


# «Towards an Eco- Assumption»

PROPOSAL TO HELP US READ THE DOCUMENT





**The Congregation  
has made ecology  
and migration  
a priority.**



# The Path of the Congregation ...

2000

General Chapter



The Commitment to justice, peace, respect for creation and solidarity is not separate from our educational mission and our vision of social transformation through the Gospel.



2006

General Chapter

File:  
Justice, Peace, Respect  
for Creation & Solidarity

2012

General Chapter

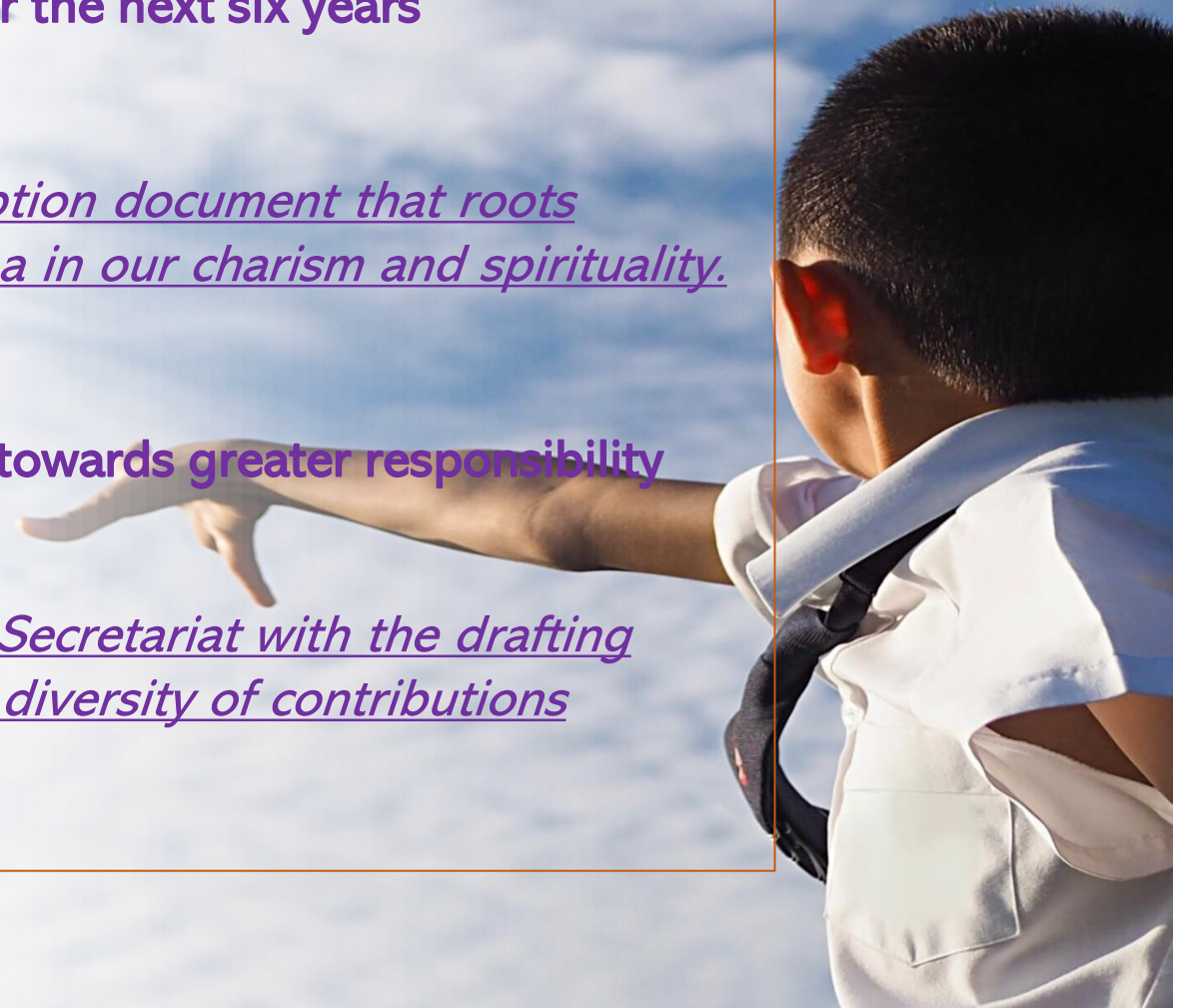
Fact sheet : Responding to concerns about ecology and migration: our way of loving our times.

