, and that social justice and ecology go hand in hand— he spoke about this in his 2014 Message for the World Day of Peace. We must turn away from a culture of selfishness and idealism, and work towards a more habitable world through solidarity.

*"If we destroy  
Creation,  
Creation will  
destroy us."*



The main points in the encyclical were as follows:

1. We need to stop developing fossil fuels
2. We need to subsidise alternative energy
3. We should stop widespread privatisation
4. Social media and technology can be dangerous– it can disconnect humans from nature
5. We should support smaller produces and restrain the big agriculture companies
6. GMOs have not been proven harmful and can be beneficial– however the expansion of such crops has destroyed a complex network of ecosystems
7. Developing countries should avoid passing the burden of climate change on to developing countries
8. Environmental assessments should be stepped up
9. We should be wary of countries that say they promote sustainable growth, but does nothing for its social or environmental growth
10. Consumer boycotts are the way forward for fighting the world's pollutants.

The full text can be read here: <http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2015/06/18/full-text-laudato-si/>

## We're hiring!

We're looking for someone to take on the role of Justice and Peace Fieldworker. The Fieldworker is employed by the Diocese of Nottingham to support and develop the work of the Justice and Peace Commission in parishes, schools, & universities and ecumenically.

The Fieldworker is based at Willson House, Derby Road, Nottingham NG1 5AW.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Monday 24th August 2015.

Visit <http://www.nottinghamjp.org/> for an application pack and more information.

2014 saw a year of off-the-charts temperatures and emissions. It was the hottest year in recorded history. We need to act now to ensure a clean, green future for our children and grandchildren. There are 5 months left until the Paris Summit– this meeting can determine the fate of the world's efforts to fight climate change. Climate change needs to be at the top of the government's agenda to ensure a good deal in Paris.

