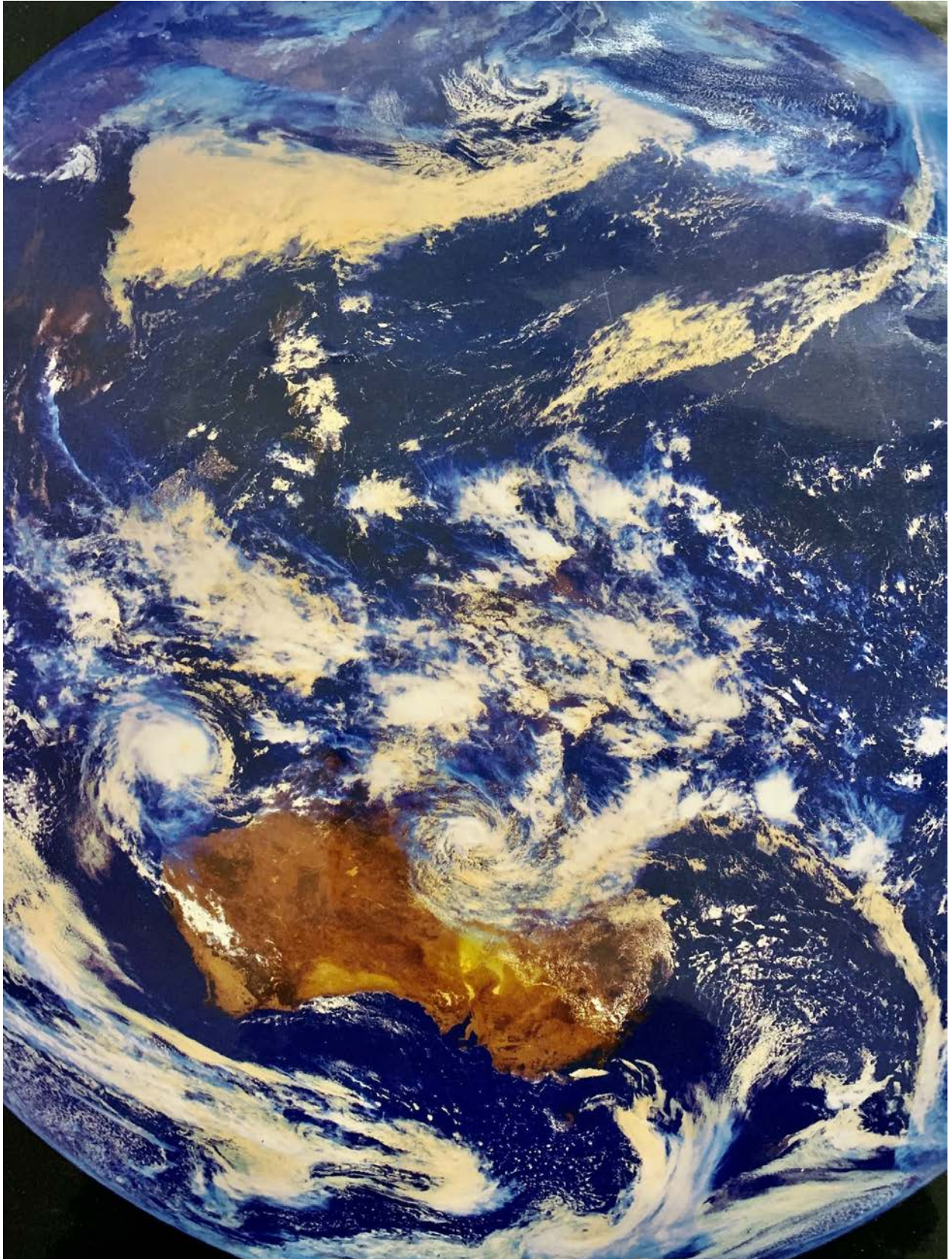


UNCOP26: LET'S STOP CLIMATE CHANGE!



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Greetings of peace anew!

Here are several facts put together:

*The success of the November Climate Change Conference in Glasgow- UNCOP26 - is crucial to preventing catastrophic climate change. Under the Paris Agreement, nations must make very generous contributions - their "Nationally Determined Contribution"- so as to ensure global temperatures do not keep rising.

*There is much more awareness now both about climate change and about the need for international agreement through UNCOP26.

We may once have said," Think Global and Act Local" but now we know "the Global IS Local!" Experts tell us that the next few years are crucial (to 2030) if we are to prevent catastrophic climate change.

*Nonetheless, debate at the Federal level in Australia is still problematic. We have had years of fractious debate but still do not have an agreed national plan for a safer environment in a prosperous and sustainable nation. The quality of unambiguous enthusiasm and bipartisan co-operation needed for Australia's best contribution to a successful UNCOP26 is currently not present in Federal politics.

*Civil society, including faith communities, must lift the profile of this matter so that the Federal Government and Opposition respond.

Now is the hour! June to November when the UNCOP26 begins!

WHAT TO DO?

An advocacy suggestion we have been exploring is that our Places of Worship, our Homes and our places of Work and Education, display the kind of signage that will focus attention on the importance of a successful UNCOP 26.

Through various advocacy networks here and overseas, I have been asking people what image and message they think would be effective.

WHAT IS YOUR SUGGESTION?

Suggestions made have included:

Net Zero Emissions by 2030; Real Net Zero Emissions by 2050; Rapid reduction of fossil fuels for a 1.5C temperature rise limit; For the love of neighbours, move to zero emissions.

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These suggestions are all worthy. Speaking with media experts, they advise something short that speaks to the heart.

Hence:

“UNCOP 26: LET'S STOP CLIMATE CHANGE!”

“Let's “is an invitational and inclusive word. We all want to stop Climate Change and UNCOP 26 is the vehicle.”

Can you imagine this on your Place of Worship; your Home; your places of work and education?

Does the message work with this image of Australia from space?

I have a statue of St Francis of Assisi where I say my prayers (pictured next page). Thinking about all this and Pope Francis' plea this “Laudato Si” week, I also offer my folksy image as I invite your thoughts both as to the message and the image.

As Pope Francis says, “It is a journey that we must continue together, listening to the cry of the Earth and of the poor. “

With love and prayers,
Bishop Philip

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