

Opinion

Letter: Try reading the encyclical before passing judgment

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Try reading the encyclical before passing judgment

I was very happy to see E.J. Dionne's June 19 column, "The pope, the saint and climate." Dionne captured the message of Pope Francis' encyclical, "Praise be to you, my Lord," that each person must take action to create a healthy and less-polluted earth.

The encyclical is something that would be helpful for all people to read and study. It is convenient to blame others for the problems of this world.

The pope reminds us that we are all a part of the problem. He affirms that each one of us can be part of the solution. In fact, it is imperative that we be part of the solution.

The encyclical highlights Francis' concern for those who are poor, recognizing that the poor are those most impacted by the pollution of water, air and soil. He emphasizes that "we must regain the conviction that we need one other, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it."

I encourage all people to read the encyclical and bring others together to study and support one another in taking action to create a world that has cleaner water, cleaner air and cleaner soil, and, like St. Francis, see the beauty of our world and praise God for it. It will be worth it!

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