

10 Slide Study Guide & Content Preview / Script for an online discussion (revised October 8, 2020)



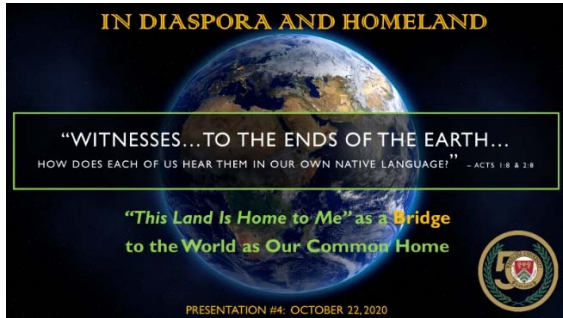
"This Land":

'Witnesses...to the Ends of the Earth'

our contextual theology and ministry in Appalachia
bridging universal Catholic theology to the Appalachian context

Notes as we begin: Each slide contains four (4) parts – take your time reflecting on each

- a. **Quotes** from *This Land Is Home to Me* (1975) or papal writing
- b. **Images** of Appalachia, encyclicals
- c. **Prayer** reminders of Creation
- d. **Literary reference:** story/story-telling, song, speech, video



Slide 1 & 3: Title and Welcome – an introduction to the series

Quote: Acts of the Apostles 1:8/2:8

Quote: Bishop Hodges, "A View from Seat 650", final para., Dec 12, 1965

Quote: *This Land Is Home to Me*, Part 3, lines 1 – 10

Picture: *Earth seen from 1,000,000 miles away (EPIC/NASA, 2015)*

Bridge to the World as "Our Common Home"

– what the pastoral letter means as witness today to the world

Question: How are we in Appalachia a bridge to the world-story?



Slide 2: Opening Prayers

Prayer: "Fratelli Tutti," closing, a Prayer to the Creator

Quote: Pope Francis, *Abu Dhabi, Feb 4, 2020*

Recall earlier presentations # 1, 2, 3:

Our Story, Our History, Our Mission, in Christ

Question: What is my role in reconciliation?



Slide 4: An Introduction to the discussion: Witness & Influence

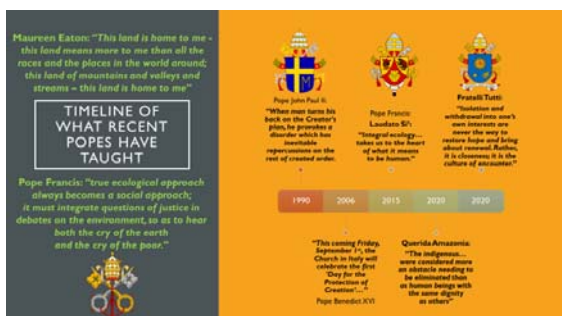
- **What the phrase, "This Land is Home to Me," means** over the 45 years since promulgation, across the USA
- Photo: SJ Frs. Jim O'Brien, Dennis McNally, Charlie Currie
- **Influence on USCCB, cf. "Economic Justice for All", et al**

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMIR0sFGqe4>

Resource: <https://www.nytimes.com/1996/11/13/us/bishops-affirm-economic-principles-that-raised-a-storm-in-the-80-s.html>

Resource: <https://vimeo.com/325130289>, APEX 2019, Jeff Cap Productions

Question: In what ways may Wheeling University still play a role?



Slide 5: from Appalachian Voices to Papal Voices

○ **Telling our story: extending the meaning of home**

● Introduction of participants, quotes:

- Maureen Eaton Linneman, "This Land Is Home to Me," 1977
- Pope John Paul II, *XXIII World Day for Peace, January 1, 1990*
- Pope Benedict XVI, *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, September 1, 2006*
- Pope Francis, 2015, 2020

Question: How can we better study our culture in light of encyclicals, etc?



Slide 6: Framework of Our Story: Who Frames Our Story?

