



LAUDATO SI' Goal #2 Ecological Spirituality

Refers to a spiritual conversion that awakens us to the interconnectedness of all things and where communion with all that surrounds us becomes possible. {LS 151}

*This is the basis of our conviction, that as part of the universe, called into being by our Creator, all of us are linked by unseen bonds, which fill us with sacred, affectionate, and humble respect. We believe that each creature has its own unique purpose for each comes from God who loves this world. **Soil, water, mountains--the entire material universe, everything is, as it were, the caress of God. (LS IV-84; V-89)** In response, we commit to this 7-year journey toward sustainability in the spirit of Integral Ecology, "everything is interconnected," which is the heart of Laudato Si'.*

Because of our belief that we belong to a loving, compassionate and utterly creative God, we strive to live in awareness and awe of the 'interconnectedness of each person and creature formed and caressed by the hand of God. We consecrate ourselves to the mission of loving, cherishing and protecting the gift of God's life within us and holding as sacred the life of our world and the mystery of our universe.

Let us pray: O God, who in-spirits us, calling us into living, into thriving, into the joy and pain of creation, struggling toward wholeness and peace, we contemplate the amazing richness, interconnectedness, and diversity of life. Your caress inspires us to reverently embrace each element of creation from the minutest neutrinos to the massive firestorm of the universe. O God, make us humble in your sight and holy in your service.

Below is a short list of ways you can, and perhaps are, cultivating eco-spirituality. You are invited to prayerfully spend some time with this list and notice what calls to you personally.

- 1. Sit in awe of some aspect of nature every day. 2. Read an article on Ecological Spirituality. 3. Cultivate a potted plant. Love it and tend it. 4. Awaken your sensitivity to the interconnectedness of all of God's creation. 5. Revisit Chapter Two: The Gospel of Creation by Paula Gallagher, IHM in *Praise to You*, Daily Reflections on Laudato Si (Sisters of IHM). Other

In light of your reflections indicate:

1. To which of the above are you drawn to commit?

2. Are there other ecological actions/responses to which you want to commit?
