



The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home. Pope Francis made the Roman Catholic Church’s warm welcoming of the season official in 2015. The Season of Creation begins on September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. Throughout the month-long celebration, we come together in an annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for our common home.

What does our Catholic faith tell us about Creation?

Caring for creation is living out our Catholic faith. The Church, following the teachings of Jesus, throughout time has exhorted believers to work for the common good, which calls for dignifying life in all its forms, caring for our common home, and committing to the construction of more just, supportive, fraternal and peaceful societies.

Often, when we speak of creation, it is related to nature, animals, landscapes, the sun, the moon, but we are also aware that the human being is the culmination of our Father’s creative work, “God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.” (Gen 1:31).

As Pope Francis wrote in *Laudato Si’*, “Everyone’s talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God’s creation’.

All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents.”

Prayer

Father, Lord of all creation,
we praise you with all your creatures
and the whole universe that comes forth from the work of Your hands.

We acknowledge the privilege and responsibility
that You give us as stewards of Your creation.

In our ignorance we have done damage to our common home
and our brothers and sisters are suffering.

Through faithfully following your Son
guide and direct us to prepare for a better future.

Teach us to contemplate You in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of You.

Give us the grace to recognise, respect and protect all You have created,
using wisely all that you have entrusted to us.

Holy Spirit,
who first hovered over the dawn of creation and drew order out of the chaos
help us to build your kingdom of justice, love, peace and beauty where the
poor of the earth are crying out.

You, who live and reign, world without end, Amen.