



From Reflection to Commitment: A Laudato Si' Response to the Digital Age

The transition from reflection to commitment, within communities shaped by rapid technological change and the advance of artificial intelligence, is neither automatic nor linear. It requires, above all, a level of awareness that goes beyond a superficial fascination with innovation and engages with its deeper implications: social, ethical, and environmental.

We live in an era in which technology, far from being a neutral tool, shapes realities. Artificial intelligence is redefining work, access to knowledge, forms of participation, and, in many cases, power relations. Yet this same dynamism that promises efficiency and progress can also deepen inequalities, render communities invisible, and accelerate environmental degradation if it is not guided by principles of justice and care.

Forums, documents, and insightful diagnoses are multiplying, but the gap between what is understood and what is transformed remains wide. The challenge, therefore, is how to turn that awareness into commitment; how to ensure that ideas take shape in concrete practices.

Moving toward commitment implies clearly identifying the purposes for which technology is used, rather than elevating technology as an end in itself. It means asking what it is for, who benefits, and what costs it entails. It also requires recognizing that not all innovation equates to progress, and that true development cannot be measured solely in terms of speed or productivity.

From the perspective of Laudato si', this step calls for an “ecological conversion” that is both personal and collective. It is not enough to adjust individual behaviors; the underlying logics of a technocratic model centered on domination and accumulation must be transformed. In the words of Pope Francis, this means replacing the culture of waste with a culture of care.

Commitment can be expressed through everyday decisions—such as the conscious use of digital tools—but also through collective action: promoting critical technological literacy, and advocating for public policies that regulate AI with criteria of equity and sustainability. Above all, it entails maintaining ongoing ethical vigilance in the face of technologies that evolve faster than our capacity to fully understand them.

Perhaps the most important element of this transition is the reconstruction of a sense of community. Technology tends to individualize, fragment experiences, and replace relationships with interfaces. In contrast, community commitment reaffirms the opposite: that decisions about the technological future must be shared, deliberated, and oriented toward the common good.

Moving from reflection to commitment is an act of social responsibility. It means recognizing that we are not mere spectators of an inevitable transformation, but actors with both the capacity—and the duty—to shape its direction. In a world shaped by algorithms, the greatest

challenge is not technical, but profoundly human: to decide, collectively, what kind of society we want to build and what place human dignity and care for the Earth will hold within it.