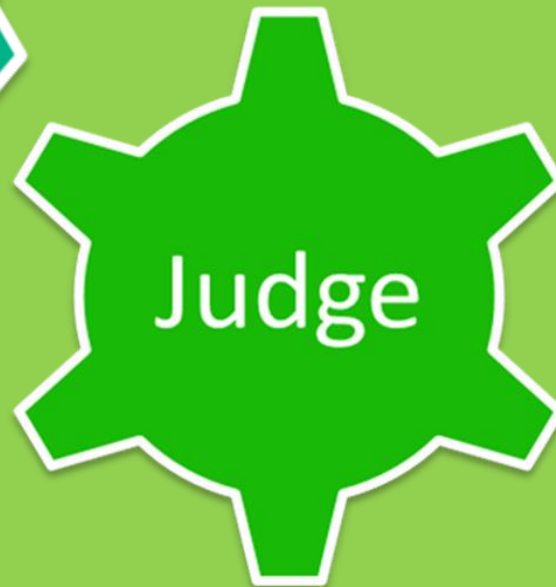


An Overview of Laudato Si- *The Care of Our Common Home*

Methodology: SEE, JUDGE, ACT





SEE- 1- P. Francis in Chap. **1** States
“What is happening in our World”.

JUDGE- 2- Chap. **2** What Scripture
tell us of God’s Plan.

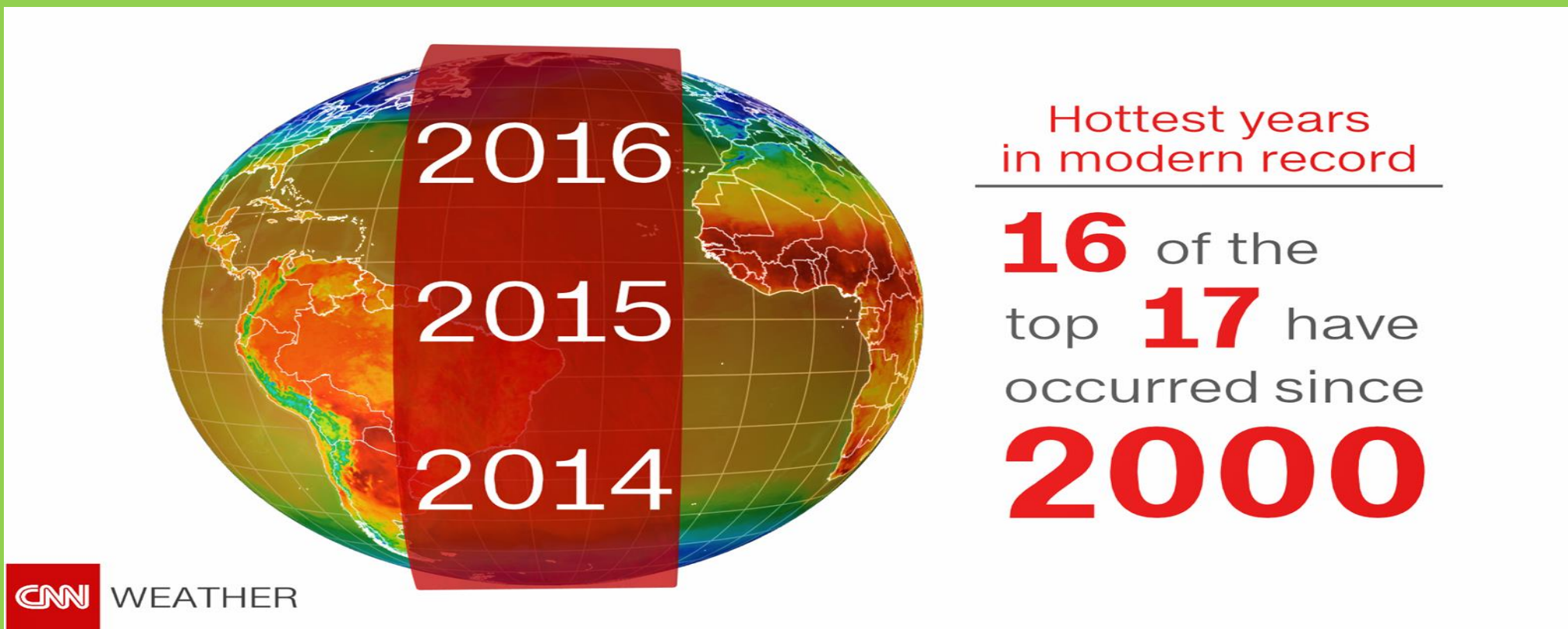
Chap. **3**- The ROOTS of
the ecological crisis.

