The "Stewardship & CST" Approach (Recommended for your context)

A Note on Stewardship, AI, and Our Common Home

In creating resources for this extraordinary Year of St Francis, we have made use of AI tools (including NotebookLM) to support the production of **videos, audio materials, posters, and presentation slides**. This is **not our usual practice,** but reflects the scale, creativity, and ambition of this particular year of celebration.

We are mindful, however, that every form of digital generation carries an environmental cost, including energy and water use. In the spirit of St Francis, and guided by Catholic Social Teaching and our commitment to *Care for Creation*, we have made a conscious ethical decision not to "waste" energy by repeatedly regenerating files in pursuit of absolute technical perfection.

As a result, you may notice a **minor inconsistency** in some resources (for example, an AI-generated voice referring to Pope Francis as the current Pope within a future-facing scenario). We have chosen to retain these versions because the message, prayer, and learning remain strong — and discarding them would increase our digital and environmental footprint.

Importantly, we have sought to **balance the additional energy used in creating these resources** by making **all materials freely available to schools**, ensuring they can be widely shared, reused, and enjoyed. In this way, the energy invested becomes both justifiable and fruitful, serving the wider educational community rather than a single setting.

We invite schools to see this not as a flaw, but as a **living example of stewardship.** Even in our digital work, we are called to make thoughtful choices that protect our Common Home. We hope these resources bear much fruit in your school and help you celebrate this special year with integrity, joy, and responsibility.