

7 Days of Creation

Scriptural Prayers and Reflection

YEAR B

Preparing to celebrate 1st September as
World Day of Prayer for Creation

Proclaimed jointly by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew & Pope Francis
From the Vatican and from the Phanar, 1 September 2017

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Columban Mission

August 2021

*“...the present imbalance
can only be reduced by
our decisive action, here
and now.”*

Laudato Si' #161
– Pope Francis

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Introduction

Saint and Pope John XXIII opened a new way when in 1961-63 he wrote the first two modern social encyclical letters – *Mother and Teacher and Peace on Earth*. He also taught us how to use church social teaching: *Do not let the ideal paralyse us*. His message was strong, *Do what we can now*.

Recent scholars have named 'perfection paralyses' as the drug that works against us doing good. Tim Flannery, in his *Frank Talbot Lecture* spoke of the actions people are now taking to face the calamities of advancing climate change. Emerging technology is giving humanity a new capacity to act on evolving new applications.

Pope Francis calls us to SEE.JUDGE.ACT. He held up the model of St Francis of Assisi. The saint lived his life filled with concrete action to care for people and earth. Pope Francis reinforced the need to act in his encyclical [Fratelli Tutti](#) in which he proposed the Good Samaritan as another model. On the road to Jericho he acted when he came across a man beaten by robbers. The Samaritan bound up the wounds of the man, a stranger to him, and lodged him safely in an inn at his own expense. He did what was in his power to care. He acted.

Authentic faith, says the Pope, means working with others in a spirit of dialogue and cooperation, *a dimension of receptivity and gratuity ... which forms part of our very essence* (LS 237).

Reflection on Scripture and the Catholic tradition helps us to grow within ourselves a commitment to action. Over 7 days this resource offers points for reflection and prayers based on Scripture. We remind ourselves of the ongoing creative actions of God in loving kindness shown in the first twelve chapter of Genesis.

All of humanity has a *vocation to be co-creators with God* (LS 117).

In 2021 the Australian Federal court ruled that government has a duty of care for future generations.² A Dutch court has ordered Shell to advance its 2030 emission reduction targets from 20% to 45%.³ Australian Bishops and Religious Sisters Globally join with followers of Jesus and people of goodwill to act for change.⁴ New knowledge on climate physics and new technologies provide humanity with new spaces within to act. Maybe we need a Climate Skills Olympics?

Belief in a loving creator urges us on to a new commitment to do what we can. But Pope Francis warns: include in our work a dimension of receptivity and gratuity ... It protects human action from becoming empty activism (LS #237).

1 <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/scienceshow/solutions-for-the-emerging-disaster/13448166>

2 <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/may/27/australian-court-finds-government-has-duty-to-protect-young-people-from-climate-crisis>

3 <https://mailchi.mp/e3d8e9cf576d/spotlight-the-first-global-climate-litigation?e=c251c74ab9>

4 <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/resources/social-justice-statements/> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7qQYGCwxeq>

OUTLINE OF A 7 DAYS OF CREATION REFLECTION-RETREAT YEAR B

1. Days 1-4 follow the Lectionary practice of using the Gospel of Mark in Year B. Other readings (OT, NT, Ps) are selected to reinforce the Gospel message. Theologically the gift of creation is developed as a progression over the four days – 1/ creation 2/ kingdom life growth 3/ sin and reconciliation 4/ the end time. This method focuses first on God's initiatives expressed in Scriptural stories and then on stories about varied human responses – awe and wonder, lament and forgiveness, hope and action. These stories help grow a new creation in the risen Christ.
2. Day 5 focuses on liberation images of grace. These images are appropriate in this age when the twin cry of the earth and the poor grows louder, and the need for liberating care grows more urgent (LS 64).
3. Day 6 uses the existing Common Lectionary readings for the first Sunday in September Year B.
4. Day 7 uses new readings that celebrate the Feast of Francis of Assisi (and Clare).



A COMMON TEMPLATE FOR A GROUP OR LITURGICAL REFLECTION

This 7 Days of Creation Reflection-Retreat can be an individual exercise. However, it is better prayed with a group. The format imitates the Liturgy of the Word segment of the Eucharist. Proclamation and Response sets the rhythm. A number of short readings is best unless there's a reason for longer or fewer ones. To ensure a flow to the prayer, one person should be seen to be leading the group while not doing everything. Simple dignity is the hallmark of good liturgy or communal prayer. Hymns can dot the reflection but care needs to be taken that they neither take over nor become a chore for participants. Scriptural based hymns are best. The same hymn can be repeated so that it becomes familiar. Sharing the Our Father expresses common commitment.

1. Opening Hymn – Chosen to set the mood and settle participants
2. Introduction – Name the grace to celebrate ('theme' has an educational tone)
3. Ritual (Optional) - Have an action to symbolise the group's aim (e.g. sprinkling of water)
4. Opening Prayer – Ask God to be with this specific group in its faith sharing
5. First Scripture Reading – This reinforces the Gospel
6. Psalm – Chosen as a Response to the First Reading in the light of the Gospel
7. Second Scripture Reading – Remembers an aspect of the grace being celebrated
8. Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia or silence)
9. Gospel – Sets the tone for the entire celebration
10. Reflection on the Word – It might be a homily, story-telling or Scriptural sharing
11. Pause – Times of silence can be a powerful shared experience
12. Intercessions – Prepared texts can be combined with free sharing
13. Our Father – This prayer acts as a sign of communion among those gathering
14. Blessing – An option may be a shared prayer of blessing with a common gesture
15. Closing Prayer – The leader recalls God drawing us forward to fulfil the grace celebrated
16. Closing Hymn – Chosen to reinforce conversion and vocational aspects of the readings.

