

My Commitment..... Our Commitment

"Remembering that everything is interconnected". Laudato Si' #70

What small or big action can I/we undertake in my/our own life, at home, with the family, at school, work, at play, when I clean my house, travel, shop, eat, keep myself warm...?

A few suggestions:

- Spend some time outside each day.
- Take the *Laudato Si'* Pledge - www.CatholicClimateMovement.global/petition
- Contribute to the Trócaire East Africa Appeal (www.trocaire.org)
- Start to grow some of your own food; support local producers.
- Compost your garden and food waste.
- Avoid or reduce the use of chemicals in your home and garden.
- Use and buy eco- friendly cleaners (vinegar, baking soda) (ecoverdirect.com)
- Plant pollinator friendly plants in your window box or/ and garden at home or/ and in your parish grounds.www.biodiversityireland.ie
- Shop wisely, buy Fairtrade, try to avoid excessive packaging. Reduce. Re-use. Recycle. Upcycle.
- Offer a welcome to newcomers where you live.
- Explore the use of renewable energy in your home, business, school.
- Volunteer your time in some creative project. Join an existing group.
- Consider attending **other events** during 'Time for Creation':
 - **Tuesday Sept 12:** 'Reducing Food Waste and Composting' - Donal O'Leary in JP2 Centre, Killarney 8pm
 - **Thurs Sept 28:** 'Being Creative with Leftovers' - Mark Doe, in St. Brendan's, Tralee 8pm

JPIC Committee, Diocese of Kerry www.dioceseofkerry.ie/justice



World Day of Prayer for the CARE of CREATION

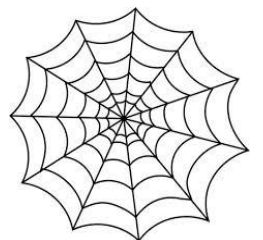
The *Season of Creation* "Time for Creation"

September 1st to October 4th

***All-powerful God, you are present in
the whole universe
and in the smallest of your
creatures.***

***You embrace with your tenderness
all that exists.***

Laudato Si'





Welcome: The ecological crisis.....summons us to a profound spiritual conversion. Pope Francis calls us to “an ecological conversion (LS# 217).*The ecological conversion needed to bring about lasting change is also a community conversion*(LS 219). *Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience”* LS 217

Last year....our theme of **biodiversity**. This year: **God’s Gift of Food**. The food we eat binds us to the nourishing Earth because we are dependent on it, and as we share it with others...it binds us as a human community.

“LAUDATO SI’, mi’ Signore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord”. In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.

“Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains & governs us, who produces various fruit with coloured flowers & herbs” LS1

Reader: “Because all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect, for all of us as living creatures are dependent on one another” LS 42

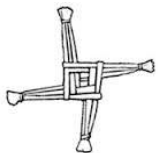
Reader: “Together with our obligation to use the earth’s goods responsibly, we are called to recognize that other living beings have a value of their own in God’s eyes: “by their mere existence they bless God & give God glory”LS 69

Reader: To live we must eat and to eat we must take life from the earth and so today as we look at the food at our feet.... think of the meal we may prepare and eat later...we give thanks...we are mindful of those who have sown the seeds, harvested or and prepared this food...we think of absent friends, we think of those who have no food especially those in Eastern Africa where drought is raging.

Poem: Unravelling Lives

Alison Ward, Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland.

Winner Post-Primary Junior Poets, Trócaire and Poetry Ireland Poetry Competition 2017 ‘Before the Storm’



Reader: The Hymn of Saint Francis of Assisi:

Praised be you, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially **Sir Brother Sun**, who is the day and through whom you give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour; and bears a likeness of you, Most High.

Praised be you, my Lord, through **Sister Moon** and the stars, in heaven you formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be you, my Lord, through **Brother Wind**, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather through whom you give sustenance to your creatures. Praised be you, my Lord, through **Sister Water**, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

ALL: Praised be You, my Lord, through our **Sister Mother Earth**, who and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs”.



Song: Touch the Earth with Gentleness by Kathy Sherman

Refrain: Touch the earth with gentleness

Touch the earth with love.Touch her with the future by the way you live today

God has given us the power to create the world anew
If we touch the earth together, me and you

All...SLOWLY:

*All-powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.*

*You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love,that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.*

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

*Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction. Laudato Si’*

