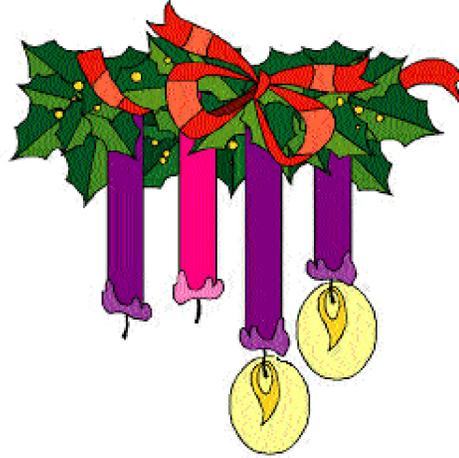


A flourishing humanity on a thriving Earth in an evolving universe, all together filled with the glory of God; such is the theological vision and praxis we are being called to in this critical age of Earth's distress. We need to appreciate all over again that Earth is a sacrament vivified by the living Spirit of God.

Elizabeth Johnson C.S.J

Isaiah 11.9

They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples



ADVENT SECOND WEEK: The Threat of Rising Consumerism

Every effort to protect and improve our world entails profound changes in 'lifestyle, in models of production and consumption.
Laudato Si 5

What can I do?

- ◆ Wrapping paper cannot be recycled and will go straight to landfill. Be aware of this when wrapping gifts. Use brown paper instead.
- ◆ In the run-up to Christmas and the January sales, consider need versus want when shopping. Every little helps!
- ◆ At election time, make your politicians aware of these very urgent concerns.

'Future We Need' is a faith based group

**This leaflet was prepared by members from
www.mercyworld.org
www.columbansisters.org.**



The Threat of Rising Consumerism

Consumerism and Overexploitation

Overexploitation and ever-expanding agriculture are driven by spiralling human consumption. Over the past 50 years our Ecological Footprint - has increased by about 190%. Creating a more sustainable system will require major changes to production, supply and consumption activities. SDG 12 aims to achieve long term sustainability for earth and its people. Each country must have a national framework for energy and resource efficiency; consumption and production patterns; sound business practices and sustainable waste management.



Possession Obsession

Business Group Retail Ireland has said it expects Irish households to spend an average of €2,654 in shops this Christmas. Shopping days such as Black Friday and Cyber Monday, contribute to this figure.

"We have a possession obsession. Obsessed with what we own, and defined by what we possess."

Irish Examiner



“ A constant flow of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment..... Christian spirituality proposes a growth marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little.”

Pope Francis ,Laudato Si 222



The **CIRCULAR ECONOMY** is one where we extract maximum use and value from all resources. Waste products are recovered and regenerated, mirroring nature, where nothing is wasted!

When the last tree has been cut down, the last fish caught, the last river poisoned, only then will we realize that one cannot eat money.

Cree Proverb

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/true-north/2017/jul/17/neoliberalism-has-conned-us-into-fighting-climate-change-as-individuals>

https://wwf.panda.org/knowledge_hub/all_publications/living_planet_report_2018/

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/oct/30/humanity-wiped-out-animals-since-1970-major-report-finds>