4- What Integral Ecology is.

ACT- 5- Lines of Action and
6- Ecological education and
Spirituality.

- **SEE**- “Scientific studies indicate that most **global warming** ..is due to the great concentration of *greenhouse gases*...released mainly as a result of **human activity**... based on the intense use of **fossil fuels**” (par. 23)





- **Some RESULTS** of the trapped heat are: the melting of the polar ice cap, rising sea levels, dry areas even drier, causing droughts, and wet areas even wetter, causing flooding, leading to massive migrations, insect and bacteria life moving into new areas, stronger hurricanes and more frequent wildfires.

- **JUDGE**- Gen. 1, 28 *“Be fertile,*
- *multiply, fill the earth and have*
- **dominion** *over it”*. Gen. 2, 15
- *“The Lord/Creator settled man*
- *to the garden of Eden to **till***
- *and **protect it**”*.



The true meaning of dominion is **stewardship**.

- Humans are cooperators with the Creator. God gave humans FREE WILL.

Damage to the environment begins when humans no longer acknowledge God's plan and superimposes his will over that of God.





- The ROOTS of the Ecological Crisis = **Anthropocentrism**. -
Human ingenuity has gained an impressive dominance over
humanity and the whole world. (internet, nuclear)

- “Our technological development has *NOT* been accompanied by a development in human responsibility, values and conscience.”



- P. Francis speaks of the TECHNOLOGICAL PARADIGM = a “mindset with no interest in balanced production and distribution of wealth- poverty solved by market forces.”

- We have a “*super-development of a wasteful consumeristic kind*” (109).
 - NEEDED is a distinct way of looking at things a **new lifestyle and spirituality-** to slow down.



- Modernity is an excessive ANTHROPOCENTRISM.



"Life begins to crumble when instead of a cooperator man sets himself in place of God" (117).

*-**"There can be no ecology without an adequate anthropology"** (118).*

(P. Benedict XVI and the Dali Lama spoke of increasing exterior deserts due to the growth in interior deserts or lack of moral values and principles.)

- The lack of values leads to relativism, and a “*throwaway culture*”-
- to deterioration of the quality of human life and to poverty and eventually violence (147/49)/
- There is NEED to heal all fundamental human relationships: with the Creator, with ourselves, with others and with nature.

- Chap. IV treats of **INTEGRAL ECOLOGY** = All aspects of human life are inter-connected (like pieces of the same cake).
- *“Protection of the environment is an*
- *integral part of the development*
- *process” (141).*



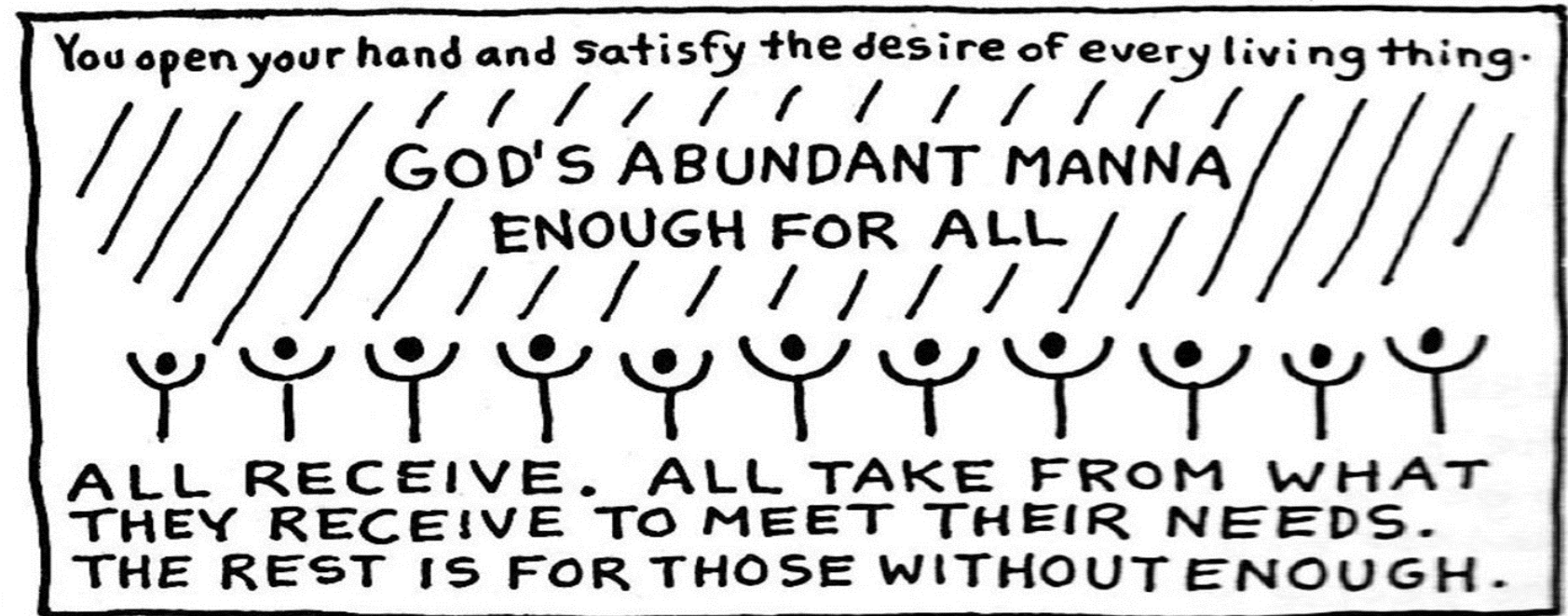
- Mere technological solutions run
 - the risk of attending to symptoms
 - and not the underlying problems
 - (giving an aspirin).
-
- HUMAN ECOLOGY implies a
 - relationship between human life
 - and the moral law- to prevent
 - deterioration to human life and
 - the environment.



