



**SEASON OF
CREATION**



Jesuit Missions

Celebrate Season of Creation - Jubilee for the Earth

1st September – 4th October 2020

Pray with Us!

Reflections

During the Season of Creation, you will find a series of prayer reflections on our website and social media from leading authors, including:

Fr Damian Howard SJ – Provincial Superior of the Jesuit British Province. Fr Howard has served in a variety of roles over the years. He has taught Theology at Heythrop College and was a delegate to the 36th General Congregation of the Society of Jesus in Rome.

Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ -Director of the Vatican Observatory. A popular speaker and author, his book include *Brother Astronomer: Adventures of a Vatican Scientist and God's Mechanics: How Scientists and Engineers Make Sense of Religion*.

Dr Celia Deane-Drummond is Director of the *Laudato Si* Research Institute Campion Hall Oxford

Dr Theodora Hawksley of the London Jesuit Centre

Fr Xavier Jeyaraj SJ - Director of the Jesuit Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat in Rome

Fr Richard Leonard SJ is an expert on film and media and has served on juries at numerous film festivals, including Cannes and Venice. He is a widely published author; whose books include *What does it all mean?* and *Where the Hell is God?*

Fr James Martin SJ, author and editor at large for America Magazine. His books include *Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor, and Laughter Are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life* and *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything: A Spirituality for Real Life*.

Dr Ciara Murphy is Environmental Policy Officer with the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, Dublin Ireland

See: <https://jesuitmissions.org.uk/>

Feast of St Francis of Assisi

On Sunday 4th October to mark the end of Season of Creation and the Feast of St Francis of Assisi we invite you to take time to pray and light a candle to show your commitment to caring for our common home. This will be taking place across the British Province of the Society of Jesus in homes, parishes, and schools at 7.00 p.m., just after sunset.



Prepare a candle to place in a convenient location in your front window, or weather allowing, outside your home. You may also want to create a poster or banner to put in the window to draw attention to the need to come together to pray for our common home and to take decisive action to address the climate crisis.

Children may also want to create prayer leaves with a picture or word showing what they plan to do to care for our common home.

Please send your photos to Jesuit Missions so that we can share them on social media.

Leave your candle burning for as long as is safe as a way of sharing the message, and perhaps starting a conversation with friends and neighbours

Prayer for Creation

Lord, God, Creator of the Universe, send your Holy Spirit to renew the earth.

Teach us to treat each creature, every blade of grass, all human beings as precious.

Give us the courage to change how we live and the grace to learn a new harmony with the natural world so that we may preserve the earth and leave to future generations a healthy and vibrant planet.

Remind us each day we are part of creation and as we treat creation, so we treat ourselves.

Help us to let go of old and unsustainable ways of living.

Guide us so that we may live more simply.

Let us value life over material possessions.

Teach us your ways, so that we may be your agents for change and renewal.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.





Prayer of Pope Francis

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey
on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and
destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

Photos:

Lua Lihn Thao Retreat, Vietnam 2020

Cyclone Idai damage 2019

Send us photos of you lighting your candles so that we can share them on the Jesuit Missions' website and social media. Help us send a message of hope in this Jubilee for the Earth. Please also share your intentions for our common home.

Jesuit Missions Partners

We invite you to include in your prayers Jesuit Missions overseas partners who are already impacted by climate change. Increasingly projects supported by Jesuit Missions have an environmental dimension as climate change impacts on the world's most marginalised now. To learn more about our partners in places such as Madagascar, Burkina Faso and Malawi go on our website: <https://jesuitmissions.org.uk/work/>



Reforestation project in Madagascar

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead, Sociologist

Additional Prayer Resources: Please find here resources for an ecumenical prayer service from the Season of Creation website:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qTf40Y9mEuTrPclUIO4jsCVO5SdCGf4f/view> See also:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZWtllFLmuAzUA8ul0JEFdK6M8-uHCaPX/view>