

An Appeal to Pope Francis: The Path of Nonviolence Toward a Laudato Si' Future



The coronavirus has laid bare the deep roots of racism and cultural violence, economic injustice, wars “fought piecemeal,” climate change and environmental destruction that are facing the human community and our planet. Response to the pandemic requires a fundamental shift from the “unjust normal” of systemic and structural violence across the globe, from systems that destroy, dehumanize and diminish, to a culture of solidarity that seeks the fullness of life for all.

The Church is celebrating the fifth anniversary of [*Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*](#), the powerful and beautifully crafted encyclical which calls us to a new understanding of all of the connections woven into creation. In this time of crisis, it is clear that nonviolence is a crucial pillar in the foundation of the more just and sustainable post-pandemic world.

The [Catholic Nonviolence Initiative](#) invites you to sign [this message](#) to Pope Francis expressing our gratitude for his leadership during this time of crisis and our support for the teachings of *Laudato Si'*.

All are welcome to sign; Catholic religious communities, parishes, organizations, educational institutions and individuals. We hope to present the appeal with thousands of signatures to Pope Francis in August.

Please share [the link to this message](#) as widely as possible. The deadline for signatures is **July 31**.