

“We are called to care for creation, not only as responsible citizens, but also as followers of Christ.”
[Pope Francis]

I. Reflective study of the Laudato Si Encyclical

Human life is grounded in three fundamental and close intertwined relationships with God; neighbor and earth .The Laudato Si week connected us to these three fundamental relationships.

The Sisters of Delhi province, India, took to the study of the Laudato Si with earnestness. Our Provincial Sr. Elsy had sent to all our communities a daily plan for the study of Laudato Si which included summary of each chapter of the **encyclical with apt videos and reflective questions**. The document received from JPIC Rome too, was sent to the communities. Each community spent an hour studying the document, and at the end of the session discussed and responded to the questions given for the day. The sessions were commenced by listening to the song on You tube on Laudato Si, (Care for the common home)and ended with a prayer for the earth. Some days we listened to **Fr. Daniel Horan OFM** on you tube who explained the topic of the day very briefly and clearly. The study and reflection helped us to become aware of the critical challenges in the absence of **an Integral Ecology resulting in the cry of the earth and cry of the poor**. We now understand the privileged position we are in and our responsibility to build up children with character. We realised how often we take everything for granted.

Some of our sisters took to caring for mother earth by planting saplings, growing micro greens, exploring the campus and the greenery around with more attentiveness, , making compost pit ,keeping the surroundings clean and most urgently reaching out to the neighbourhood by providing food provisions and making cloth bags and masks . 24th May was observed as day of prayer. We reflected upon Pope Francis’s meditation **on ‘the mystery of creation’** and concluded with a brief consciousness examen. Some communities ended it with a meaningful recreation which included Quiz from Laudato Si document.

At the end of the Laudato Si week all the communities made an **action plan** for this year. Some of them are :-

1. To make our campus polythene free and introduce jute bags instead
2. To Save Water, electricity and other natural resources.
3. To tag all the trees in the campus with Botanical and common names with its benefits
4. To Reduce, Reuse and Recycle
5. To have Eco-friendly celebrations in the community and school.
6. To make fertilizers using kitchen waste
7. To make a herbal garden and plant more saplings in the campus
8. To form a Green Team (JPIC Group) in school that will take responsibility for organising Laudato Si related activities in school. Specifically we intend to create awareness about Climate Change and SDG 2030 and help to develop in staff and students, earth friendly behaviours and values through curriculum.

II. Webinar by Mary wards Sisters Indo-Nepal

A **webinar was organized by the Mary ward** sisters during Laudato Si week on various themes related to ecology in order to **strengthen the network**. Few of our sisters, teachers and students attended these Zoom sessions which was very enriching and informative. It has been a great privilege to walk the Mary Ward Family by joining the Laudato Si Prayer Service;



III. Promote justice to Mother Earth and to respond to the cry of the Poor

To promote justice to Mother Earth and to respond to the cry of the Poor, as pope Francis says in the encyclical ‘we must see the needs of the poor of today even as we prepare for a good heritage to future generations’ many of our communities reached out to both the migrants and less privileged of the society by providing them **food provisions**. Covid -19 put the entire country under lock down and the plight of the interstate migrants was rather alarming.

While some of our sisters are engaged in making **cloth bags and masks** ,others are caring for the earth **sweeping the yard, weeding and watering the plants, planting saplings, growing micro greens, Making host and candles, carrying the fire wood etc.**

Some schools conducted competitions for the students in **Drawing, Article writing and PPT on the theme Environment and Covid -19**. It encouraged them to play their role in saving the earth and creating awareness about the corona virus that has gripped the whole world.

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