



Season of Creation – “Ongoing Novitiate”

Reflection #5: September 25 – October 1

“We know that technology based on the use of highly polluting fossil fuels--especially coal, but also oil and, to a lesser degree, gas--needs to be progressively replaced without delay.”
(Laudato Si #165)

READ: 5th part of Pope Francis’ letter for the 2022 Season of Creation (*below*)



REFLECTION: Having listened to the Voice of Creation Pope Francis calls our prayerful attention during this Season to the **COP 27** gathering in Egypt this November. Nations will once again come together on the subject of **Climate Change**. We know that we need to vastly scale back greenhouse gas emissions by “converting methods of production and consumption as well as lifestyles”. Undergirding this communal conversion is a covenant between humans and the rest of the natural world. Such a covenant would reflect the love of God. Dare we try and love *that* deeply? Can we go beyond ourselves, beyond limiting notions of covenant? Can we imagine the years ahead as an ongoing *novitiate* learning how to become planetary citizens?

ACTION: Exactly what is climate change? [What Is Climate Change? | United Nations](#)

How does climate change connect to the Sustainable Development Goals: [17 Goals to Transform Our World | United Nations](#)

Now learn more about the international COP 27 gathering this November: [UN Climate Change Conference \(COP27\) | United Nations](#)

“With regard to climate change, the advances have been regrettably few. Reducing greenhouse gases requires honesty, courage and responsibility, above all on the part of those countries which are more powerful and pollute the most.” (LS #169)

Resources for September 25 - October 1

Pope Francis' letter for 2022 the Season of Creation

(Excerpt 5 of 7)

5 The COP27 conference on climate change, to be held in Egypt in November 2022 represents the next opportunity for all to join in promoting the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. For this reason too, I recently authorized the Holy See, in the name of and on behalf of the Vatican City State, to accede to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, in the hope that the humanity of the 21st century "*will be remembered for having generously shouldered its grave responsibilities*" (Laudato Si, 165). The effort to achieve the Paris goal of limiting temperature increase to 1.5°C is quite demanding; it calls for responsible cooperation between all nations in presenting climate plans or more ambitious nationally determined contributions in order to reduce to zero, as quickly as possible, net greenhouse gas emissions. This means "converting" models of consumption and production, as well as lifestyles, in a way more respectful of creation and the integral human development of all peoples, present and future, a development grounded in responsibility, prudence/precaution, solidarity, concern for the poor and for future generations. Underlying all this, there is need for a covenant between human beings and the environment, which, for us believers, is a mirror reflecting "the creative love of God, from whom we come and towards whom we are journeying". The transition brought about by this conversion cannot neglect the demands of justice, especially for those workers who are most affected by the impact of climate change.

From [Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - Season of Creation](#)

Pray with Scripture: Genesis 9: 12 - 17