

***The Mysticism of Laudato Si'* 14**

SUMMARY

At the end of this part of the book, it may help to gather some of the 'mystical' passages in *Laudato Si'*. Taken together they can suitably overwhelm you!

'The divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God's creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet' (9).

'Each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God's love, God's boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is a caress of God' (84).

'God has written a precious book, whose letters are the multitude of created things. From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine. Alongside revelation in sacred Scripture, there is a divine manifestation in the blaze of the sun and the fall of night' (85).

'The sun and the moon, the cedar and the little flower, the eagle and the sparrow--no creature is self-sufficient. Creatures exist only in dependence on each other, in the service of each other' (86).

'The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face (233). Standing awestruck before a mountain, we cannot separate this experience from God' (234).

'There is a subtle mystery in each of the movements and sounds of this world. The perceptive will capture what is being said when the wind blows, the trees sway, water flows, flies buzz, doors creak, birds sing, or in the sound of strings or flutes, the sighs of the sick, the groans of the afflicted...' (note 159).

Stop here for a moment. Look! Let a tiny aspect of nature come into focus. Admire. Fall in love. Notice peace and joy within you. Sense the mystery. When enriched, move on, only to return later. Gradually the doors of your perception are cleansed: you see beyond, and glimpse the divine.