



7 weeks of *Easter* themes of *Catholic Social Teaching*

WEEK 7

Care for God's Creation

As we conclude the Easter season, we experience the beauty of God's creation in the blooming flowers and warm weather of spring, basking in the new life that Christ gives us in his resurrection. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

"When nature is viewed solely as a source of profit and gain, this has serious consequences for society. This vision of 'might is right' has engendered immense inequality, injustice and acts of violence against the majority of humanity, since resources end up in the hands of the first comer or the most powerful: the winner takes all. Completely at odds with this model are the ideals of harmony, justice, fraternity and peace as proposed by Jesus."

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, no. 82

Sacred Scripture

"The LORD God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it."

Genesis 2:15

Sacred Tradition

"Man's dominion over inanimate and other living beings granted by the Creator is not absolute; it is limited by concern for the quality of life of his neighbor, including generations to come; it requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation."

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2415

Catholic Social Teaching in Action



The USCCB's Environmental Justice Program educates and calls Catholics to a deeper reverence and respect for God's creation and encourages Catholics to respond to environmental challenges. Learn more at usccb.org/environment.



Organizations like Catholic Climate Covenant and the Laudato Si' Movement work to form Catholics and advocate for just environmental policies that uphold integral ecology and care for creation.

Care for God's Creation Prayer

God of all creation,
How splendid and majestic is the world you created!
It reveals your glory; it teaches us about you.
When you made us in your image,
you gave us this command:
care for the world and for all the creatures in it,
for this is our common home.
Help us to be stewards
who honor you in the world you have made
for the good of all creation
and for future generations.
May your justice reign forever!
Amen.

usccb.org/sjp