



ECO-NEWS SSCM

General Administration, 2029, Holy Cross, Montréal (Québec) Canada H4E 2A4

Spring 2026
Number 8



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Editorial

A Mission for All Ages!

The Earth is on fire! The Earth is in danger! At a time when bombs are exploding everywhere, wreaking devastating havoc on the planet, one question is becoming increasingly pressing: what kind of Earth will today’s children inherit?

Environmental protection is everyone’s responsibility; it is a mission that calls upon all generations. Children, youth, and adults are called to combine their actions and efforts in daily life to limit the rise in greenhouse gas emissions. Every action counts, each at its own level, in the fight against climate change to soothe our Mother Earth.

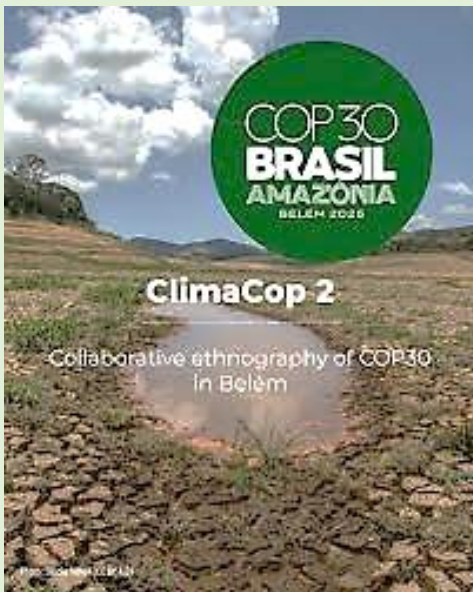
Education from an early age and awareness-raising remain key to fostering an ecological conversion. It is a matter of cultivating love for our Earth, for Creation, to develop “interior impulse which encourages, motivates, nourishes and gives meaning to our individual and communal activity.” EG. 261.

This edition of ECO-NEWS highlights this education and awareness-raising. Whether it be the Sisters, the kindergarten children, or the middle school students... all are united for the same cause: to protect God’s Creation.

Paule-Marie Ndjom, SSCM
General Secretary

United for the 2025 Climate Change Conference (COP 30)

Before telling you about this time of prayer with all the Sisters of the France Region, let's take a quick look back. I regularly receive news online from the Associate Director of the Laudato Si' Movement. Each month, we are offered a prayer booklet. A special time is proposed for COP 30, which met from November **10 to 21, 2025**, in Belem, Brazil, where some 50 heads of state and government gathered.



According to the UN, if countries fully implement the roadmaps they have set for themselves, global warming could reach 2.3°C or even 2.5°C. Let's not forget that global warming is increasing every year due to greenhouse gases. There is, therefore, a moral issue at stake for future generations. The key is to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and demonstrate that countries remain committed to climate goals such as combating deforestation. Countries in the South are suffering, and countries in the North are being called upon to provide fair financing for energy transitions. The South does not feel heard and would like its voices and testimonies to have a significant impact. In reality, we face a colossal economic challenge: each country must assess its capacity to help countries without financial security.

Considering the age of our older Sisters, I have been wondering for some time what action could be taken so that everyone can participate. I suggest to our community leader that we meet for a time of prayer. The positive response comes to me by email: "You are the one who prepares..." This is a daunting challenge because, even though the theme is important, the booklet of activities and prayers requires me to choose the texts, the powerful words of Pope Leo XIV, and the testimonies.

To build this time of prayer, I have chosen testimonies written and collected by the "Secours Catholique" to echo the voices of countries of the North and the South.

The first testimony comes from Ille-et-Vilaine in France, where a couple's husband refuses to leave despite rising floodwaters. His wife waded through icy water for 48 hours. This first testimony echoes the floods of February 2023 in Manambery, Madagascar, where the water destroyed everything in its path. Many houses were destroyed. The village did not receive any aid for rebuilding the houses.