HYMNS

Just as hymns helped Catholic communities understand and act with feeling in response to Vatican II's call for renewal, hymns can help us be passionate in care for creation. The selection below can link us with Scripture, focus a prayer or amplify an intercession. Many are on YouTube or Spotify.⁵ New selection: <https://www.amazon.com/Our-Common-Home-Various-artists/dp/B073DJ2VgV>

List One

A Song of Cosmic Praise - James Phillip McAuley & Richard Connolly © J. P. McAuley (permission Curtis Brown)
Song at the Centre - Marty Haugen © 1993 GIA Publications
For the Beauty of the Earth - John Rutter © 1980 Oxford University Press
All Things Bright and Beautiful - William Henry Monk
All The World Is Sacred - Peter Kearney © 1996 One License
We Belong to the Earth - Magpie © 1994 (Album) Seed On The Prairie
Canticle of the Sun - Marty Haugen © 1993 GIA Publications

List Two

Cathedral of Earth, Sky, and Sea - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2015 Worldmaking.net
Canticle of Creation - Simon de Voil © 2019 www.simondevoil.com
Laudato Si' Song - Bethany Friery © 2017 CAFOD UK
I Am a Child of This Planet - Marty Haugen © 2009 GIA Publications
Turn Me Earth - Peter Mayer © 2018 www.petermayer.net
Turn Around - Nancy L. Uelmen / Jueun Bai © Copyright Gen Verde della P.A.F.O.M.
Creation's Hallelujah - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2012 Augsburg Fortress

⁵ Courtesy of Beth Riolo, Catholic Education Office, Wollongong



WE HAVE HARMED GOD'S CREATION THROUGH OUR ACTIONS AND OUR FAILURE TO ACT.

- Laudato Si #218

Day One

A BLESSING FOR OTHERS

Naming a grace to celebrate - God is always close to us, actively present in human history. The first reading from Genesis remembers the words of God, you will be a blessing. The Gospel story of baptism reminds us that, like Jesus, we are begotten of God and sent to proclaim the good news of God. Let us remember that just like the children of Abraham and Jesus himself, God has chosen us to act as a blessing for others and is always present with us in our actions (pause).

PRAYER

God of heaven and Earth, in loving kindness you formed an everlasting bond between your own self, Earth and humanity. You have made us your children, guiding our journey and generously providing for our needs. Remembering with joy your deeds and your promise to act with us, may we witness to your blessings given for all the nations and every creature that lives on Earth. We ask this...

GENESIS 12:1, 3 – A BLESSING FOR OTHERS

The Lord had said to Abram, Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you ... you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you.

PSALM 24

- 1 The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
- 2 for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.
- 3 Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
- 4 The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

1 JOHN 4:7-8, 10, 12 – GOD IS LOVE

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us ... No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

MARK 1:9,11, 14-15 – BAPTIZED

Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan ... And a voice came from heaven: You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased ...Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. The time has come, he said. The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!

STORY TELLING

Story telling can start by talking about people we remember. A positive story might be about a person who gave themselves to promoting the local district or about an inspiring teacher. We can add details by naming some of their projects or a place linked with them. We might start with a negative story about how some undermine good works. Story telling can lead us to ask ourselves, how is the providence of God manifest in these stories?



REFLECTION IDEAS

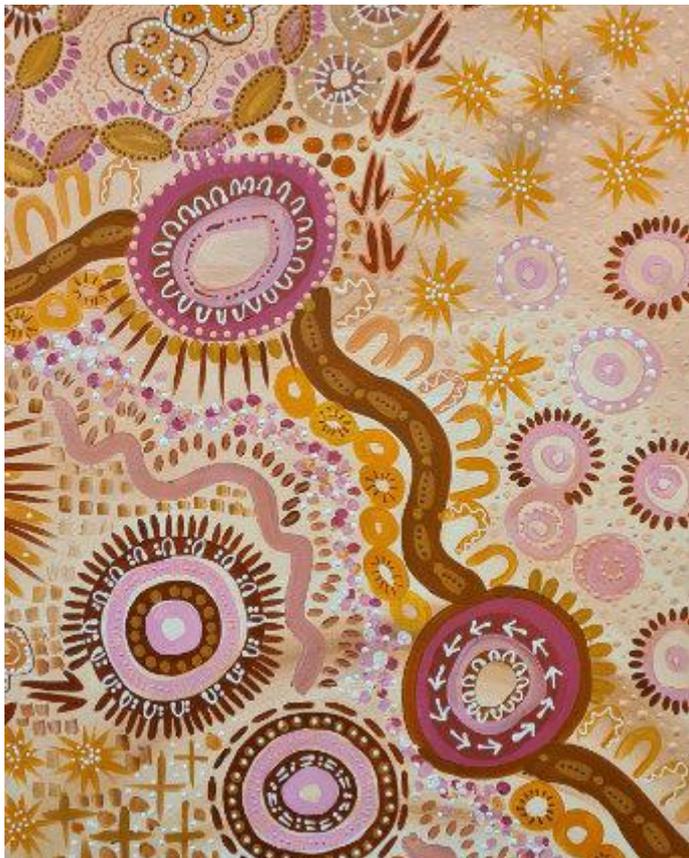
In every age and place people have tried to flourish. They had dreams about what they wanted to achieve and acted to make their dreams a reality. They learnt to negotiate with family and neighbours, changing climates and new ideas. It is the same in our times as people reinvent their old locality or move home. Changes can lead to being enslaved and ecological disasters, or the opposite.

In his environmental encyclical Pope Francis teaches us to reflect in the light of faith and paint a new dream about Earth as our common home. Scripture gives stories about the constant ebb and flow of life for Israel and for followers of Jesus. Importantly, it tells of the providence of God who is in control and ever faithful. God is with the human journey, prompting us to make choices and act.

Jesus calls us to 'be in the world' finding out what God is saying to us through the Earth itself and human events. With Jesus we live a life of being good news knowing God enfolds this world. God is love so we are called to act like God in love, to act with people of good will in their care for all Earth's creatures and grow opportunities for all with equity.

"friendship ... God has created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity, and has called them to live together as brothers and sisters."

–Fratelli Tutti #5



INTERCESSIONS

1. Just as God gave land to the starving migrant people of Israel, may our community welcome ecological refugees and help provide for their needs, certain that God is love. Father of Jesus hear us ...
2. Knowing that Earth is God's, and everything in it, may we respect the very existence of every creature as a revelation of God, and act to challenge our leaders to face the human causes of climate change. Father of Jesus hear us ...
3. Just as Jesus was proclaimed a child of God at his baptism in the Jordan, may we value the gift of our own baptism and proclaim God ever present on Earth by the way we act. Father of Jesus hear us ...
4. Knowing that God raises up holy women and men in every age, let us recognise the scientists and campaigners who commit themselves to growing a sustainable Earth where all can find a home. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Rejoicing that God, Earth and Humanity are bound together in one mystery, may the love of God and the whole family of creation be the driving force in our lives as we work to live out our ecological vocation. Father of Jesus hear us...