A fundamental option of the Congregation for the next six years

*The Chapter asked for the drafting of an Assumption document that roots attitudes and responses to these two phenomena in our charism and spirituality.*

Fact sheet : The economic dimension of our lives, a path towards greater responsibility and solidarity

*The CGP 2014 entrusted the JPIC International Secretariat with the drafting of an Assumption document that encouraged a diversity of contributions from all over the world.*



2015



Vers une Éco-Assomption

Publication of the JPIC Document  
"TOWARDS ECO-ASSUMPTION".

Encyclical LAUDATO SI' of Pope Francis



Paris Conference on Climate Change COP 21



Chapitre Général  
Lourdes 2018

Poussés par l'Esprit, risquons-nous aux frontières, au service de la vie  
Impelled by the Spirit, let us risk being at the frontiers, at the service of life  
Impulsadas por el Espíritu, arriesguémonos en las fronteras, al servicio de la vida

## Chapter document

"As strongly expressed in the documents of the 2012 General Chapter, Migration and ecology remain priorities for our Congregation; we can deepen them thanks to the document *Towards an Eco-Assumption*. Laudato Si has increased our awareness of the need for ecological conversion.

Enlightened by the Spirit we recognize that it is important to persevere with small and local actions to take care of our common home, while being aware of global issues. We hear the call to continue to be creative and to take effective action, aware of the intimate relationship between the poor and the fragility of our planet".

**Decision: Encourage the use and sharing of the book 'TOWARDS AN ECO ASSUMPTION'**



The JPIC-RA International Secretariat, which coordinated the editing of the document "Towards an Eco-Assumption" in 2015.





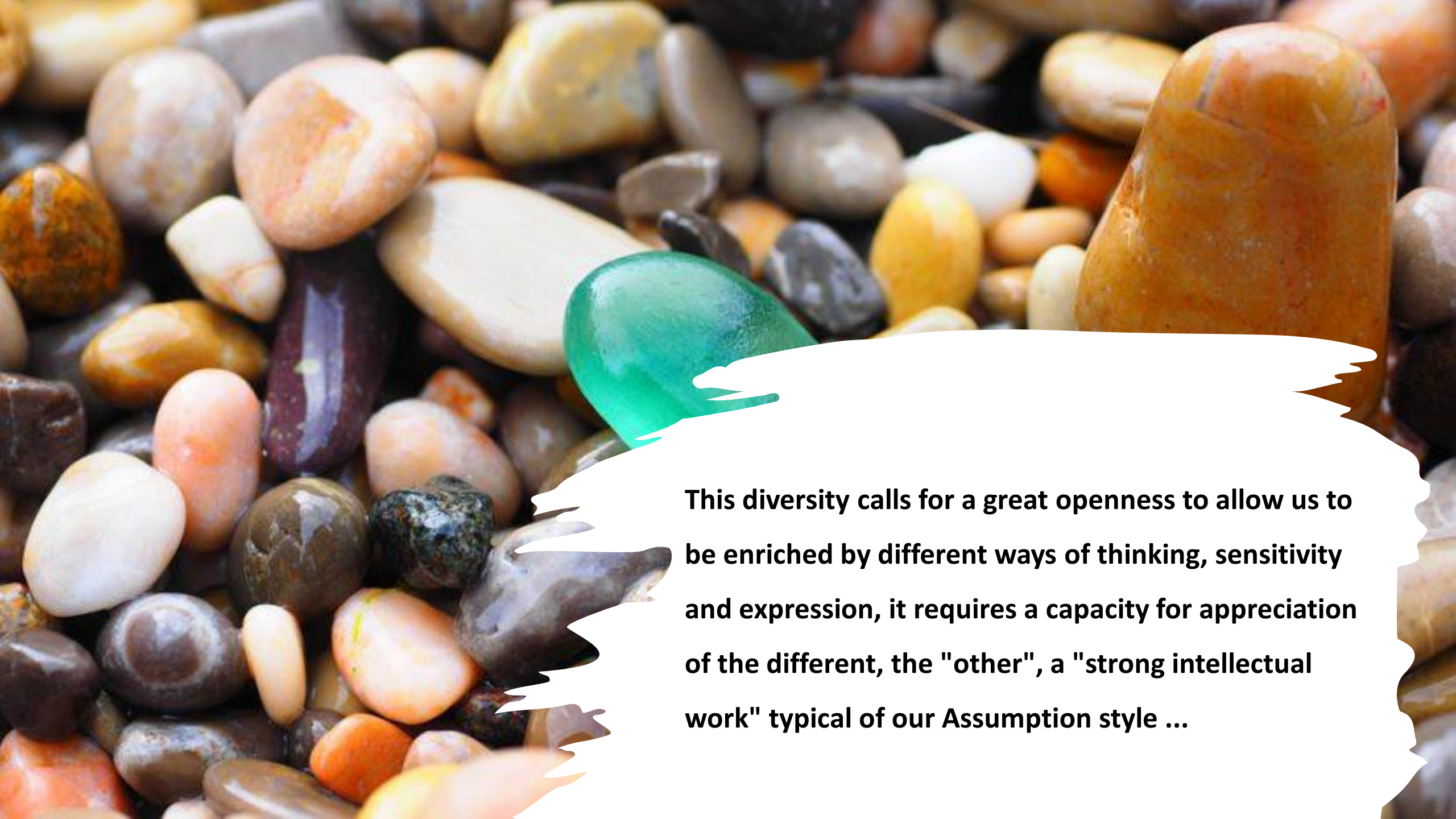
**Testimony to the awareness, in Assumption Together, of  
our capacity to support and encourage each other on  
the paths of an integral ecology.**

