

Bishops' Aide: Christians Shouldn't Be Wasteful

ROME, SEPT. 3, 2008 (Zenit.org)- Christians are called to stop being wasteful and remember that the planet is everyone's home, says an official with the Italian bishops' conference. The bishops appealed for an "ecological conversion" in a statement for the 3rd Day to Protect Creation, held Monday in Rome. The planet "is what has been given to us to live on responsibly, safeguarding its viability also for the next generations," they recalled.

There is a need to "use energy efficiently, as well as to appreciate the sources of renewable and clean energy," in addition to "an intelligent sobriety," which will allow for "lessening the problem of waste," the bishops stressed.

Paolo Tarchi, an Italian bishops' aide, noted on Vatican Radio on Tuesday that those "who suffer most from the inconsiderate use of the planet's resources are, above all, the poorest."

"Hence, it is necessary to look at the environment, which on one hand, has the dimension of the planet as 'everyone's home,' and on the other, also calls on everyone to use resources correctly," he said. "The slogan that has prevailed and still prevails in our way of acting -- 'use and discard' -- must certainly be revised according to a logic in which things are used, but only when necessary, and at the same time, recycled as much as possible."

According to Tarchi, if the world is "a common home, it must be looked after by all," especially "by Christians, who in their way of approaching Creation, through the teachings of sacred Scripture, are called to discover it every day as something beautiful and a gift."