

Talasinup: Exploring the Environmental Consciousness and Christian Environmentalism of Youth Ministers in Mabalacat City in Light of Laudato Si' For Post-COVID-19 Environmental Stewardship

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Abstract

This study investigates the Environmental Consciousness (EC) and Christian Environmentalism (CE) of the chosen youth ministers of the different Catholic Parishes in Mabalacat City, Pampanga. Christian Environmental Scale (CES) and Environmental Consciousness Scale (ECS) data sets were used to create the data sets. As the study was empirical in nature, it utilized both quantitative and qualitative methods for analysing the data. These approaches facilitated a comprehensive understanding of the attitudes and experiences of youth ministers towards environmental issues, enabling the study to delve deeper into the subject matter. This study seeks to determine the degree of the youth ministers' EC, particularly when the COVID-19 pandemic is in full swing. To select the respondents, the CES and the ECS were used. As stewards of God's creation (*talasinup*), youth ministers are required to place a high importance on the environment, which is why this study tries to highlight their perspectives. According to the findings, there is a high level of Environmental Consciousness (EC) and Christian Environmentalism (CE) among the respondents. Further research of the youth ministers' responses demonstrated how the respondents' thinking exhibited a theocentric perspective of the environment. The manner of thinking, particularly in light of the COVID-19 outbreak, could serve as a solid basis for sustained endeavours aimed at nurturing the shared environment. In the same way, the CEs and ECs of the young ministers may offer insightful information about how they might contribute to addressing the concerns mentioned in Laudato Si in the aftermath of COVID-19.

Keywords: common home, Laudato Si', parish youth ministers, stewardship, theocentric perspective