

KINDNESS AND MERCY

The Lord is kind and merciful Ps 102

READ THE LECTIONARY ECOLOGICALLY

[Si 27; Ps 102; Rm 14; Mt 18]

Remember the last things and stop hating

When you pray your sins will be forgiven

Never forget all God's blessings

The Lord is kind and merciful

As the heavens are high above Earth so is his love

The life and death of each of us has its influence

Love one another as I have loved you

How often must I forgive my brother?

I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me.

GREETING

Today, we celebrate the grace of God loving us into existence and giving Earth as our home. As we come to worship, we ask forgiveness for the times we have failed to forgive the people around us.

Bartholomew ... asks us to replace consumption with sacrifice, greed with generosity, wastefulness with a spirit of sharing, an asceticism which "entails learning to give, and not simply to give up.

Pope Francis Laudato Si' #9

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

1. Share - God cares for this and future generations. That our Church promote the fair distribution of Earth's resources and foster reconciliation among warring factions ... we pray
2. Technology – God willed the evolving design of our world. That our nation be cautious in adopting bio-technologies that harm nature, farmers and consumers alike ... we pray
3. Ecological migrants – God gave land to the people of Israel when they were starving. That our local community welcome eco-refugees and confront the human causes of climate change ... we pray
4. Sustainable – God called humanity to be co-creators. That we create sustainable rural and urban communities with jobs for young people, to give hope and prevent suicides ... we pray
5. Forgive - Jesus showed that forgiveness renews lives. That we forgive ourselves for our misuse of fossil-fuels and resolve to grow alternative energy sources ... we pray
6. Application – God led the People of Israel to apply the Law in their lives. That we encourage lawmakers to quickly apply proven scientific findings ... we pray

DISMISSAL

God has given us the power to forgive, let us go forth on our mission to be signs of reconciliation, showing care for people and Earth as the common home of all creatures.

SEASON OF CREATION

The Introduction to the Missal is a rich source of theology. The entire Eucharistic celebration is planned in such a way that it leads to conscious, active and full participation of the faithful. In body and in mind believers can burn with faith, hope, and charity #18. Believers remember the loving kindness of God as they use material things in prayerful actions to convey sacred mysteries - signs and symbols. The water of baptism and oils of anointing; bread and wine bringing spiritual nourishment: these are all gifts of Earth and work of human hands.

HYMNS

1. All creatures of our God and King
2. Ubi Caritas (Taize)
3. The Beatitudes
4. A new heart for a new world
5. Shine, Jesus Shine

Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded

Pope Francis Laudato Si' #13

WHAT CAN I DO?

- Review the ecological impact of your life-style
- Grow herbs and vegetables at home.
- Visit a local community garden

COVENANT

God created a home for his people in a 'Land Covenant'. Jesus chided the Jewish leaders for not being faithful to the covenant God formed with their ancestors (Mt 15:1-9). The story of Adam and Eve exiled from the Garden to become wanderers, and their descendants after them, sets the scene (Gn 3:23). Through loving kindness God had won the hearts and minds of a landless-migrant people, giving them a place to live and belong as the descendants of Abraham (Gn 12:1-3). The migrations of the People of God through many lands forged a spiritual language that spoke of God in terms of belonging to a place and enjoying its natural gifts. Later exiled in Egypt, God freed the people (Ex 3:7-8). David sings the story (2 S 23:3-5). Later when they were exiled captives weeping in Babylon (Ps 137:4) through Queen Ester God returned them home to their own land (Ze 8:7-8). Jesus widens the vision to embrace the universal Reign of God (Mt 16:5-12).



The Catechism firmly states that human power has limits and that “it is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly”.

Pope Francis Laudato Si' #130

CHAMPIONS AND SAINTS

History tells that on every continent when famine struck following climate changes it helped drive waves of people to migrate. Right into the 21st century, environmental migrations are causing huge social and economic upheaval. Faced with poverty, overpopulation, war, persecution, repression or drawn by hope filled visions, many forebears of Australians arrived in this land as migrants. In the 1880s Charoline Chisolm worked to find jobs for young migrants. Today the Pacific Calling Partnership helps lobby for people whose island homes are being swamped by rising sea levels.. <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/chisolm-caroline-1894> <http://www.erc.org.au/>

MYSTICISM

Jesus being freed from death was the physical sign of our being freed from sin. Liberation was the first fruit of the Resurrection. Some Asian Churches call Easter Liberation Day. The Chosen People were freed from slavery in Egypt. A modern spirituality of liberation (Gustavo Gutierrez) underpinned Church mission that opposed economic security state dictators in Latin America, South Korea and the Philippines. A similar spirituality has black people and women seeking liberation. Economist Susan George fought for poor nations to be freed from life sapping international debt. Pope Francis calls for liberation from the tyranny of economics and consumerist lifestyles.

ECOLOGICAL INSIGHT

Ecological scientists and environmental activists are often accused of neglecting people. This is a rash charge. Many fully support the insight that to care for Earth is to care for the poor. Credible scientists hold that the ecologically sustainable use of water and oceans, agricultural land and forests is the only way to protect the rights of vulnerable people and future generations. Scientists call for long term planning rather than short term profits. The word 'development' is increasingly replacing the word 'ecological' when addressing sustainability. This tyrannical economic takeover of the word poses a danger. <https://www.environment.gov.au/about-us/esd/publications/national-esd-strategy-part1>



actions can restore our sense of self-esteem; they can enable us to live more fully and to feel that life on Earth is worthwhile

Pope Francis Laudato Si' #212

LOCAL CULTURE

Many women say they seek liberation rather than equality with men. Germaine Greer is one who writes against agreeing to live the lives of unfree men. Women's liberation means asserting difference and self-definition. It is the struggle to define their own values and order their own priorities.

*Thy love I am. Thy wife I cannot be,
To wear the yoke of servitude – to take
Strange, unknown fetters that I cannot break
On soul and flesh that should be mine, and free.
Ada Cambridge An Answer*

<http://www.poetrylibrary.edu.au/poets/cambridge-ada/answer-0021037>