

# Laudato Si' Excerpt Activity

| Year 9 & 10



“Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades.

Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry. They have no other financial activities or resources which can enable them to adapt to climate change or to face natural disasters, and their access to social services and protection is very limited. For example, changes in climate, to which animals and plants cannot adapt, lead them to migrate; this in turn affects the livelihood of the poor, who are then forced to leave their homes, with great uncertainty for their future and that of their children.

There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. They are not recognized by international conventions as refugees; they bear the loss of the lives they have left behind, without enjoying any legal protection whatsoever. Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering, which is even now taking place throughout our world. Our lack of response to these tragedies involving our brothers and sisters points to the loss of that sense of responsibility for our fellow men and women upon which all civil society is founded.”

- Pope Francis, Laudato Si' n.25

Read the excerpt (left) from Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si'. Underline any terms you do not understand.

Find the definitions of these words and write them here.

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Write down FIVE key messages from the excerpt.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Re-write the excerpt in YOUTH FRIENDLY language incorporating the five key messages you selected above. Think about the type of language you would use to emphasise the importance of the message of climate change to youth your age.