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: "OUR FATHER ..."

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Creative and nourishing God, you feed us like the birds of the air and fish of the sea with free gifts from Earth, and you nourish us by the work of human hands. Ever faithful to your promises, you guide our journey with the peoples, cultures and the Cosmos in every age until your new creation is made complete. We ask ...

GOSPEL OF MARK

Most scholars date Mark to about around 70 AD. The author worked from oral collections to show Jesus healing and working miracles, teaching and telling parables, gathering disciples. It ends with the passion narrative. There is nothing about his birth or post-resurrection appearances. Jesus is gradually revealed as having authority as Son of God yet a Suffering Servant. Mark is the gospel and used by Matthew and Luke. He shapes his narrative as a theologian to give meaning of the coming of Jesus.



THE GOOD FUNCTIONING OF ECOSYSTEMS ALSO REQUIRES FUNGI, ALGAE, WORMS, INSECTS, REPTILES AND AN INNUMERABLE VARIETY OF MICROORGANISMS. – Laudato Si

Day Two

STORM

Naming a grace to celebrate - God has created the cosmos over billions of years in a wonder of evolving physical systems and organic processes. Life on Earth flourishes. To blossom is the reason for human existence. The spirit of God wells up in all creation making us and all things co-creators in an evolving story. We know this through meditating on the marvels of the physical world in which we move and have our being. Let us remember our calling to be co-creators and to respect and love every gift of creation (pause).

PRAYER

Creator God, in complex processes you created all that exists and brought forth humanity to flower as a multitude of cultures. Open our eyes and ears in growing awareness of your ways, so that each day we can better experience your earthly presence and praise you. Help us to grow in wisdom and goodness witnessing that you sustain all that exists. We ask this...

JOB 12:7-10 – ASK THE BEASTS

But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you.

Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all humankind.

PSALM 104 – PRAISE

- ⁵ He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.
- ¹⁰ He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains.
- ¹⁴ He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth:
- ¹⁹ He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down.

- ²⁴ How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- ³⁰ When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

ACTS 5:25, 40-42 – WITNESS

When someone came and said, Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus. The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

MARK 4: 35, 38-41 - STORM

Jesus said to his disciples, Let us go over to the other side ... A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, Teacher, don't you care if we drown? He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, Quiet! Be still! Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith? They were terrified and asked each other, Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!

STORY TELLING

In a year dedicated to biodiversity, nations are telling stories about plants and animals unique to their region. Visitors to the Great Barrier Reef tell of coral colours and shapes, and of small and large fish darting among them. Creators of safe havens for endangered mammals tell how numbers increase when predators are fenced out. Rangers on rivers tell of planting grasses and scrubs to increase the habitat of threatened species. Active carers of biodiversity inspire as they speak excitedly about what they have learnt and the beauty they see.

REFLECTION IDEAS

The place where people lived gave a basis for the first stories they told about a spiritual dimension to life. They saw the stars and mountains, rivers, plants and animals as sources of wonder and sometimes fear. They sang and performed rituals to make sense of their existence on Earth.

Scripture tells how God formed the descendants of Abraham as a people. Given land and saved from famine they gradually formed laws under God given leaders like Moses to guide them in how to treat land and each other. They made mistakes but asked forgiveness and for wisdom to change their ways.

We know stories of attempts by modern nations to weather the storms of climate change and pandemics. Nations are called to choose wise ways forward and not be overcome by waves of misinformation or lack of compassion. Like the apostles we cry to Jesus to calm the storm and act with him to come safely to shore.

INTERCESSIONS

1. Knowing that nature itself is our first teacher, may we learn from its patterns, actively working with scientists to understand its God given wisdom and respect its life giving processes. Father of Jesus hear us ...
2. Just as the psalmists give us words to praise God and weep for sins of self-absorption, may we find new music to let the Spirit into our hearts, inspiring us to love the varied gifts of this planet and love our neighbours as ourselves. Father of Jesus hear us ...
3. Remembering that God guides the church with spiritual leaders in every age, united with them, may we immerse ourselves in the mystery of God's own self, revealed in the Cosmos and all it holds. Father of Jesus hear us ...
4. Knowing that Jesus calmed the storm when his disciples were in distress on the lake, may we be sensitive to people tossed about by the storms of human need, acting to relieve their stress so that we all can live lives of true freedom. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Scripture teaches that God scolded Job for not seeing a Creator's handy work in the Universe, so,

may we neither be deceived by the false dreams of ambition nor harden our hearts to suffering. Father of Jesus hear us ...

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: "OUR FATHER ..."

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Creative and ever present God, you plant deep in every human heart a desire to celebrate with all your gifts of creation. From mountain top to sweeping plains, from isolated lagoons to ocean, people around the globe remember your loving acts of creation. In the Eucharist you sustain us for the journey so we may evolve according to your will until all is fulfilled in your new creation. We ask ...

"seek the truth that responds to life's deepest meaning ... born of age-old reflection and great wisdom, that each human being is sacred ... respect the truth of our human dignity"

–Fratelli Tutti #207

BIODIVERSITY

Diverse biological resources form the pillars of civilizations. Biodiversity appears at three levels - genetic, species and ecosystem. These three combine to create the complexity of life on Earth. More than 80% of Australian plant and animal species only occur there naturally, so populations must be conserved. A community of populations interact with their physical environment to create an ecosystem. UN members by a Convention (CBD) declared 22 May Biodiversity Day and agreed to act on strategic plans with set goals. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/envision2030.html>





... NEED THE PERSONAL
QUALITIES OF SELF-CONTROL
AND WILLINGNESS TO LEARN
FROM ONE ANOTHER.

