

Prayer to Care for Our Common Home

Father of all,
Creator and ruler of the universe,
You entrusted your world to us as a gift.
Help us to care for it and all people,
that we may live in right relationship--
with You,
with ourselves,
with one another,
and with creation.

Christ our Lord, both divine and human,
You lived among us and died for our sins.
Help us to imitate your love for the human family
by recognizing that we are all connected—
to our brothers and sisters around the world,
to those in poverty impacted by environmental devastation,
and to future generations.

Holy Spirit, giver of wisdom and love,
You breathe life in us and guide us.
Help us to live according to your vision,
stirring to action the hearts of all—
individuals and families, communities of faith,
and civil and political leaders.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home. Amen.

~ The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops based on Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*: *On Care for Our Common Home*.



***“Be praised, my Lord,
for Sister Earth, our Mother,
who nourishes us and sustains us,
bringing forth fruits and vegetables of many kinds
and flowers of many colors.”***

~ From the Canticle of Creation



This week (May 16 – 24), the global Catholic community celebrates **Laudato Si Week**.

Laudato Si' Week honors the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical on care for our common home. The theme of the week is “Everything is Connected.”



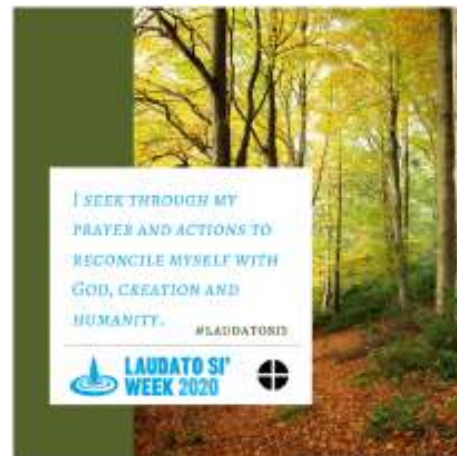
This week launches a year-long journey of transformation, as we grow through the crisis of the current moment by praying, reflecting, and preparing together for a better world to come tomorrow.

We'll put our preparation into action during the Season of Creation this September, when Pope Francis has invited Catholics to pray and act for our common home.



In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis invites us to reflect on our relationship with God, creation, and one another. ~ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

“Care for the earth is a requirement of our faith.”



What can I do to make sure that the world that arises out of this current crisis is one that respects the dignity and interconnectedness of all created life? How can we live our “vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork”? (LS, 217)



“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...Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded.” (LS, 13)

“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)



Your Weekly Call to Action: Global Prayer

Bring solidarity to our world in a shared moment of prayer at noon local time on 24 May. Catholics from all across the globe will be united in spirit because “everything is connected.”

COMMON PRAYER
for the 5th anniversary of
Laudato Si'

Loving God,
Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,
You created us in your own image and made us
stewards of all your creation.
You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land
so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts,
so that we may attend to your gift of creation.
Help us to be conscious that our common home
belongs not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to
all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to
preserve it.
May we help each person secure the food and
resources that they need.

Be present to those in need in these trying times,
especially the poorest and those most at risk of being
left behind.
Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope
and fraternity so that we may experience a true
conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the
consequences of this global pandemic.
Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are
needed in search of the common good.
Now more than ever may we feel that we are all
interconnected and interdependent.
Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth
and the cry of the poor.
May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more
fraternal and sustainable world.

Under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, we
make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 2020

DEPARTAMENTO PER IL SERVIZIO
ALLO SVILUPPO UMANO INTEGRALE

Please feel free to share your thoughts and insights with me at [ctownes26 @ gmail.com](mailto:ctownes26@gmail.com). Use “**Creation 3, 2, 1**” as the subject line. I would love to hear how you are making a difference for Sister Mother Earth.

Thank you for making a difference.
Feel free to share this **Creation 3, 2, 1** with friends and family.

