

## Season of Creation Resources 2022

The Season of Creation runs from the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation (September 1) to the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4). It is a time set aside each year to focus on God's gift of creation and our responsibility to care for it, our common home.

The theme for the Season of Creation in 2022 is *Listen to the Voice of Creation*.

A key resource for those wanting to celebrate the Season of Creation is the Season of Creation web site. It has a celebration guide which provides a prayer service template from which you can choose material to use in your context. The site also has a wealth of other resources which you may find useful for preparing a special Mass, a prayer service or other activities during the Season. The Season of Creation web site is:

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>

### A Catholic Season of Creation

The Columbans in Australia have compiled resources to help you to incorporate Season of Creation themes into each Sunday Mass during the Season:

[https://www.columban.org.au/media-and-publications/educational-resources/a-catholic-season-of-creation-sundays-of-september-\(year-c\)](https://www.columban.org.au/media-and-publications/educational-resources/a-catholic-season-of-creation-sundays-of-september-(year-c))

### Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation 2022

In recent years, Pope Francis has issued a message for the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation on September 1. His message for 2022 is available at:

<https://seasonofcreation.org/2022/07/21/message-of-his-holiness-pope-francis-for-the-celebration-of-the-world-day-of-prayer-for-the-care-of-creation/>

You may wish to publish a quotation from the Pope's message on each of the five Sundays during the Season of Creation. Here are five examples you can use:

#### \*Sunday 4 September

The sweet song of creation invites us to practise an "ecological spirituality" (*Laudato Si'*, 216), attentive to God's presence in the natural world. It is a summons to base our spirituality on the "loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures but joined in a splendid universal communion" (*ibid.*, 220).

#### \*Sunday 11 September

For the followers of Christ in particular, this luminous experience reinforces our awareness that "all things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being" (*Jn* 1:3). In this Season of Creation, we pray once more in the great cathedral of creation, and revel in the "grandiose cosmic choir" made up of countless creatures, all singing the praises of God. Let us join Saint Francis of Assisi in singing: "Praise be to you, my Lord, for all your creatures" (cf. *Canticle of Brother Sun*). Let us join the psalmist in singing, "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!" (*Ps* 150:6).

### **\*Sunday 18 September**

Tragically, that sweet song *{of creation}* is accompanied by a cry of anguish. Or even better: a chorus of cries of anguish. In the first place, it is our sister, mother earth, who cries out. Prey to our consumerist excesses, she weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction. Then too, there are all those different creatures who cry out. At the mercy of a “tyrannical anthropocentrism” (*Laudato Si'*, 68), completely at odds with Christ’s centrality in the work of creation, countless species are dying out and their hymns of praise silenced.

### **\*Sunday 25 September**

...There are also the poorest among us who are crying out. Exposed to the climate crisis, the poor feel even more gravely the impact of the drought, flooding, hurricanes and heat waves that are becoming ever more intense and frequent. Likewise, our brothers and sisters of the native peoples are crying out. As a result of predatory economic interests, their ancestral lands are being invaded and devastated on all sides, “provoking a cry that rises up to heaven” (*Querida Amazonia*, 9).

### **\*Sunday 2 October**

...Finally, there is the plea of our children. Feeling menaced by short sighted and selfish actions, today’s young people are crying out, anxiously asking us adults to do everything possible to prevent, or at least limit, the collapse of our planet’s ecosystems.

## Intercessory Prayers

Here are a selection of prayers of intercession from which you may choose a prayer to include in the Intercessory Prayers of each Sunday in the Season of Creation or which you may use at a special Mass or prayer service for the Season of Creation:

#### **\*For all that You have created:**

That we may always be aware that we are not disconnected from other creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion.

Lord, hear us.

#### **\*For Your wondrous gift of creation:**

That we may join St. Francis of Assisi and all of creation in ceaselessly praising You, our creator.

Lord, hear us.

\*For our sister, mother earth, who cries out because of the impact of our consumerist excesses,

That we may put an end to our abuses and take action to end her destruction.

Lord, hear us.