Quote: framing "This Land" through a papal lens

Example: *Pope Francis, encyclicals and exhortations*

Who Frames Our Story: *theologians; CCA staff; Vatican staff; songwriters*

- A song: "*Samba da Bênção*" by Vinicius de Moraes and Baden Powell*

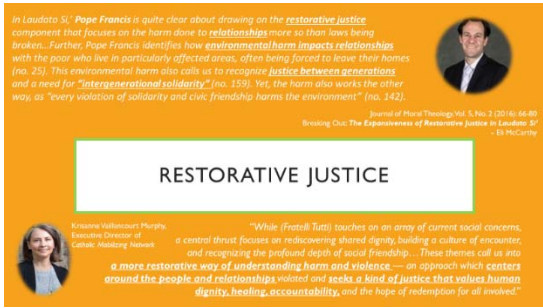
o <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Lz7dmn1eM>

o artists, animators, copyists, editors, and publishers

Question: How does the medium affect the message you receive?

Question: How does each generation process existential questions, i.e., relating to one another, technology, nature?

Resource: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHeQemJJQII> ; <https://genius.com/Shawn-mendes-wonder-lyrics>



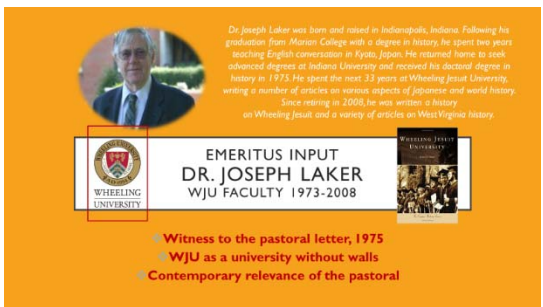
Slide 7: Theology of Our Story: Restorative Justice

Quote: Eli McCarthy, "Breaking Out: *The Expansiveness of Restorative Justice in Laudato Si'*," Journal of Moral Theology, Vol. 5, No. 2 (2016): 66-80

Quote: Krisanne Vaillancourt Murphy, Executive Director, Catholic Mobilizing Network in <https://catholicmobilizing.org/in-the-news/catholic-mobilizing-network-lauds-denunciation-death-penalty-fratelli-tutti>

Question: Does theology in re the death penalty touch Appalachia and USA?

Question: How does each generation process existential questions?



Slide 8: Introduction of the Past as Process, Dr. Joseph Laker

• **The Overstory: Generations**, those to whom we look up, forming a canopy

- Witness to the pastoral letter in his first year teaching
- A university without walls
- Contemporary relevance

Question: How do mentors shape our understanding of the story?



Slide 9: Introduction of the Present as Process, Regional Partners

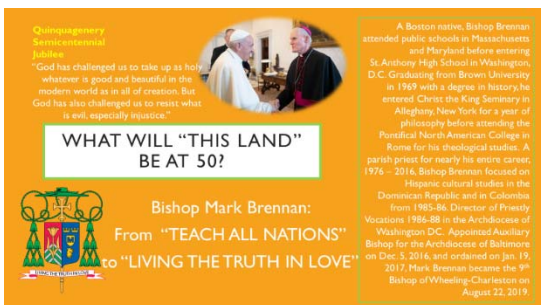
• **The Understory: Current and future voices** on the ground today /Good Soil

Quote: "As a native of Appalachian Ohio, where the undulating landscape is dotted by farms and small homesteads, I can't help but think the similarities between my home and the Carpathian Mountain region are more than just coincidence."

Resource: Elijah Ferbrache, *Transatlantic Mountain Cultures: Appalachian and Carpathian Perspectives* (2013)

Resource: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71DmDxNbBJU>

Question: Do you know why mountains matter?



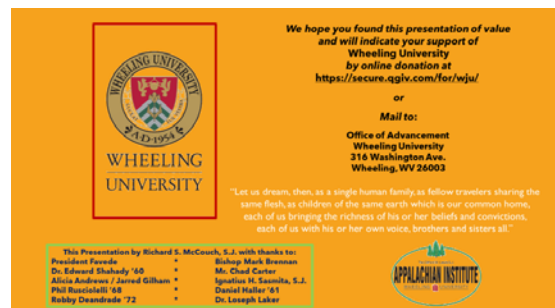
Slide 10: Introduction of the Future as Process, Bishop Mark E. Brennan

Quote: "*This Land...*" Part II, *The Church's Social Teaching*, lines 16 – 22

Motto: Bishop Brennan, Baltimore

Motto: Bishop Brennan, DWC

Question: Our call to action?



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

Slide 11: Closing Prayer, Credits & Gratitude