



## **Prayer for Laudato Si Week: Tuesday after the Ascension**

### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Show Mercy to our Common Home**

Despite our sins and the daunting challenges before us, we never lose heart.

“The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us... for he has united himself definitively to our earth and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward.” *Laudato Si'*, 13; 245,

In a particular way, let us pray...

“O God of the poor,  
help us to rescue the abandoned  
and forgotten of this earth,  
who are so precious in your eyes...  
God of love, show us our place in this world  
as channels of your love  
for all the creatures of this earth. *Laudato Si'*, 13; 246

*Amen.*

## Scripture Reading and Prayer

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And here was evening and there was morning, the first day. *Genesis 1:3-5*

Bless the Lord, all works of the Lord,  
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord, you heavens,  
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord, you angels of the Lord  
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord, all waters above the heaven  
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

*Prayer of Azariah and his Companions, Daniel 3:57-60*

**A reading from the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis* on 'the Eucharist as the source and summit of the Church's life and mission.'**      **Pope Benedict XVI, 22 February 2007.**

The Christian people, in giving thanks to God through the Eucharist, should be conscious that they do so in the name of all creation, aspiring to the sanctification of the world and working intensely to that end. The Eucharist itself powerfully illuminates human history and the whole cosmos. In this sacramental perspective we learn, day by day, that every ecclesial event is a kind of sign by which God makes himself known and challenges us.

The Eucharistic form of life can thus help foster a real change in the way we approach history and the world. The liturgy itself teaches us this, when, during the presentation of the gifts, the priest raises to God a prayer of blessing and petition over the bread and wine, "fruit of the earth," "fruit of the vine" and "work of human hands." With these words, the rite not only includes in our offering to God all human efforts and activity, but also leads us to see the world as God's creation, which brings forth everything we need for our sustenance.

The world is not something indifferent, raw material to be utilized simply as we see fit. Rather, it is part of God's good plan, in which all of us are called to be sons and daughters in the one Son of God, Jesus Christ (cf. Ephesians 1:4-12).

The justified concern about threats to the environment present in so many parts of the world is reinforced by Christian hope, which commits us to working responsibly for the protection of creation. The relationship between the Eucharist and the cosmos helps us to see the unity of God's plan and to grasp the profound relationship between creation and the "new creation" inaugurated in the resurrection of Christ, the new Adam.

## **Concluding Prayer**

### ***Common Prayer for Earth and for Humanity***

Loving God,  
Creator of Heaven, Earth, and all therein contained.  
Open our minds and touch our hearts,  
so that we can be part of Creation, your gift.

Be present to those in need in these difficult times, especially the poorest and most vulnerable.

Help us to show creative solidarity as we confront the consequences of the global pandemic.

Make us courageous in embracing the changes required to seek the common good.

Now more than ever, may we all feel interconnected and interdependent.

Enable us to succeed in listening and responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

May their current sufferings become the birth-pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

We pray through Christ our Lord, under the loving gaze of Mary, Help of Christians.

*Amen.*