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- Pope Francis was preparing *Dilexi Te*, which he titled, in the last months of his life. [3]
- Pope Leo completed it, releasing it as his first major document.
- It flows from Pope Francis' last encyclical, *Dilexit Nos*, which focused on the "human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ." [2]

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- The title “I Have Loved You” (“Dilexi Te” in Latin) comes from the last book in the Bible (Revelation 3:9).
- In the verse, God directs these words to the small, poor, persecuted Christian community.
- The subtitle, “On Love for the Poor,” makes the purpose of the document clear.

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- The word cloud diagram on the right shows words found in the document, with font size based on frequency.
- It has an introduction followed by five chapters, 121 paragraphs, and about 19,000 words (about the length of the Gospel of Matthew).
- It takes about 60-90 minutes to read. It’s not hard to read and we encourage you to read it!
- It is an apostolic exhortation, a document directed to all of us (of lesser importance than an encyclical).

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TOP THEMES

What Is Poverty?

A Lack of:

- Material needs (food, shelter, clothing, etc.)
- Personal dignity and respect
- Social connection
- Morality and spirituality
- Good work/employment
- Personal rights or freedom
- Cultural acceptance
- "Minimal acceptable way of life"

- Poverty is not simple or always obvious: it comes in many forms. [9]
- Poverty includes kinds of personal or social weakness.
- It can be a lack of: material needs (food, shelter, clothing, etc.), personal dignity and respect, social connection, morality and spirituality, good work/employment, personal rights or freedom, or cultural acceptance.
- In our modern world, we should raise the bar to what everyone should have access to (e.g. electricity). [13]

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God Loves the Poor

- They are children of God
- Their dignity comes from being human beings
- God hears the “cry of the poor” throughout history



- Scripture tells us again and again that God loves the poor and takes their side.
- Their dignity comes from their humanity and it can't be taken away from them. We are all God's children.
- God shows his concern for the “cry of the poor” and holds us accountable to help them. [8]

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Love of God $\approx$ Love the Poor

- We see this in Scripture, Church teaching, and the lives of the saints.
- We encounter God in the poor



- Love for God can't be separated from love of the poor. The document returns to this over and over. [5, 26]
- This message is found again and again in the Bible, Church teaching, and the lives of the saints.
- When we encounter the poor, we encounter God through them.

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God Chose to Be Poor in Jesus

- Born into poverty
- Gleaned grain
- He came to “bring good news to the poor”
- Stayed close to the poor



- God “emptied himself” to become human. Not only that, he came as a “poor Messiah,” rather than an expected rich and powerful one. [18-19]
- He was born in a barn, and his parents gave the Temple offering for poor people. Jesus worked as a manual laborer. [19-20]
- Jesus and his disciples gleaned grain, which only the poor were allowed to do. [20]