- Laudato Si #214

Day Three

TAKE HERITAGE

Naming a grace to celebrate - God promised to nurture the nation Israel and sealed that promise with a covenant. However, human behaviour is fickle. Israel turned from living with other peoples in harmony to wanting full control of the land God gave them to live on. Greed led the people to breaking God's covenant. The land given to them can be taken away, symbolised in Scripture by ecological disasters. Let us meditate both on the eternal loving promises of a patient God, and on unfaithful human responses (pause).

PRAYER

Lord, dried up land and polluted oceans are signs that we do not acknowledge your gifts of loving kindness. Often we have been unfaithful to your covenant, acting in rebellion to claim your gifts as our own achievements. Knowing that you are ever faithful and merciful, may we turn back to you with all our heart, acting to share your gifts with all that lives on planet Earth. We ask...

ISIAH 24.4-6 – EARTH SUFFERS

The earth dries up and withers,
the world languishes and withers,
the heavens languish with the earth.

The earth is defiled by its people;
they have disobeyed the laws,
violated the statutes
and broken the everlasting covenant.

Therefore a curse consumes the earth;
its people must bear their guilt.

Therefore earth's inhabitants are burned up.
(alt. Gn 12:5-6,10)

PSALM 51 – MERCY

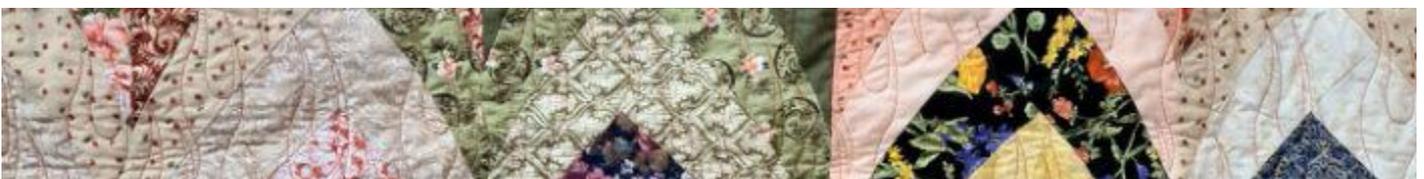
- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions ...
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
you who are God, my Saviour,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

1 CORINTHIANS 11.18-20-22 – SHARE FOOD

In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it ... when you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, for when you are eating, some of you go ahead with your own private suppers. As a result, one person remains hungry and another gets drunk ... do you despise the church of God by humiliating those who have nothing?

MARK 12:1-3, 6-9

Jesus then began to speak to them in parables: A man planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard ... At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed. He sent his son last of all ... But the tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' So they took him and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others.



STORY TELLING

Landline is a television program that tells stories linking three spheres as one - ecological, economic and human. Pope Francis teaches about the same connection. Inter-dependence is key to understanding how a human community can make a living by working with its ecological surrounds. People are fascinated by the planning involved and many find God present in the ventures.

REFLECTION IDEAS

All of us would have taken part in a school reunion - everyone is dressed up and toasts given as spirits run high. Sadly, those who have not 'made it' are left out. Success often blinds people to seeing whole classes pushed to the margins in society. The same happens among nations.

Scripture is blunt in condemning Israel's self-importance. In his parable on the vineyard, Jesus taught that God's chosen were being unfaithful to the covenant. They took to themselves the vineyard belonging to God and plundered it. But, the vineyard would be taken from them.

In our day many grand statements, and shows of sympathetic concern for disaster victims, can in reality be acting to deny the ecological emergency engulfing our planet. Likewise, the lifestyle of the wealthy in all nations ignores the impacts of climate change and the reality of resource limitations. They fail to re-evaluate so called success to choose more humble paths of simple dignity.

INTERCESSIONS

1. Just as the Spirit of Jesus led the first church communities to be signs of compassion and good news, may church leaders and believers listen to each other in patience so they can proclaim a new creation in Christ Risen. Father of Jesus hear us...
2. Remembering that God cared for the descendants of Abraham as refugees, and that all peoples were once outsiders, may we respect and share the gifts of the land where we live. Father of Jesus hear us...
3. Since the Equinox shows the new life of spring and the maturity of autumn, may we learn to bring its harmony and rhythmic flow into our lives. Father of Jesus hear us ...
4. Remembering that Jesus condemned the pride of those who boasted about their preference before God or their riches, may we learn to use Earth's gifts sparingly knowing they are borrowed from future generations. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Knowing that lip service does not please God, may we prepare our liturgies with an ear to Scripture, an eye to Earth's realities and a heart for the common good. Father of Jesus hear us ...

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: "OUR FATHER ..."

CONCLUDING PRAYER

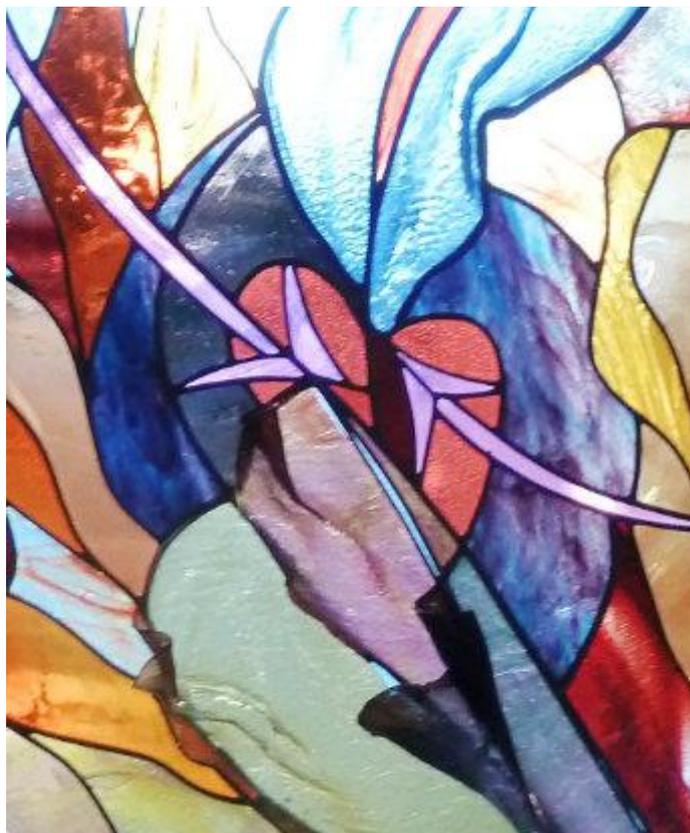
Creative and generous God, in the Eucharist you give a sign of first being reconciled with each other, and Earth itself, before approaching your altar. By the obedience of your Son, may that sign become a reality on Earth as a foretaste of your eternal inheritance. We ask ...

