

## A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

AMEN.

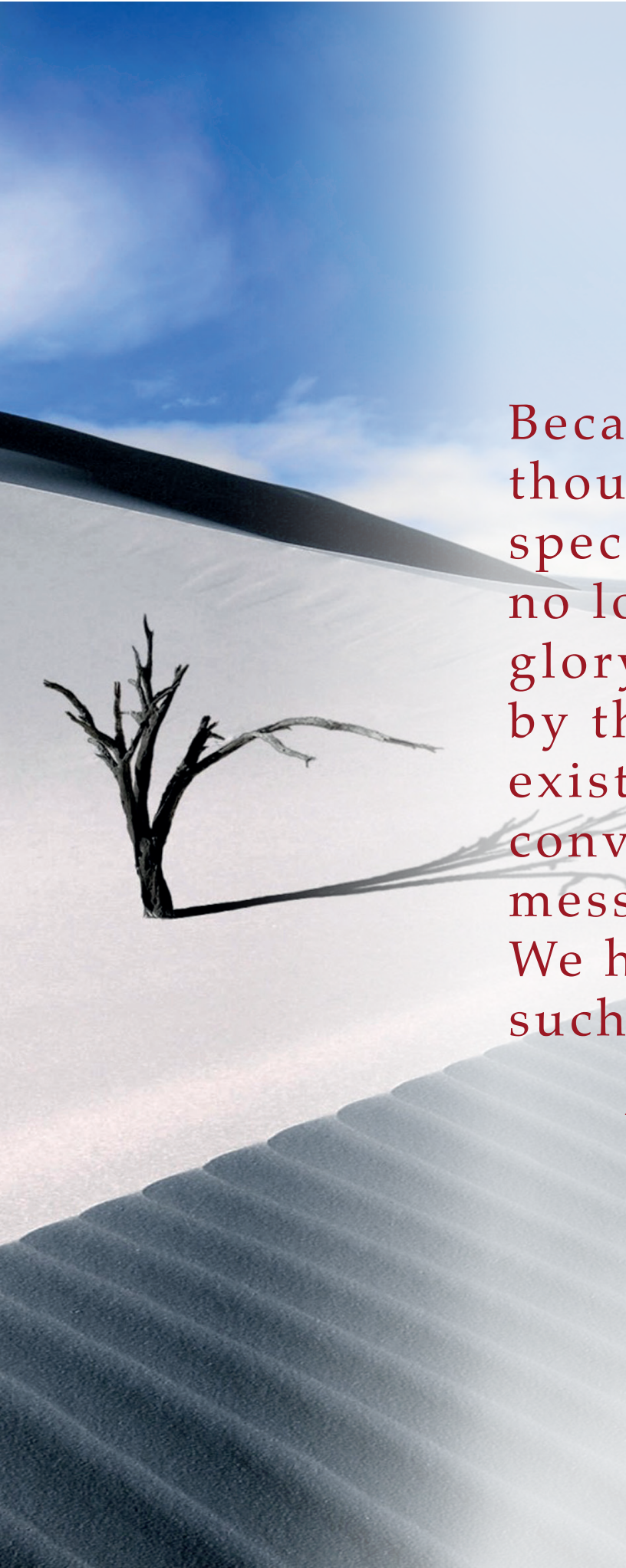
Catholic Rural Life (CRL)

*[www.catholicrurallife.org](http://www.catholicrurallife.org)*



We lack an  
awareness of  
our common  
origin, of  
our mutual  
belonging, and  
of a future to  
be shared with  
everyone.


*Laudato Si, par. 202*



Because of us,  
thousands of  
species will  
no longer give  
glory to God  
by their very  
existence, nor  
convey their  
message to us.  
We have no  
such right.

*Laudato Si, par. 33*






Because all  
creatures are  
connected,  
each must  
be cherished  
with love and  
respect, for all  
of us as living  
creatures are  
dependent on  
one another.


*Laudato Si, par. 42*





When media  
and the digital  
world become  
omnipresent,  
their influence  
can stop people  
from learning  
how to live  
wisely, to  
think deeply  
and to love  
generously.


*Laudato Si, par. 47*

A photograph of a woman standing in front of a traditional thatched hut. She is wearing a white tank top and a blue and white patterned skirt. A large yellow plastic water container is in the foreground, partially submerged in water. The background shows a dirt wall and some hanging laundry.

The deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet: “Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest”.

*Laudato Si, par. 48*






We urgently  
need a  
humanism  
capable of  
bringing  
together the  
different fields  
of knowledge,  
including  
economics, in  
the service of a  
more integral  
and integrating  
vision.

*Laudato Si, par. 141.*

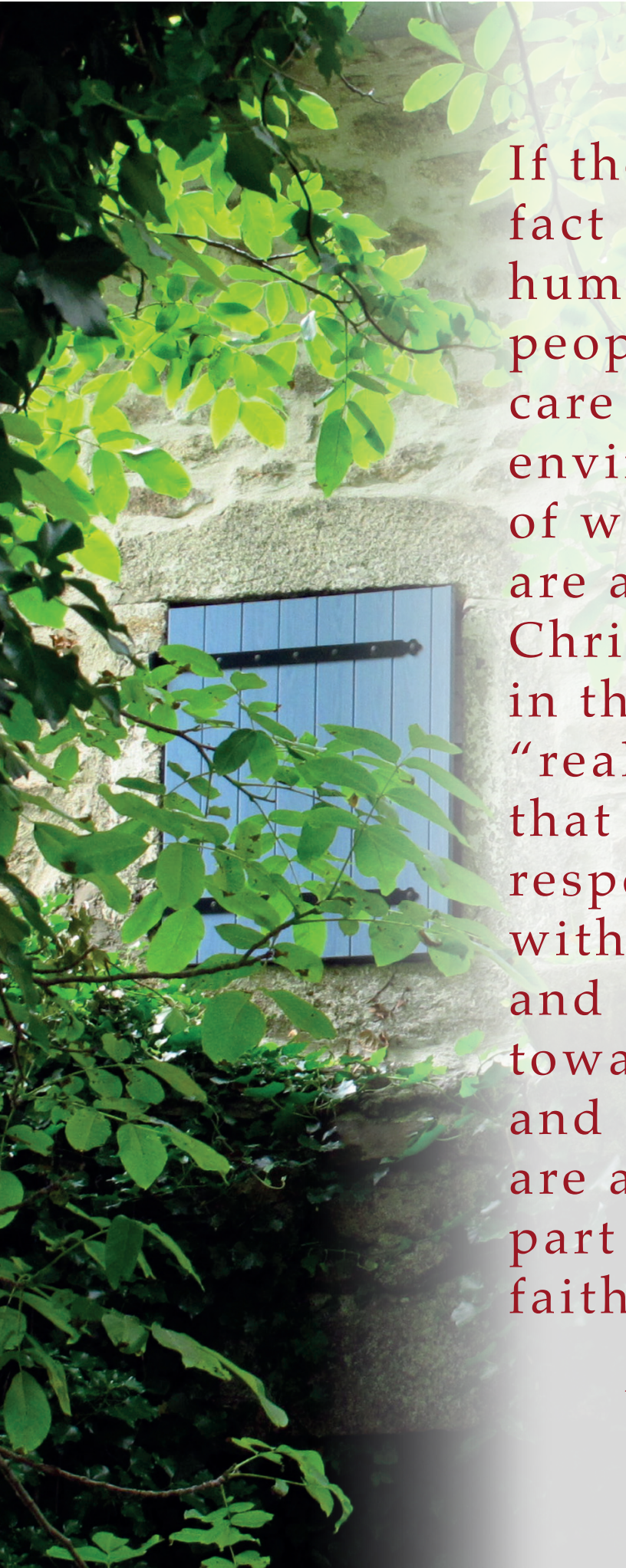




Today, however,  
we have to  
realise that a  
true ecological  
approach  
always becomes  
a social  
approach; it  
must integrate  
questions  
of justice in  
debates on the  
environment, so  
as to hear both  
the cry of the  
earth and the  
cry of the poor.

*Laudato Si, par. 49*






If the simple fact of being human moves people to care for the environment of which they are a part, Christians in their turn “realise that their responsibility within creation, and their duty towards nature and the Creator, are an essential part of their faith”.

