

Mercy MOMENTS



Go MAD!

You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make. – Jane Goodall



Dr Jane Goodall is an English primatologist and anthropologist who, for over 50 years, has promoted the need to protect chimpanzees from extinction as well as redefining species conservation to include the needs of local people and the environment.

Today she travels the world, speaking about the threats facing chimpanzees and environmental crises, urging each of us to take action on behalf of all living things and the planet we share.

Pope Francis also challenges us to see our part in this destruction, both as individuals and nations. He urges action, asking us to 'dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it'.

Pope Francis highlights three key points:

1. **Stop** denying the destructive role of humans on the environment.

2. **Accept** that humans contribute to the unsustainable pace of natural global warming.
3. **Act** on our moral obligation to change our lifestyles to counteract the problem.

How can we Make A Difference (MAD)?

- > **Change** our minds and our habits.
- > **Think** about what we want and what we really need, even if money is not holding us back when it comes to acquiring and buying "things".
- > **Consider** what we do with our things when we are finished with them.
- > **Be aware** of pollution. Material pollution is much easier to see, but we should take time to consider other types of damaging pollution too (e.g. cleaning products, gardening agents, laundry detergents).
- > **Hear the call to *Live Laudato Si!***

Pope Francis reminds us that, 'never have we so hurt and mistreated our common home as we have in the last two hundred years'.

We are all invited to sign the pledge and commit to responding to climate change:

1. **Pray with and for creation** – 'Our relationship with the environment can never be isolated from our relationship with others and with God.' – LS 119
2. **Live Simply** – 'There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions.' – LS 211
3. **Advocate to protect our common home** – 'There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced.' – LS 26

It's time to decide what kind of difference we wish to make to ensure our today is followed by a tomorrow filled with the gift of hope and possibilities.

References: goo.gl/VcyKbQ and please sign the pledge here: livelaudatosi.org

REFLECTION

- > When it comes to consumption, waste and pollution, what do you find to be the most challenging to address?
- > How can we make a difference in our workplace?

COMPASSION JUSTICE RESPECT HOPE