



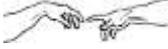
Lent 2021 CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION Calendar

A Lenten Journey: On Care for Our Common Home

"Faith . . . by revealing the love of God the Creator, enables us to respect nature all the more, and to discern in it a grammar written by the hand of God and a dwelling place entrusted to our protection and care." –Pope Francis

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Lent challenges us to see conversion in our lives as a daily process. Our relationship with creation is one dimension of this overall personal conversion. Pope Francis describes it this way: "We must examine our lives and acknowledge the ways in which we have harmed God's creation through our actions and our failure to act. We need to experience a conversion, or change of heart." Pope Francis in <i>Laudato Si'</i> #217</p> <p>This calendar is designed to accompany you on a 40-day journey of prayer, learning, action and advocacy toward this 'ecological conversion' of caring for "Our Common Home" and opening our hearts to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the Poor.</p> <p>† Blessings on your Journey †</p>			<p>FEBRUARY 17</p> <p>PRAY: As Lent begins let us keep in mind our Creator and his Gift of Creation and reflect on our connection to the Earth at both our beginning and end: <i>"Remember . . . you are dust and to dust you will return."</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>LEARN: "If anyone wishes to come after me . . ." Lk 9:22 We are called to take up our cross. What sacrifices can we make to live more simply and use fewer of the Earth's resources?</p>	<p>19</p> <p>ACT: On Lenten Fridays we abstain from meat. Eating meat-free meals is an effective way to protect creation. LEARN why and how to make a commitment at the Global Catholic Climate Movement website on Eating Simply for Lent + Soup & Sacrifice +</p>	<p>20</p> <p>PRAY: As a new Spiritual Work of Mercy, care for creation " . . . calls for a grateful contemplation of God's world which allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us." -Pope Francis</p>
<p>1st Sunday 21</p> <p>PRAY: The Canticle of the Sun of St. Francis: Praised be my Lord . . . for our brother the Sun, which brings us the day . . . shining with a very great splendor, O Lord, he signifies you to us! Link to the Canticle</p>	<p>22</p> <p>ACT: Look into a purchase of locally-grown food today. Visit a farmers' market near you or find other options at Local Harvest See: www.localharvest.org</p>	<p>23</p> <p>LEARN: We are using up our resources at an unsustainable rate for the care of future generations. ACT: Do one thing today to "Live simply that others may simply live." - attributed to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton & others before her</p>	<p>24</p> <p>LEARN: Investigate Renewable Energy technology like solar, to become less dependent on the power grid. ADVOCATE: for a sustainable economy, clean environment, and energy security.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>LEARN: The world's poor will be hit hardest by climate change. ACT: Join Catholics taking action and raising our voice on behalf of Creation and the Poor. Sign the St. Francis/Laudato Si' Pledge at Catholic Climate Covenant.org</p>	<p>26</p> <p>ACT: Conserve Earth's resources by minimizing disposables. Use your own mug for coffee or water at work. ACT: Bring your own bowl and mug to a Soup & Sacrifice meal with friends or in your parish + Soup & Sacrifice +</p>	<p>27</p> <p>PRAY for children worldwide. "Future generations cannot be saddled with the cost of our use of common environmental resources" -Benedict XVI ACT: Visit or donate to a children's group or orphanage such as Our Lady Queen of Angels House in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico</p>
<p>Second Sunday 28</p> <p>PRAY: The Canticle . . . Praised be my Lord for our sister the Moon, and for the Stars, which God set clear and lovely in heaven. "Where were you when I founded the earth? . . . While the morning stars sang together. . . ." Job 38:4,7</p>	<p>MARCH 1</p> <p>LEARN: "There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. . . Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering . . ." Laudato Si' #25 Visit: Kino Border Initiative</p>	<p>2</p> <p>ASSESS: Purchase more thoughtfully with respect to the environment, human rights and social justice. Question your need before buying. LEARN: Visit: www.betterworldshopper.com</p>	<p>3</p> <p>PRAY: There is always hope for a tree. If it is cut down, it will sprout again. Job 14:7 ACT: Consider planting a tree! www.arborday.org/trees/climatechange or "Trees for Tucson"</p>	<p>4</p> <p>PRAY: "We come together to take charge of this home which has been entrusted to us . . . Let us SING as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope." Laudato Si' #244</p>	<p>5</p> <p>ACT: Become more aware of how much food you discard and avoid wasting it. For the hungry in our midst - and globally - consider involvement with your local St. Vincent de Paul pantry, Casa Maria, Sister Jose Women's Center, CRS Rice Bowl or Bread for the World. + Soup & Sacrifice +</p>	<p>6</p> <p>LEARN: Refresh your memory today on what items are allowed for curbside recycling. ASSESS: Are you recycling everything you can? Find out at Tucson.gov's "Recycle Coach" website or your local recycling facility</p>

This calendar is based on one developed years ago by the Charity & Justice Department, Archdiocese of Washington. It has been adapted and updated by the Creation Care Team of Our Mother of Sorrows Parish, Tucson AZ. Visit holygroundcommonground.blogspot.com for an online version with active links.

