Laudato Si' Quotes for reflection

You might like to use these for display in your church grounds or for a group that is undertaking the Flower Timed Insect Count as part of the rewilding project.

"Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs..." (Laudato Si, 1)

"The divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God's creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet." (Laudato Si', 9).

"Nature is a magnificent book in which God speaks to us & grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness & praise" (Laudato Si', 12)

"St. Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty." (Laudato Si', 12)

"The entire material universe speaks of God's love, God's boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is a caress of God." (Laudato Si', 84).

"The history of our friendship with God is always linked to particular places which take on an intensely personal meaning; we all remember places, and revisiting those memories does us much good. Anyone who has grown up in the hills or used to sit by the spring to drink, or played outdoors in the neighbourhood square; going back to these places is a chance to recover something of their true selves." (Laudato Si', 84).

"God has written a precious book, whose letters are the multitude of created things. 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. Alongside revelation in sacred Scripture, there is a divine manifestation in the blaze of the sun and the fall of night" (Laudato Si', 85).

"This contemplation of creation allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us, since "for the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice." (Laudato Si', 85)

"Nature is God's art" (Laudato Si', 80, quoting Thomas Aquinas)

"What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" (LS, 160).



"The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. Standing awestruck before a mountain, we cannot separate this experience from God" (Laudato Si', 233). "What [we] need is an ecological conversion, whereby the effects of [our] encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in [our] relationship with the world around [us]. Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience." (LS, 217)

"The Eucharist is itself an act of cosmic love: Yes cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. The Eucharist joins heaven and earth; it embraces and penetrates all creation." (LS, 236)

"When we can see God reflected in all that exists, our hearts are moved to praise the Lord for all his creatures and to worship him in union with them." (Laudato Si', 87)

"The world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise" (Laudato Si', 12)

"The Psalm 148 brings us into a sort of cosmic church, whose apse is the heavens and whose aisles are the regions of the world, in which the choir of God's creatures sings his praise." (St John Paul II, Audience 17 January 2001)

A prayer for our earth:

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. (Laudato Si #246)

