

DIRT—THE SKIN OF THE EARTH



Date: Saturday 19 October 2019

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm

Place: Catherine McAuley Place 6 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW

Parking in grounds or in church carpark opposite

RSVP: valdarsm@gmail.com or sue.martin@parracatholic.org

We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen2:7), our very bodies are made up of her elements.
(Francis—*Laudato Si* #2)

The theme for the morning is **DIRT**, the glorious and often unappreciated material underneath our feet, and how we can be responsive to it and care for it.

MOVIE: *DIRT: A Story with Heart and Soil*. This movie depicts the history, religious significance and current state of the complex, interdependent mixture of minerals and living organic matter we call Dirt.

For Initial Discussion: *DIRT EVOKES NUMEROUS MEMORIES AND FEELINGS*

- What memories and feelings do you associate with dirt?
- How has your attitude to dirt, and those of the world around you, changed over the years?
- When was the last time you were “dirty” and enjoyed it?
- How do you resonate with the statements of Francis and Elizabeth?

Please bring a small container of dirt for analysis from the place where you are now living.



We can no longer completely define human identity without including the great sweep of cosmic development and our shared biological ancestry with all the organisms in the community of life down to its very roots—the dust of earth and the cosmic dust of which we are all composed.

(Elizabeth Johnson in *Ask the Beasts* pp.195-197 extracts)