

**. Laudato Si' Walk Along the Charles River
May 22, 2021 2:00 PM**

After we met on the parking lot in back of the Stop n' Shop, an introduction was given. We were prepared to walk along the trail on the Watertown side of the Charles River.

We began our "in silence" walk focused on looking and listening carefully, and to taking in the aromas as we walked.



After walking a while, we stopped to pray.– A Prayer for Our Earth

*God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live. The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of Your kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty. Praise be to you! Amen.*

~Pope Francis Laudato Si On Care for Our Common Home



- Next, we spent time sharing what we noticed during the silent walk. (sights, sounds, smells)
- A reading of **St. Francis of Assisi's Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon** was read, after which we continued our silent walk.

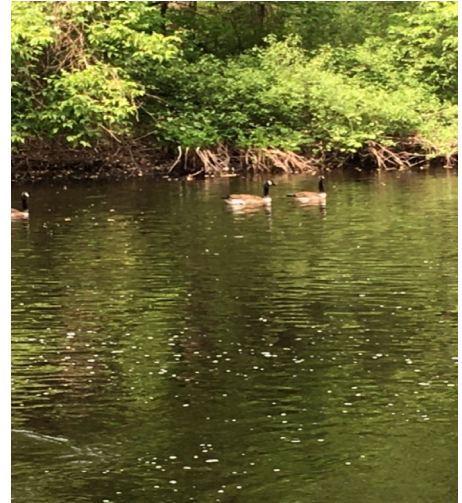


Laudato Si`

Chapter One:

What is Happening to Our Common Home?

THE ISSUE OF WATER



Fresh drinking water is an issue of primary importance, since it is indispensable for human life and for supporting terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Sources of fresh water are necessary for health care, agriculture and industry. Water supplies used to be relatively constant, but now in many places demand exceeds the sustainable supply, with dramatic consequences in the short and long term. Large cities dependent on significant supplies of water have experienced periods of shortage, and at critical moments these have not always been administered with sufficient oversight and impartiality. Water poverty especially affects Africa where large sectors of the population have no access to safe drinking water or experience droughts, which impede agricultural production. Some countries have areas rich in water while others endure drastic scarcity. Pope Francis *Laudato Si` Chapter One*

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