"a concept of popular and national unity influenced by various ideologies is creating new forms of selfishness and a loss of the social sense"

-Fratelli Tutti #211

COMPUTERS

Computers are the common face of digital technology in our homes, at work and globally. Companies vie to get customers 'signed up' and make billions in the process. A product of human ingenuity, their importance grows. But faith invites us to ask, how to best use this new technology so that it does not control us. Are we forming an ethical opinion on its power over individuals and communities? Columban Sean McDonagh has written: *Robots, Ethics and the Future of Jobs* (2020, Messenger Publications, Dublin).





ACTIONS CULTIVATE A SHARED IDENTITY, WITH A STORY WHICH CAN BE REMEMBERED AND HANDED ON

- Laudato Si #232

Day Four

BAPTISED BY THE SPIRIT

Naming a grace to celebrate - Jesus promised to send his Spirit to be with his followers until the end of time. Empowered by that Spirit, our faith communities are called to listen to the opinions of others and together discern ways forward to proclaim hope to the nations. In these times of climate emergencies and pandemics, we are called to listen to what the Spirit is saying to us through the processes of Earth itself (pause).

PRAYER

God, bedrock of all wisdom, grow within us your Spirit of wisdom so that we can find you present in all the workings of Earth, in every living creature and culture. Guide us to love Earth and each other as one mysterious web of living wisdom, revealing mutual connections and the harmony of cooperation that blossoms like a good friendship. We ask ...

ISAIAH 55:1-3 – COVENANT AND WATER

Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?
I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful love promised to David.

PSALM 65 – CLOTHES FIELDS

⁵ You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds,
God our Savior,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas,
¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance.
¹² The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;

the hills are clothed with gladness.

¹³ The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain;
they shout for joy and sing.

I CORINTHIANS 15:45-49 – THE NEW ADAM

So it is written: The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam, a life-giving Spirit. The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man.

MARK 1: 4-8

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness ... The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River ... And this was his message: After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

STORY TELLING

Good story telling always involves personal experiences. People are interested to hear what other people have done and why they acted that way. The rise of environmental care groups in schools is inspiring - growing vegetables and learning to cook. Some join with young graduates and mentors to take on projects beyond their schools. Some have even taken governments to task through the law courts.

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/may/27/australian-court-finds-government-has-duty-to-protect-young-people-from-climate-crisis>

REFLECTION IDEAS

Listening and speaking in a dialogue of discernment for action is the modern way to do mission. Together we face the twin challenge of care for earth and care for others as sisters and brothers. Acting in partnership leads to new ways of thinking and acting. The Holy Spirit is alive in the followers of Jesus. As members of the New Adam they are baptised with the gifts of the Spirit. They know joy as they see God present in all the gifts of Earth and confident that God is present in their journey through life. They know peace even within the turmoils of the world as they strive to bring harmony to all. The Spirit of God is in charge.

As Christians engage with the insights of ecological and climate issues, with medical and pandemic health workers, they are open to where the Holy Spirit might lead them. They form new ideas of what personal success might be. They dream new ways of acting to grow a sustainable future. They form new friends and partnerships. New forms of community emerge and even the language of faith and prayer evolves.

"The call to fraternal love echoes throughout the New Testament 'For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself' (Gal 5:14)"

– Fratelli Tutti #60



INTERCESSIONS

1. Just as Vatican II led church communities to look to people's griefs and anxieties, joys and hopes, may the Holy Spirit lead us in wisdom to shun false economic and lifestyle dreams that jeopardise a sustainable future. Father of Jesus hear us...
2. Since God has made us co-creators with the new Adam, may we act to grow rural and urban communities, with jobs for all and in a land not looking like a garbage dump. Father of Jesus hear us ...
3. Just as Jesus looked with compassion on the outsider, may our church community be known for its service to those pushed to the margins of society. Father of Jesus hear us...
4. As God has set us on Earth as in a garden, may we know and respect the locality where we live, loving it into producing good fruit appropriate to its place and time. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Called by the psalmists to recognise God given truth, may we respect the scientific method of knowledge and its findings as deepening the mystery of God's presence. Father of Jesus hear us ...

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: "OUR FATHER ..."

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Father of Jesus, you strengthen us through our sharing with his followers, coaching us to grow more deeply into the New Adam, your Son. Called by baptism to appreciate the deep mystery of life to the full you give us in your Son, may our Eucharistic gatherings guide and nourish us to actively witnesses to its mystery as we travel together to your eternal presence. We ask ...

TIM FLANNERY

At the inaugural Frank Talbot address, Tim Flannery talked about the global situation where in just over 250 years humanity has filled the atmosphere with heat-trapping carbon dioxide and methane that are changing the climate. Nations hope to limit heating to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels but Australia is at that level now. Already, 70% of the Great Barrier Reef is dead. But solutions are possible if we have the will to embrace science and act – reduce emissions and commercialise carbon absorbing technologies on land and sea.



EVIL - THE NOTION THAT THERE ARE NO INDISPUTABLE TRUTHS TO GUIDE OUR LIVES, AND HENCE HUMAN FREEDOM IS LIMITLESS. - Laudato Si #6

Day Five

TRULY FREE

Naming a grace to celebrate - Isaiah tells us that God comforted his People after they were freed from exile in Babylon. Using poetic images from nature he captures God's care. These days the word trauma regularly appears in the news. Let us remember that Jesus freed those bound by sickness and sin, setting them on a new pathway as children of God. We are called to comfort those suffering trauma and act to help free them (pause).

OPENING PRAYER

Father of Jesus, you sent your Son to proclaim true freedom to those bound in mind or body, by the surrounding world or their limited capacities. Lead all who are held captive in any way to pass from groaning to freedom. Revive within us the gifts of baptism so that we are reborn and have the strength to freely choose the way of goodness. We ask ...

