

A Catholic Season of Creation – September 2015

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 27th September

Go out to the whole world Mk 16:16

God comes to judge the living and the dead

Inspiration from Sunday Lectionary and Worship Prayers

[Num 11; Ps 18; James 5; Mk 9]

beauty in your power of love,
proclaim the kingdom to all we meet
that all people prophesy
law gives joy to the heart
rich weep, possessions corrode
cheated labourer of wages
went on living life of luxury
Your word truth, make holy in truth
if hand-eye-feet a scandal

Season of Creation

The word 'theme' often used in developing Creation liturgies sets a mistaken tone. It has an educational ring to it or even that of a campaign slogan. Remembering a grace and giving thanks is a better liturgical approach - celebrate the grace given by God in the ongoing acts of creation over billions of years.

Rather than 'about' creation, a new liturgical season might be better seen as a time 'for' creation - celebration, not education.

*It is most desirable that the faithful,
just as the priest himself is bound to
do, receive the Lord's Body from hosts
consecrated at the same Mass*

Sacramentary No 85



Greeting

Today the Readings invite us to remember the grace to be transformed. Our luxurious life style often rests on the back of slave-like labourers cheated of their wages, or soils and waters exploited to ecological ruin. These evils might happen in other lands and removed from our sight but the truth of God's word helps us to ponder and change our ways.

Prayers of faithful

- Holy Trinity, source of all goodness, may we never not stop trying to do good for members of our human and earth communities, becoming holy as you are holy.
- Holy Trinity, leader of your people through every age, may we reject the allure of corroding consumerism to be witness to new life by our service in your name.
- Holy Trinity, you sent prophets to challenge your people. May we listen to the prophecy of ecological scientists and social workers becoming prophets of truth for our times.
- Holy Trinity, you rise up saints in every age, humble and dedicated to witnessing to your goodness. Lead us to join your church saints and secular heroes.

Connect Justice, Peace and Care for Earth (JPIC)

In the 21st century as an age of growing ecological awareness, the time has come for believers to give knowing and active witness to a new awareness of the thirteen billion years unfolding the Reign of God; witness to the mystery of God present in creating the entire cosmos.

Initiatives taken in many church to insert a Season of Creation into the Liturgical Year springs primarily from the need for a structural way to help Christian communities better acknowledge the first article of the creed, God as Creator. We proclaim and dialogue with all about God's ongoing deeds in creation.

Dismissal

The way we live must never become a scandal for others. Graced by God we can live in the truth preached by His Son Jesus. We can go forth confident that the Gospel will guide us to choose a lifestyle that is good for ourselves, the planet and future generations. We are called to evangelise by the way we live.

Hymns

*Though the mountains may fall
Go to the mountain of the Lord*

Champions

We remember with thanks the Sisters and Brothers who led the way in bringing science education into Catholic schools. Leaders such as Singleton Mercy Sr Calasantus promoted biology studies among the novices at the beginning of the 1950s. Her garden was thick with trees and she gave a special place to plants mentioned in the Bible. Religious remain as models for ecological conversion and leaders for our ecological vocation.

Catholics and Nature ACSJC Series No.57

Another View

Go, preach the Gospel to all nations is the ringing commission given to the disciples at the end of Mark's Gospel. The account of the Risen Jesus sending the Eleven to proclaim the Good News to all creation is the focus in many churches for this last Sunday of Creation Time (Mk 16:16).

It is of note that Jesus appears to the disciples while they were at table, that is, while they were celebrating the Eucharist. During that holy meal Jesus both reproached and gave them a mission to go to all the nations. He sent them off with power and confirmed their work by the signs that accompanied them



Ecological Insights

To grow in appreciation of the diverse gifts of the natural world is a primary aim of many UN Environmental Programs. They detail the life cycles of species and the conditions under which they flourish. They invite us wonder and as believers to give thanks. The Programs also detail the threats to the life cycles of many species, especially human induced threats. They invite us to care and protect as as believers we can act in God's name.

<http://goo.gl/tsGHji>

<http://goo.gl/QJfOCR>

What can I do?

Grow herbs and vegetables at home.
Visit a farmers food market