

# **Brother Sun, Sister Moon and Us**



**Brother Sun, Sister Moon and Us**  
**A Christian Ecology**

**Teresa Pospiech**



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*On the cover*

Image of Tatra Mountains

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# Preface



This book started life as a thesis which I wrote some 25 years ago in Rome at the now closed Pontifical Institute *Regina Mundi*. It reflects my interest in care for God's creation. Earlier I had studied for five years in the forestry college in Poland, in a country where the beauty of nature has always inspired me.

I'm now offering this text, which has been updated and developed, to a wider group of readers, in the hope that it might help nourish and foster a desire to care for God's creatures in a spirit of communion and relation.

Professor Paul Haffner who was the director of my thesis at that time has now helped me prepare this book for publication, to him I am most grateful, as to all the many others who have inspired and guided me over the past years in this enterprise.

Pope Francis has encouraged care for creation in his Encyclical *Laudato Si'*: "The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change."<sup>1</sup> As Christians, we are also called to accept the world as a sacrament of communion, as a way of sharing with God and our neighbours on a global scale. It is our humble conviction that the divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God's creation, right down to the last speck of dust on our planet.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'* (2015), 13.

<sup>2</sup> See Patriarch Bartholomew, "Global Responsibility and Ecological Sustainability", Closing Remarks, Halki Summit I, Istanbul (20 June 2012).