ISAIAH 40:1-3 – FREED FROM SIN

Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her

that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

Prepare the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.

PSALM 119 – FREE IN GOD'S LAW

¹ Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who walk according to the law of the Lord.

² Blessed are those who keep his statutes
and seek him with all their heart—

³ they do no wrong
but follow his ways.

- ⁴ You have laid down precepts
that are to be fully obeyed.
- ⁵ Oh, that my ways were steadfast
in obeying your decrees!

GALATIANS 5.1, 13-14 – USE FREEDOM WELL

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: Love your neighbour as yourself.

JOHN 8:31-36

Jesus said, If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. They answered him, We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free? Jesus replied, truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

STORY TELLING

Most people can tell stories about how God's creation is abused. Even an elementary knowledge of evolutionary processes leads us to question over fishing oceans or over stocking farms, putting little tested chemicals into the food chain or the proliferation of garbage dumps. Some people respond with legitimate anger but many are prompted to care. Their loving actions to heal abuse and create alternatives give people the freedom to make new choices.

REFLECTION IDEAS

People die in their pursuit of freedom or go to any length to be healed in mind and body. Both freedom and health are universal desires. We cannot deny the reality of a suffering Earth and human exploitation. But we also see the actions of teachers and scientists, social workers and union leaders dedicated to serving families and the global community.

The psalms lament the suffering of the people and often picture it as parched land starved of water. But ultimately it is God who upholds hope for healing and freedom. God cares and is present in a suffering world.

Pope Francis calls believers to act in friendship with all of humanity to bring hope to a suffering world. That hope is grounded in the faithfulness of God who heals and gives freedom. The young and future generations will die if they have no vision of hope to pull them forward or no actions to grow true freedom.

INTERCESSIONS

1. Just as Jesus travelled Galilee preaching good news to liberate those suffering bondage in mind or body, may we have the courage to act together with those working for full liberation. Father of Jesus hear us ...
2. Knowing that Earth itself is a sign that God is near and giving, let our church communities be grateful to the scientists and poets who help reveal the gift of earth as mother. Father of Jesus hear us ...
3. Remembering that Jesus healed the sick and cast out devils, may we grow in compassion, supporting workers who sacrifice themselves to care for people on the margins or act to grow opportunities for freedom. Father of Jesus hear us ...
4. Scripture says that God favours the oppressed, so may we campaign to cancel the debt of nations lured into bondage by false dreams of unsustainable development. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Remembering that God willed the evolving design of our world, may we be cautious in adopting technologies that do harm, deceiving both producers and consumers with false promises. Father of Jesus hear us ...

“Kindness ought to be cultivated ... Kindness facilitates the quest for consensus; it opens new paths.”

– Fratelli Tutti #224

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: “OUR FATHER ...”

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Creative and loving God, your Son ushered in a new era of good news to the nations. Nourished by our communal celebration of the Eucharist, continue to transform us so that in genuine freedom we choose to live as good news for our neighbours and Earth itself as we journey towards our home with you.

We ask ...

PEACE

Peace on Earth (Pacem in Terris) was written by Pope John XXIII in 1963 to help grow Universal Peace in Truth, Justice, Charity and Liberty. He begins with praise for scientists who have discovered great order in a universe created by God. However, creating social order is a human responsibility. We must first look within, to conscience and the human heart. From there we grow a proper relationship between the individual and the state, and between the family of nations. Significantly, Pope Francis presents Fratelli Tutti as an encyclical to promote peace among the human family.





(ST FRANCIS) WAS A MYSTIC AND A PILGRIM WHO LIVED IN SIMPLICITY AND IN WONDERFUL HARMONY WITH GOD, WITH OTHERS, WITH NATURE AND WITH HIMSELF. – Laudato Si #10

Day Six

A PURE HEART

Naming a grace to celebrate - The Acts of the Apostles tells of struggles within the early church when some members turned it into a dinner club or tried to sell God's grace. Living out a 21st century faith driven ecological vocation is not straight forward. It is a path that combines planning and compassion that cannot be walked alone. We combine the human gifts of listening and compromise with the spiritual gifts of wisdom and love (pause).

OPENING PRAYER

Ever present God, you sent your own Son to live a fully human life as we are called to live. Open the Scriptures to us that we might follow his law of love. Guide all the baptised through the gift of his abiding Spirit. May we turn to one another for help on the journey, striving to love our neighbour close by and around the planet, striving to find you in every creature that exists on Earth. Father of Jesus hear us...

DEUTERONOMY 4:1, 6-7 – LAWS OF LIFE

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you ... Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him?

PSALM 14 – ACT WITH JUSTICE

² The Lord looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

- ³ All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.
- ⁴ Do all these evildoers know nothing?
- ⁵ But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous.

JAMES 1:17-18, 21-22 – NEW CREATION

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created ...Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

MARK 7:1-2, 5-6, 15, 21

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (They) asked Jesus, Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands? He replied, Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. ... Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.

STORY TELLING

Stories tell us that law breakers make both Earth and marginalised people to suffer. Research into the growing frequency of droughts and wildfires, floods and violent storms, shows that they both damage the land and turn livelihoods upside down. This situation opens up stories of often complex human challenges but equally complex eco-spiritual reflection.

REFLECTION IDEAS

It takes hard headed debate and strict laws to plan an adequate response to Earth's environmental emergency. Agreements at the global level need to be implemented through local economic and environmental regulations backed up by monitoring. These take the human family beyond personal blaming. Globally, cultural expectations are changing.

Speaking truth to power is difficult. It takes insight and courage. But speaking out will lack impact unless it is done in cooperation with others. The ever present wisdom of God needs to be invoked while experts and neighbours are listened to.

Living out a faith driven ecological vocation is not straight forward. It requires an ecological conversion based on humbly learning new things and envisioning an eco-friendly lifestyle. This way means seeking out companions with new cultural expectations and believers who know they are graced by God as co-creators.

