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Statement from Bishop Robert P. Deeley on Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'*

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“To truly understand the beauty and importance of the Holy Father’s message, I encourage everyone to read the full Encyclical, not just excerpts or selected quotes. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis calls the world to examine the concept of integral ecology. This notion teaches that our understanding of God and of ourselves is connected with our relationship with each other and the natural world in which we live. Our actions and choices in life involve not only ourselves, but other human beings with whom we share the earth, which is God’s creation and our common home under his care and love. The Holy Father calls us to respect our place in the universe and to understand our nature as created by God, so that we can live in peace with one another and with respect for the resources of our earth. The encyclical calls us to live with a consciousness not only of the need to care for the earth but the true human dignity of the person and particularly of those who are poor.”