

9 Slide Study Guide & Content Preview / Script for an online discussion (prepared July 19, 2020)

This Land is Home to Me: Bridges to & from “This Land” & to “Our Common Home” our contextual theology and ministry in Appalachia bridging universal Catholic theology to the Appalachian context

Notes as we begin: Each slide contains two (2) parts – take your time reflecting on each

- a. A **quote** related to the pastoral letter, *This Land Is Home to Me* (1975)
- b. An **image** related to **Bridges** or to the pastoral letter



Slide 1: Title and Welcome

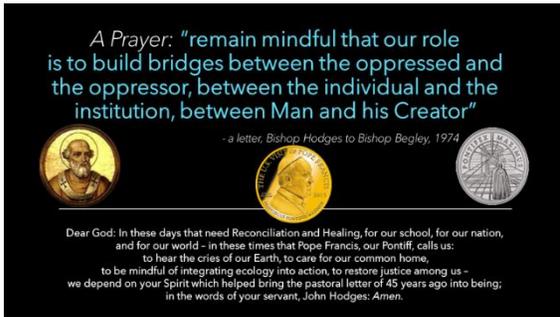
Quote: *This Land Is Home to Me*, title

Picture: Renovated Bridges crossing the Ohio River at Wheeling

“Bridges to & from ‘This Land...’ & to ‘Our Common Home’

– how the pastoral letter connects us today, in these times

Question: What is your perception of a bridge?



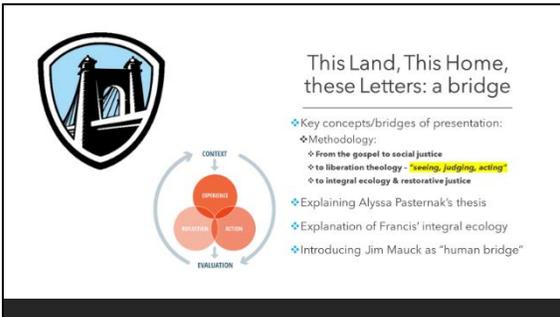
Slide 2: Opening Prayers

Prayer: modelled on *Caring for Our Common Home*, – *Laudato Si*

Quote: *Bishop Hodges to Bishop Begley, a letter, 1974*

Pictures: commemorative coins depicting St. Peter and Pope Francis, “Pontifex Maximus”

Question: Have you considered what Pontiff means to you?



Slide 3: An Index to the presentation and discussion

- What the key concepts of Methodology mean (key concepts) **Q: What are your preconceptions?**
- **This Land** – Part I, col.2, lines 26-49
- **This Home** – Part I, col. 2, lines 10-24
- **To Me** – Part I, col.1, lines 22-24,33,37,42-46; col.2, lines 3-6
- All should have access to the pastoral letter

Question: What are your preconceptions of these words?

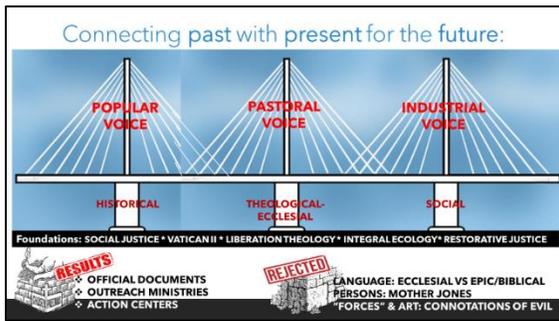


Slide 4: Words that Work: who wrote what & how the pastoral got written

- Writing to Reconcile: connecting past with present for the future
- Introduction of participants
- Introduction of the process
- *Term: Three Pylons* – context for the pastoral letter
- *Term: Three Spans* – voices in dialogue and conflict
- *Term: Three Exclusions* – what was left out and why
- *Term: Three Destinations/Results* – what came of the effort

Picture/Quote: sheet music for “This Land Is Home to Me” Maureen Linneman Eaton (Sourwood Mtn Records, 1977)

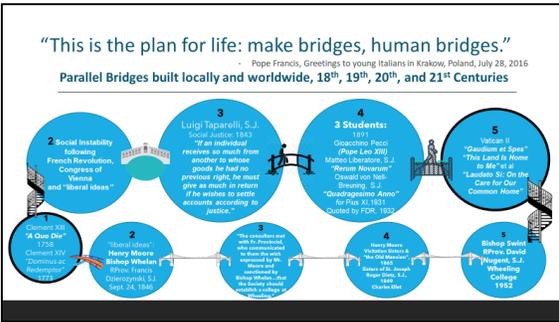
Question: How do you understand what was excluded?



