Fun with Pope Francis' Laudato Si'

LAUDATO Z'INE

BY

POPE FRANCIS

and the Vati-Cats

with Rose Marie Berger

>> Rosemarieberger.com/2015/09/14/laudatozine. <<

POPE FRANCIS:

1.

I WISH TO ADDRESS EVERY PERSON LIVING ON THIS PLANET... A DIALOGUE WITH ALL PEOPLE ABOUT OUR COMMON HOME.[3]

2

AS THE FATE of the world hangs in the balance, one humble pastor—leader of the world's smallest nation-state—offers a word. Well, closer to 40,000 words.

Pope Francis' much awaited social teaching on ecology was released in June to global acclaim and thunderous Twitterapplause. *Laudato Si'* ("Praised Be to You") takes its name from a line in St. Francis of Assisi's "The Canticle of the Creatures," written in 1225. The encyclical lays out the house rules for this earthly commons we share—archaea, bacteria, and eukaryota alike. (Google it. You, me, all the fauna and flora, are part of eukaryota.) So, what do you need to know? —

Rose's Notes

We are not faced with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather one complex crisis which is both environmental and social.[39]

INTEGRAL ECOLOGY

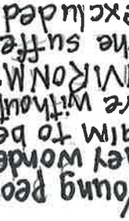
3

Jóvenes—y gatos—estamos gritando!

Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS, and the suffering of the excluded.[13]

WATER POVERTY

especially affects Africa where large sectors of the population have no access to safe drinking water.[28]



GATOS POR PAPA FRANCISCO

DEFEND THE CLIMATE COMMONS!

4

1 The news is not good. The world's leading spiritual physician has diagnosed "every person living on this planet" with a progressive and degenerative disease. A soul sickness has spread through us to infect the soil, seas, skies, and even the seasons. Among humans, the poorest have the least resistance and the richest are the major vectors.

This disease multiplies in isolation and loneliness, with symptoms of obsessive consumption, greed and corruption, and habitual narcissism. "The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast."

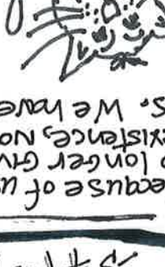
WHAT CHANGES HAVE YOU MADE TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Rose's Notes

ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER IS A BASIC AND UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHT.[28]

5

Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right![30]



Who turned the wonderworld of the seas into water deserts

Water becomes a cemetery of colors

Bereft of colors and life?[41]

INJUSTICE IS NOT INVINCIBLE.[74]

2 This disease is having dire consequences: objectification of the other, a failure of awe in the presence of beauty, and a defiance of reality by those who claim the "invisible forces of the market will regulate the economy" and dismiss the impact on society and nature as "collateral damage." Our family home—the one our children will inherit—looks "more and more like an immense pile of filth."

Rose's Notes

6

WHEN DID YOU LAST EXPERIENCE WONDER?

We seem to think that we can simply halt the SUBSTITUTE EARTH AND THREATENED BEAUTY with something we have created OURSELVES.[34]

3 Some will respond to this drastic diagnosis with "obstructionist attitudes": denial, indifference, resignation, or blind confidence in technology. But followers of Jesus Christ believe "the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations," and the Spirit of life dwelling in every creature calls us to enter into relationship with God. We cultivate "ecological virtues" of humility, tenderness, protecting the vulnerable, simplicity, limited use of natural resources, and preferencing human dignity over profit for self or others. We believe that all private property has a social purpose, and we are part of a "universal communion" that excludes nothing and no one.

Rose's Notes