

Adapted from the 2015 Vatican Celebration

September 1: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

HOLY HOUR - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Exposition: Come Aside – ML I # 105

Introduction:

(From the Holy Father's letter of 6 August 2015 to Cardinals Koch and Turkson designating September 1 as the Day of Prayer for Creation.)

Leader: As Christians we wish to contribute to resolving the ecological crisis which humanity is presently experiencing. In doing so, we must first rediscover in our own rich spiritual patrimony the deepest motivations for our concern for the care of creation.

Reader 1: We need always to keep in mind that, for believers in Jesus Christ, the Word of God who became man for our sake, “the life of the Spirit is not dissociated from the body or from nature or from worldly realities, but lived in and with them, in communion with all that surrounds us” (*Laudato Si'*, 216).

Penitential Rite

Leader: The ecological crisis thus summons us to a profound spiritual conversion:
Christians are called to “an ecological conversion whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them” (*ibid.*, 217).

We Ask Your Pardon, Lord - CS #251 (v.1 and refrain)

Reader 1: Let us reinvigorate the much needed sense of responsibility for environmental ecology as well as for human ecology. Caring for the environment and caring

for neighbors must always come together. (*Card. Tagle*)
CS #251 (v.2 and refrain)

Leader: Let us educate and form the faithful in our vocation to be stewards of creation, co-workers of God in developing the goods of the earth for the benefit of all, the promotion of the common good and the stability of future generations. (*Card. Tagle*)
CS #251 (v.3 and refrain)

All: For “living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience”

Opening Prayer (*Collect from the Orthodox Tradition*)

All: We praise and bless you, O Lord,
for you are the King of all ages,
and through Christ your Son you have made all that is.

Leader: In the beginning of the beginning,
you breathed upon the waters of creation,
and filled the earth with life through your vibrant Spirit.

Choir 1: The heavens declare your glory, O Lord,
and the stars of the sky bring light to our darkness.
You spoke, and the earth burst forth in life, you saw that
it was good.

Choir 2: You called forth creation, and enlivened every creature
on land and sea.
You made human beings in your image,
and set us over the whole world in all of its wonders.

Choir 1: You gave us share in your dominion,
and called us “to till and to keep” this garden,
the work of your hands.

Choir 2: As day gives way to evening,

we praise you for your manifold gifts.

Choir 1: May our adoration give glory to your name,
so that we may serve you with faithfulness and love.

Choir 2: May our daily care for your creation show reverence for
your name,
and reveal your saving power in every creature under
heaven.

All: We make this prayer in the name of Christ your son,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 1:26 – 2:3.15; Matthew 6:25-33

Reflection (*selections from Laudato si' – to be read slowly*)

Reader 2: Laudato Si' §§ 8-9 (*the two paragraphs of Ecumenical
Patriarch's Bartholomew's teaching*)

Canticle of Daniel – CS # 1 or ML I # 90

Reader 3: Laudato Si' § 236, the Eucharist

**We Believe In Your Presence – ML I # 9 or
Everything That Lives – ML III # 473**

Reader 4: Laudato Si', §§ 241-242, Mary and Joseph

(*Silent Reflection/Adoration*)

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL (*Book of Blessings #1018*)

Leader: As we pray in gratitude for God's blessing upon all of
creation and the work of our hands, let us not forget
that we must do the works of holiness in our lives. Let
us, then, pray to God, saying: Lord hear our prayer.
Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 1: + All provident God, your care has given us food from the earth; grant that the crops we harvest may sustain us in body and help us to grow in spirit, we pray to the Lord... **Lord hear our prayer.**

+ You feed the birds of the air and clothe the lilies of the field; teach us to seek first your kingship over us and teach us your way of holiness, we pray to the Lord... **Lord hear our prayer.**

+ Through Jesus Christ you have made the world abound in works of holiness; grant that, living in him, we may share in his fullness and life and bear much fruit, we pray to the Lord... **Lord hear our prayer.**

+ In the Eucharist you have taken up the fruits of our hands as a signs of the mystery of faith; grant that the gifts we bring to be consecrated at your son's table may work for the continuing good of the Church's life, we pray to the Lord... **Lord hear our prayer.**

+ You planned that all your children should share in the goods of your creation; grant that all those who are in need may come to enjoy an untroubled life and to glorify you and praise your holy name, we pray to the Lord... **Lord hear our prayer.**

Our Father ...

CONCLUDING BLESSING (*Book of Blessings #983*)

Leader: May your blessing act in us, O Lord, and transform us with your renewing power, so that we might be wholly disposed to heed the cry of the poor and the earth and give ourselves wholeheartedly to their care and protection. And may we receive the joy of your gifts and praise your name, now and forever. (**Amen**)

Reposition: Be My Life ML I # 208 or My Hidden God ML I # 200

Marian Hymn: Awit sa Ina ML I # 46 or Magnificat – ML I # 160