

**SEASON OF CREATION 2025** 

## Peace with Creation

A CATHOLIC LITURGICAL GUIDE

## Peace with Creation: A Closing Reflection

As we come to the end of this Season of Creation, it should be clear that all members of the full Earth community, no matter their species, are standing at a critical, urgent, dangerous crisis point. Advancing and ever more destructive climate change is revealing Earth to be sliding toward devastating ecological collapse.

A description like this is hard to imagine...
It seems alarmist, impossible....
It demands changes we don't want to think
about or commit ourselves to.
But we must! We must imagine it!
We must imagine the healing changes!
We must commit!

Effective response to this situation cannot be a five-week focus on the issues annually that then turns to other issues and devotions. Even more dangerous are the individuals and governments that are denying the reality of the climate crisis, deliberately obscuring it, and promoting policies and actions that are contributing to greater devastation. Pope Francis, his successor Pope Leo XIV, the Vatican, and their collaborators are right in treating it as an "all-hands-on-deck" effort over many years committed to achieving full sustainability and a planet restored to health as a nurturing home for all its inhabitants.

A new vision of interconnected and interdependent "family relations" is beginning to emerge. It is inviting us to a new level of consciousness and honesty. And it demands a new level of global solidarity for Care of the Earth and all for whom it is home, if humans are to have a place in Earth's future evolution.

The Laudato Sí Action Platform Goals chart a clear and promising path forward. The Laudato Sí Action Platform Partners connect us to committed partners for the journey. Together they offer one promising Catholic response to the signs of these times.

But ours is far from the only faith community responding. Every major faith community is organizing and responding to meet the severe challenges. We need to stand together in new and creative ways with our interfaith and ecumenical sisters and brothers. The one God whose children we all are is calling us together to heal and renew the face of Earth.

With the blessing of the Hope that Jesus Christ inspires in us, a few additional questions may help us to imagine paths to greater global solidarity and to Peace with Creation opening before us.

Do our efforts to embrace Ecological Education and foster deeper Ecological Spiritualities help families, organizations, institutions, and communities to understand, care for, and protect the interdependent ecologies of Earth in these times? Do they help all of us grow in contemplative awe and gratitude before the revelation of God in Creation all around us?

Do our efforts and work for sustainability enable families, institutions, organizations, and communities to hear the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor? Are we who participate in them exploring and undertaking sustainable lifestyles in response to those cries? Are we embracing alternative visions of the successful human life for everyone more in harmony with nature and Christ's gospel vision of the Kin-dom?

Do our efforts help families, organizations, institutions, and local communities become active in the larger civic and faith communities, engaging in ways that promote public policies for responding to the Cry of Earth and the Cry of the Poor? Are we working creatively in open dialogue to promote alternative cultural values to help all people live more sustainably and justly in peace?

Are we promoting and nurturing an Ecological Spirituality of global solidarity so that the community of Creation of Earth will become able to move effectively and urgently together for the healing and restoration of the planet as a nurturing ecology, a nurturing home for all its creatures?

Throughout the months and years, the hopes and actions that lie ahead,

May the Renewing Spirit of God bring to fulfillment the integral ecological conversion

beginning around the planet.

May God's Spirit of Wisdom provide us all the hope, wisdom, and courage we need

to restore the household of God on Earth, making it once again a true Home for All.

May the prophetic Spirit of God bring about just and loving global solidarity in the human community so that together in that Spirit

We may give birth to a life-giving and profound Peace for all in the New Creation. **Amen.** 