**An anthology of autonomous but interdependent texts**

**Written by resource persons from the  
Assumption international network.**

**50 contributions**

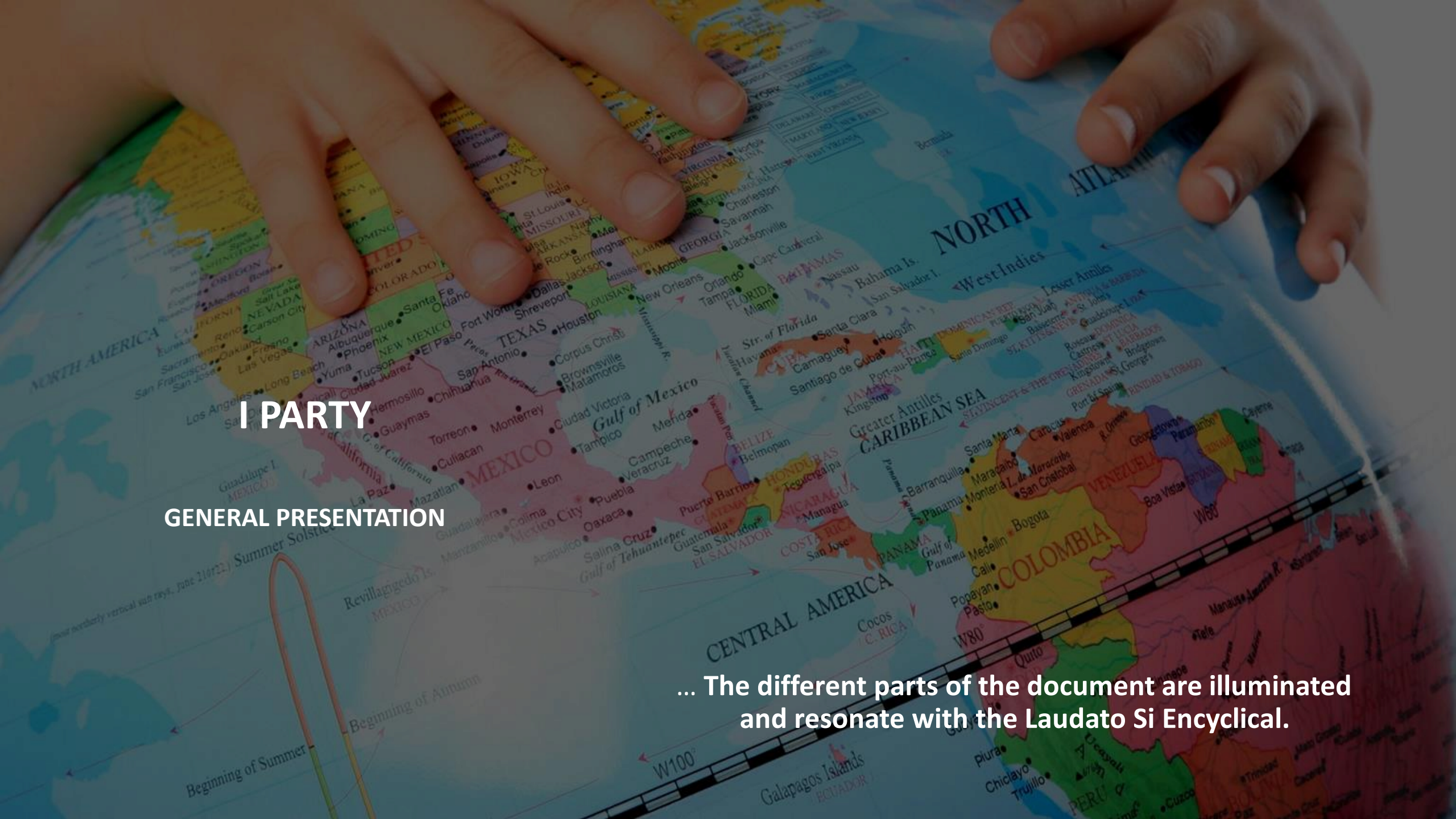
**From four  
continents**



**This diversity calls for a great openness to allow us to be enriched by different ways of thinking, sensitivity and expression, it requires a capacity for appreciation of the different, the "other", a "strong intellectual work" typical of our Assumption style ...**



# COMPOSITION OF THE DOCUMENT



I PARTY

GENERAL PRESENTATION

... The different parts of the document are illuminated and resonate with the Laudato Si Encyclical.

## **PART II : DIAGNOSIS**

- 2.A THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE**
- 2.B HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY IN RELATION TO CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE**
- 2.C CASE STUDIES to introduce a broader issue.**
  - Biodiversity at risk : in the Philippines**
  - Desertification: the African case**
  - Waste and the circular economy : in Europe**
  - Exploitation of natural resources: the case of Nigeria**
- 2. DETHICAL AND POLITICAL CHALLENGES**
- 2.E MIGRATION AND ECOLOGY**
  - As seen from Latin America**





**TO FIND OUT MORE BY READING THE ENCYCLICAL 'LAUDATO SI'**

CHAPTER I: n° 17-47

What is happening to our home

CHAPTER I: No 48-52

Global Inequality: *"The human and natural environments are being degraded together".*



