



Season of Creation – “*Creation’s Cry of Anguish*”

Reflection #3: September 11 – 17

“These situations have caused sister earth, along with all the abandoned of our world, to cry out, pleading that we take another course.” (LS #53)

READ: 3rd part of Pope Francis’ letter for the 2022 Season of Creation (*below*)



REFLECTION: Along with Creation praising God, should we care to listen, we cannot miss a chorus of cries of anguish. Will we *now* hear and attend to these cries? Pope Francis has listened and shares who is crying out: **Earth itself, silenced Creatures, People made poor, Native Peoples.** Finally, there is the plea of our **children** asking us to prevent the collapse of Earth. Today’s young people (*like Swedish teen-ager Greta Thunberg*) represent both the present and future generations of humanity (and all creatures) calling out to us...and...calling us out.

ACTION: (Re-)read “*Our Way of Life*” C10. The “listening together” that we Presentation People profess calls us to not only *act* for justice, but “*do*” justice within our communal lifestyles---living even *more* simply, so that others may simply even live.

“Clearly the Bible has no place for a tyrannical anthropocentrism unconcerned for other creatures.” (Laudato Si #68)

Resources for September 11 - 17

Pope Francis' letter for the 2022 Season of Creation

(Excerpt 3 of 7)

3 Tragically, that sweet song is accompanied by a cry of anguish. Or even better: a chorus of cries of anguish. In the first place, it is our sister, mother earth, who cries out. Prey to our consumerist excesses, she weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction. Then too, there are all those different creatures who cry out. At the mercy of a “tyrannical anthropocentrism” (*Laudato Si'*, 68), completely at odds with Christ’s centrality in the work of creation, countless species are dying out and their hymns of praise silenced. There are also the poorest among us who are crying out. Exposed to the climate crisis, the poor feel even more gravely the impact of the drought, flooding, hurricanes and heat waves that are becoming ever more intense and frequent. Likewise, our brothers and sisters of the native peoples are crying out. As a result of predatory economic interests, their ancestral lands are being invaded and devastated on all sides, “provoking a cry that rises up to heaven” (*Querida Amazonia*, 9). Finally, there is the plea of our children. Feeling menaced by shortsighted and selfish actions, today’s young people are crying out, anxiously asking us adults to do everything possible to prevent, or at least limit, the collapse of our planet’s ecosystems.

From [Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - Season of Creation](#)

Pray with Scripture: Joel 1: 16 - 20