

# ***Laudato Si'*** **Care for our common home**



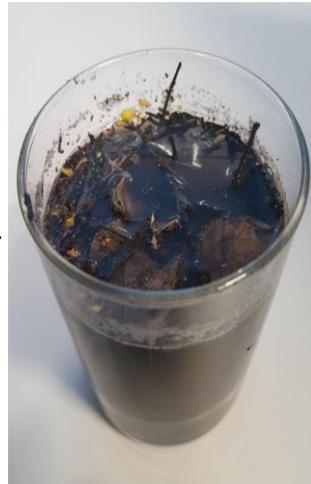
## **Theme 7: Cutting pollution**

Pope Francis writes: 'Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behaviour patterns, and the way it grasps reality.'

There are many forms of pollution, such as air, water, and chemical pollution.

Here are some facts:

- Air pollution hugely damages intelligence and it causes seven million premature deaths a year.
- People in the UK are 64 times more likely to die from the effect of air pollution than people living in Sweden.
- Polluted water kills one new-born child every minute.
- 80% of Bangladesh's groundwater is contaminated with arsenic.
- Every year 2 million tons of sewage and industrial waste is discharged into the world's water.
- Nearly a billion people have no access to clean water close to home.



**How you can help. Find out more >**

# How you can help reduce pollution

I used this idea.

1) Cut down on your use of the car. Walk or cycle when possible.

2) Introduce a car-share scheme at work.

3) Buy an electric or hybrid the next time you purchase a car.

4) Donate to charities that help deal with pollution issues (e.g. CAFOD, Water Aid, OXFAM)

5) Support Fair Trade products and practices that help give local people the choices and resources they need to tackle pollution.

6) Look at food labels. Try and eat more seasonal food from local sources to reduce 'transport miles'.

7) Share your ideas with your family and friends, and on the parish Facebook site: St James & St William of York Reading

<https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/08/vl/health-and-env-effects-air-pollutions.pdf> Find out the harmful effects of air pollution in the environment.

<https://www.wateraid.org/why-we-are-here> A useful introduction to key facts about the scale of water pollution and its impacts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKBVwX8dVhI> A TED talk that links economics and air pollution and how we can deal with it. Other links on the same site deal with water quality.

**Reflection:** How have you been able to reduce your impact on pollution? Have you been able to keep up your commitments from last month to reduce your energy consumption?