

**MOVED BY:**

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**Toronto Catholic District School Board**

**TOPIC:**

**Bringing Laudato Si to our students**

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**WHEREAS:** The stated TCDSB vision is “At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.” Our mission is to “educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.”

**WHEREAS:** Pope’s Francis’s recent Encyclical letter *Laudato Si (Praise be to You)* on the “Care for our Common Home” centers around the concept of integral ecology to describe the relationships of each of us: with God, with one’s self, with other human beings, with creation.

**WHEREAS:** In the letter Pope Francis asks us all, “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?

**WHEREAS:** He writes that “we need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.”

**WHEREAS:** In Chapter 6, *Ecological Education and Spirituality* Pope Francis writes, “Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone. This basic awareness would enable the development of new convictions, attitudes and forms of life. A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal.”

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- School boards have a clear role to play in the pope’s urgent appeal for conversation and ‘profound internal conversion’.
- Staff develop programming for roll-out to both elementary and secondary students for a study of, and reflection on, Pope’s Francis’s Encyclical letter *Laudato Si* on the “Care for our Common Home” which responds to both needs.