



JUST Love

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Delay Means Death

António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations, is accustomed to speaking in measured, diplomatic tones. He pointedly abandoned that bland language in his reaction to the most recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change <https://www.ipcc.ch/> Speaking with urgency, Guterres said it was the most alarming thing he had ever seen, “an atlas of human suffering and a damning indictment of failed climate leadership....Nearly half of humanity is living in the danger zone – now. Many ecosystems are at the point of no return – now. Unchecked carbon pollution is forcing the world’s most vulnerable on a frog march to destruction – now...Delay means death.” (His full remarks can be found here <https://www.un.org/sg/en/node/262102>)

If you share Guterres’s sense of urgency, you might want to consider joining a new climate movement Third Act <https://thirdact.org/>. Founded by long time climate activist Bill McKibben, Third Act is aimed making climate activists of a growing and influential segment of American society – people over sixty. 10,000 people a day pass the 60-year-old mark. Third Act sees older Americans as a generation with, “unprecedented skills and resources that we can bring to bear. Washington and Wall Street have to listen when we speak, because we vote and because we have a large—maybe an overlarge—share of the country’s assets. And many of us have kids and grandkids and great grandkids: we have, in other words, very real reasons to worry and to work.”



McKibben has said, “On a sprawling, multicultural, fractious planet, no person can be heard by everyone. But Pope Francis comes closer than anyone else...The power of celebrity is the power to set the agenda, and his timing has been impeccable. On those grounds alone, *Laudato Si'* stands as one of the most influential documents of recent times.” As Catholics, we have strong climate leadership in Pope Francis. At over 1 billion members, we are a global force to be reckoned with. Check out the resources of Third Act and see how you can do your part. There are videos that demystify the science of climate change. There’s information on how to leverage your economic power as a consumer and investor. There even a video on how to be an effective crank by writing letter to the editor. There’s no question that religious congregations in the United States are in their “third act.” We have a glorious history of responding with energy and ingenuity to human need. How will we respond to the greatest existential threat the human race has faced in its history? As Teresa of Avila said, “Let us not speak of the glories of our beginnings. We are always beginning now!”



Earth Day 2022: Invest in Our Planet-What Will You Do?

The three communities on our campus, the Sisters of Charity, the Academy of Saint Elizabeth, and Saint Elizabeth University, were very happy to be able to gather together for a common Earth Day Prayer on April 22. We “invested in our planet” and this land that we love by planting a Northern Red Bud tree. As a representative of each community watered the roots of the tree, we prayed, “God of Wonder, as we gather together to bless the earth and celebrate the potential of the Red Bud tree before us, we pray that it may serve as a living witness to our commitment to heal our common home through long-lasting, bold changes. Grant us the courage to continue to take this stand for the sake of the goodness of your creation, and the inspiration and delight it provides us. Amen.”

