Laudato Si' for Kids

An activity & colouring book originally created by, and adapted from the Environmental Justice Program at Catholic Charities (Diocese of Stockton)
A Blessing for Washing Hands

As we wash our hands we pray:

We wash our hands O’God,
May you protect us in these days,
Keeping clean is wise,
In many different ways.

It is how we can say thank you,
to those who work for us
in grocery stores and hospitals
each day without a fuss.

It is how we can remember,
our friends in countries far,
who lack strong health and water systems,
close to our hearts they are.

And as we wash our hands, O’God,
Reach your hands to the sick,
Reach your hands to the poor,
Let the good waters reach them quick.
Draw your left (or non-dominant) hand above. Inside each finger you've drawn, write a talent or interest you have (ie singing, soccer).

In the space remaining, write a word or phrase from the opening prayer that was meaningful to you.
Many birds and insects are helpful to farmers but they are disappearing because of deadly chemicals. (Laudato Si’ 34)

**FUN FACTS**

**Birds:**
- Birds have feathers, wings, lay eggs and are warm blooded.
- There are around 10000 different species of birds worldwide!
- The chicken is the most common species of bird found in the world.
- Hummingbirds can fly backwards.

**Butterflies:**
- Butterflies attach their eggs to leaves with a special glue
- Butterflies can live in the adult stage from anywhere between a week and a year, depending on the species
- Butterflies have four wings
- Butterflies can taste with their feet!
After connecting the dots, colour the image and draw around it to create a beautiful picture!

People can see the good that we do to help the environment through our actions! (Laudato Si’ 212)
Praise Be!

Pope Francis wrote Catholics and all people a letter.

Can you find all the words that he used in this word search?
“The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but once it has grown, it is the greatest of plants.” (Mt 13:31-32; LS 97)

Draw in your own “greatest of plants”!
The ocean is being polluted, and the sea life is disappearing (Laudato Si’ 41)
People have done a good job finding ways to get renewable energy, but we can’t stop there! (*Laudato Si’* 58)
There are lots of people like scientists, teachers, and kids like you who are finding ways to take care of nature (*Laudato Si’* 34)

But it’s not always easy! Just like a maze, we must find our way to the solution.

Starting at the GREEN CIRCLE, can you find your way to the RED SQUARE?
We only have one heart, and when we are mean to animals, we will be mean to people too. (Laudato Si’ 92)
We are all one family, we are all connected. *(Laudato Si’ 52, 91)*

Who is in your family? List and/or draw your family members above.
Love makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world.  
(*Laudato Si’ 231*)

In his letter, Pope Francis asks a question: *How will you act for the environment?*

Draw your idea of what you can do for nature in the light bulb. Then, with a parent’s permission, send this page with your awesome idea to  

schools@devp.org  

OR  

Development and Peace  
c/o Schools Officer  
400-80 Hayden Street  
Toronto ON M4Y 3G2  
Canada
WHAT MY NEIGHBORHOOD LOOKS LIKE NOW:
On this top section, draw what your neighborhood looks like right now. Add any items from nature that may be there (e.g. trees, flowers), as well as any problems (e.g. litter, no sidewalk or streetlights).

WHAT I WANT MY NEIGHBORHOOD TO LOOK LIKE:

ACTION
List what action steps you can take to make your neighborhood look how you want it to