

For the complete document: *Laudate Deum* (praise God)

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html

Following is an excerpt from an article by Timothy Howles ***Laudate Deum: an invitation to live in the real world*** (Oct. 6th 2023) in relation to Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation, *Laudate Deum*. Howles is Associate Director of the Laudato Si' Research Institute, based at Campion Hall, and Associate Member of the Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Oxford (for the full article from *Thinking Faith*, see the link below).

"Here, Francis draws upon two concepts. The first is that of 'interconnectivity' (§57). The technocratic paradigm generated a sense of dislocation from our embedded situation in the world (what Alfred North Whitehead called 'the bifurcation of humans from nature'). We came to see the natural world 'as a mere setting in which we develop our lives and our projects' (§25). By contrast, we must see ourselves 'as part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it' (§25). Francis even alludes to the work of American ecofeminist Donna Haraway in referring to 'companion species', and the earth as 'contact zone' between human and non-human beings... A central pillar of the Catholic Social Teaching tradition is the absolute dignity of human life. But Francis argues that this dignity 'is incomprehensible and unsustainable without other creatures' (§67). For 'the Judaeo-Christian vision of the cosmos defends the unique and central value of the human being amid the marvellous concert of all God's creatures' (§67). This is a sophisticated vision of theological anthropology where the *telos* of human existence is framed not merely in terms of autonomy, but as attentiveness to a wider set of creaturely obligations and responsibilities."

https://www.thinkingfaith.org/articles/laudate-deum-invitation-live-real-world?utm_source=Thinking+Faith&utm_campaign=db018a760d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_10_02_09_40_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_620a4d7197-db018a760d-68831601&mc_cid=db018a760d&mc_eid=ef1f0961cd

Congregation for Catholic Education
(for Educational Institutions)
THE IDENTITY OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
FOR A CULTURE OF DIALOGUE

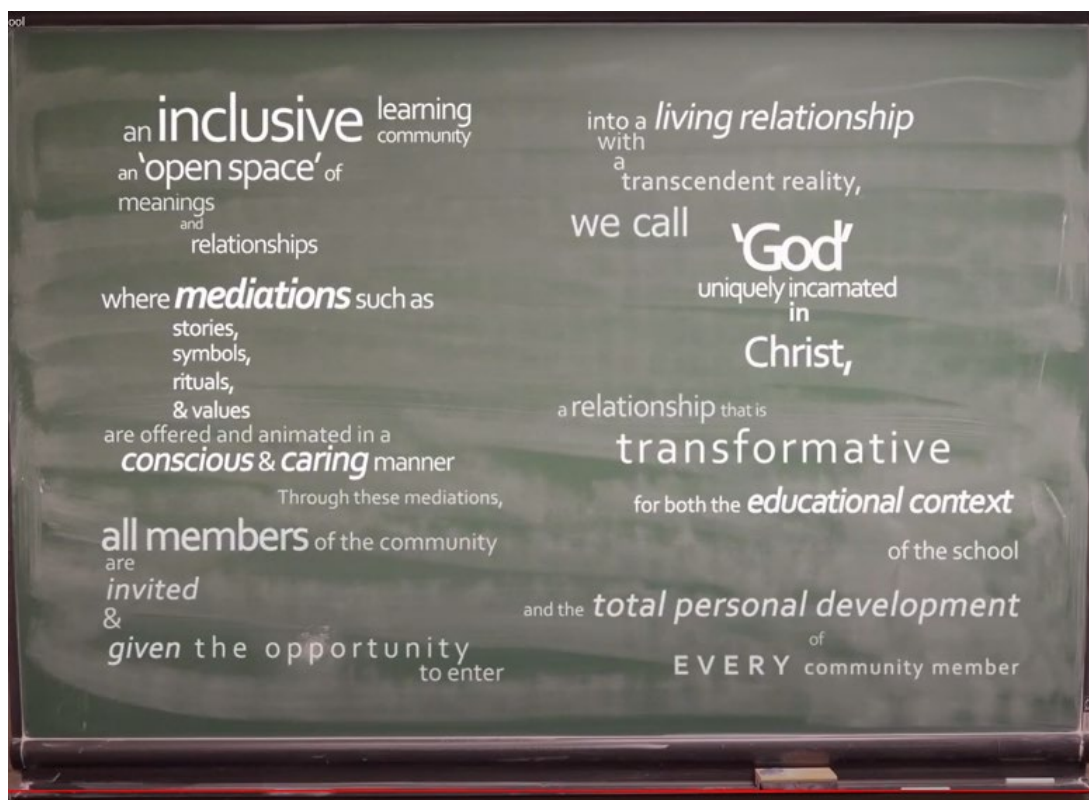
Instruction

30. ...Pope Francis provided three fundamental guidelines to help dialogue, “*the duty to respect one’s own identity and that of others, the courage to accept differences, and sincerity of intentions*. The duty to respect one’s own identity and that of others, because true dialogue cannot be built on ambiguity or a willingness to sacrifice some good for the sake of pleasing others. The courage to accept differences, because those who are different, either culturally or religiously, should not be seen or treated as enemies, but rather welcomed as fellow-travellers, in the genuine conviction that the good of each resides in the good of all. Sincerity of intentions, because dialogue, as an authentic expression of our humanity, is not a strategy for achieving specific goals, but rather a path to truth, one that deserves to be undertaken patiently, in order to transform competition into cooperation”.

32. Education consists in a polyphony of movements. First of all, it starts with a *team movement*. Everyone collaborates according to their personal talents and responsibilities, contributing to the formation of the younger generations and the construction of the common good. At the same time, education unleashes an *ecological movement*, since it contributes to the recovery of different levels of balance: inner balance with oneself, solidarity with others, natural balance with all living beings, spiritual balance with God. It also gives rise to an important *inclusive movement*. Inclusion, which “is an integral part of the Christian salvific message”, is not only a property, but also a method of education that brings the excluded and vulnerable closer. Through it, education nurtures a *peacemaking movement* that generates harmony and peace.

https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccatheduc/documents/rc_con_ccatheduc_doc_20220125_istruzione-identita-scuola-cattolica_en.html

KU Leuven: The Definition of a Catholic School



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkBJoTvfrIk>