A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH (FROM LAUDATO SI')

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.
TODAY’S PRESENTERS

Mark Doorley, Ph.D.
Director, The Ethics Program
Villanova University

Ruth McDermott-Levy, Ph.D., MPH, RN
Associate Professor
Director, Center for Global & Public Health
Villanova University College of Nursing

Barbara Sattler, RN, Dr.P.H., FAAN
Professor, Public Health Program
University of San Francisco

Theological Foundations of Laudato Si
Mark Doorley, Ph.D.
Creation

- Genesis 1
  - All is very good
  - Relationships define creation
  - Earth
  - Other
  - God

Human Responsibility

- To Care for Earth
  - Creation includes God’s intention
    - Harmony, justice, community, peace
  - Limits of material progress
  - Human capacity for intentional relationship
    - Capacity for deliberate choice/freedom
The Message of Creation

• “From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine.”
  Canadian Bishops, quoted in Laudato Si, #85

Communion

• “God has joined us so closely to the world around us that we can feel the desertification of the soil almost as a physical ailment, and the extinction of species as a painful disfigurement.”
  Evangelium Gaudium, cited in Laudato Si, #89
Universal Destination of Goods

The New Zealand bishops ask what the commandment “Thou shalt not kill” means when “twenty percent of the world’s population consumes resources at a rate that robs the poor nations and future generations of what they need to survive.”

*Laudato Si*, #95

Integral Ecology

- We are all connected.
- Integrate “both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.”
  - *Laudato Si*, #45
- Accept one’s own body, care for it
  - Essential to an integral ecology
Health Impacts of Climate Change
Health Impacts of Climate Change

[Images of flooded areas and temperature]
Health Impacts of Climate Change
A video from Sr. Carol …

How Health Systems and Communities Are Addressing the Environmental Crisis

Julie Trocchio
Senior Director, Community Benefit and Continuing Care
Catholic Health Association
“Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings.” 211.

From Laudato Si

Committing to Environmental Responsibility

- Connecting to mission
- Engaging leaders and staff
- Forming green teams
- Working with community partners
Building on Partnerships and Experts

Health Care Without Harm
- Healthy Hospital Initiative
- Practice Greenhealth

Government
- DOE’s Better Buildings
- EPA’s Energy Star

Church
- USCCB
- Catholic Climate Covenant

Putting Commitments Into Action
- Reuse/recycle/reclaim
- Energy conservation
- Green products
- Buying locally
- Removing lead paint/asthma triggers in homes
- Advocacy
Ascension Health

Putting Commitments Into Action - continued

Ascension Health has committed to a 20% reduction in energy use by 2020 across 35 million square feet of acute care hospitals and related facilities.

Mercy Health - West

Putting Commitments Into Action - continued

Mercy Health - West Hospital’s roof contains 2.5 acres of vegetation, it’s touted as Ohio’s largest green roof.
Putting Commitments Into Action - continued

ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence

- Reducing system-wide energy use by 5.7% in 2008, even as the square footage of its facilities increased by 17.4%
- Saving over $13 million since a formal energy office was established in 2004
- Earning the ENERGY STAR for eight facilities in 2008 across four states for a total of 12 – more than any other healthcare system in the United States

CHA Resources

https://www.chausa.org/environment/resources
CHA Resources

Faithfully Healing the Earth Bookmarks

https://www.chausa.org/environment/resources

Encyclical Prayer Cards

https://www.chausa.org/environment/resources
Nurses in Healthcare

Healthcare
Healthcare...

In our personal lives
In our personal lives

Our personal lives
In our communities

In our communities
In our communities
What can nurses do?

Within their nursing organizations
(specialty organizations, state nurses associations, nursing unions)
✓ Include climate change and environmental health on conference agendas
✓ Develop policy resolutions
✓ Engage in educating policy makers
✓ Provide testimony

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE)

Bringing Science and Passion to the Environmental Health Movement
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Bringing Science and Passion to the Environmental Health Movement

Mission

To promote healthy people and healthy environments by educating and leading the nursing profession, advancing research, incorporating evidence based practice and influencing policy.

For more information about ANHE or one of the workgroups go to www.enviRN.org

Structure:

• Steering Committee
• Work Groups:
  – Education
  – Practice
  – Research
  – Policy/Advocacy
• Committees
  – Climate Change
  – Fracking
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Bringing Science and Passion to the Environmental Health Movement

Education Committee

• Environmental health competencies for all nurses
• Model nursing curriculum for environmental health
• EH in the SIM lab
• e-Text

Practice Committee

• Integration into clinical practice
• Greening our health care institutions
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Bringing Science and Passion to the Environmental Health Movement

Research Committee

• A national research agenda for nurses on environmental health

• Resources and support mechanisms
  – Funding
  – Expert and Peer support

Policy/Advocacy Committee

Topical Areas:
• Climate Change
• Energy and Health
• Chemical Policies

• Testimony, Policy statements, Letters of Support, Letters to Editors, Op/Eds, Legislative Briefings
IMAGINE

Pediatric clinics free of chemicals that trigger asthma

Hospitals that rely on renewable energy sources

Hospital cafeterias that serve local, seasonal foods

Imagine a hospital that is carbon neutral.

WHY NURSES?

Because we get it!
WHY NURSES?

• We recognize the wisdom of heeding early warnings

• We are “fix it” people
WHY NURSES?

• We care passionately about our patients and our communities.

WHY NURSES?

• We are trusted conveyors of health information to our patients, community members, AND policy makers
And......... There are A LOT of us!

...and we know that human health and the environment are inextricably related
Thank you!