The third account comes from Franche-Comté in France, where the person says: "I can't decide whether drought is better or flooding is better. In fact, in both cases, it's very complicated."

This third testimony echoes that experienced in Tunisia, where drought has greatly affected farmers by reducing pastures and vegetation. They have been

forced to go into debt so as not to leave their cows without food. The farmer tells us: "I can no longer provide for my family as I did before."

After these testimonies, we read this quote from Pope Leo XIV's *Dilexi te*: "Charity has the power to change reality; it is a genuine force for change in history. It is the source that must inspire and guide every effort to 'resolve the structural causes of poverty,' and to do so with urgency. It is my hope that we will see more and more

"politicians capable of sincere and effective dialogue aimed at healing the deepest roots — and not simply the appearances — of the evils in our world.' For 'it is a matter of hearing the cry of entire peoples, the poorest peoples of the earth.'" (Pope Leo XIV, *Dilexi te* n°91, 2025).



Our prayer vigil continues with the reading of the Gospel according to Saint Matthew (Mt 25:31-45): "For I was in need of food, and you gave it to me: I was in need of drink, and you gave it to me: I was wandering, and you took me in; I had no clothing, and you gave it to me: when I was ill, or in prison, you came to me."



This Gospel echoes the question posed by Pope Leo XIV: "God will ask us if we have cultivated and taken care of the world he created, for the good of all and for future generations, and if we have taken care of our brothers and sisters. What will our response be?"

Sr. Anne Dhios, SSCM, Sustainable Development Coordinator
France

I Am Responsible for Our Common Home, Regardless of My Age

The consequences we are experiencing as a result of climate change, caused by humanity's inappropriate actions towards nature, are leading us to adopt strategies to protect our common home.

We help children understand the harmful effects of climate change on their lives at their age, such as prolonged droughts, heat waves, floods, landslides, and water shortages. Thus, we are teaching the children of the Notre-Dame-des-Victoires Bilingual Kindergarten in Mvog-Ada to take care of the earth, our common home, by teaching them to:

- Clean their environment
- Plant and care for flowers
- Water and protect plants
- Appreciate the beauty of nature and preserve it
- Use water and energy wisely ...



We have set up a waste sorting system (two bins) in each classroom with:

- A bin for biodegradable waste, which is used as compost for the plants.
- A bin for non-biodegradable waste, which is then collected by HYSACAM.

We also teach children to keep the schoolyard clean by throwing trash in the trashcan.

We have also introduced environmental awareness into the lessons prepared by teachers, which further awakens a sense of responsibility and protection of the environment.

The simple actions help children develop a love for nature and understand the importance of protecting it because nature provides us with the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat. Without it, we cannot live. Every plant, animal, and insect has a role to play. Destroying part of this ecosystem upsets the balance and can lead to disasters. We have 550 children in our kindergarten. Our passion is to develop in each of them reflexes that benefit our common home. If every child grows up with this spirit of taking simple actions that care for our environment throughout their lives, how many disasters could be averted?



Sr. Eugenia SUILARENG KISIFE, SSCM
Cameroon

Notre-Dame-Des-Victoires College Listens to the Cries of the Disadvantaged



As part of promoting human and Christian values, students from College Notre-Dame-des-Victoires in Mvog Ada paid a solidarity visit to the Center for Visually Impaired Children on January 28, 2026, marking a moment of compassion and sharing.

Warmly welcomed by the center's staff, the students learned about the daily lives of children living with visual impairments.

Through friendly exchanges, moments of prayer, and conviviality, they expressed their closeness and support

for these children, who often face marginalization.

The school delegation did not come empty-handed. Donations of food, necessities, and useful equipment were given to the center, demonstrating the students' generosity and concrete commitment. These simple but deeply meaningful gestures brought joy and gratitude to the recipients.



