

## **PILGRIMAGE PAUSE #2:**

### **Woodlands Gift | Sugar and Fuel**

(Laudato Si' sections 32–34, 38–39)

*Laudato Si'* emphasizes the importance of protecting the environment and calls for an "ecological conversion." The encyclical highlights the loss of forests and woodlands as a significant problem, noting it leads to the loss of species important for food, medicine, recreation, and a healthy environment. It also stresses that forests should not be viewed merely as resources for exploitation but as having intrinsic value.

This Church teaching emphasizes the need for sustainable forest management to ensure forests provide natural resources (like wood and clean water), sustain biodiversity, regulate climate, and support human well-being.

**Reflection:** *Take a moment to sense (see, hear, smell, touch) the diversity of life around you. How do "all things work together for good" in the forest? What does Laudato Si' tell us about how we can protect and nurture this gift from God?*