## **PART III**

# **REFERENCE FRAMEWORK**

**Different approaches that intersect....**

**A Western, Asian, Latin American, Anglo-Saxon vision...**

**A biblical, theological and ecclesial framework**

**which must be the foundation of our commitment as Assumption...**

**To better define what is at stake by helping us deepen our concern for the planet.**

### **3.A BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF ECOLOGY**

### **3.B THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS**

B.1-2 An eschatological vision

B.3 Woman and ecology

B.4 Consecrated life

### **3.C THE SOCIAL THINKING OF THE CHURCH**

### **3.D MME AND OUR ASSOMPTION CHARISM**

D.1 MME and creation

D.2 MME and the Kingdom

D.3 Ecology in Assumption spirituality

D.4 Ecology and Liturgy

D.5 Assumption Transformative Education  
and JPICS Commitment: Two Related themes

### **3.E RELIGIONS, SPIRITUALITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

E.3-4 Judaism

E.5 Islam

E.6 Buddhism

E.7 Hinduism

E.8 Shintoism

E.10 Native American Spirituality





**TO FIND OUT MORE - SEE THE ENCYCLICAL ' LAUDATO SI '**

**Chapter II Laudato Si: The Gospel of Creation n° 62-100**

**Chapter III Laudato Si: The human roots of the ecological crisis n° 101-123**

**Chapter IV: An Integral Ecology n°137-156**

**The great intuitions of the encyclical :**

*"Given that everything is closely interrelated, and today's problems require a vision capable of taking into account all aspects of the global crisis, I now propose that we consider some components of an integral ecology, one which clearly respects its human and social dimensions". (LS 137)*

