

HOLY CROSS OF DAVAO COLLEGE CHAPLAIN AND CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE

Tel. No. (082) 221 – 9071 loc. 154 & 144 Main Campus: Sta. Ana Avenue, Corner C. De Guzman, Barangay 14-B, Davao City, Philippines Other Campuses: Camudmud (IGaCOS) and Bajada (SOS Drive)



Chaplain and Campus Ministry Offices Virtue for the Month of July 2019 CARE

You love everything that exists; you do not despise anything that you have made.

(Wisdom 11: 24a)

I. Care according to Laudato Si

Conventional conversations about love and concern for our Common Home (read: Mother Earth) normally talk about Stewardship implying a relationship based on responsibility, an obligation. However, in his encyclical *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis "taps into something deeper: 'when one **cares** for something, it is something one does with passion and love'.

II. What is it to Care ?

If you care about something, you feel that it is important and are concerned about it. If you care for someone or something, you look after them and keep them in a good state or condition.

III. How Does Our HCDC Community Embody Care for the Environment?

"Education must "promote a new way of thinking about human beings, life, society and our relationship with nature," says Francis. Put another way, if we are going to undergo the type of 'ecological conversion' that *Laudato Si* calls us to embrace, it is going to be driven by a desire to become better, more compassionate people, rather than by a feeling that we ought to do our bit for the environment."

Scriptures tell us that being a follower of Jesus meant living differently from others. We are still called today to live in a way that identifies us as followers of Christ. We share our love, we show we care. These are not just options; they are a fundamental part of what it means to be Catholic.

And in simple ways...

In turn, we can choose to change our lifestyle, including "avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices."

IV. Because love does not control...

Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love that God has for each of his creatures and which unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother





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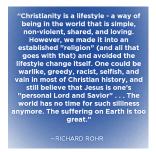
earth. (Laudato Si, §92) it is a love that is gratuitous and 'inspires us to love and accept the wind, the sun and the clouds, even though we cannot control them. (Laudato Si, §228).

V. Some Scriptural Passages

- 1. May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works (Psalm 104:3)
- 2. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. (Genesis 1:31)
- 3. You love everything that exists; you do not despise anything that you have made. (Wisdom 11:24a)

VI. PRAYER

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. (https://catholicclimatemovement.global/)



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