**Top Ten Takeaways from ‘Laudato Si”**

**1)The Spiritual perspective is now part of the discussion on the environment**

**2)The Poor are disproportionately affected by Climate Change**

**3)Less is More**

**4)Catholic Social Teaching now includes teaching on the Environment**

**5)Discussions about Ecology can be grounded in the Bible and Church tradition**

**6)Everything is Connected – including the economy**

**7)Scientific research on the Environment is to be praised and used**

**8)Widespread indifference and selfishness worsen environmental problems**

**9)Global dialogue and solidarity are needed**

**10)A change of heart is required**

**At heart, this document, addressed to “every person on the planet” is a call for a new way of looking at things, a “bold cultural revolution” (No. 3, 114). We face an urgent crisis, when, thanks to our actions, the earth has begun to look more and more like, in Francis’ vivid language, “an immense pile of filth” (No. 21). Still, the document is hopeful, reminding us that because God is with us, we can strive both individually and corporately to change course. We can awaken our hearts and move towards an “ecological conversion” in which we see the intimate connection between God and all beings, and more readily listen to the “cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (No. 49).**

**To use religious language, what the pope is calling for is conversion.**