

A Prayer for the Earth

Gathering

Sit quietly reflecting on the image and words. Allow them to resonate in you



*Ka mate te whenua,
ka mate te tangata;
Ka ora te whenua,
ka ora te tangata.*

*If the land dies, people die;
If the land lives, people live.*

The Catholic definition of stewardship is about being concerned for the wellbeing of both the planet and its people, and valuing of life for its own sake. We have to look after the gifts our good God has given us with an attitude of humility and awe.

Scripture: Creator God (Romans 1:20)

“Ever since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities—God's eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, because they are understood through the things God has made.”

Breaking Open

How do we, as people who share the gift of the Josephite charism, look after God's gifts of people, places and things?

Take time to reflect and share with each other

Responding: God of Creation, hear us

- *We pray that we are sensitive and sacred in walking as stewards of creation*
- *We pray that our relationship with the environment not be separated from our relationship with God and each other*
- *We pray that we encourage new life wherever we find it*

Invitation to include our own prayers

Song: I am the earth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyM7XK5WCfQ>

A Prayer for Our Environment

Lord our God and creator of all,
we thank you for the beauty of creation.
Show us, we pray, how to respect the fragile balance of life.
Guide by your wisdom those who have power to care for
or destroy the environment, that by the decisions they make
life may be cherished and a good and fruitful earth
be preserved for future generations.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen

Final Thoughts

***We all need time
and space if we
are to find our
God in creation.***