*Laudato Si, par. 64*

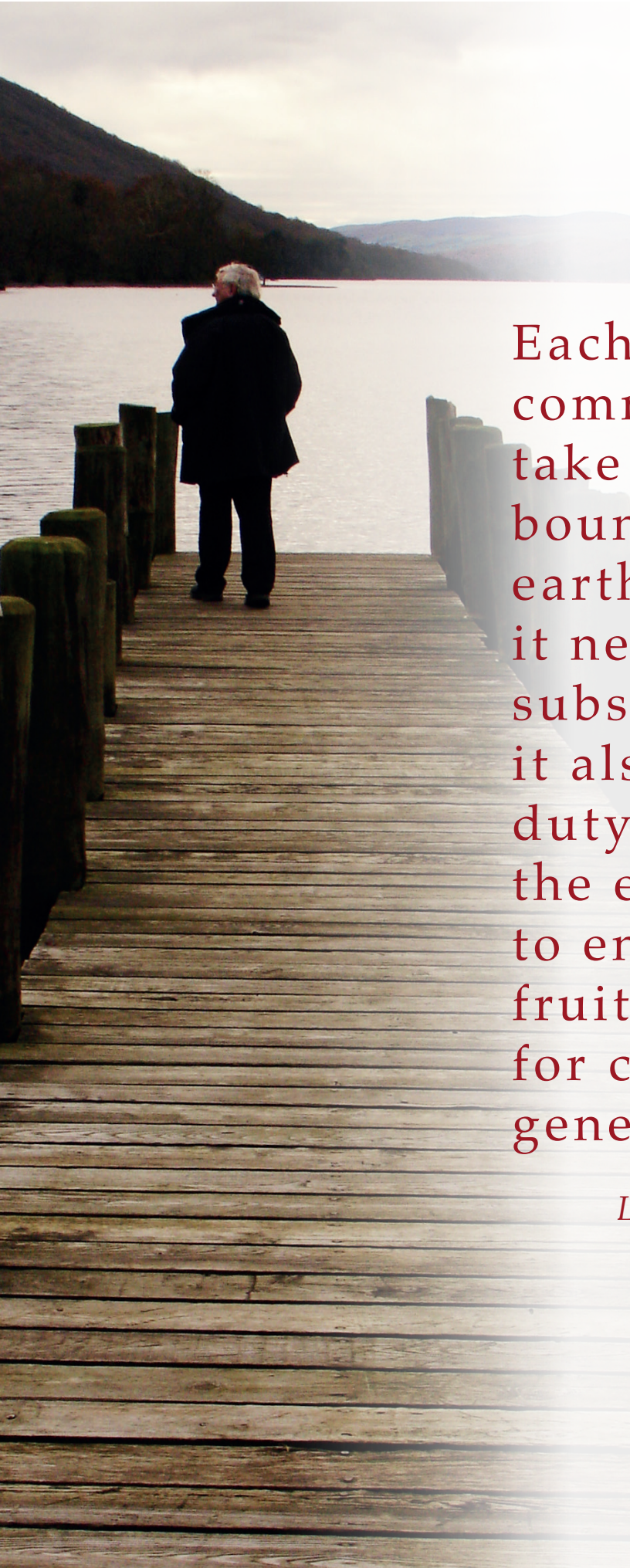




The creation  
accounts in the  
book of Genesis  
... suggest that  
human life  
is grounded  
in three  
fundamental  
and closely  
intertwined  
relationships:  
with God, with  
our neighbour  
and with the  
earth itself.

