**Fr. Domingo Barawid, MI**

**R.N. 172383**

**INTEGRAL ECOLOGY: FROM LAUDATO SI TO LAUDATE DEUM (TJVE01)**

The online course is so enriching and so compelling to act now and act big to care for our common home. We are so blessed to hear and share with fellow carers of creation all over the world. Our coming together gave me hope and I believe will surely make a big impact. All thanks to the organizers of the online course.

Let me summarize my learnings. In the presentations on Laudato Si I learned that the Holy Father teaches the whole world about Integral Ecology. Everything is interconnected, including social, economic, and environmental issues. The approach then to the degradation of creation is to consider an integral approach. Addressing environmental issues is inseparable from addressing poverty and inequality. There is a great need for ecological conversion, that is, to heed the call for a deep, spiritual transformation in how we relate to creation. This conversion manifests and is nurtured in leading a simple lifestyle. Advocating simple lifestyle, will create a culture that will surely irradicate consumerism. Global solidarity is a must.

Laudate Deum focuses more specifically on the practical steps and urgent actions, individually, locally, and globally to address the climate crisis. It emphasizes the moral responsibility of all individuals and communities to take concrete actions to mitigate climate change and protect the planet for future generations. A strong advocacy for raising awareness and changing cultural attitudes towards the environment is a moral imperative.

I am involved with the Camillian Disaster Service here in Australia as the Executive Director. We focus on four areas of concern in the disaster service: RELIEF, RECOVERY, RESILIENCY and RIGHTS ADVOCACY. At the heart of our advocacy work is to spread the message and the call of Laudato Si and Laudate Deum.

Here is my concrete plan of action for the advocacy to care for Creation:

On a personal level I will continue to live a simple lifestyle. I will be mindful in my usage of water and energy as well as food and clothing so that there is no wastage of resources. I will reduce meat consumption to lower carbon footprint.

On the level of the community, I want to do the following: I will engage with my immediate community by advocating and supporting community gardens. I will participate in organizing local clean up drives. I will collaborate with local organizations to promote recycling and waste reduction programs.

I will lead our charity organization to do educational outreach: Conduct workshops and seminars on environmental awareness and sustainable living. Use social media platforms to share information and inspire others to act. I will encourage participants to enrol in the Laudato Si action platform.

I will commit to policy advocacy: Support and advocate for policies that promote renewable energy and sustainable practices. Engage with local government officials to implement green initiatives and regulations. Participate in climate marches, petitions, and campaigns to push for systemic change.

I will employ spiritual and ethical reflections: Reflect on personal and collective responsibility towards the environment in religious and spiritual settings. Organize interfaith dialogues and events focused on ecological justice. Encourage spiritual communities to adopt sustainable practices and lead by example.

By combining personal, community, educational, policy, and spiritual actions, I can contribute in the comprehensive approach to caring for our common home, in line with the teachings of Laudato Si and Laudate Deum.