

“ Despite all attempts to deny, conceal, gloss over or relativise the issue, the signs of climate change are here and increasingly evident. No one can ignore the fact that in recent years we have witnessed extreme weather phenomena, frequent periods of unusual heat, drought and other cries of protest on the part of the earth that are only a few palpable expressions of a silent disease that effects everyone. [...] I ask everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and to help make it more beautiful.”



His Holiness Pope Francis

“Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope.”
 “Truly, much can be done!”

(Laudato Si’, 244 , 180)



Prayer for Divestment

Creator God,
 Through You all things were made, the stars in the sky
 the birds of the air, the breadth of life beneath the seas.
 Beauty surrounds us, like a love letter inscribed on this earth.
 Blessed be Your name.
 But we have not lived up to our vocation as protectors of
 Your handiwork.
 The earth has been plundered and cries out to us.
 Through our use of fossil fuels we have filled the skies
 with gases which are harming our world, Your creation.
 We know that it is the poor who suffer the most
 from our actions and we ask forgiveness.
 We also know that things can change and
 that we can embark on new paths,
 restoring our common home and clearing the skies.
 We pray that those who have decision making powers
 will divest from the fossil fuel industry,
 challenging big corporations to leave
 behind this era of destruction and pollution.
 We pray that political leaders make way for affordable
 forms of clean energy for all.
 We ask that workers be treated fairly as we make this
 transition. Move the hearts of those who seek only profit
 at the expense of the earth and the poor.
 May we be guided by Your Spirit,
 In courage and determination.
 Help us to embrace new
 possibilities, new sources of
 energy, and set out on this path of
 renewal. We ask this through
 Jesus Christ Your Son,
 Amen.
 St Francis of Assisi, pray for us.



Jane Mellet, LSM Secretariat. Dublin, Ireland



SEASON OF CREATION

WEEK 5 2024

TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION



*“If ‘the universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely... there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person’s face’.
 The world sings of an infinite Love:
 how can we fail to care for it?”*

His Holiness Pope Francis



The
OBLATES
 ALWAYS CLOSE to the PEOPLE

The Season of Creation ends on October 4, Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian Denominations, but our commitment to respond to the call to care for creation doesn't stop there!

Preserving Creation requires action

“Creation is groaning” (Romans 8:22). Daily, weekly, and monthly we see, sense, and hear about Creation's suffering. Humanity extracts and uses the bountiful resources of our Mother, the Earth, primarily for human greed rather than human needs, and with too little regard for the impact on all creatures and biodiversity. These unsustainable actions have led to the current climate crisis and loss of biodiversity while increasing human suffering.



One clear example is the impact of fossil fuel extraction and use on the climate. Whether it is the smoke of burning arboreal forests or tundra, the unrelenting impact of superstorms in the Pacific Ocean, or the years-long drought in the Horn of Africa, the Earth, and the bounty it produces is diminishing due to massive changes in our climate. It's estimated that thirty percent of the greenhouse gases that are impacting the climate are created by fossil fuel extraction and use.

Signs of hope for Creation

The Season of Creation empowers communities at a local level and prepares us for action at the global level, particularly the annual United Nations climate conferences. This is where 182 countries come together to commit to actions such as reducing their greenhouse gas emissions.

Last year, at the 28th meeting of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Dubai (Conference of the Parties, COP28), the need to reduce fossil fuel use made it onto the agenda for the first time ever and was agreed to.



Support the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

This year the Season of Creation encourages parishes and faith groups to engage with the **Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT)**. The Treaty brings together nations, civil society, and faith groups to reduce fossil fuel use.

“The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative is a global effort to foster international cooperation to accelerate a transition to renewable energy for everyone, end the expansion of coal, oil, and gas, and equitably phase out existing production in keeping with what science shows is needed to address the climate crisis.”

Find out more and support the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

which calls for a halt to new fossil fuel projects. See more at: [The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative \(fossilfuel treaty.org\)](https://fossilfuel treaty.org)

Faith leaders and church communities can endorse FFNPT through the Faith Letter, available at fossilfuel treaty.org/faith-letter.

All signatures will be used to influence decision-makers at the next UN conference on climate change, COP29, scheduled for November 2024 in Azerbaijan.

Join us on Thursday 3rd October at 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Llangefni for a special liturgical celebration on the eve of the Feast of Saint Francis.

This whole island **Community Service** is a gathering in faith and hope to lament our failure to care for creation, and renew our commitment to act with Creation for the renewal of life. Stay afterward for tea, coffee, and a chance to chat. All are welcome!

Prayer for the Blessing of Pets

Good St Francis you loved all of God's creatures. To you they were your brothers and sisters. Help us to follow your example of treating every living thing with kindness. Gentle St Francis, Patron Saint of Animals watch over my pet and keep my companion safe and healthy.

Amen

