



diocese
of limerick
our catholic community

Liturgy Resources for Laudato Si' 5th Anniversary

On Care for our Common Home, 24th May 2020



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The suggested Theme: “Everything is Connected”

“The choice of the phrase “our common home” highlights our shared space as the entire community of life. There is a thread running through the document reminding us that all is connected, each with intrinsic value (33), each a distinct manifestation of the divine (69) and each one dependent on the other: “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” (42). There is a call to come home to who we really are as one species among all other species in the wondrous web of life. All ground is holy ground. The land we stand on is sacred; we are connected to it and part of it. We live in a web of energies, unavoidably influenced by each other’s actions, choices and decisions.” We are all responsible to everyone for everything” (Fyodor Dostoevsky). Everything is connected.

Opening Prayer

God make us more aware of our interconnectedness and dependence on all creation and of our total dependence on you. Fill us with your compassion for all creation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Penitential Rite

God of compassion and mercy we come to you seeking healing and transformation

- Enable us to build a society where all can belong, sharing our gifts in mutual respect.
Lord have mercy
- Open a way for us to reach out to one another in truth and love.
Lord have mercy
- Through our words and actions and through the way we live may we show that peace and good relationships are possible.
Lord have mercy.

Prayers of the Faithful

Introduction: God our Father, pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty and live in relationship with the whole of creation.

1. As we mark the 5th anniversary of the publication of Laudato Si on care for our common home, we pray that people everywhere will pay heed to the call of Pope Francis to save our planet from destruction and to honour our connection with all life on earth.

Lord hear us.

2. God, who gives us the gift of creation, we gather as many, made one. Help us hear your call, so that we may discern how we can use our gifts for the protection of creation.

Lord hear us.

3. Creator God, you have generously blessed us with an abundance of gifts in this your world. Help us to share in that generosity by living in a way that ensures that your gifts will continue to be available for future generations.

Lord hear us.

4. God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor of the earth.

Lord hear us.

5. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

Lord hear us.

6. Creator God, you have blessed us with understanding, imagination and memory. Show us how to learn from past mistakes and plan for the future creatively and responsibly.

Lord hear us.

7. We remember and pray for all those who loved this earth and who now live with God. May they live forever in eternal life.

Lord hear us.

Conclusion: For the life we have been given, and for all those whom you have given us to share it we bring our thanks. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful based on Laudato Si'

(Could be used for each day of the week).

Introduction: The natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity, and the responsibility of everyone. (LSi 95)

1. "Everything is connected, and this invites us to develop a spirituality of that global solidarity which flows from the mystery of the Trinity" (LSi 240).

Lord may we grow in awareness that creation is a web of relationships. Everything in the universe is connected. All our lives are inseparably involved with the other. Everything we do and every thought we think has repercussions all around us. May this realisation enable us to live more fully. Lord hear us.

2. "Our very bodies are made of the earth's elements. We breathe her air and we receive life and refreshments from her waters" (LSi 2).

Lord we draw life from the earth. Help us to preserve nature and respect it as a gracious gift to care for. Lord hear us.

3. "St. Francis invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness" (LSi 12).

Lord open our eyes to the beauty around us. May we preserve this beauty from falling into despair and neglect. May our love and faith inspire us to care, concern and action. Lord hear us.

4. "Let our time be remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life and for the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace and the joyful celebration of life" (LSi 202, 205, 207).

Lord may we be courageous enough to examine our way of living and seek out practical ways of undoing any damage we have imposed on the earth. May we change our hearts in order to change our lifestyles. Lord hear us.

5. “Only by cultivating sound virtues and habits will people be able to make a selfless ecological commitment” (LSi 211).

Lord in our homes and in our communities may we live love and respect for life, respect for local eco systems and care for all creatures. May we practice ways of being and seeing which will bring about change and influence our behaviour and ways of thinking. Lord hear us.

6. “We need only take a look at the facts to see that our common home is falling into serious disrepair” (LSi 61).

Lord during these past weeks our awareness of nature has been magnified. As we slowly resume daily involvement and activity may we undergo a change of heart and reject mindless pollution, careless attitudes, excessive waste and consumption. May we seek to preserve the beauty of our world for our children and generations yet to come. Lord hear us.

Conclusion: Holy Spirit of God, we stand united with all of humanity. We ask for healing of all that is damaged on this earth. Bring us to a new place that we may learn to sing in perfect harmony with all creation. Amen. (Loving Sister Earth).

Prayer over the Gifts

We offer bread and wine, precious fruits from our earth. As these gifts are transformed into food for our souls transform in turn our lives to reflect your glory in creation. Amen.

Communion Reflection- A prayer after Communion

We believe in God, whose goodness is more than enough for all:
Filling the universe with gifts of love and resounding through our lives with praise.

We will take hold of all that God gives with reverence and joy;

We will make God known in the breaking of bread and we will share the life-giving wine so that all may see and experience God’s love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God’s greatest gift of all:

Who takes the smallest of seeds, a mere whisper of faith and brings forth a harvest of good things.

We will take all that Christ has given us: our gifts, our talents, our very selves
So that Christ may walk our streets once more.

We believe in God's Spirit of truth bringing to fruition all that has been given;
Gentle as a breeze or shocking as a storm, we will allow God's gifts to be
stirred in us: breathing, laughing, living in our world,
So that all may know of God's harvest of Love. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Creating God, your name is written in every leaf, every bird, every river, every living being. Thank you for calling us by name. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of the whole of creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final Blessing

- Go in peace and walk faithfully on this earth. Amen.
- Go in peace proclaiming justice and enjoying the fruits of creation. Amen.
- Go in peace guided by wisdom and living in harmony and connection with the world. Amen

Prayers and Reflections

Creator God,
You show us what love is
Through the beauty of the earth and the gift of your Son.
For the love of...
Animal and plant
Mountain and forest
Sea and city
Woman and man
Friend and family
Those who live far from us
And those yet to be born...
Move us to live more simply,
To protect the earth

And to speak up for those in need. Amen. (CAFOD)

Earth, Teach Me

Earth teach me quiet-as the grasses are still with new light.

Earth teach me suffering-as old stones suffer with memory.

Earth teach me humility-as blossoms are humble with beginning.

Earth teach me caring-as mothers nurture their young.

Earth teach me courage-as the tree that stands alone.

Earth teach me limitation-as the ant that crawls on the ground.

Earth teach me freedom-as the eagle that soars in the sky.

Earth teach me acceptance-as the leaves that die each fall.

Earth teach me renewal-as the seed that rises in Spring.

Earth teach me to forget myself-as melted snow forgets its life. (Trocaire).

We Believe

We believe in God, creator of heaven and earth, who set the time of day and night and the passing of the seasons, who created the diversity of the planet and enabled its abundance.

We believe in Jesus Christ light of the world, who taught us the meaning of good news and demonstrated it in action, who commanded us to share our bread and to drink from the same cup.

We believe in the Holy Spirit giver of life and renewal, who opens up the possibility for change and assures us of hope for the future, who grants us time to amend our lives and unites us in our quest for justice, peace and the integrity of creation.

Amen.