

OSCAR ROMERO CATHOLIC WORKER HOUSE

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Oklahoma City Catholic Workers issue suggestions for a Catholic response to the Pope's Encyclical Letter Laudato Si and condemn politicians calling for people to ignore the Pope.

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On the eve of the publication of Laudato Si, the Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House released a document offering 18 suggestions for Catholics, and other persons of good will concerned about our common home, this planet, that would be an effective response to the call of the Pope for us to take better care of Creation.

Bob Waldrop, founder of the organization, said, “From our beginning in 1999, we have endeavored to learn how to live more lightly on the planet so that we are good stewards of Creation. We promote gardening, plant fruit and nut trees, and teach permaculture – which is the art and science of designing sustainable human systems.”

The group is an advocate of making small, incremental changes that over time add up to a lifestyle that lives lightly upon the planet.

Regarding the criticism that the Pope is receiving from certain political groups in the United States, including Senator Inhofe of Oklahoma and Republican presidential candidates Jeb Bush and Rick Santorum, Waldrop says, “Catholics ought to give the Pope a fair and unbiased hearing. He is doing his job as Pope, which is to instruct the faithful in faith and morals. The politicians calling Catholics to 'ignore the Pope' speak with the voice of demons who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.”

The full text of the document is available online at <http://www.justpeace.org/laudato.pdf>.

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Attachments: Laudato.pdf – “How Catholics can respond to Pope Frances and his encyclical letter Laudato Si.”