- Humans need to accept our bodies as a GIFT from the Creator as are all creatures of our world.
- Thinking that we have absolute power over our bodies leads to thinking we have absolute power over all of creation.
- We are only **STEWARDS**, protectors and developers of God's gifts of creation. (God is the OWNER we are not.)

- We are only **STEWARDS**, protectors and developers of God's gifts of creation. (God is the OWNER we are not.)
- Human Ecology is inseparable from the notion of the **COMMON GOOD** = the sum of all conditions necessary for humans to reach their fulfillment.

Here is a diagram of a just society - a MANNA SOCIETY:



PS 145:16

“Our contemporary lifestyle is unsustainable” (161)

- Justice between generations
- means:
- *“Sustainable development is inseparable from intergenerational solidarity”.*



- **ACT**- Chap. V- *“Lines of Approach and Action”*.
- *“There is a growing consensus that our planet is a homeland and that humanity is **one family living in a common home**”* (164).



Pope Francis addresses a plenary meeting of the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015 at United Nations headquarters in Manhattan, New York, Sept. 25. Photo by Mike Segar/Reuters



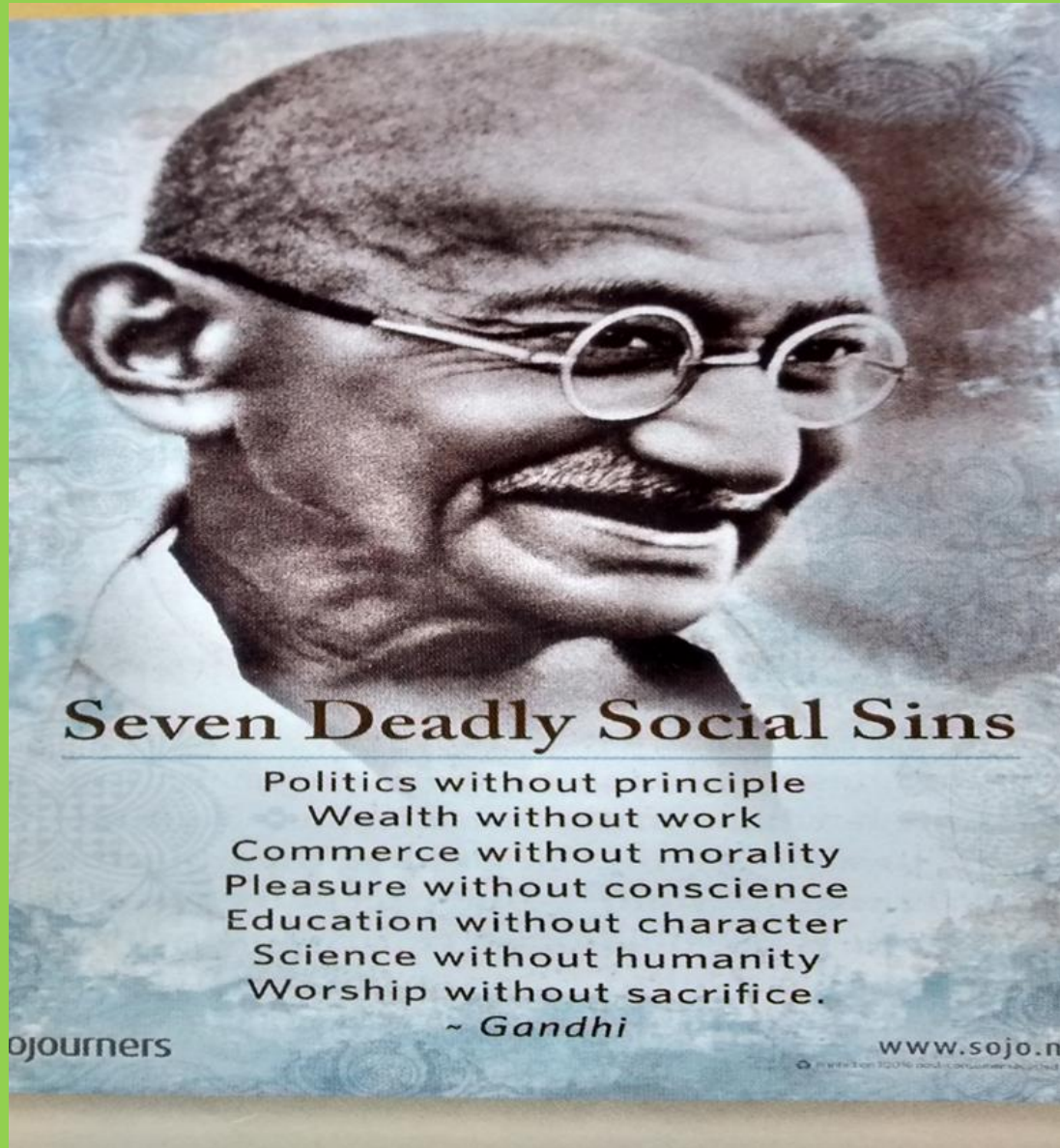
- An inter-dependent world obliges us to think of one world with a common plan. A **global consensus** is essential.
(Paris Accords style- the process has a 45 year history).
- We know that technology based on high polluting fossil fuels and coal need to be replaced with renewable energy.
(McKibben- this is a fight and our target is big oil).