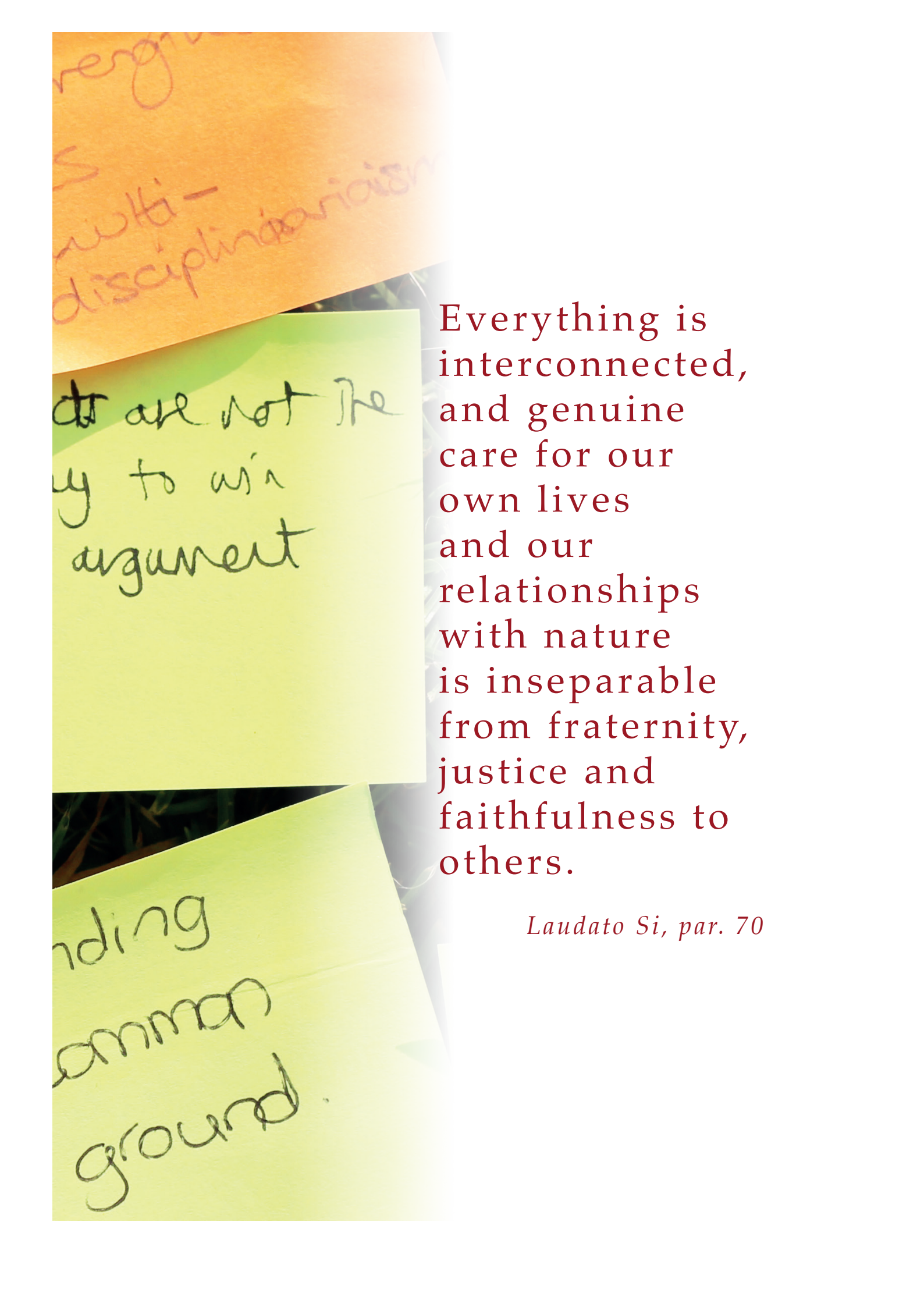
*Laudato Si, par. 66*



A photograph of a person with white hair, wearing a dark coat, standing on a wooden pier. The pier is made of weathered wooden planks and has a railing of vertical wooden posts. The person is looking out over a calm body of water towards a forested mountain range under a cloudy sky. The scene is peaceful and contemplative.

Each  
community can  
take from the  
bounty of the  
earth whatever  
it needs for  
subsistence, but  
it also has the  
duty to protect  
the earth and  
to ensure its  
fruitfulness  
for coming  
generations.


*Laudato Si, par. 69.*

The background of the slide is a collage of three sticky notes and some green leaves. The top sticky note is orange and has the words 'multi-disciplinarianism' written in red cursive. The middle sticky note is light green and has the text 'We are not here to win argument' written in dark green cursive. The bottom sticky note is also light green and has the text 'finding common ground.' written in dark green cursive. The green leaves are visible behind the sticky notes.

Everything is interconnected, and genuine care for our own lives and our relationships with nature is inseparable from fraternity, justice and faithfulness to others.

