



COLUMBAN MISSION INSTITUTE



Centre for Peace Ecology and Justice

Making connections between
Peace, Ecology and Justice from
the Gospel perspective

Growing a Culture of Peace monthly bulletin for parishes and schools!

From the Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace Ecology and Justice!

No 5, June 2014: “Raise your voices, not the sea level ”

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Growing a Culture of Peace Monthly Bulletin

5 “Raise your voices, not the sea level.”

June 8th, Pentecost Sunday.

Reflection: “As the Father has sent me so I send you.” John 20:21b

“Raise your voices, not the sea level,” is the theme of World Environment Day, June 5th. What does the feast of Pentecost have to do with World Environment Day? There is quite a lot. God entering into life incarnated in Jesus, the Christ, is the greatest affirmation of all life which we are yet to appreciate. At a General Audience on May 21st Pope Francis said, “*When our eyes are illumined by the Spirit, they open to contemplate God, in the beauty of nature and in the grandeur of the cosmos, and they lead us to discover how everything speaks to us about Him and His love.*” The ecological crises the planet faces are the result of human behaviour. Pope Francis in his talk added, “*When we exploit creation, we destroy that sign of God’s love. To destroy creation is to say to God: “I don’t care”. And this is not good: This is sin.*” Our mission as Christians now is to act for the good of creation which means that we have to change our ways to reduce the impact of climate change, especially on those most vulnerable.

Fact File: Small islands, such as Kiribati and Fiji where Columbans work, are facing increasing damage from storm surges, flash flooding, salination of water supplies and inundation of roads and other infrastructure as sea levels rise from global warming.

Learn More: Look up World Environment Day eg <http://goo.gl/wr16nr>

Take Action: Reduce plastic use as it comes from fossil fuels and is a major ocean polluter. The Two Hands Project has practical suggestions. [Click here to read more.](#)



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