

Prayer during COP26 – Columban Fr Charles Rue

God, you uphold us always.

Free us from ignorance about your gifts of Creation

so we can relate to earth's rhythms with humility.

Inspire us to welcome the truth when scientists speak of climate change and

death of species, rejecting false pathways designed to confuse.

Strengthen our resolve to respect life in all its forms, choosing

'to eat, travel, spend, invest and live differently', as wrote

Pope Francis and faith leaders on pilgrimage to COP26,

listening to the cries of the earth, the poor, and future generations.

Help us urge our politicians to take urgent action

in negotiating sustainable living.

Ground all our thoughts in your revealing Scriptures

and the wisdom of holy women and men who have gone before us

to help grow a new creation promised in your Cosmic Son.

Give us a discerning spirit to work with the ecological and the human,

the political and the economic realities of this world,

and instil in us a spirit of respect, compassion and friendship

able to imagine pathways of harmony.

Amen.

This prayer was written in the light of the 2021 IPCC Report, the 2021 UNEP report on Biodiversity, and the Joint Statement by Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican Leaders.

<https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/>

<https://www.unep.org/resources/making-peace-nature>

www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2021/documents/20210901-messaggio-protezionedelcreato.html