*Laudato Si, par. 70*

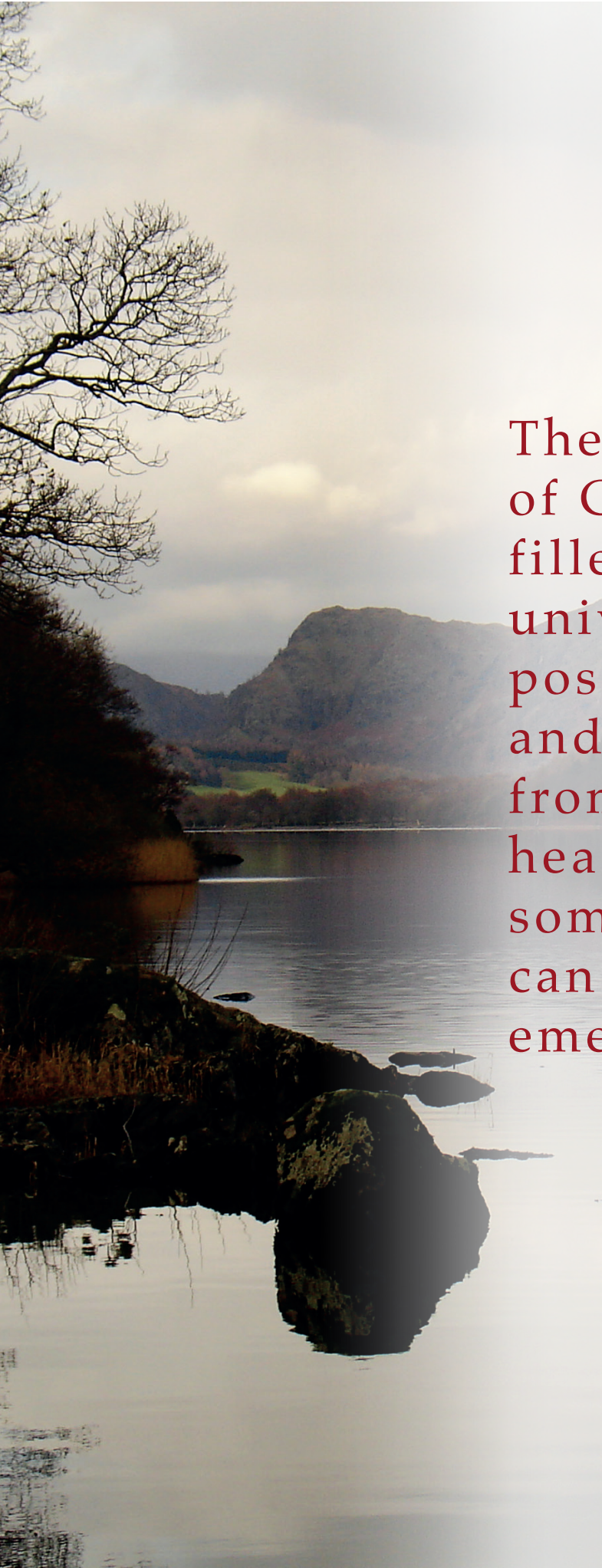




We cannot  
presume to heal  
our relationship  
with nature  
and the  
environment  
without healing  
all fundamental  
human  
relationships...  
Our  
relationship  
with the  
environment  
can never be  
isolated from  
our relationship  
with others and  
with God.

*Laudato Si, par. 119*




A vertical photograph of a calm lake, likely Windermere, with a large, dark rock in the foreground. The water reflects the sky and the surrounding landscape. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a cloudy sky. Bare tree branches are visible in the upper left corner.

The Spirit  
of God has  
filled the  
universe with  
possibilities  
and therefore,  
from the very  
heart of things,  
something new  
can always  
emerge.


*Laudato Si, par. 80*





We urgently need a  
humanism capable  
of bringing  
together the  
different fields  
of knowledge,  
including  
economics, in  
the service of a  
more integral and  
integrating vision.


*Laudato Si, par. 140*

A photograph of three white wind turbines standing in a field of bright yellow flowers. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The image is partially covered by a semi-transparent blue rectangle on the right side, which serves as a background for the text.

Human ecology  
also implies  
another profound  
reality: the  
relationship  
between human  
life and the  
moral law, which  
is inscribed in  
our nature and  
is necessary for  
the creation of a  
more dignified  
environment.