Slide 5: Picturing Framework of the pastoral letter: parts of a bridge

- Quote: Preface, col.1, lines 3-9, 18-24; col.2, lines 3-5, 32-36, 39
- Who Frames Our Story: *Archivists, Editors, Narrators, Surveyors, etc.*
- A population surveyed and in dialogue through the CCA
 - Catholic bishops of 24 dioceses
 - Industrial leaders
 - The university community (e.g. Alyssa R. Pasternak Post '09)

Question: The letter uses biblical and contemporary foundations: are they relevant to here and now? Is what was gained over time in danger today?



Slide 6: Human Bridges connect words/actions over the centuries

- Connecting present with the past, for the future: **The Overstory**
- Quote: Pope Clement XIII *A quo die* (1758): "Among the fruits of justice, mercy to the poor should certainly be considered the most important. That justice which comes from faith belongs to Jesus Christ . . . [the poor] require our generosity as their principal right."
- Quote: Prospero Luigi Taparelli d'Azeglio, S.J. (1843)

● <https://isi.org/intercollegiate-review/the-origins-of-social-justice-taparelli-dazeglio/> (Thomas Patrick Burke, ISI Archive, October 8, 2014)

Quote: Provincial meeting notes (1846) in Lewis, Clifford & Connolly, Mark: *History of Wheeling College, p11 (unpub.)*

Question: Do these bridges / connections remain relevant for us?

Contemporary Bridges & Challenges (Summary):

3 kinds of bridge:

1. People of action and their work
2. Documenting the work in action
3. Results: opportunities and challenges

2 contemporary bridges:

1. Pope Francis - integral ecology in "Laudato Si"; restorative justice in "Querida Amazonia"
2. Introduce Jim Mauck '63 as "living bridge"

Slide 7: Contemporary Bridges and Challenges

- Connecting present with the past, for the future: **The Understory**
- 3 Kinds of Bridges we have been using
- 2 Examples of Contemporary Bridges

Resource:

Question: What bridges / renovations need to be built in these days ?

Reaction and Discussion takes place At This Time, before the Closing Prayer

Slide 8: Response, Rev. I. Hadi Sasmita, S.J.

Question: How are you moved to act, to build bridges today?

Closing Prayer: "Peace builds bridges, whereas hatred is the builder of walls. You must decide, in life: either I will make bridges or I will make walls. Walls divide and hatred grows: when there is division, hatred grows. Bridges unite, and when there is a bridge hatred can go away, because I can hear the other and speak with the other. When you shake the hand of a friend, of a person, you make a human bridge. You make a bridge. Instead, when you strike someone, when you insult another person, you build a wall. Hatred always grows with walls. At times, it may happen that you want to make a bridge and you offer your hand, but the other party does not take it; these are the humiliations that we must suffer in life in order to do good. But always make bridges. And you have come here: you were stopped and sent home, then you took a risk on the bridge to try again: this is the right attitude, always. Is there a difficulty that prevents me from doing something? Go back and then go ahead, return and move on. This is what we must do: make bridges. Do not fall to the ground, do not say, 'Oh, I can't', no: always look for a way of building bridges. You are there, with your hands, make bridges, all of you! Take each other by the hand. I want to see lots of human bridges. ... This is the plan for life: make bridges, human bridges."

- **LAUDATO SI', QUERIDA AMAZONIA and Pope Francis**
- **Integral Ecology**
 - ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ECOLOGY
 - CULTURAL ECOLOGY
 - ECOLOGY OF DAILY LIFE
 - THE PRINCIPLE OF THE COMMON GOOD
 - JUSTICE BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS

Slide 9: Credits & Gratitude