



## SEASON OF CREATION – WEEK 4

### THEME – EMBRACING MOTHER EARTH – WASTE MANAGEMENT

WEEKEND 25/26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER until 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER

PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ECUMENISM

#### 1. WHAT THE WORD OF GOD SAYS - Readings for 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year B

First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29; Psalm 18; Second Reading: Saint James 5:1-6; Gospel: 9:38-48

Today's readings remind us that we are graced to live honestly. Sadly, our comfortable life-style often rests on the back of slave-like wages often in places removed from our sight and the ecological destruction of their land.

#### 2. WHAT LAUDATO SI' SAYS

"We have not yet managed to adopt a circular model of production capable of preserving resources for present and future generations, while limiting as much as possible the use of non-renewable resources, moderating their consumption, maximizing their efficient use, reusing and recycling them." (L.S. # 22)

#### 3. LET US REFLECT

Today the readings call us to respect the work of the Holy Spirit in other people, similarly we should respect the specific role of each thing in nature to enhance life and not destroy it.

"The Universe story is the ideal of reality. We put it in our language, the birds put it in theirs. We can read the story of the Universe in the trees. The winds tell the story, literally. Everything tells the story of the Universe.

What does the Earth Desire?

I will put it in just a few short sentences...

- To be admired in her loveliness.
  - To be tasted in her delicious fruits.
  - To be listened to in her teaching.
  - To be endured in the severity of her discipline.
  - To be cared for as a maternal source from whence we come, a destiny to which we return".
- (Thomas Berry) (1914-2009),*



#### 4. LET US PRAY

**SUNDAY:** Loving God, creator of the Universe, you know every creature and its needs. With great trust we offer our petitions in the name of all creation.

Give us your Spirit to understand the connection between all realities, respect each of them in space and time and hand over a life sustaining world to future generations. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**MONDAY:** That people of all faiths use the Season of Creation as a time to remember, respect, pray and act for the good of all of creation. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**TUESDAY:** That the Churches and ecclesial communities may respond to the signs of the times expressed in the cry of nature, wounded by humankind's inability to recognize its vocation to be the custodian of all that exists. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**WEDNESDAY:** That international organizations may speak out strongly against the exploitation of the resources so generously offered by Mother Earth, and for those many brothers and sisters who live in need due to waste and abuse on the part of individuals and nations. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**THURSDAY:** That those involved in political life, and every citizen as well, may grow in the awareness that any behaviour that does not respect the environment damages human coexistence and undermines the foundations of peace. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**FRIDAY:** That those who believe in God may promote in their own religious traditions a spirituality and practice that is consistent with a recognition of the goodness of creation, thus contributing to the growth of a world of love, justice and peace where all living things praise the Creator. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**SATURDAY:** That young people may be inspired by the example of Saint Francis to make mature lifestyle choices that are selfless and sustainable, promote the care and safeguarding of ecosystems, guarantee access to all basic resources, and encourage practices that respect the fundamental rights of the human person and of every creature. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**

**SUNDAY:** That we who participate in the Sunday Eucharist, offering God the gifts that earth has given and human hands have made, may be ready and willing to respond to God's word that calls us to be prophets of a creation made new the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. **R/ Creator God, hear our prayer.**



**LET US ACT**

**SUNDAY:** Find ways in which to pollute less by reducing unnecessary travelling or using less polluting means of transport (collective transport or more energy efficient engines).

**MONDAY:** Look up an article on the internet on waste management. Meditate and pray over it.

**TUESDAY:** If you have a garden see how to use compost to reduce fertilizer needs and improve the soil quality.

**WEDNESDAY:** Make sure to put food waste into a bag and bin it apart from other waste.

**THURSDAY:** Study how to reduce food waste by better adjusting quantities to cook for the family or the community consumption and the use of the freezer or fridge.

**FRIDAY:** Make sure you have a special bag and bin for paper, glass, plastic waste. See if there is a way to improve recycling of your domestic waste.

**SATURDAY:** Make sure to regularly bring glass waste to a municipal container for glass recycling.

**SUNDAY:** Try to reduce battery and electronic waste and find collective containers for their recycling.



# THE 4R PLAN FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT



**REDUCE YOUR WASTE**

- PACK YOUR OWN LUNCH
- REUSABLE BAGS AND PRODUCE BAGS
- SHOP ETHICAL BRANDS
- BUY SECOND HAND
- REUSABLE NOT DISPOSABLE
- MEND IT
- TRY TO FIX IT
- LEARN TO COMPOST
- BIODEGRADABLE OPTIONS
- REFILLABLE OPTIONS
- STORE FOOD WITHOUT PLASTIC
- EAT MORE WHOLE FOODS AND PACKAGE FREE OPTIONS

@PLANTEDINTHEWOODS



# Reuse



ORGANIC

BATTERIES

PLASTIC

LIGHT BULBS



# RECYCLE

PAPER

GLASS

METAL

E - WASTE

