

## Cafod Live Simply

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

**Parishioners and the confirmation candidates were present.**

Liam Hayes and Susan Brouard had come from Cafod to speak about its Live Simply Campaign.

Liam spoke about Pope Francis' Laudato Si (Praise Be), encyclical letter on care for our common home. Pope Francis has written this because of the signs of our times

*"Put simply it is a matter of redefining our notion of progress."*

This redefining should take place with honest and profound dialogue.

Catholic Social teaching, science -witness-experience.by this means re-shaping the future of our planet, seeking sustainable and integral development.

### **Ecological & Ethical**

**This is a process not a document.**

Discernment ..... Pope Francis is addressing every single person living on the planet, urgently appealing for a new dialogue, a conversation that includes everyone.

All have wisdom to contribute.

See

Judge

Act

Celebration

"Are we better off today than when my parents were born?"

"Leave the world a better place than when I found it?"

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We then spent some minutes discussing what we each felt was needed for the world and its peoples, such as somewhere to live, access to clean water, food, clothing warmth, health care needs.

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### **Root cause of the problem:**

We have forgotten who we are..... we need to change our consumption and lifestyle.

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We then did a visual exercise...if we looked at Orpington what would we see that is not right?

One of the confirmation candidates mentioned the litter on our streets.

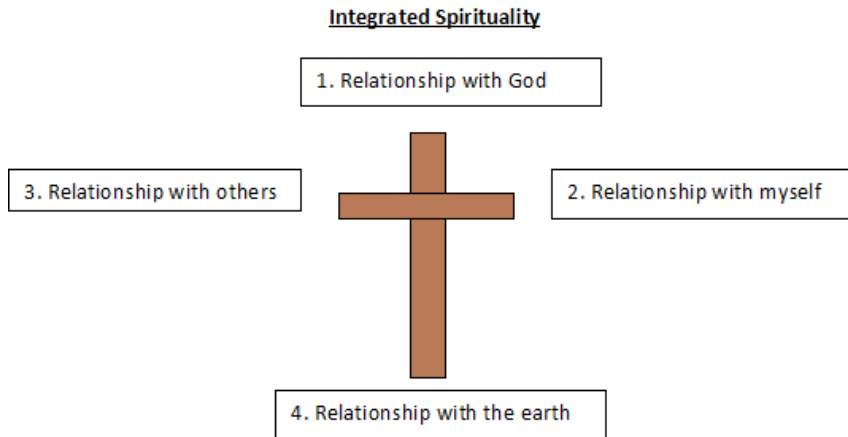
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**Susie Brouard from Cafod** then spoke of integral ecology...the Cry of the earth and the Cry of the poor.

Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live.

Nature is an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation.



We need to go back to our roots.

“The effect of our encounter with Jesus Christ becomes evident in our relationship with the world around us.”

Rational facts rarely change hearts. Spiritual and educational challenge motivates us....prophetic and contemplative.

“Nature is filled with words of love, but how can we listen to them amidst constant noise, interminable and nerve-wracking distractions, or the cult of appearances.”

“Ecological equilibrium establishing harmony within ourselves, with others, with nature and other living creatures.”

“Do little things with great love.” We need conversion of the heart and community conversion.

All groups coming together to work out ways to help. “

“In our worship of God, the Eucharist is an act of cosmic love. “

“We recognise good things and everything comes from God. It reminds us of who we are, made for love.”

What is our response here and now?

What kind of people is Pope Francis calling us to be?

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Russell Brockett spoke of the relaunched Justice and peace group within the parish. Cafod inspired and enthused the group to fund-raising and bringing together initiatives, building on them.

Pope Francis says... “If you do not hurt and suffer you will not change.”