

THE SEASON OF CREATION Pt 1.

The Season of Creation is a time when people of faith listen and respond together to the Cry of Creation .

The Season begins with the World Day pf Prayer for Creation and ends on the feast of St Francis of Assisi October 4th.

May this Season of prayer and action be a time to
Listen to the Voice of Creation
so that our lives in words and deeds may proclaim
Good News for all the earth.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork." Ps 19 vs1,2,5

Creation never ceases to proclaim, but do we listen?

FIRE

The Burning Bush of our Time

Today the prevalence of unnatural fires is a sign of the devastating effects of climate change on the most vulnerable of our planet.

Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice they are experiencing.

What Does Scripture Tell Us?

On the contrary, the fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt Horeb did not consume or destroy the bush.

This flame of the Spirit revealed God's presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered and promised to be with us in our journey for justice.

This symbol of God's presence calls us to listen to the voice of creation and faithfully respond.

"I have heard their cry...! I know their suffering Come now! I will send you... I will be with you." Ex 3 1-12

Pope Francis speaks as we begin the Season of Creation:

"If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a kind of dissonance. On the one hand, we can hear the sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator, on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home."

To contribute to the sweet song of praise:

- We nurture an "attentiveness to God's presence in the whole of creation."
- We show forth a loving awareness that "we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion."
- That we see and "pray once more in the great cathedral of creation."
- We "revel in the cosmic choir made up of countless creatures all singing the praises of God."
- We join St Francis of Assisi in singing ,"Praise be to you my Lord, for all your creatures." Canticle
- We join the Psalmist in singing,"Let everything that breathes, praise the Lord." Ps 150 v6

To contribute to the restoration of the earth:

- Heal the earth: use organic homemade sprays.
- Make oceans healthy: reduce plastic wrapping.
- Recover the purity of water: use natural cleaners
- Save rain water to water plants, to wash the drive.
- Why buy new when you can repair?
- Use up all those left over vegetables.
- Buying local tells you how your food was produced.
- Shop less. Spend wisely.
- Exchange seeds and plants with your friends.
- Grow plants that encourage the bees to visit your garden.
- Buying Fairtrade helps producers earn living wage and feed their families.

Let ours be a time remembered for our love and care for the Earth.

Brought to you by the Catholic Parish of Hastings
Environmental and Social Justice Group.