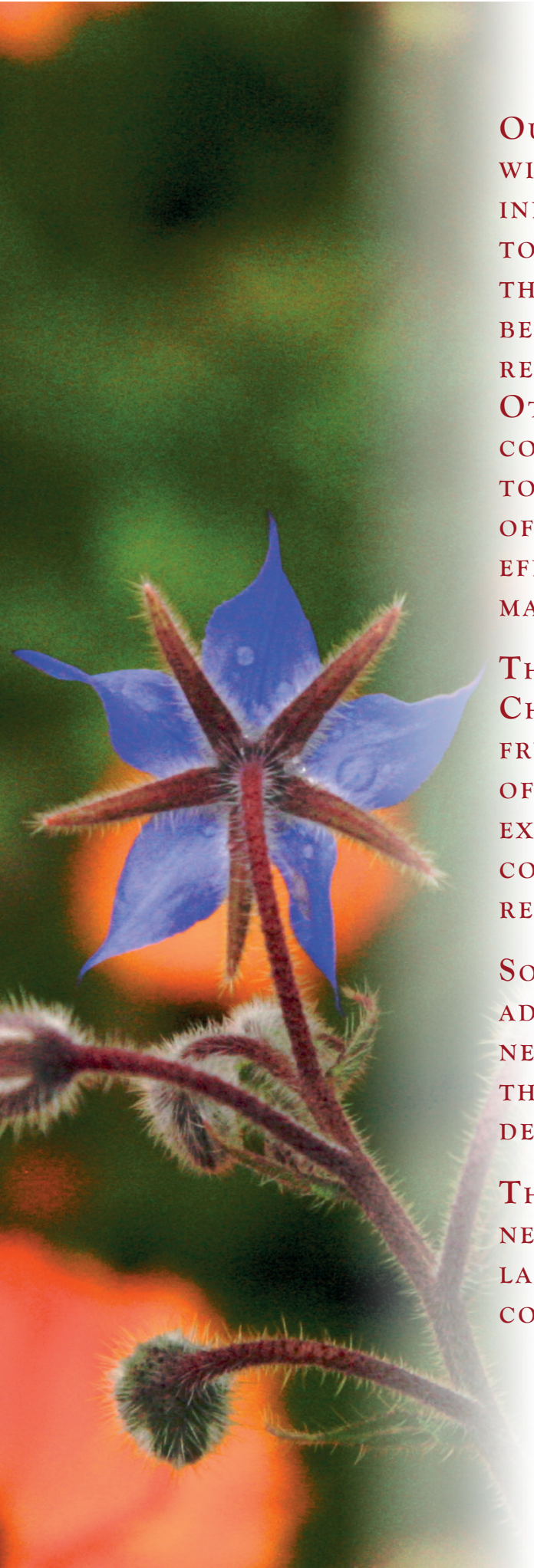
*Laudato Si, par. 155*





Underlying  
the principle  
of the common  
good is respect  
for the human  
person as  
such, endowed  
with basic and  
inalienable  
rights ordered  
to his or  
her integral  
development.

*Laudato Si, par. 157*



OUR EFFORTS AT EDUCATION  
WILL BE INADEQUATE AND  
INEFFECTUAL UNLESS WE STRIVE  
TO PROMOTE A NEW WAY OF  
THINKING ABOUT HUMAN  
BEINGS, LIFE, SOCIETY AND OUR  
RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE.  
OTHERWISE, THE PARADIGM OF  
CONSUMERISM WILL CONTINUE  
TO ADVANCE, WITH THE HELP  
OF THE MEDIA AND THE HIGHLY  
EFFECTIVE WORKINGS OF THE  
MARKET...

THE RICH HERITAGE OF  
CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY, THE  
FRUIT OF TWENTY CENTURIES  
OF PERSONAL AND COMMUNAL  
EXPERIENCE, HAS A PRECIOUS  
CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THE  
RENEWAL OF HUMANITY...

SOCIAL PROBLEMS MUST BE  
ADDRESSED BY COMMUNITY  
NETWORKS AND NOT SIMPLY BY  
THE SUM OF INDIVIDUAL GOOD  
DEEDS...

THE ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION  
NEEDED TO BRING ABOUT  
LASTING CHANGE IS ALSO A  
COMMUNITY CONVERSION...

*Laudato Si, par. 215-219*