



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

As we gather at table or online with our loved ones on Thanksgiving Day, let us remember that it is our encounters that matter. Let us be grateful that we are inspired “to protect all gifts, especially relationships with God, others, and our planet. We can work together to save our planet and its nonhuman animals. But loving the Earth and everybody on it, and not just the few, is a primary criterion of our way of proceeding.” (Jesuit *Principle and Foundation*)

Some Good News to Be Grateful For



The Beyond Coal Campaign celebrated the retirements of 300 coal plants since 2010. The effect of five of these retirements in January alone is like permanently taking 5.3 million cars off the road (*Sierra Club Impact Report 2020*). “... Renewable energy is now cheaper than coal. The pandemic has put health concerns front and center, and the public is demanding clean forms of energy that don’t harm public health.” (Mary Anne Hitt, National Director of Campaigns, *Sierra Club*)



Colorado Springs voted to accelerate the closure timeline of Martin Drake, one of the last urban coal plants in the country. The plant spews 1.3 million tons of CO₂ per year, affecting ~80,000 people living within 3 miles of the facility. It will be replaced with wind energy and solar power. (*Sierra Club Impact Report 2020*)



Major banks including JP Morgan Chase, Wells Fargo, CitiBank, Morgan Stanley, and Deutsche Bank have moved to defund oil, gas, and coal projects in the Arctic region. (*Sierra Club Impact Report 2020*)



The \$8 billion fracked gas Atlantic Coast Pipeline which “would have threatened the health and safety of many communities along its 600-mile route, in addition to crossing the iconic Appalachian Trail,” was abandoned. (*Sierra Club Impact Report 2020*)

The momentum is there. Let us keep up the pressure!!

A Prayer to the Creator

Lord, Father of our human family,
you created all human beings in dignity.
Pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice, and peace.

Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 2020