

In 'Jesus and the Natural World', Denis Edwards describes ecological conversion as a "radical change of mind and heart that leads to a deeper love and respect for all creatures as having their own integrity before God." It will require, says Edwards, "change to a sustainable lifestyle, to sustainable patterns of production and consumption and to sustainable economic and political choices."

2013 is the United Nations Year of both *Water Cooperation* and *Quinoa*. The Church celebrates the *Year of Faith*.

In this critical moment in our relationship to the natural world, water plays a pivotal role. Water variability, ecosystem changes and the resulting impacts on livelihoods in a changing climate scenario demand increased cooperation if energy security, food security and health are to follow. The United Nations urges making the 'bottom billion' people a priority while addressing inequalities in access to water.

Quinoa, a leafy herb that produces nutritious seeds, has been described as both a 'super-food' and the neglected 'poor man's crop.' Its biodiversity and nutritional value, developed and understood by the indigenous people of the Andes for many decades, may hold an answer to global poverty at this time.

Our 2013 programme is built around these themes. We look at water and food with new eyes - coming to grips with the science; cultivating a contemplative relationship with nature; mining the Scriptures; plumbing the depths of poets, mystics, theologians, and other wisdom figures that awaken us to the natural world as the 'primary manifestation of the divine to human intelligence' (Thomas Berry). And, in all that, discerning our Gospel-oriented responses.

Join us for another year of mutually supportive and challenging dialogue and reflection.

**JRC Programme Group**

### Liturgies

Every 3rd Sunday of the month from 4 - 5pm. Literally 'the work of the people', our liturgies are prepared and presented by different groups from the extended Josephite Community, and this year will be based on the International Year of Water Co-operation and Quinoa.

### Spirited Conversations

Every 2nd Wednesday from 4.30 - 5.30pm. A particular theme will be chosen by the group at the end of each session for the following month.

### Tending the Soul - Quiet Days of prayer & reflection

The 1st Monday of the month from April-September with the exception of April and June when it is the 2nd Monday. We have one six-day live-in retreat this year: a Directed Retreat in September for those seeking personal spiritual guidance.

### DVD Evenings

A selection of interesting and amazing films, some following the 'water' theme, some with a focus on Aotearoa New Zealand, and others to challenge our perspective of people, events and beliefs.

### 'This I Believe...'

A series of talks by people from our local and the wider community, who inspire us with their dedication, wisdom, skills and sheer hard work.

