

Program Four: Creation Has Intrinsic Order

How God created the world with intelligibility and coherence; how humans are able to discern their special place and role within creation.

Materials

Videos

- Program Four: Creation Has Intrinsic Order

Websites

Visit the websites of people interviewed for this series:

- Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savanna
- Elliot Allen Institute of Theology and Ecology
- Farmland Legacies Project
- Heirloom Seed Sanctuary
- Inter-Church Uranium Committee Educational Co-operative (ICUCEC)
- Justice and Peace Commission
- Madonna House
- Prairie Garden Seeds
- Scarboro Missions
- Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul
- St. Gabriel's Parish, Willowdale, ON
- St. Joseph Villa Retreat and Ecology Centre
- St. Peter's Abbey, Muenster, SK

Documents

- Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment June 2015. Coming Soon
- Building a New Culture - Central Themes in Recent Church Teaching on the Environment

Read the original documents for papal statements quotes in this program:

- Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate (2009)
- John Paul II, Homily in Zamosc, Poland (June 12, 1999)
- Francis, General Audience (June 5, 2013)

Books

- Ten Commandments for the Environment Benedict XVI. Ave Maria Press. 2009
- The Seamless Garment: Writings on the Consistent Ethic of Life Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. Orbis Books. 2008.



Study Guide

Goal

The goal of Program Four is to introduce to the second theme of the CCCB document “Building a New Culture - Central Themes in Recent Church Teaching on the Environment” about human beings having a special place in creation, and that we’re capable of discerning what our role is and what the purpose of creation is.

Steps

1. Show the video “Program Four: Creation Has Intrinsic Order”
2. Ask students to form small groups to describe the following impressions from the video:
 - What is the second theme of the document and why is it important?
 - Who is Joel Saladin and how does he say we should treat pigs?
 - What did you know after viewing the video that you didn't know before?
 - Which quote from what pope in this episode means the most to you and why?
3. Option for Take-Home Assignment. Using the internet, find more facts about:
 - Existing Catholic eco justice initiatives
 - The writings of Popes on the environment
4. Write 1.5 pages on the results of your research.
5. Group discussion
In groups, first share your short essays and then, asking one person to represent the discussion, make presentations to the class about any or all of the above. Include suggestions on how students could start an ongoing eco justice project or become involved with local Catholic eco justice projects already in existence.