



We Mercies

Care for Creation

As you take the next step, remember the traditional custodians of the land

Do you feel cluttered?

Surrounded by just too much?

Do you ever go on a de-cluttering spree?

STUFF....STUFF....STUFF....AND MORE STUFF

For many people in our society life is about making money so that one can buy more and more stuff. Are we affected by this attitude too?

We do have a right to buy enough to be healthy, housed in a reasonable degree of comfort and in touch with beauty and joy. The poverty of destitution is not a virtue. Simplicity is and so is living sustainably.

However, this should not be at the total expense of the environment and of other humans and other-than-humans.

How much do we really need?

This can be a difficult question to answer.

Some points that might help us:

- ✚ How much food do we have a right to when so many are starving?
- ✚ How many new clothes do we have a right to when so many have so few?
- ✚ How luxurious a home do we have a right to when so many are homeless?
- ✚ What are the limits to our exploitation of the earth's riches?



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CREATION NEEDS JUSTICE

The way we have organised our society has resulted in an increasing gap between those who have and those who have not. It has also resulted in an increasing destruction of the natural processes of our planet. Both the human and other than human are crying out for justice.

As religious we have acted and are acting in ways that help diminish the injustice towards other women and men. It seems to become more and more urgent, however, for us to consider how we might act on our increasing realisation that injustice towards the human and destruction of Earth's ecosystems are not separate, but one.

ECO-JUSTICE IS IMPERATIVE

We cannot have healthy humans on a sick planet. It is time for us to embrace the reality of our cosmic interconnectedness. Lasting justice for Earth and for us human beings is only possible within this sacred communion. The fundamental conversion needed is to see all as interdependent partners sharing in one Earth-human community.

(Content of this newsletter adapted from *The Divine Dynamic* by John Surette S.J.)

The earth is at the same time mother,

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*She is mother of all,
for contained in her
are the seeds of all.
(Hildegarde)*