INTERCESSIONS

1. As we proclaim the law of God as truth, may we publically oppose those blinded by self-interest who pass unjust laws and intentionally sow doubt in the minds of people. Father of Jesus hear us ...
2. Relying on the reconciliation brought by Jesus, as a nation of indigenous and migrant peoples destined to be one family in this land, may we replace fear with outreach and listening. Father of Jesus hear us ...
3. Knowing that God clothes all people with wisdom about Earth's processes and social structures, may our local communities listen to each other in humility and grow a society based on laws made in justice and love. Father of Jesus hear us ...
4. Remembering that God hears the voice of the poor, may our hearts be open to environmental refugees and those forced to cross borders looking for work. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Learning from Israel's hope for a promised land, may we not sacrifice land and ocean, forest and the multitude of life they support, through a distorted hope of a promised land. Father of Jesus hear us ...

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: "OUR FATHER ..."

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God of order and harmony, continue to guide all the baptised through the gift of the abiding Spirit of your Son. By celebrating word and sacrament around his holy table, unite us as we listen to our neighbours close by and around the planet. May every creature and human family grow into the fullness of life you have destined for them. We ask ...

"A kind of 'deconstructionism, whereby human freedom claims to create everything starting from zero, is making headway in today's culture."

– Fratelli Tutti #13

LAW

Law for Catholics is seen as the one eternal law of a God manifest in a combination of natural law, revealed law as presented in Scripture and thirdly, civil and ecclesiastical law (Canon Law). The Catholic Church teaches that human beings are capable of knowing the natural moral law by the power of their rational faculties. These form the basis for human laws enacted by competent authority for the sake of the common good. Enlightened by the law of the Gospel, all law finds its first and ultimate truth in the eternal law. https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/___P6T.HTM





IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SUSTAIN THE PRESENT LEVEL OF CONSUMPTION IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ... THE HABIT OF WASTING AND DISCARDING. – Laudato Si #27

Day Seven

SAINTS FRANCIS & CLARE OF ASSISI

Naming a grace to celebrate - The lives of the saints show how they used their gifts and personalities to serve the will of God. The saintly life of Francis began by labouring to repair an abandoned church building but quickly grew to care for the abandoned people in that place. The way he acted attracted followers including friends from his frivolous days as a young man in Assisi. Women too began to follow his example of service including St Clare. Let us reflect on the saintly ways of Saints Francis and Clare (pause).

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, you raised up Francis and Clare of Assisi as saints to challenge the luxury and frivolity of their times. Their Gospel way of simplicity valued poverty and care for the poor on the margins of society. They celebrated your gifts of Earth and the Cosmos as sign of your creative love for all that exists. Grow their spirit of love and joy within us so that we may look to the challenges of our times and act to serve. We ask...

DEUTERONOMY 15:7, 10-11 – POOR AMONG YOU

If anyone is poor among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tight fisted toward them ... Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to. There will always be poor people in the land.

PSALM 24

- ¹ Zeal for your house consumes me,
and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.
- ¹⁰ When I weep and fast,
I must endure scorn;
- ¹¹ when I put on sackcloth,
people make sport of me.
- ¹² Those who sit at the gate mock me,
and I am the song of the drunkards.

ACTS 2:42-46 – SHARE IN COMMON

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

JOHN 2:13-17 – MONEY

Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market! His disciples remembered that it is written: Zeal for your house will consume me.

STORY TELLING

Catholics have a tradition of telling stories of the saints. Details about their lives both entertain and inspire us. Stories about post-industrial saints tell of setting up schools and hospitals, newspapers and unions to care for factory workers and their families. More recently we hear stories of ecological martyrs committed to caring for Earth as the common home of all humanity. Saintly stories coming from our own circles may surprise us. These stories are part of our spiritual journey, strengthening our commitment and broadening our vision.

REFLECTION IDEAS

In 1990 John Paul II named Francis of Assisi as the patron saint of ecology. Pope Francis in 2015 held him up to all people as a model of caring for all on Earth as our common home. In particular Francis modelled a simple lifestyle. He showed loving respect for Earth's ecology and challenged church, economic and political systems. Francis knew what was worth celebrating.

We are invited to reflect again on the message of the Scriptures and traditional Catholic teaching about creation. Faith says that Earth belongs to God and we are called to be caretakers. Each part of cosmic creation reveals something of God's own self and praises God by its very existence. We are called to rejoice in the Earth as a gift of God and commit to be co-creators with God in its unfolding.

Remembering the life of Francis has radical implications for the way we live and the choices we make. His life calls us to act, respecting both people and all species on Earth as kin. He was transformed into a saint by simplicity and compassion, suffering and joy. He personifies a God of Harmony and Peace.

INTERCESSIONS



1. Knowing that God as creator willed a diversity of species evolve over eons, praising God in their own right, may we like St Francis call them sister and brother. Father of Jesus hear us ...
2. As St Francis embraced poverty as a loving sister, may we turn away from wasteful lifestyles and make laws to manage Earth's resources with equity and justice. Father of Jesus hear us ...
3. Aware that Francis of Assisi was ridiculed for leaving a home of luxury to tend to the poor and diseased, may our hearts be changed so that we stop blaming those who suffer need and support those who care for them. Father of Jesus hear us...
4. Remembering that St Francis initiated face to face dialogue with Muslim leaders in pursuit of peace, so may all nations deal with each other justly, learning to respect each other's gifts and not shed innocent blood. Father of Jesus hear us ...
5. Just as both Jesus and St Francis accepted the wounds of the cross, may we willingly take up our cross in service of our brothers and sisters and all our earthly kin. Father of Jesus hear us.

PRAY AS JESUS TAUGHT: "OUR FATHER ..."

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Abiding and caring God, Jesus gathered his friends around the Eucharistic table as the final sign of unity with his followers, so may we be united with the saints in every age. As we remember Francis and Clare, may this sharing give us with their vision and strength in re-building your church suitable to serving our times and as a foretaste of your eternal Jerusalem. We ask ...

"Often the voices raised in defence of the environment are silenced or ridiculed."

