

# **SAMPLE PRAYER SERVICE FOR PARISH USE**

*World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*

*September 1, 2015*

## ***Opening Hymn***

*(Please see suggestions listed at the end of this Order of Service as well as the USCCB Resource)*

## ***Greeting and Opening Prayer***

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

My brothers and sisters, we gather on this World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation in faith and in hope to pray for our world and the great gifts of creation that our God has given us.

May our prayers for creation inspire all to care and to cultivate responsibly, what the Lord has given us to steward.

Let us Pray:

O Lord, good Father, who in your providence  
have entrusted the earth to the human race,

Grant, we pray, that we may care for all of creation  
and with your help restore all that has been marred,  
so that you may cause the seeds of justice and the fruits of charity to  
spring up in our hearts.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
One God for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Liturgy of the Word**

*(Readings and Psalms may be taken from the Lectionary, vol. IV, Masses for a Productive Land, Masses after the Harvest, Masses in Thanksgiving; see also suggested readings in the USCCB Resource)*

First Reading:

Psalm *(See the end of this Order of Service, as well as the USCCB Resource)*

Second Reading:

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel:

Homily or Reflection

**Litany or Intercessions** *(See samples below as well as the USCCB Resource)*

**Leader:** Blessed be the Lord, the God of all creation, for through his goodness he sustains all the earth. Let us call upon him in faith:

**Litany** R; Deliver us, O Lord

Lector: From despair in times of draught: R;

From wastefulness of natural resources: R;

From neglect of those in need: R;

From blindness to your presence in all of creation: R;

From hunger and thirst: R;

From forgetting that our vocation is to be protectors of your handiwork: R;

## **Intercessions**

**Lector:** You have called us, as Saint Paul says, a field under your cultivation; grant that by doing your will in all things, we may protect your gift of creation and so mirror your love for all of us, we pray to the Lord

You bless the earth and abundance flows in its pastures; grant that through our care of all you have given us, all may know your goodness, we pray to the Lord

Through Jesus Christ you have made the world abound in the works of holiness; grant that, living with him, we may share in his fullness of life and bear much fruit, we pray to the Lord

You planned that all your children should share in the goods you have provided and the gifts of all the earth; grant that all those who are in need and want may be provided for, we pray to the Lord

Your praise is sung throughout the great hymn of all creation, through your providence may our voices one day join in that hymn, so that as you intended from the beginning, you may be all in all, we pray to the Lord.

**Leader:** God our Father, in your wise and loving care, you made the heavens and the earth. You created all creatures and you blanketed the earth with all forms of flowers and trees. In your goodness hear our prayers for the earth and all you have created. Help us to continually see you in your handiwork and help us to be grateful and caring for what you have made.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Leader:** Let us pray together for the coming of God's kingdom in the words our Savior taught us:

Our Father...

## **Closing Prayer**

**Leader:** Merciful God,  
Hear the prayers of your people;  
Reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation,  
and to thank you for the wonderful handiwork which you have  
entrusted to our care.  
Send us your help for the protection of creation as well as your pardon  
for the sins committed against the world in which we live.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Blessing**

## **Closing Hymn**

## **Hymns and Songs**

(Also see the index of your worship resource, especially the thematic sections on creation and justice, for more ideas)

All Creatures of our God and King/Oh Criaturas del Señor

Canticle of the Sun

Canto de Toda Criatura

Dios Es Amor

For the Beauty of the Earth

Let All Things Now Living

Praise and Thanksgiving

The Peace of the Earth/La Paz de la Tierra

This Day God Gives Me

Touch the Earth Lightly

## **Psalms and Canticles**

Psalm 66: Let All the Earth Cry Out in Joy to the Lord

Psalm 67: The Earth Has Yielded its Fruit; God, our God, Has Blessed Us

Psalm 104: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit and Renew the Face of the Earth

Psalm 136: Your Love is Never Ending

Daniel 3: Canticle of Daniel