- “*The lack of progress is due to nations putting national interests above the global common good*”, Rio 2012. (169)
- “*Industrialized nations who benefited most have a greater responsibility for finding solutions*” (The Bolivian Bishops).



“It’s a repo from the humans. They couldn’t handle the maintenance.”

Bill Murphy,
San Diego,
Sept. 21



Nations helping each other are
“primarily **ETHICAL** decisions,
_rooted in **SOLIDARITY** between all
peoples” (170).

“The same (economic, political
technological & transnational)

MINDSET stands in the way of
reversing global warming and
eliminating poverty” (175).

- ***“Unless citizens control political power nationally, regionally and municipally, it will not be possible to prevent damage to the environment” (179).***
- ***“**PROFIT** cannot be the sole criterion (187) it cannot consider nature or the environment (190)”.***
- The CHURCH encourages an **open dialogue** to keep ideologies from prejudicing the common good.

- “***PROFIT*** cannot be the sole criterion (187) it cannot consider nature or the environment (190)”.
- The CHURCH encourages an **open dialogue** to keep ideologies from prejudicing the common good.



- “Politics must not be subject to
- the Economy or the Economy
- subject to Technology.” (189)
- (Both need to include ethical values
- and dialogue to protect human life
- and the environment.)
- “***Believers*** (80% of Americans)
- *must live consonant with their*
- *faith*” (194).





Benedict XVI

Proposed “eliminating
the structural causes
of the dysfunctions
of the world
economy

“Promoting sustainability is a good investment” (191).

