



Reflections from your Faith TO Justice Committee

Let us be renewed by God's mercy....
and let us become agents of this
mercy, channels through which God
can water the earth, protect all
creation and make justice and peace
flourish.

Pope Francis

May 24, 2016

Speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice.

Prov. 31:9

Liberation theology and ecological discourse have something in common: they start from two bleeding wounds. The wound of poverty breaks the social fabric of millions and millions of poor people around the world. The other wound, systematic assault on the Earth, breaks down the balance of the planet, which is under threat from the plundering of development as practiced by contemporary global societies. Both lines of reflection and practice have as their starting point a cry: the cry of the poor for life, freedom, and beauty ... and the cry of the Earth groaning under oppression.

Leonardo Boff, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*

Political institutions and various other groups are also entrusted with helping to raise people's awareness. So too is the Church...an important role to play in ecological education...an education in responsible simplicity of life, in grateful contemplation of God's world, and in concern for the needs of the poor and the protection of the environment...But we also need the personal qualities of self-control and willingness to learn from one another.

Pope Francis, *LAUDATO SI'*, #214