

REFLECTION 1

Are we responding in a way that is listening to the cry of the earth? Are we considering how our choices will impact the earth and its precious resources?



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**Creator God,
You fill the earth with life,
Lead us to live in harmony with the
earth you have created.
May we respect all life from the
smallest of plants to the tallest
of trees, the vastness of the oceans
to the majesty of mountains and the
tiniest insects to the wildest beasts.
We ask this in your name.
Amen**

Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, #92



Photo credit: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

REFLECTION 2

Are we responding in a way that is listening to the cry of the poor? Are we considering how our choices will affect all forms of life, especially those who are most vulnerable?



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**God of All,
You made us in your image
and likeness,
Open our eyes to see you in others,
Open our ears to your cry,
And open our hearts to love like you,
So that we may live as one
human family.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen**

The impact of present imbalances is also seen in the premature death of many of the poor, in conflicts sparked by the shortage of resources, and in any number of other problems which are insufficiently represented on global agendas.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, #48

REFLECTION 3

Are we responding in a way that is considering ecological economics? Are our economic transactions supporting sustainable, ethical and fair production, consumption and investment?
Are they supporting ecology?



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God of wisdom and compassion
You gifted us with right judgement
and courage
Help us to share the earth's resources
fairly and to use them wisely.
Stand with us as we speak out
against inequality and injustice.
Guide our thoughts and actions as
we care for our common home.
We ask this in your name.
Amen

This shows us the great need for a sense of social responsibility on the part of consumers. "Purchasing is always a moral – and not simply economic – act".

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, #206

Photo credit: Drew Morrison/Caritas Australia

REFLECTION 4

Are we responding in a way that leads to a simpler lifestyle? Are we considering ways in which we can use less resources and energy systems as we go about our daily life?



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**Tender, loving God.
You walk beside us, guiding
our path,
Teach us to simplify our lives,
to pause, to slow our steps and to
be mindful of all of creation,
So that we may truly enjoy the
richness of your love.
We ask this in your name.
Amen**

**We all know that it is not possible
to sustain the present level of
consumption in developed
countries and wealthier sectors of
society, where the habit of wasting
and discarding has reached
unprecedented levels.**

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', #18



Photo credit: Christopher Riechert/Catholic Relief Services

REFLECTION 5

Are we responding in a way that respectfully educates others towards integral ecology?
Are we considering that our actions will educate others? Are we mindfully educating others to promote ecological awareness and action?



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**God of all,
You teach us how to live
so that others
may simply live.
Through our words and
actions may we inspire others
to do the same.
We ask this in Jesus' name,
Amen**

There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, #211

REFLECTION 6

Are we responding in a way that joyfully praises God and God's creation? Are we encouraging greater contact with the natural world, bringing others into an awareness of creation and the marvels of it? Are we promoting a spirit of wonder, awe, praise, thanksgiving and joy?



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**God, source of all life,
You bless us with the gift of
creation.
Inspire us to gaze in wonder
and awe at the beauty that
surrounds us.
We ask this in your name.
Amen.**

**Rather than a problem to be solved,
the world is a joyful mystery to be
contemplated with gladness and
praise.**

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', #12

REFLECTION 7

Are we responding in a way that promotes community involvement and action? Are we considering ways in which local, national and international communities can be involved and participate in action for care of creation?



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**God of justice and love
You lead us on life's journey
through creation.
Guide us to act justly, love
tenderly and walk humbly in
your ways.
We ask this in your name.
Amen**

**If we can overcome individualism,
we will truly be able to develop a
different lifestyle and bring about
significant changes in society.**

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', #208