**JPIC Prayers of the Faithful for Franciscans**

Compiled by Andrew Conradi, ofsfrom various sources 17 Oct 2016 with subsequent additions

Loving God, creator of the Universe, you know every creature and its needs.  With great trust we offer our petitions in the name of all creation.

Our response is: *God, you who love all life, hear us!*

1. That we and all people may respond to the signs of the times expressed in the cry of nature, wounded by humankind’s inability to recognize its vocation to be the custodian of all that exists, let us pray.
2. That international organizations and OFS may speak out strongly against the exploitation of the resources so generously offered by Sister Mother Earth, and for those many brothers and sisters who live in need due to waste and abuse on the part of individuals and nations, let us pray.
3. That those involved in political life, and every citizen as well, may grow in the awareness that any behavior that does not respect the environment damages human coexistence and undermines the foundations of peace, let us pray.
4. That those who believe in God may promote in their own religious traditions a spirituality and praxis that is consistent with a recognition of the goodness of creation, thus contributing to the growth of a world of love, justice and peace where all living things praise the Creator, we pray.
5. That young people may be inspired by the example of Saint Francis and St Clare to make mature lifestyle choices that are selfless and sustainable, promote the care and safeguarding of ecosystems, guarantee access to all basic resources, and encourage practices that respect the fundamental rights of the human person and of every creature, let us pray.
6. That we who participate in the Eucharist, offering God the gifts that earth has given and human hands have made, may be ready and willing to respond to God’s word that calls us to be prophets of a creation made new in the Passover of Jesus, let us pray.
7. For innocent people in every land who bear the heavy burdens of war and conflict, especially those persecuted for their religious belief and practice, let us pray.
8. That God may bless us with discomfort at the easy answers, hard hearts & half-truths, that our governments and media are feeding us, especially about Syria, and that we may seek the truth, let us pray. \*
9. For all people suffering the effects of hurricane Mathew, especially those in Haiti and Cape Breton that God may help them to help themselves with courage and hope and outside assistance, let us pray.
10. For the leadership of the Church throughout the world that they may work for Christian Unity, and that they may be witnesses to Christ’s prayer “That All May Be One”, let us pray.
11. May God bless us with righteous anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people and act for the common good, let us pray.
12. May God bless us so that we may be in the forefront of work for justice, peace and care for creation as our OFS Rule calls us, let us pray.
13. May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war so that we comfort them and turn their pain into joy, let us pray.
14. May God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world and in our communities, and that God will give us the strength to courageously persevere for the common good, let us pray.
15. May God bless us to fearlessly speak out, as Pope Francis has asked us, against injustice, unjust laws, corrupt politicians, unjust and cruel treatment of prisoners, senseless wars, genocides, starvation, and poverty that are so pervasive, let us pray.
16. That we may hear the cry of the earth and cries of the poor and become familiar with, make known, take to heart and act on the messages in the encyclical *Laudato Si*’, let us pray.
17. That we may hear the cry of our sister Earth because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her, let us pray.
18. That we might recognize that the climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all and make the changes of lifestyle, production and consumption in order to combat global warming, let us pray.
19. That we might hear the call to be instruments of God our Father, so that our planet may be as God created it and may correspond to his plan for peace, beauty and fullness, let us pray.
20. For a deep reverence toward creation, that we might experience all creation as a gift and caress of God especially Brother Sun, Sister Water, Sister Mother Earth and Brother Wind, let us pray.
21. That the Spirit of God may deepen our recognition of the nobility in our duty to care for creation through little daily acts, let us pray.
22. For all, especially followers of Jesus and Francis of Assisi, that we may recognize that living our vocations to be protectors of God’s handiwork is not an optional or secondary aspect of our material or spiritual life, let us pray.
23. That we may recognize our kinship with all creation as Francis of Assisi taught us and Pope Francis reminds us, let us pray.
24. That we remember we belong to the *humus*, the soil, and it is in this belonging that we can find the deepest reason for humility & gratitude and that we thank God, that we are worthy to be part of creation and will find our just place in God’s Kingdom, let us pray. (*inspired by Henri Nouwen*)
25. May the courage of St Óscar Romero inspire us to work with integrity for an end to violence and poverty, let us pray.
26. You instructed us to labour and to exercise dominion over the earth; may our work honour you and protect and sustain our Mother Sister Earth and sanctify our brothers & sisters, let us pray.

O gracious God, giver of all that is good,

we bless you for having given us life to share with so many other creatures.

Through them and with them we praise you and ask that you continue

to pour out your Spirit upon the universe, and in it to show forth your glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.