



# SEASON OF CREATION FOR GRADES 6-12



*Listen to the  
Voice of Creation*  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

## Second Week of September, 2022

Needed: Red Strips/ribbon to be tied on parish burning bush of prayer for creation.

### Call to Prayer

**Leader:** We awaken to a new day called by the same Voice in the Holy Fire which asked Moses to take off his shoes because he was standing on Holy Ground.

**All:** May the symbol of the burning bush invite us to listen to the cries of creation and take off our sandals of our unsustainable lifestyles that disconnect us from creation, those who suffer and our Creator.

**Song:** One Small Voice, Kathy Sherman, CSJ  
[ministryofthearts.org/art/one-small-voice](http://ministryofthearts.org/art/one-small-voice)

**Chorus:** So listen with your heart and you will hear the voice, feel the love, make the choice. There is one voice in all voices chanting different melodies, inviting us to sing in harmony.

### Reading

#### **Psalm 24:1**

The earth is the Lord's,  
and everything in it, the world,  
and all who live in it.



Based on a woodcut from the Venetian Bible, 1511. Border inscription from Bishop Seraphim Segrist. Public Domain.

### Pope Benedict

#### **World Youth Day 2008**

“God’s creation is one and it is good. The concerns for nonviolence, sustainable development, justice and peace and care for our environment are of vital importance.”

### Silence

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Patriarch Bartholomew “The way we respond to the natural environment directly reflects the way we treat human beings. The willingness to exploit the environment is revealed in the willingness to permit avoidable human suffering. So the survival of the natural environment is also the survival of ourselves. When we will understand that a crime against nature is a crime against ourselves and sin against God?”

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Pope John Paul II **World Day of Peace 1990**  
“[T]he ecological crisis is a moral issue. . . my brothers and sisters in the Catholic Church have a responsibility to care for creation.”

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YouTube CST 101: Care for God’s Creation (3:05)  
**[youtu.be/wSnXuCxiHXE](https://youtu.be/wSnXuCxiHXE)**

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Silence

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Prayers of Repentance **Response:** Forgive us, O God, and give us the courage to change our ways

1. Health reports say that 30,000 people in the U.S. have died of air pollution this year. We ask forgiveness for choosing our own convenience rather than choosing ways to reduce air, water, and land pollution, we pray.
2. Islands, which are home to people and species, have already gone underwater due to high rising waters. In other places huge areas of land have changed to desert due to the increased heat of climate change. We ask forgiveness for refusing to change our lifestyle so that others can live, we pray.
3. Starving refugees are fleeing their homelands around the world due to loss of clean water and land that will no longer raise crops. We ask forgiveness for thinking only of ourselves, we pray.
4. The U.N. says most of the wars in the world today are caused by a lack of clean water, as cities around the world are losing access to clean water. We ask forgiveness for wasting water, we pray.

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Burning Bush Write on a red strip/ribbon something that is suffering in creation as a result of our lack of care for creation and for which you ask forgiveness. (These ribbons will be tied on the parish “burning bush”)

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Closing Prayer **Laudato Si’ (Pope Francis)**  
**All:** O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.  
Bring healing to our lives,  
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.  
This we ask through Jesus the Christ.  
Amen.