

# Our Dream of the Earth.

What lessons can we pass on to the next generation?

## Water and Ocean Reflection Series

*Photo: Kristin McDermott*

### MESSAGE FROM

#### POPE FRANCIS

'What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up? ... What need does the earth have of us? It is no longer enough, then, simply to state that we should be concerned for future generations. We need to see that what is at stake is our own dignity. Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is, first and foremost, up to us. The issue is one which dramatically affects us, for it has to do with the ultimate meaning of our earthly sojourn.'

Pope Francis, Laudato Si #160



### CONNECTIONS AT THE UN

The Sustainable Development Goals are an integrated set of targets with the desire to transform the world so that there is no extreme poverty or hunger.

The success of the sustainable development goals will rely on the collaborative partnership of all stakeholders – at international, national and local levels. From grassroot community groups to the larger national and international groups all working together.

Goal 17.7 outlines the partnerships that are key for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: this includes "effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships". It is important to form these relationships, learn from each other, and incorporate insights from others in order to make change. Each of us has the capacity to take part in this integral process.

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg17>

## TAKE ACTION

- JOIN THE OCEAN ACTION HUB TO ENGAGE IN MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE REGARDING THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING SDG 14 ON OCEANS AND MAKE YOUR OWN CONTRIBUTIONS BASED ON EXPERIENCES. (LINK)
- HOW MIGHT RESTORING, PROTECTING THE WATERWAYS OR WATERSHEDS AND ASSOCIATED MARSHES, ESTUARIES AND SEASIDE HELP YOUR COMMUNITY?

# Reflection



**Take a walk along a drain, stream, river, estuary or beach....notice pollution and pick up rubbish.**

**Study the rubbish you pick up...could any of it be recycled?**

**Reflect on your personal consumption and waste ... can you cut down on the waste you generate?**

**From your walk, draw or take pictures. Write a poem, short story or reflection on what you discover on your journey.**



# Prayer

**'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 #246**

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Ocean farming (as opposed to mono-culture within the aquaculture industry) has a philosophy based on diversity.**

**Check out one fisherman's innovative approach in response to climate change and waterway and estuary pollution:**

**<http://grist.org/food/this-ocean-farmer-could-make-you-hopeful-about-the-future-of-the-sea/>**