

[View this email in your browser](#)



January 2021



ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

940 Rex Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K2A 2P7

CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME

A message from the Green Team

---- **SPIRITUALITY - EDUCATION - ACTION** ----

NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE

Dear Parishioners,

We are living in stressful times with all the news of the environmental threats we are facing from pollution, extinctions and climate change as well as the worsening pandemic crisis. Let us start 2021 on a more positive note and think about things that give us **HOPE** – a steady diet of hopelessness can be very demotivating and cause us to tune out, to give up and to be less than creative in finding solutions to the Climate Crisis.

POPE FRANCIS' message to the UN Climate Summit

- Pope Francis stated that the Vatican City State is dedicated to achieving zero-net emissions by 2050 and how and what it is doing to achieve this.
- The Pope has set up the Global Compact on Education to help Catholic Schools and Universities to promote a holistic form of education.

- Another initiative of Pope Francis is The Economy of Francisco which sees young economists, entrepreneurs and changemakers come together to help build a better future.

The Pope concluded by saying: “The time has come to change direction. Let us not rob our younger generations of their **HOPE**.” He also states “**HOPE** can open us up to grand ideals, to make life more beautiful and worthwhile. Let us continue, then, to advance along the paths of **HOPE**.” (Fratelli Tutti p.55) [Pope to UN Climate Summit: 'Now is time to change direction'](#)

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

Prime Minister Trudeau announced (Dec. 11) Canada’s strengthened climate plan to protect the environment, create jobs and support communities. It contains 64 new and strengthened federal policies, programs and investments to cut pollution and build a stronger, cleaner and more resilient and inclusive economy. Consensus seems to be that it is a large step towards translating talk into action.

[Canada's climate plan - Canada.ca](#)

CANADIAN YOUTH

Many young people are taking up the challenge to care for God’s creation. In December the U.N. Climate Program announced the annual Young Champions of the Earth Award which celebrates the potential of individuals and collective action to change the world. Many of these young people are truly inspirational - e.g. one young woman is turning discarded plastics into paving stones.

www.unenvironment.org/youngchampions

THE GLOBAL CATHOLIC CLIMATE MOVEMENT



How amazing! It is possible and necessary, urgently necessary we would say, to walk in hope!

Adapted from the Global Catholic Climate Movement.

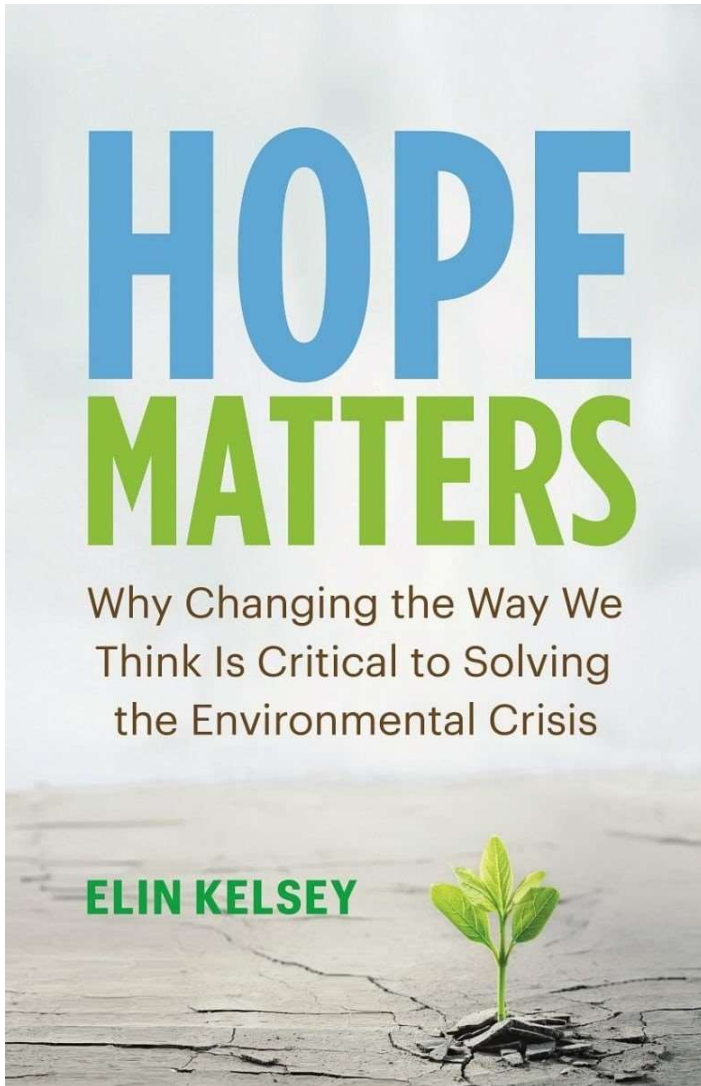
THE GLOBAL CATHOLIC CLIMATE MOVEMENT has highlighted many positive actions that are being carried out worldwide.

[Top 10 Global Catholic Climate Movement highlights of 2020 - The Global Catholic Climate Movement](#)

REASONS FOR HOPE

CBC Quirks and Quarks host, Bob McDonald, interviews Elin Kelsey about her new book: *Hope Matters*. In her book, Elin claims that our negative talk about the environmental crisis could be affecting our ability to do anything about it.

(Greystone Books)



[An argument for 'evidence-based hope' to help fight the environmental crisis](#)

The Climate Change Reality Project

According to *Climate Reality*, a diverse group of passionate individuals who are committed to building a sustainable future, there are many reasons to be optimistic about a just, sustainable, clean energy future. See link to see nine of their favourite reasons.

[9 Reasons to Have Climate Hope in 2020](#)

GOOD NEWS IN OTTAWA

1. City of Ottawa: **TAKE IT BACK PROGRAM** – shows us how to safely dispose, recycle or reuse consumer goods using **Waste Explorer**. [Garbage and Recycling](#)

2. Stores that will recycle batteries, light bulbs, paint, technology, etc.:
 - Canadian Tire [What Can I Recycle?](#)
 - Lowe's [Lowe's Recycling Centres | Lowe's Canada](#)
 - Staples [Staples® Official Online Store](#)
3. City of Ottawa to purchase electric buses [Electric Buses for the City of Ottawa](#).

PRAYER OF HOPE

Loving God,

Help us to reclaim the future! Encourage us to be people of hope as we look forwards in faith, knowing that we can build a world of justice, peace and sustainability. Amen

[Catholic Health Association of the United States - CHA](#)



Copyright © 2021 St. Basils Church, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