# IV PARTI

## SPRINGBOARDS FOR ACTION

*With concrete examples*



*Our commitment as a way of "loving our times».*

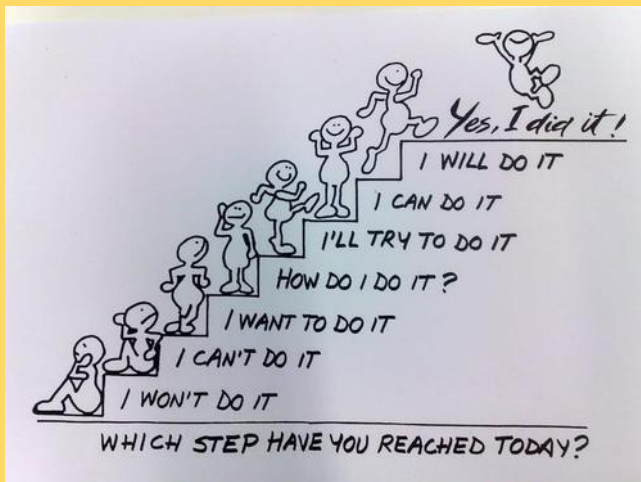
**4.A 1 Pedagogical Emphases for a Transformative Education for Ecology**  
**2 We are a part of the Community of Creation**

**4.B Sharing of experiences: one per continent**

**4.C Civil and political advocacy, examples ...**

**4.D Lifestyles**

- 1 Trying alternative lifestyles**
- 2 Being responsible for waste**
- 3 Choosing life to be happy**
- 5 Pollution and the Internet**



A close-up photograph of a cluster of small, light purple flowers, possibly wisteria, with a soft, blurred background. The flowers are in sharp focus, showing their delicate petals and stamens. The background is a mix of light purple and white, creating a bokeh effect.

**TO FIND OUT MORE – SEE THE ENCYCLICAL ‘LAUDATO SI’**

**Chapter VI: Ecological education and spirituality n°202-227**



**The document "Towards an Eco-Assumption" shows us how acute and wide-ranging the problems are, and how profound the necessary transformations and conversion are.**

**The aim is not to gather information or satisfy our curiosity, but to become painfully aware, to dare to transform what is happening in the world into personal suffering, and thus to recognize the contribution that everyone can make. » LS 19**

**"Let's sing along! May our struggles and our concern for this planet not take away the joy of hope". LS 244**

**GOOD WORK ...**



**... let us love our times !!!**

SOME  
APPROACHES  
TO READING  
AND REFLECTION  
For a new  
lifestyle

Proposal I : sr. Ana Senties r.a.

Proposal II : sr. Jessica Gatti r.a.



# FIRST PROPOSAL

Sr. Ana Sentías r.a

- **CHOOSE A TEXT** according to the theme you wish to explore in greater depth: reflecting with examples, news items, etc.
- Choose a theme that explores a local issue in greater depth
- Choose a theme that we know little about because it does not touch our local or national life but broadens our horizons ...

## **FOLLOW CONSTANTS OR DIFFERENCES AS A CONTINUOUS THREAD 'FIL ROUGE'**

words, ideas that run through the document,) for example: Incarnation, Joyful Sobriety, Interconnectedness, Holistic, Advocacy, Human Ecology, Eco-Feminism, Eco-Theology...

## **ASK YOURSELF A FEW QUESTIONS...**

- How does the document help us to re-read our journey of awareness and commitment to ecology...
- Our vision of things: did other religions or visions shift anything for us ?