– Fratelli Tutti #17

ST CLARE OF ASSISI

Born Chiara Offreduccio (1194 –1253), Saint Clare was one of the first followers of Francis of Assisi after hearing him preach in her local church. She founded the Order of Poor Ladies and wrote their Rule of Life. <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/celebrating-st-clare-of-assisi> They have communities in many countries including Australia. <http://www.poorclare.org.au/>. Among her writings she said *We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become.*



Scripture Readings

YEARS A, B & C

SCRIPTURE YEAR A (EMPHASIES MATTHEW'S GOSPEL)

DAY ONE –PROVIDENT GOD

Gen 9:9-11 – Noah Covenant
Ps 33 - God over Earth
Ac 7:1-4, 6-8 – Stephen
Mt 6:25-29 – birds of the air

DAY TWO – GOOD SEED

Ws 11:24-26 – God loves all
Ps 96 declare God's works
Ac 17:24-28 – live in God
Mt 13:4-9 – a hundred fold

DAY THREE – VOIDING PROMISES

Is 24:4-6 –covenant broken
Ps 105 - covenant forever
1 Thes 5:14-17 – seek peace
Mt 15:1-9 – deceit

DAY FOUR - SPIRIT TEACHES

Pv 3:13-14; 6:6-9 –wisdom
Ps 148 - God's glory
Ac 15:6-9 – Spirit in all nations
Jn 6:7-8, 12-13 – Advocate

DAY FIVE – DEVIL

Is – free captives
Ps 137 - sat and wept
Rm 8:19-22 – creation groans
Mt 4:23-25 – care for outcast

DAY SIX – AGREEMENT

Ez 33:7-9 – wicked repent
Ps 94 - harden not your hearts
Rm 13:8-10 – mutual love
Mt 18:15-17 – agree

DAY SEVEN - ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Jer 7:3-7 – reform ways
Ps 91 - will find refuge
Ac 2:42-45 – pray and share
Mt 23:37-38 - care

SCRIPTURE YEAR B (EMPHASIES MARK'S GOSPEL)

DAY ONE - SPIRIT UPON ME

Gn 12:1-3 – covenant blessing
Ps 24:1-4, 10 – earth is God's
1 Jn 4:7-13 – love one another
Mk 1:9-11, 14-15 - Spirit

DAY TWO - STORM

Jb 12:7-10 – ask the beasts
Ps 104: 5, 10, 19, 24 – praise
Ac 5:25-26, 40-42 – witness
Mk: 4: 35-41 - storm

DAY THREE - TAKE HERITAGE

Is 24.4-6 – earth suffers
Ps 51: 1, 13-14, 17 – mercy
1 Co 11: 18-22 – share food
Mk 12:1-9 - Pharisees

DAY FOUR - BAPTISM SPIRIT

Is 55: 1-3 – covenant and water
Ps 65: 5, 11-13 – clothes fields
I Co 15:45-49 – co-create
Mk 1: 4-8 - baptised

DAY FIVE - TRULY FREE

Is 40:1-3 – freed from sin
Ps 119:1-5 – free in God's law
Ga 5: 1, 13-14 – use freedom
Jn 8:31-36 - truly free

DAY SIX - A PURE HEART

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 – laws of life
Ps 14:2-5 – act with justice
Jm 1:17-18, 21-22, 27 – new
Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-22 - defiled

DAY SEVEN - ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Dt 15:7-11 – poor among you
Ps 69:9-13 – zeal
Ac 2:42-47 – share in common
Jn 2:13-17 – money

SCRIPTURE YEAR C (EMPHASIES LUKE'S GOSPEL)

DAY ONE - MAGNIFICAT

Sg 5:10-16 – the beloved
Ps 46:2-3, 9-11 – fear not
Rm 16:1-6 – women deacons
Lk 1:46-55 - Mary

DAY TWO - MUSTARD SEED

Lv 25:2-7 – rest
Ps 90:4-6 – God's timeline
Ac 13:44-47 – to all lands
Lk 13:18-21 - parable

DAY THREE - PRODIGAL SON

Gn 3:17-19 – human labour
Ps 126:3-6 – wipe away tears
1 Co 15:45-49 – new Adam
Lk 15:11-32 - Son

DAY FOUR - WORD

Ws 7:26-30 – eternal light
Ps 23:1-2,4-6 – shepherd
Rv 21:1-3, 6 – new earth
Jn 1:1-5, 9, 14 - beginning

DAY FIVE - FINAL DAYS

Ex 12:14-17 - new Passover
Ps 106:3-6 – Israel freed
1 Th 4:13, 16-17 – Second Coming
Lk 17:26-32 - signs

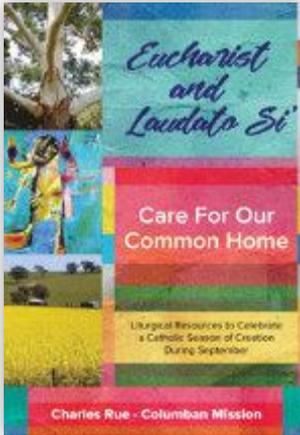
DAY SIX - PLACE AT TABLE

Si 3:17-20, 28-29 – be gentle
Ps 67:4-7, 10-11 – give a home
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24 –living
Lk 14:1, 7-14 - exalt self

DAY SEVEN – ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lv 26:41-45 –covenant
Ps 106:43-47 – happy in praise
Ac 5:36, 38-41 –of God
Lk 1:67-73 – God faithful

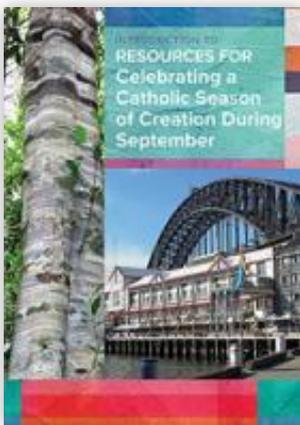
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EUCHARIST AND LAUDATO SI 2017 - Catholic September Liturgical Season of Creation

Commentary on the existing Catholic Lectionary

https://issuu.com/ecen.communications/docs/eucharist_and_laudato_si



A CATHOLIC SEASON OF CREATION – SUNDAYS OF SEPTEMBER (YEAR A, 2020)

<https://www.columban.org.au/media-and-publications/educational-resources/a-catholic-season-of-creation-sundays-of-september-year-a>

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by Charles Rue

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