

Caritas in Veritate: For Everyone!

Pope's 2009 Letter on Integral Human [and Ecological] Development:

- **Is addressed to all humans**
- **Affirms a planet we share in common with all of creation**
- **Identifies both human and ecological distresses**

Do you believe?

- **Earth's ecology is in distress?**
- **All life suffers from global warming?**
- **Over consumption & greed is at heart of the causes?**
- **All of life depends on our singular planet?**

Do you live these Social Teachings?

- **Human Dignity:** "God created us in his own image...male and female he created us." (Gen 1:27)
- **The Common Good:** "To each...is given... gifts of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Cor 12:7)
- **Subsidiarity:** ' Don't take over what others can do for themselves.' (Rom 12:4-5)
- **Solidarity:** "God has arranged the body...If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt." (1 Cor 12:24-26)

Now add Ecological Justice to those Universal Teachings in response to the "Green" Pope's challenge to You, to Everyone!

Do you?

- **Commit to finding solutions?**
- **Pray while seeking solutions?**
- **Ask the Spirit for guidance?**
- **Join others in responding?**

A Few Considerations:

- **We cannot separate the human from the ecological!**
- **Our diverse gifts have been given by the Spirit!**
- **Our response in using those gifts is the urgent challenge!!**





In his painting "[The Light of the World](#)" Holman Hunt depicts Christ knocking at a door which can only be opened from the inside in response to that call.

"[Caritas in Veritate](#)" is not unlike that call, addressed to everyone living on God's created planet. Only you, individually and in solidarity with others, can answer the knock at your door in response to the ecological distresses of our Earth and the implications for all of creation dependent on our planet for survival.

Have you heard the knock?

How do you respond to Earth's increasing duress?



Where you first invoke the Spirit on Social and Eco-justice

Our starting point for prayer is in the heart of our local parish or church when individual and collective responses are sought on behalf of social and ecological justice issues.

There are no easy local or global solutions, so give the Spirit time to help us in responding to His knock at our doors.