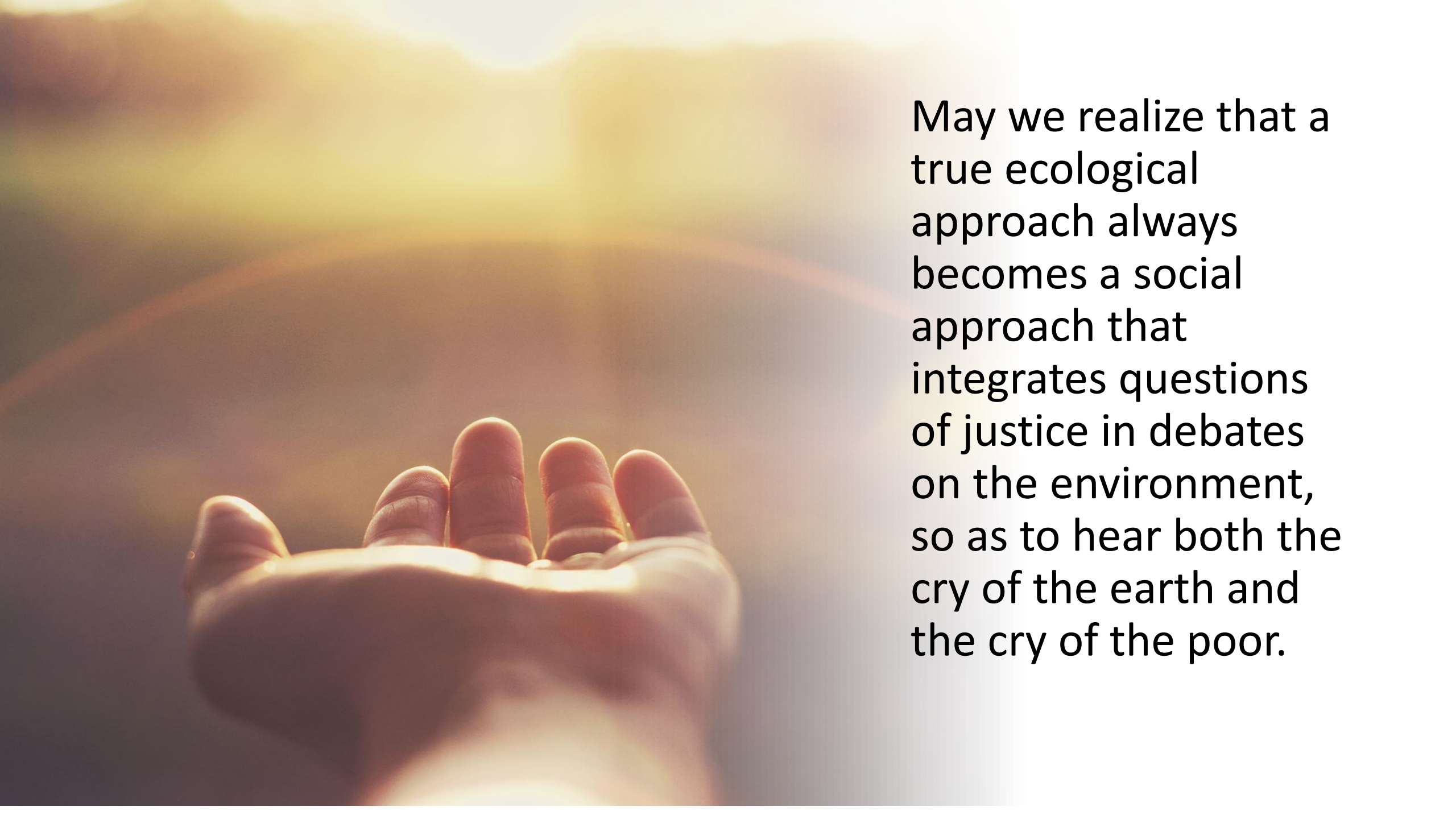


# Prayer for Environmental Justice



May we recognize the  
inseparable bond that  
exists among our  
concern for nature,  
justice for the poor,  
commitment to society,  
and interior peace.





May we realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach that integrates questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

May we bear witness to that conviction that everything is interconnected, and that genuine care for our own lives and our relationships with nature is inseparable from fraternity, justice and faithfulness to other.







When nature is viewed solely as a source of profit and gain, there are serious consequences for society. This vision of “might is right” has engendered immense inequality, injustice and acts of violence against the majority of humanity, since resources end up in the hands of the first comer or the most powerful. May we act from the ideals of harmony, justice, fraternity and peace as proposed by Jesus.

