

Because

**A new hymn written by
world renowned composer Rev John L Bell**
marking the anniversary of 60 years of the
Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund.

Because

Porque

John L Bell
April 22nd 2025

♩=80

Am(add9) Em(sus4) Am(add9) E(sus4) E § Am

Because the ri-vers

♩=80 §

E(sus4) E Am E(sus4) E

do not drink their wa - ter. Be-cause the fruit trees don't de-vour their crop be-

Am Am/C Em7 Em7(omit5) Fmaj7 Dm7 Am Fine

cause the sun gives light to all cre - a - tion the end-less greed of hu-mans has to stop.

Fine

For na-ture shows how we should live for o - thers___ for - go pos-ses - sive - ness and learn to share,___

___ and in a deep com-mit-ment to the pla - net___ re - flect God's gen-er - os-i - ty and care.

D.C. or D.S.

2: Because the world with purpose and with beauty
produces daily liturgy for God,
we have no right to sabotage the pleasure
of nature off'ring worship to its Lord.

Instead we should seek harmony with nature
become the willing servants of the earth,
enabling it to fertilise and flourish,
forever bringing life and hope to birth.

3: Because the world was living long before us
and poses no threat to humanity;
because its health and beauty can restore us,
we must respect its great integrity.

So let us work to guarantee all people
have food and freedom, health and happiness,
by sharing all the good that God has given
with all the faith and justice we profess.

4: Praise to the Lord and lover of creation,
Praise to the Son in whom all life is bound,
Praise to the ever active Holy Spirit,
- One God whose gifted world is common ground.

Written and presented to SCIAF
by Rev. John L Bell of the Iona Community,
to mark 60 years of solidarity with our
sisters and brothers across the world.

Text: John L. Bell, based on the writings
of Pope Francis.

Tune: SURSUM CORDA,
© 1983 Homero R. Perera (1939-2019)
Arrangement: John L. Bell
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License, please report congregational use
of the text & tune.

60 YEARS OF CHANGE

"I have been delighted to be part of this collaboration between SCIAF and Rev John L Bell of the Iona Community. John is an internationally recognised hymn writer and noted ecumenist. His generosity in writing a hymn to mark the 60th year of SCIAF's service to the poorest of the poor is a blessing for us all. His words place on our lips the St Francis-inspired praise of God for creation. It also commits us to care for our common home "with all the faith and justice we profess". John has beautifully based his hymn on words of Pope Francis, especially on Laudato Si'. It was finished the day after the Holy Father died. I hope the hymn will soon be sung throughout Scotland and beyond."

Canon Michael A Hutson VG

Parish Priest St Mary's Benbecula
SCIAF Board Member

