

Laudato Si Reflection One: SEE

Laudato Si Action Goals: Response to the Cry of the Earth and Response to the Cry of the Poor, Ecological Economics



Check in : Share what feelings are arising in you as you come to this meeting?

Grace: We ask the Spirit to help us see the reality of what is happening to our common home and become painfully aware of the consequences to all.

Opening Prayer:

Father of all,
Creator and ruler of the universe,
You entrusted your world to us as a gift.
Help us to care for it and all people,
that we may live in right relationship--
with You,
with ourselves,
with one another,
and with creation.

Christ our Lord,
both divine and human,
You lived among us and died for our sins.
Help us to imitate your love for the human family
by recognizing that we are all connected—
to our brothers and sisters around the world,
to those in poverty impacted by environmental devastation,
and to future generations.

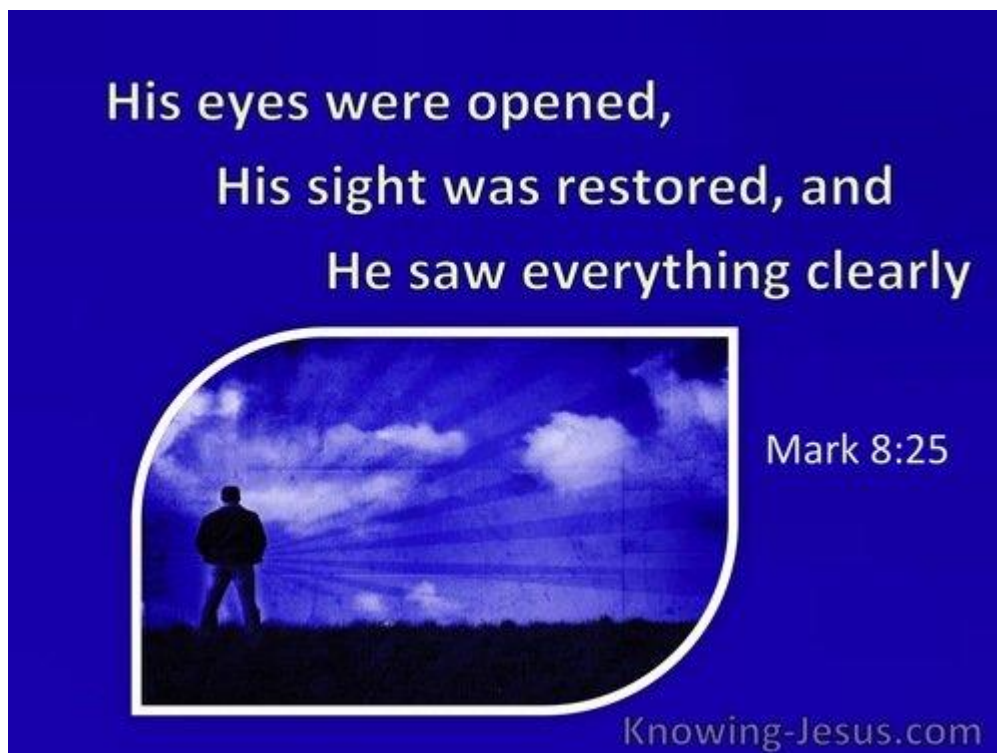
Holy Spirit,
giver of wisdom and love,
You breathe life in us and guide us.
Help us to live according to your vision,
stirring to action the hearts of all—

individuals and families,
communities of faith,
and civil and political leaders.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home.

Amen.

Scripture and Laudato Si Excerpt:



(LS48). The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet: “Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest”. For example, the depletion of fishing reserves especially hurts small fishing communities without the means to replace those resources; water pollution particularly affects the poor who cannot buy bottled water; and rises in the sea level mainly affect impoverished coastal populations who have nowhere else to go. The impact of present imbalances is also seen in the premature death of many of the poor, in conflicts sparked by the shortage of resources, and in any number of other problems which are insufficiently represented on global agendas

What do we see, and scientists verify, in our world in relation to pollution, waste, climate change, oceans, birdlife, the aquifers and glaciers, energy sources?

What examples from our Australian experience show the effects of environmental deterioration on our own lives and those of others?

Reflection questions to share:

1. How has pollution affected you and your family?
2. How do you feel about the “throwaway culture” of today? Where and how does it affect you?
3. Why does Pope Francis believe we cannot adequately address environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation?

Sharing: What do I wish to share about what I see in the environment and humanity?

Spiritual Conversation and prayer: What have I heard and what do I want to pray about (arising in our hearts) Pray aloud if you feel moved.

Evaluation:

Final blessing: **May** the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and **the love of God**, and **the friendship** of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forever.