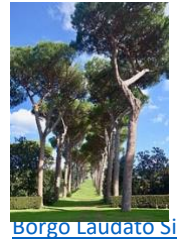


Raising Hope for the Care of Creation (October 18, 2025)

On September 5, Pope Leo XIV launched the new [Borgo Laudato si' ecology project](#) (“Laudato Si Village.”) Initiated by Pope Francis, it is a transformation of the formal gardens at Castel Gandolfo into an ecological learning center. There is a [video of the full ceremony](#) at [this link](#).



Raising Hope Conference for the tenth anniversary of *Laudato Si*

On October 1, His Holiness Pope Leo XIV led a [moving celebration](#) of hope for our common home. It was a kickoff for the conference to follow. When he blessed the water of the glacial ice block, it was very emotional for me, and I doubt if I'm the only person for whom that act unlocked a lifetime of tears over the disappearing glaciers and what it's meant to Sister Mother Earth. Pope Leo, an Augustinian, was, like Pope Francis, tuned in to Franciscan thinking as it applies to this moment in history. Also, Adeniké Adewale sang a beautiful short line from the Canticum in Italian: [Laudato sie, mi Signore cum tucte le Tue creature](#), which became a theme for the conference. You can hear it at [this link](#).



On October 2, 3, Leaders from the realms of faith, justice movements, science, and policy reflected on the impact of *Laudato Si'* and the most effective actions we can take now. The recordings for all conference sessions are here: [Session 1](#), [Session 2](#), [Session 3](#), [Session 4](#). This three-day event was designed to animate hope and joy around the movement of *Laudato Si* at its tenth anniversary. I watched all the sessions, and I go back to them whenever my hope and joy start to wobble. The speakers are not all Catholic, and it shows how the movement begun by *Laudato Si* has become global.



In Preparation for the UN Conference (COP 30) in Belem, Brazil, at the mouth of the Amazon, November 10-21, 2025:

Three *Franciscans International* videos:

1. History of FI involvement on Care for Creation: [\(recording\)](#)
2. FI preparation for the UN Climate Conference in Belem: [\(Recording\)](#)
3. FI members explain the document sent to the UN by the bishops of the Global South. [\(Recording\)](#) There are many hard truths from the bishops. Example: “We are not victims of history; we are stewards of creation.” “The time for pity has passed, the time for partnership, justice, and shared responsibility, has come.” (Sister Charity Nkandu, SFMA.) To read a PDF of the Bishops’ document: [English](#) [Spanish](#) [Portuguese](#)



The *Franciscan Action Network* and *Franciscans International* have an [upcoming webinar series](#): If you are interested in environmental policy at the UN and options for advocates. The first installment: **A Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment** is Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025 7pm Eastern [To Register](#) JM

*Hope and Joy are our inheritance and command, even when events seem dark.
May Sister Water and Sister Mother Earth, and every creature continue to praise
God, and may we find forgiveness and renewal in our efforts to care for them, born
of perpetual gratitude for the miracle of creation.*

