

Celebrating
The Season of Creation
“Walking Together” day by day

1st September to 4th October 2018



In 2015, in the spirit of his encyclical
Laudato Si'

Pope Francis instituted the annual
“World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation”
on 1st September

A number of Christian bodies
including the Orthodox and the World Council
of Churches have for some time promoted the
period from 1st September until the Feast of
St Francis of Assisi on 4th October as a time
of wonder, thanksgiving and praise

Overleaf are suggestions for daily reflection,
enjoyment and action as stewards of creation.

Leaflet compiled by Bernadette Bailey, St Alban's J&P Group,
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Resources for Creation Time 2018

- **Columban JPIC** has collated resources and sample services: <http://www.columbans.co.uk/justice-peace-jpic-2/creation-time/>
- You can download the following resources at: <https://ctbi.org.uk/creation-time-2018/>
- **CAFOD** has produced ideas, liturgy and prayers to help you respond to Pope Francis' call to care for the gift of God's creation.
- **Church of England:** This year's Creationtide resources include new morning, evening and all age liturgy; readings and discussion materials for each day; and a daily action sheet focused on food to guide you through the season.
- **A Rocha UK** is holding a Green Communion service that celebrates the wonder of God's Earth, expresses our gratitude for it through liturgy, songs and prayers, and recognises our responsibility to care for it.
- **Eco-Congregation Scotland** has material for Creation Time 2018 from an ecumenical writing group, with contributors from the Church of Scotland, the Roman Catholic Church, the Salvation Army, the Scottish Episcopal Church, and the United Reformed Church. It follows the theme of '*Passing our Planet on: God's Gift to us*', linking to Scotland's Year of Young People and reflecting on passing the planet on from one generation to the next, and the gifts given to us by God to support and guide us in our care for creation. Reflections on the readings for each Sunday, sermon thoughts, all age ideas, prayers and hymns.

- See also:
<https://catholicclimatemovement.global/world-day-of-prayer>



Consumption of Plastic

Why should we be concerned with plastics in the things we buy?

Pope Francis says in *Laudato Si'*: “Purchasing is always a moral and not simply economic act” the issue of environmental degradation challenges us to examine our lifestyle”.

Plastics now pollute every corner of our earth. Evidence shows that since the Second World War humans have coated the earth entirely in plastics. Our plastic bags, bottles, compact discs, cigarette tips, tooth brushes are in landfill, have floated across the oceans and sunk deep to the sea floors.

A plastic bottle takes on average 450 years to degrade and we produce 300million tonnes of plastic each year.

We cannot change the past but we can reduce our use of plastics now.

More information at:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jan/24/plastic-new-epoch-human-damage>

<https://lessplastic.co.uk/9-tips-living-less-plastic/>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <h1>Season of Creation 2018 – “Walking Together”</h1> <p>More information at http://seasonofcreation.org/about/</p> </div>						<p>1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</p> <p>Take time to pray for God’s creation and our neighbours around the world whose lives are affected by climate change.</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Remember to say Grace before eating your meal today, and throughout the season, thanking God for creating the food and for the people who have helped produce it.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Take a jar and collect a small piece of creation each day to put in it, e.g. a leaf, a twig, a pebble. As you do this thank God for his creation and ask for his help to be good stewards of all his gifts.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Consider how many bottles of water or soft drinks you buy. Could you replace these with tap water in a reusable bottle?</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Create or select a new family prayer about God’s creation that you can say together each day during the season.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Turn off the television, computer, mobile etc. and spend half an hour going for a walk or other activity in God’s natural world. Invite your family or others to join you.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Read the short extract from <i>Laudato Si’</i> on the other side of this leaflet and prayerfully reflect on how you might make changes to your lifestyle.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>At bedtime, sit and think about God’s creation for a few moments – what have you done this week to take care of it?</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Plan how you can tell someone else about God’s creation this week and our responsibility to be good stewards.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Think about how you travel each day during the season. Could any of your journeys be walked, cycled or by bus to reduce the use of our cars?</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Collect some toys or clothes together that you don’t use any more and take them to a charity shop.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Choose a special hymn or song to help you praise God for his creation together today.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Do your savings or pension promote clean energy? Ask if your savings are being invested in risky fossil fuel projects or helping to build a more sustainable world.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Have a meatless or vegan meal, if possible shared with others. Meat and cheese both have a large carbon footprint. Could you do this more often during the season?</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Take stock of what you’ve done so far in the Season of Creation. What more could you do to take better care of God’s creation.</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Light a candle to pray for someone who is affected by climate change.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>When doing your shopping think about selecting Fairtrade products or those with less packaging.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Think of ways to cut down on waste and make better use of food and household products. Can you increase your recycling target by 20%?</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pray for the people in the world who can’t afford to eat regularly.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Consider switching electricity suppliers to a green source. You can find out more at: www.greenelectricity.org</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Make some biscuits or cakes with Fairtrade products and share them with a neighbour, friend or colleague.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Think about what you might say to God if you wrote him a letter about how you were taking care of His creation.</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Go for a ramble in the countryside with friends or family to reflect on and appreciate God’s creation</p>	<p>24</p> <p>When doing your shopping try to select products without plastic packaging.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Collect some non-perishable food items together and take them to the collection point at a supermarket or Church collection points for local people who would otherwise go hungry.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Pray for the courage to challenge others who are abusing God’s creation.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Review your use of electricity at home. Are all your light bulbs LED or energy saving? Could you turn off some of your electrical items more often or overnight?</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Work out how much cash you save by not eating meat one day a week and give that money to a charity.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Share some of your experiences from the Season of Creation by putting a post on social media or writing an item for the church, school or work newsletter.</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Collect twigs in the garden or park and make them into simple crosses. Place them around your home to remind you of God’s gift of creation.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Take a break from consuming and buy nothing today.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Take responsibility for your neighbourhood and pick up litter on your own or get neighbours to help.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pray for those who have been hurt in a natural disaster.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Celebration and Feast of St Francis of Assisi</p> <p>Read St Francis’ Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=183</p>	<p>Thereafter.....</p> <p>Continue to live as good stewards of God’s creation taking care of people, animals and the environment that he has blessed us with.</p>	