## **FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION, OR IN COMMUNITY:**

- What is my/our diagnosis of ecological and climatic changes? Do I feel concerned? What means do I use to inform myself?
- Which dimensions seem to me to be most crucial in my situation and in the context of the country I am in? (Page 71 to go further)



OUR SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

AT THE SERVICE OF NEW COLLECTIVE REPRESENTATION

*The necessary transformations require a profound transformation in the way we conceive of our ways of consuming, moving around, and living leisure and professional choices; they are linked to a certain conception of life that is good to define, together, in the service of social and ecological links. To do this, we are called to mobilize spiritual resources, to return to the deep source within us, one that can quench our thirst and enlighten us in an alternative way.*

*(Towards an Eco Assumption page 29)*



**What do I notice in today's world events that changes my way of life?**

***What changes the way I think about my vows and what we emphasize in our vows today?***

**What do my brothers and sisters tell me that makes me question the beliefs that were mine in the past?**

***What gives me energy and hope in the midst of all that is negative in today's world?***



**Housing:** how does it relate to the consumption of electricity, gas, heating, water, etc.?

**Eating:** what choices are available in terms of shopping, cooking and food consumption? Do we avoid waste? What choices are there in favor of consuming local and seasonal products?

**Information and communication:** are we responsible internet users?

**Clothing:** what choices should we make when buying our clothes, to avoid being complicit in the violation of fundamental human rights? What criteria for responsible and solidarity-based purchasing: do we check whether our clothes have been manufactured in compliance with social and environmental standards?

## **SOME IDEAS...**

**Getting around:** what are the choices for means of transport? How do we offset our carbon footprint when we fly? Can we, in some cases, choose videoconferencing or train travel over air travel?

**Inventing and disseminating good practices:** what if we made our questions, tips and tricks, and the initiatives that help and motivate us, better known to those around us?

**Sharing:** how do we mutualize some of our devices/machines/objects so that they are better used? What is the place for giving, lending, exchanging knowledge?

**Reuse, recycle...**  
How do we deal with the life cycle of products?



**SECOND PROPOSAL:** sr. Jessica Gatti r.a.

***another way to use the document from our experience***

**Questionnaire – answers from your experience  
+ the book «Towards and Eco Assumption».**

## **1.Context**

- a) What is this climate and environmental emergency we are now living in? is there evidence of this in your locality?**
- b) What is driving this climate and environmental emergency?**
- c) How does this affect the way we live, from your experience?**

***See Towards an.Eco Assomption***

- 2.b Human responsibility in relation to climate and ecological change***
- 2.c1 An endangered planet***
- 2.c2 Desertification***
- 2.c3 Waste***
- 2.c4 Exploitation***
- 2 d Ethical and political challenges***

**2. What have the following to offer in response to this huge challenge? One or two important points**

- a. The Christian Faith?**
- b) Catholicism?**
- c) The Assumption charism?**
- d) Others**

***See Towards an.Eco Assomption***

***3.b Biblical foundation of Ecology***

***3.b.1 An eschatology of Creation***

***3.b The eschatological Dimension of Hope***

***3.c.1 An approach to ecology from the social doctrine of the Church***

***3.c.2 The Church and social teaching***

***3.b.4 An approach to a Theology of Religious life***

***3.d.1 Marie Eugenie and Creation***

***3.d.5 Transformation education and JPIC-S Commitment in the Assumption***

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3. A Great Transformation is required urgently at all levels of society, including patterns of meaning and foundational values, how does our lifestyle actually embody what is required in the context of the huge challenges of today?

***See Towards an Eco Assumption***

***4.d.1 Experiments in alternative lifestyles***

***4.a.1 Transformative education in the service of the Gospel***

***4.d.2 Experience of the centre for encounter***

***4.d.3 Testimony on transformation***

***References to 'Towards an Eco Assumption' are inserted TEcoA and the Chapter number; these are some suggested reading, you may find others in the book, or elsewhere.***

***You may not always agree with what is written in 'Towards an Eco Assumption'. – could you improve on it? If so please do, we would be delighted. Then forward to JPICS.RA Team [jpics@assumpta.org](mailto:jpics@assumpta.org)***



*The ecological conversion to which we are called therefore leads us to have a new way of looking at life, reflecting on the generosity of the Creator who gave us the earth, and reminds us of the joyful sobriety of sharing.*

*This conversion must be understood in an integral way, as a transformation of the relationships we have with our sisters and brothers, with other living beings, with creation in its rich variety, with the Creator who is the origin of all life. For the Christian, it asks that "all the consequences of the encounter with Jesus Christ on our relationship with the world be allowed to flow forth" (LS 217).*

**WORK WELL...**



**... let us love our times !!!**