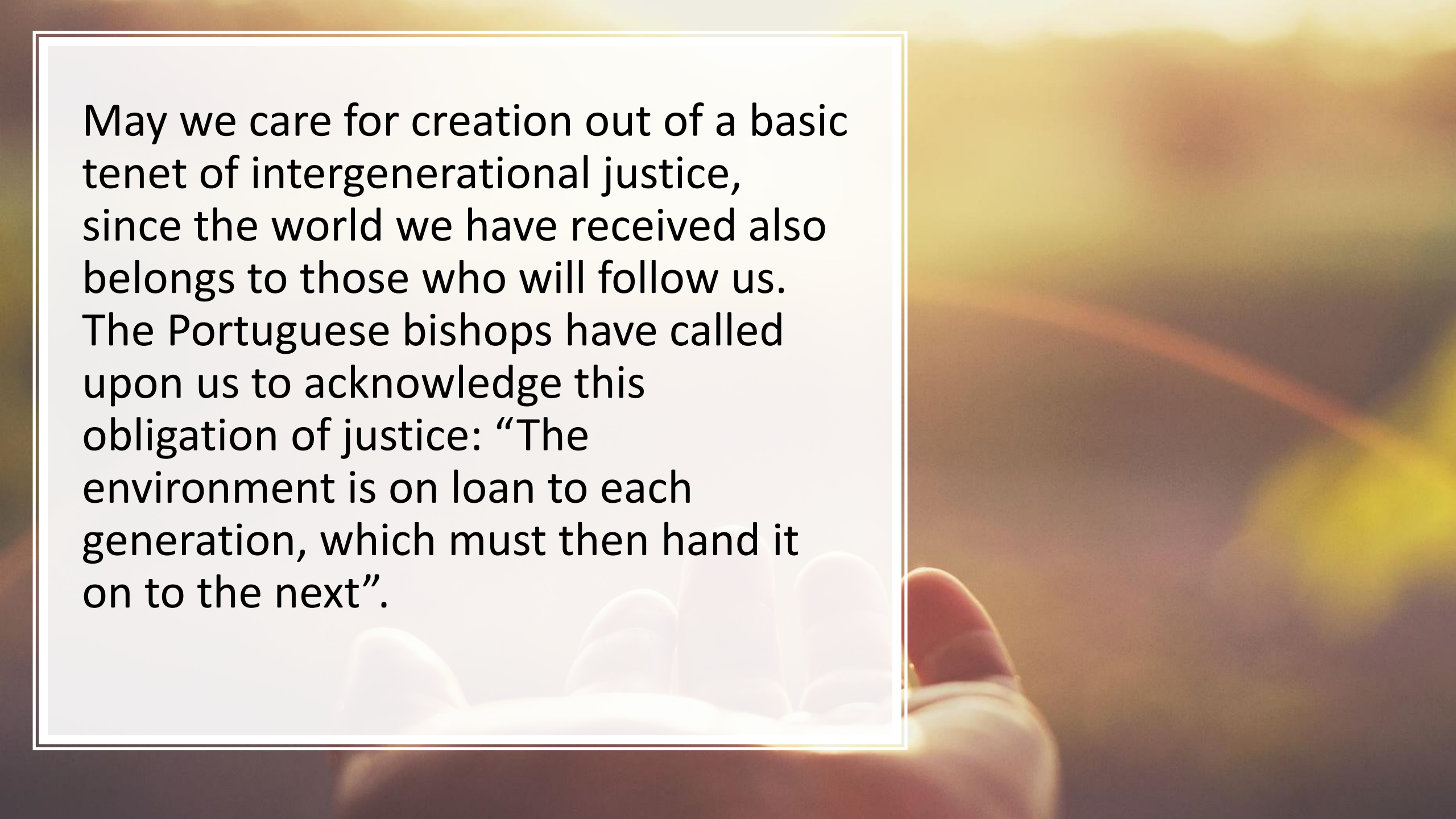
“Peace, justice and the preservation of creation are three absolutely interconnected themes, which cannot be separated and treated individually”. May we human beings be united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.





May we acknowledge that in the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good becomes a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters.

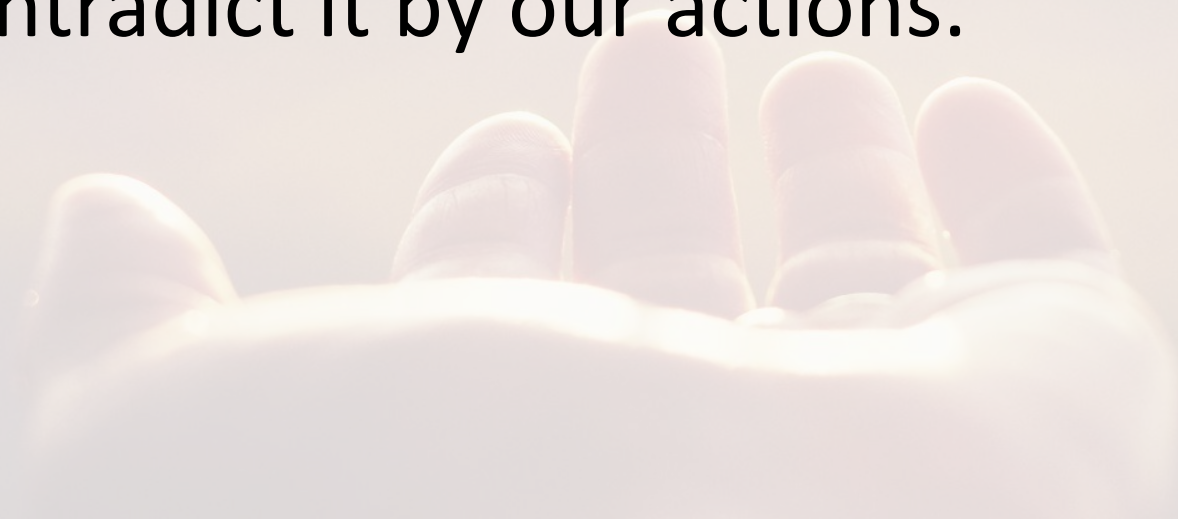


A hand is shown holding a small, translucent globe of the Earth. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise with warm orange and yellow tones. The text is overlaid on a white rectangular box with a thin black border.

May we care for creation out of a basic tenet of intergenerational justice, since the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us. The Portuguese bishops have called upon us to acknowledge this obligation of justice: “The environment is on loan to each generation, which must then hand it on to the next”.



May we never lose sight of the great motivations which make it possible for us to live in harmony, to make sacrifices and to treat others well. As believers we must constantly feel challenged to live in a way consonant with our faith and not to contradict it by our actions.



May we be encouraged to be  
ever open to God's grace and  
to draw constantly from our  
deepest convictions about  
love, justice and peace.





Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for all life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.

Adapted from passages of *Laudato Si'*.