

### Reflection Wednesday Week 32 Dedication of Lateran Basilica 2022

The Lateran Basilica was built by Emperor Constantine on the Lateran Hill in Rome about 324. The dedication has been celebrated in Rome on this date since the twelfth century. In honour of the basilica, ***“the mother and head of all the churches of the City and the World,”*** the feast has been extended to the whole Roman Rite as a sign of unity and love towards the See of Peter, which, as St Ignatius of Antioch said in the second century, *“presides over the whole assembly of charity.”*

We have certainly been made aware of the importance of water this year and must thank God for the recent rains. All of us would support Jesus in speaking out about the Temple being a house of prayer and not a market for money making. If Jesus were alive today, he would be remonstrating with us and the government about our lack of care for the planet, for creation. From 6<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November the nations of the World are meeting for COP27 to address the issue of climate. So as not to alarm you, the nations should be spending 100 billion dollars every year on helping struggling nations fight drought, natural disasters and the increasing loss of our eco system. Unless hard decisions are made now, by 2050 we will need to pay trillions of dollars just to steady the decline although by then it may not be possible to stop creation imploding. This demands a joint effort from all the nations in the world that have the resources to do something.

If a few people reduce the core temperature of their boilers by 1 degree this will be a small help. If a billion people do the same it will have a much greater effect. Do nothing and there will be no long-term future.