

Everything is Connected
“interdependence obliges us to think of one
world with a common plan.”

(Laudato Si', 164)



New Lifestyle through Ecological Conversion Opening Prayer

Dear God,

You have created this entire world just as one family - Vasudhaiva
Kutumbaka.

You created this entire world in a way that everything is inter-connected
and

inherently harmonious.

You created us in your own image and likeness,

But sin has warped our minds that there is much injustice and much
carelessness

about nature and about the rights of other people and personal
responsibility throughout this world family.

As a result, we moved away from the harmony in which you created the
entire universe.

God! Help us to regain the paradise lost through our reconciliation with
oneself, with one another and with the entire creation.

Hymn: Have you not heard His silent steps.....

Reading From The Holy Scriptures

Yajurveda-40/1

Yadav isha vasyam idam sarvam,

Yatkimcha jagatyam jagat.

Ten tyakten bhunjitha,

Ma gridhah kasya swid dhanam.



This whole circle of nature is fully pervaded by God. whatever is in the universe is under existence and control of almighty God. Renounce all that is injustice and enjoy all that is pure delight. Don't covet/grab unjustly the wealth of any creature existing. It means, O men, always enjoy your all justified wealth which is yours in accordance with your practice of righteousness. Here is a great teaching for everyone that no one should be greedy. God is everywhere and He alone sees our all actions and justifies our fruits as well. So we should be confident on our deeds and satisfied with our achievement of fruits whatever is justified by the supreme Judge/Lord/God.

Qur'an 6:38

All creatures that crawl on the earth and those that fly with their wings are communities like yourselves. Hence do not spread corruption on earth after it has been so well ordered. (7:56). "Eat and drink from the provision of Allaah, and do not commit abuse on the earth, spreading corruption." (2:60)

Psalms 104:24-30

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

Romans 8:22-23

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Reflections

All the religions in the world time and again reminds us that the whole creation is inter-related and this harmonious inter-connectedness is intervened when we instrumentalize and destroy nature. As a result, everyone in the universe is affected.

Laudato Si says that we are not faced with two separate crisis, one environmental and the other social, but rather one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. We experience this ever more intensely during this COVID 19 crisis. It is not just about the environmental changes, but it is about the impacts of it on the poor and the marginalized. *Charak Samhita* says that Destruction of forests is taken as the destruction of the state, and reforestation an act of building the state and advancing its welfare. Protection of animals is considered a sacred duty, for being is the microcosmic replica of the universe.

Pope Francis says that human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start. He calls us for ecological conversion in which let us be protectors of God's creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, and protectors of one another and of the environment.

Intentions

Integrity of creation, the protection of the environment, to live in harmony with nature: these are not hobbies of some exotic freaks. They are part and parcel of our faith in a God who has entrusted his creation to us in order to cultivate it and care for it. Let us pray to God earnestly that we may realize it in our lives.

1. ○ God, create in us a new spirit, that we may RETHINK of our relationship with Nature in order to protect it.
2. ○ God, create in us a new spirit, that we may REDUCE all forms of energy consumption in order to preserve them.
3. ○ God, create in us a new spirit, that we may REUSE the things in order to fight consumerism.

4. O God, create in us a new spirit, that we may RECYCLE the waste in order to make the planet clean and green.
5. O God, create in us a new spirit, that we may REDISCOVER your design of harmony in Nature.
6. O God, create in us a new spirit, that we may REGAIN the paradise lost because of our greed and selfishness which instrumentalized Nature.
7. O God, create in us a new spirit, that we may REGIFT you what you have made good and holy

Closing Prayer

All Powerful God,

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.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and
contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we
journey towards your infinite light.

Let us be mustard seeds in our world bringing about ecological conversion
which grows and spreads to every corner of the earth for our sake now
and for every generation which is to come.

Martin Kumar, SJ