Through this initiative, College Notre-Dame des Victoires in Mvog-Ada reaffirms its educational mission, which is not limited to academic excellence but extends to the holistic development of students. Indeed, the school strives to instill in young people the Christian values of compassion, love of neighbor, solidarity, and respect for vulnerable people, in accordance with the Gospel, the charism of the Sisters Servants of the Sacred Heart of Mary, and our commitment to integral ecology.

This visit to the center for visually impaired children allowed the students to become aware of the richness of self-giving and the importance of taking concrete action to help the most vulnerable. It will undoubtedly remain a memorable experience in their human and spiritual journey.

Yes, together with our students, we are building a better world where the poor and the excluded can take their place at the table and serve themselves with joy.



Sr. Aline Rosette Marie Amogo, SSCM
Cameroun

Environment Day at Jean Tabi Middle School

Since its establishment in 2011 as an eco-friendly school, Jean Tabi Middle School has been firmly committed to promoting environmental protection and raising awareness among students, staff, and even parents about the importance of preserving our immediate environment and our planet. Every year, the school celebrates Environment Day at the end of November.



In the lead-up to this day, several activities were conducted at the school under the leadership of the Environment Club in September 2025, including formal and informal meetings, poetry reading sessions, recycling specific plastic items, turning notebook covers into decorative pieces, and student and staff volunteer efforts...

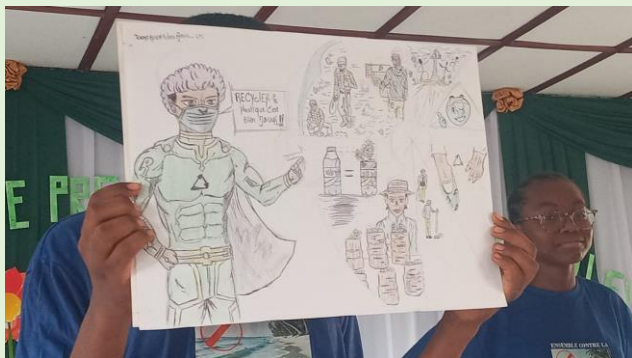


Emphasis was placed on raising student awareness through messages at the flag-raising ceremony every Monday and through regular classroom visits with posters.

On November 26, 2025, the day of the grand ceremony, students, school staff, members of the board of directors, parents, and various guests, dressed in T-shirts in the colors of the environment (green representing vegetation and blue representing water), gathered in the multipurpose room for the grand finale of the festivities. After a welcome speech by President TINA ELOMO of Tle D1 (Terminale D), the students enrolled in the Environment Club entertained the guests by presenting their knowledge of ecosystem protection.

Mr. ELOMO AYISSI and Mr. MOHAMADOU SANI, teachers of physics, chemistry, and geography at the school, respectively, spoke to the audience on the theme of the day: **“FIGHTING PLASTIC POLLUTION, A DANGER TO ECOSYSTEMS.”**

The first focused on the chemical composition of plastic, emphasizing the harmful effects of this material due to its high environmental toxicity after use. The second presented plastic pollution as a global problem. At the end of their presentations, a quiz competition was held between the second-year literature students and the second-year science students. The competition ended with a victory for the second-year literature students.



Another highlight of the event was the announcement of the results of the competition for the best drawing illustrating plastic pollution in terrestrial and aquatic environments, as well as the award ceremony for the three classes most committed to protecting the environment at the school.

The following classes received awards: “Terminale” A, “Terminale” D1, and “Seconde” A Spanish. The sixth-grade students kept us on the edge of our seats with their dance and poetry performances, which bodes well for the future of the Environment Club.



Gift bags made from recycled materials: notebook covers

The Reverend Sister Principal concluded the ceremony by congratulating the supervisors and students who are members of the Environment Club and encouraging the educational community to become more involved in preserving our environment, as our lives depend on it.

The Environment Club, or rather Jean Tabi Middle School, is proud to assume its status as an eco-friendly school, because protecting our shared home is a civic commitment to a better life.



Ms. NGAH Martilde Chantal, Head of the Environment Club

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