#### **\*For the countless animal and plant species that are dying out and whose praise of You is being silenced,**

That urgent and effective action is taken to ensure their survival.

Lord, hear us.

**\*For our poorest sisters and brothers who feel much more acutely the impact of extreme weather events associated with climate change,**

That world leaders will hear their cry for dignity and justice and take timely action.

Lord, hear us.

**\*For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples whose traditional lands and places of cultural significance are being devastated by economic interests,**

That their cries for justice are heeded and result in appropriate action by Government and business leaders.

Lord, hear us.

**\*For world leaders who will gather for the COP 27 on climate and the COP 15 on biodiversity later this year,**

That they will remain resolute in their commitment to do what is needed to prevent the devastating impacts of climate change and halt the alarming loss of biological diversity.

Lord, hear us.

**\*For the children of the world who are worried about the impact on the earth of short-sighted and selfish actions,**

That all adults will share in the responsibility to offer them a future without immense ecosystem collapse.

Lord, hear us.

## Other Resources

You may wish to use some of the resources below as part of your Season of Creation Masses, services and events or to share them in your newsletters over the Season of Creation:

[\\*Canticle of Brother Sun \(Laudato Si'\) Video](#)

Prayed by the friars of the Province of St. Barbara, California.

Join with the friars in praising God in the words of St. Francis.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Js4tVt8KsBY>

\*It's Time to Listen to the Cry of the Earth Video  
The Laudato Si' Movement's Season of Creation 2022 Video

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hkYv\\_Suu40](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hkYv_Suu40)

\*Understanding Laudato Si Video

The first of a series of videos explaining Pope Francis' encyclical letter, Laudato Si'. In this episode, Fr. Daniel P. Horan ofm introduces us to three ways of thinking that have arisen over time about our relationship with the rest of creation. It provides us with a context which helps us to understand what Pope Francis is saying in Laudato Si':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzyYPJLhZjc>

\*Our Islands, Our Home Video

Scientists predict that many Torres Strait Islanders will be forced to leave their island homes within 50 to 100 years unless significant action is taken to both limit climate change impacts and to implement adaptation measures. Our Islands, Our Home is a campaign led by Torres Strait Islanders seeking a UN decision on their call for climate justice:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXb5b9pdx20>

\*Clean Up Australia Day Video

Clean Up Australia Day happens on the first Sunday in March each year. Our surrounds are spoiled by increasing amounts of waste. This video, featuring schoolchildren, encourages us to get involved in cleaning up waste and also reducing it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8B3ErkVT1k>

\*Endangered Koalas Video

The Federal Government upgraded the koala's protection status to endangered earlier this year. Learn why in this video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6P4XYtRo-x0>

\*Australia's State of the Environment Report

A comprehensive assessment of the state of Australia's environment was released in July this year.

<https://soe.environment.gov.au/>

\*A Laudato Si' Animation Video

CAFOD in the UK produced this animated video to explain what Laudato Si' teaches.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Lz7dmn1eM>

### \*An Ecological Examen

This Ecological Examen is a tool to help you to deepen your commitment to care for creation and the most vulnerable people on the planet.

<http://www.ecologicalexamen.org/>

### \*Beyond Laudato Si': Embracing the Challenge of Franciscan Eco-Spirituality in the Age of Pope Francis

A video lecture by Dr. Daniel P. Horan ofm on Franciscan spirituality and Laudato Si'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsymRddJTMo>

### Season of Creation Ecumenical Service

Apart from organising your own Season of Creation Mass or service, please join the Queensland Churches Environmental Network for an ecumenical Season of Creation Service on Thursday 1 September 2022 at 7:30 PM at the Albert Street Uniting Church, 319 Albert Street, Brisbane City. All are welcome.

*If you need further information on the Season of Creation, please contact Peter Arndt at [arndtp@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:arndtp@bne.catholic.net.au).*

This resource is produced by Evangelisation Brisbane and the Catholic Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Brisbane as one of the actions included in the Laudato Si' Action Plan of the Archdiocese of Brisbane {CJPC logo}