<p>Third Sunday 7</p> <p>PRAY: The Canticle ... </p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our brother the Wind, and for Air, Cloud, & all Weather, by which you uphold in life all creatures.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>ACT: Examine the cost of buying  water in disposable plastic bottles to both your wallet & the environment – purchase your own bottle and use it. Bottle Water is Wasteful - The Water Project</p>	<p>9</p> <p>PRAY: When our eyes are enlightened ... they open to the contemplation of God in the beauty of nature and the grandeur of the cosmos, and lead us to discover how everything speaks to us of... His love. -Pope Francis</p>	<p>10</p> <p>LEARN: about what you can do to make Tucson (or your city) more sustainable</p> <p>ACT: see upcoming events in Tucson and get involved at Sustainable Tucson</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>PRAY: "To protect creation, to protect every man and every woman, to look upon them with tenderness and love, is to open up a horizon of hope ..."</p>  <p>- Pope Francis</p>	<p>12</p> <p>ACT: Plan ahead to bring reusable bags when shopping. Want a bag made <u>from</u> recycled materials? Most are <u>sold in bulk</u> for groups and promotions but you can find a few single bags <u>here</u> and <u>there</u> ... or sew your own!</p> <p>+ Soup & Sacrifice +</p>	<p>13</p> <p>ACT: Catholic Relief Services works globally and tells us: "Every day, we witness the effects of the changing climate on poor and vulnerable people around the world." See: www.crs.org/climate-change and support the CRS collection this weekend!</p>
<p>Laetare Sunday 14</p> <p>PRAY: The Canticle ... </p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our sister Water, which is very useful to us, and humble and precious and clean.</p> <p>CRS collection</p>	<p>15</p> <p>LEARN: When it comes to conserving water, small adjustments can have a big impact.</p> <p>ACT: on water-saving tips from: from "100+ Ways to Conserve Water" at: Water: Use it Wisely.com</p>	<p>ADVOCATE: 16</p> <p>"Since we derive all our electricity from nature, the relationship of humanity and environment has the broadest implications for energy policy."</p> <p>- U.S. Bishops</p>	<p> St. Patrick 17</p> <p>PRAY: "I arise today, through the strength of heaven, light of the sun, radiance of the moon, splendor of fire speed of lightning, swiftness of wind, depth of the sea, stability of the earth." St Patrick's Breastplate tinyurl.com/8ejgasm</p>	<p>ACT: 18</p>  <p>PLANT SOME SEEDS! "We must not think that these efforts are not going to change the world. They benefit society ... for they call forth a goodness which, albeit unseen, inevitably tends to spread."</p> <p>Laudato Si' #212</p>	<p>St. Joseph 19 </p> <p>ACT: "Work is part of God's plan for the world; by responsibly cultivating the goods of creation, we grow in dignity as men and women made in God's image. ..." Pope Francis on St. Joseph</p> <p>+ Soup & Sacrifice +</p>	<p>Spring Equinox 20</p> <p>PRAY: the "Ecological Stations of the Cross" or the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary today, perhaps in a garden, where Jesus chose to pray for strength.</p>  <p>See: The Forest Rosary</p>
<p>Fifth Sunday 21</p> <p>PRAY: The Canticle ... </p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our sister Mother Earth, which sustains us and keeps us, and yields diverse fruits, and flowers of many colors, and grass.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>ACT: "The works of charity & justice as well as the promotion of ... <i>stewardship of creation</i> build up the Kingdom of God." - Disciples Called to Witness, USCCB</p>	<p>23</p> <p>PRAY: for wisdom to know how to live in the light of so much inequality in the world</p>  <p>ACT: Turn off lights that you are not using. Enjoy the night sky!</p>	<p>24</p> <p>ADVOCATE: "The Church has a responsibility towards creation and she must assert this responsibility in the public sphere."</p> <p>— Pope Benedict XVI Caritas in Veritate</p>	<p>Annunciation 25</p> <p>PRAY: "Rejoice Thou through whom creation is renewed: Rejoice, Thou through whom we worship the Creator!"</p> <p>Byzantine Liturgy 7th century Mary Hymn</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>ACT: Don't know where to recycle old electronic gadgets or other items? Visit Tucson Clean & Beautiful Inc.'s Recycling Directory to find out.</p> <p>+ Soup & Sacrifice +</p>	<p>Earth Hour 27</p> <p>PRAY: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" Mt 26:40</p> <p>Spend an EARTH HOUR in prayer by fasting from non-essential energy use in solidarity with the global poor.</p> <p>www.earthhour.org</p> 
<p>PALM SUNDAY 28</p> <p>PRAY: Reflect on St. Luke's Palm Sunday Gospel: "...if they keep silent even the stones will cry out." Lk 19:40</p>  <p>Are the stones of our fragile Earth crying out? Have <u>we</u> been silent for too long?</p>	<p>29</p> <p>PRAY: especially for the poor and vulnerable this Holy Week.</p> <p>"Environmental degradation makes the life of the poor especially unbearable."</p> <p>- Pope Benedict XVI</p>	<p>30</p> <p>PRAY: "... the covenant between human beings and the environment ... should mirror the creative love of God..."</p> <p>Pope Benedict XVI #7</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>PRAY: "Living Holy Week ... means learning how to come out of ourselves to reach out to others, to go to the outskirts of existence ... especially those who are most distant ..." Pope Francis</p>	<p>APRIL 1</p> <p>HOLY THURSDAY</p>  <p>PRAY: Reflect on the precious gift of the Eucharist, Christ's Real Presence consecrated for us from the "fruit of the earth and work of human hands"</p>	<p>GOOD FRIDAY 2</p>  <p>PRAY: Meditate on the deep Mystery of Love crucified "on a tree" ... "Behold the wood of the cross, on which hung the Savior of the world."</p> <p>- Good Friday Liturgy</p>	<p>HOLY SATURDAY 3</p> <p>PRAY: The Exsultet: On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this CANDLE, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands ... drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious!</p> 

 **April 4 EASTER SUNDAY** Let us accept the grace of Christ's Resurrection! Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish. – Pope Francis, 2013