



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

Papal Teaching on Ecology Set for Thursday Release
Catholics and global community await reflections from Pope Francis

TORONTO (June 17, 2015) In a much-anticipated teaching letter, scheduled for a Thursday morning release in Rome, Pope Francis will outline concerns and reflections related to ecology, aimed to prompt discernment, dialogue and action worldwide.

Entitled *Laudato Si', On Care for Our Common Home*, this will present the most comprehensive papal document on ecological themes in history, expanding on work presented by previous popes, including Blessed Paul VI, St. John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

In anticipation of the release, the Archdiocese of Toronto has assembled a roster of Catholic specialists to comment on the document, its implications, as well as providing examples of responsible environmental stewardship throughout the Greater Toronto Area. Voices include:

- Dr. Simon Appolloni, scholar in Christianity and the environment, University of Toronto
- Fr. Stephen Dunn, CP, Director of the Passionist Center for Ecology and Spirituality
- Anne-Marie Jackson, Director of the Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice
- Dr. Dennis Patrick O'Hara, Director of the Elliott Allen Institute for Theology & Ecology, University of St. Michael's College
- Luke Stocking, Central Ontario Animator, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace

The encyclical text will be available by Thursday at 6 a.m. ET from the Vatican Press Office at http://www.vatican.va/news_services/press/index.htm. The Archdiocese of Toronto's Office of Public Relations & Communications is pleased to assist journalists in sourcing informed voices and examples of environmental stewardship for their stories.

The Archdiocese of Toronto is Canada's largest diocese, stretching from Toronto north to Georgian Bay and from Oshawa to Mississauga. It is home to 1.9 million Catholics and 225 churches, with Mass celebrated in more than 30 languages each week.

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