

### Laudato Si' Essay

Water - we all need it. But sadly, some people don't have easy access to it. Water is a right, and everyone should be able to take a nice, clean, shower, get a cool drink of water when they come home on a hot day, or simply just be able to turn on their faucet, but some people can't. Just as Pope Francis said, "Fresh drinking water is an issue of primary importance, since it is indispensable for human life and for supporting terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems."

Today was my turn to go get water. I hate when it is my turn. I trudged down to the forest, hiking with my buckets to go to the tiny trickles that came from the river nearby. "I can't believe I have to do this," I mumbled. No one in my little town has had fresh, clean water for all of my life, so everyone has to go hike down to get it from a stream or trickle. I had recently written a letter to the governor to ask for help with my town's water situation, and any day now he would write back. I was determined to help my community and nothing would stop me. This is coming from the perspective of a girl who lives in a small town without water, and how she would keep on trying to help out her small, unheard, community. We should all have this attitude, trying to help one another, and we should start that today. Something else to acknowledge is also another thing of what Pope Francis said, "One particularly serious problem is the quality of water available to the poor. Every day, unsafe water results in many deaths and the spread of water-related diseases, including those caused by microorganisms and chemical substances." Even though some people have water, they might not have *clean* water. This is equally important.

In conclusion, we should all save water, donate to charities that help with water problems around the world, and keep on trying to help any way we can. Remember, water is a right, and water is something we all need, so we should all have it, just as God wants us to.