*“It is time to accept ‘**decreased growth**’
in some parts of the world” (P.
Benedict XVI in 194).*

- Chap. VI- *“Ecological Education and Spirituality”*.
- *“We need EDUCATORS capable of developing an **ethics of ecology** aimed at creating an ‘ecological citizenship’” (210).*



**1,200 Billion
Catholics**

**400 Million
Orthodox Christians**

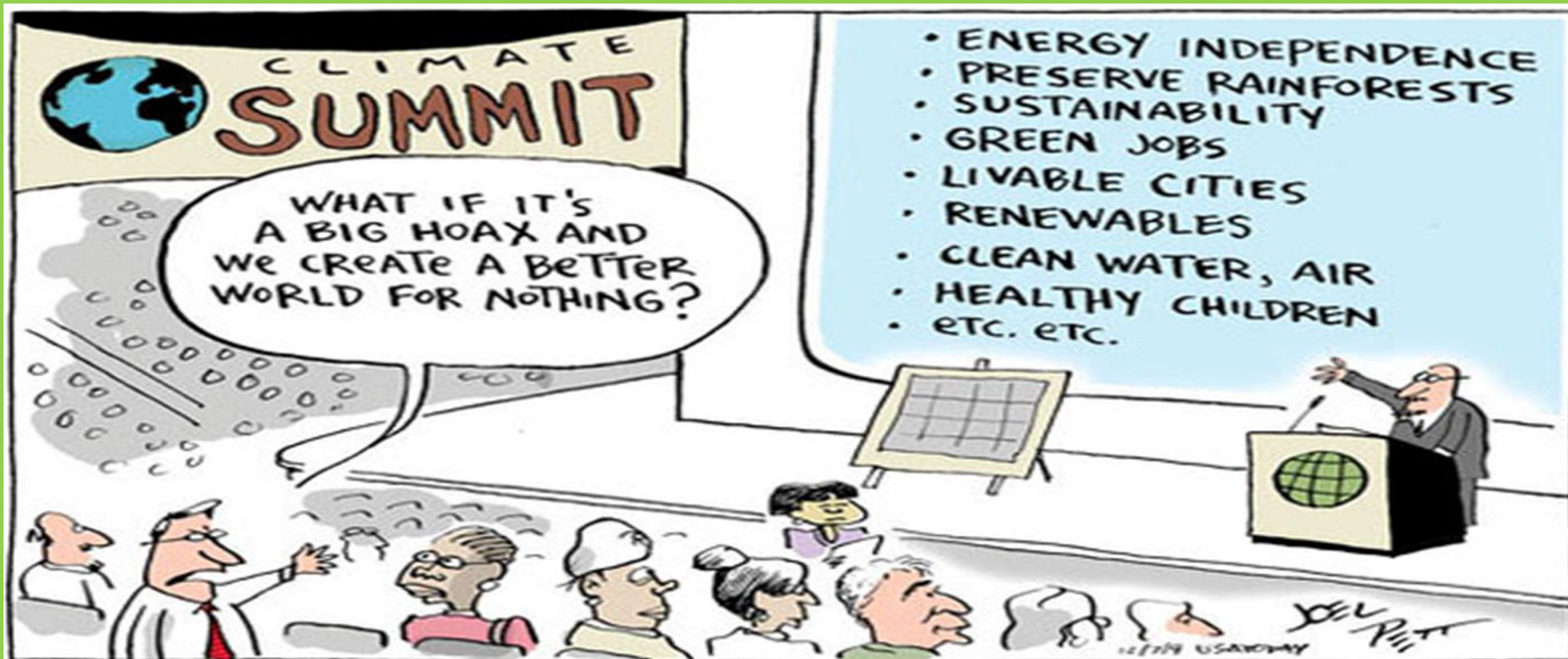
**“To commit a crime
against the natural
world
Is a sin against ourselves
and a sin against God”.
(Patriarch Bartolomew)**

- *“If we can overcome individualism we will be able to develop a **different lifestyle**” (206) (COVID is teaching us that we can make lifestyle changes when motivated.)*



- *“A change in lifestyle could bring pressure on political, economic, social powers” (206)./*

- “Political institutions and the CHURCH are entrusted with helping raise people’s consciousness” (214) (Ramanathan).
- “Our efforts at education to promote a new way of thinking suggests an ‘ecological conversion’” (216).





**Students from St. James
Academy,
Solana Beach**

- “What we all need is an ecological spirituality” (216).
- “Self-improvement by INDIVIDUALS also need COMMUNAL conversion to bring about lasting change” (219).

- “Christian spirituality requires moderation, simplicity” –
“*Live simply, so that others may simply live*”.

LIVE SIMPLY
LIVE SUSTAINABLY
LIVE IN SOLIDARITY

Where do I start?



- SUNDAY (like the Jewish sabbath) is meant to be a day which **heals our relationships** with God, ourselves, others and with the world/the earth” (237).

