

ROSARY OF CREATION

This opportunity to reflect on the gifts of creation and our responsibility toward our Mother, sister Earth was developed by Sister Ana Sufi from Argentina.

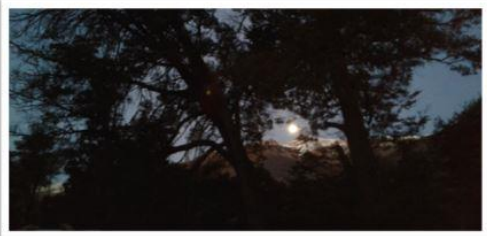
Pope Francis urges the world's Catholics and all people of good will to take urgent action against the injustice of climate change and the ecological crisis, to protect the poor and future generations. His encyclical letter *Laudato Si* is a compelling call to care for our common home, Earth, building on a long history of Catholic teaching. We are building a vibrant movement to respond to Pope Francis' call.



Ponder:

We can all recognize a sacred history in creation and evolution. The cosmos is the first revelation of the God of life, love and creation without end. It is our first holy book, our first pathway to God.

This wonderful marvel unites the stars and moves the sun in its orbit.





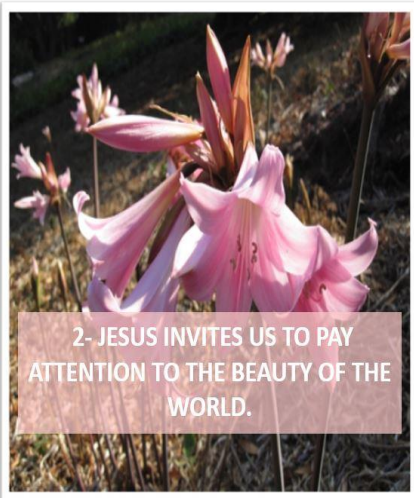
St. Thomas Aquinas said: "An error against nature is an error against God."

So that we do no further damage and so that we respect the beautiful work of the God of life, we pray the Rosary of Creation with texts from Laudato Sí.



1-ALL BEINGS IN THE UNIVERSE ARE PART OF ONE FAMILY IN COMMUNION.

Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society. There is one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature. (LS #91;139)



Jesus would invite them to recognize the paternal relationship God has with all creatures. With moving tenderness, God would remind us that each one of them is important in God's eyes: 'Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God.' 'Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.' (LS #96)



3. A MORE JUST WORLD IS POSSIBLE IN WHICH EVERYONE HAS WHAT IS NEEDED.

Obsession with a consumerist lifestyle, above all when few people are capable of maintaining it, can only lead to violence and mutual destruction...there is urgent need for politics and economics to enter into a frank dialogue in the service of life, especially human life. ... The Christian tradition has never recognized the right to private property as absolute or inviolable and has stressed the social purpose of all forms of private property. (LS #204,189, 93)



4- INDIGENOUS COMMUNITES TEACH US TO RESPECT AND CARE FOR THE EARTH.

The disappearance of a culture can be just as serious, or even more serious, than the disappearance of a species of plant or animal... it is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. For them, land is not a commodity but rather a gift from God and from their ancestors ... a sacred space with which they need to interact if they are to maintain their identity and values. When they remain on their land, they themselves care for it best. (LS #145-146)



5- TO LOVE IS TO CARE FOR AND BUILD COMMUNITY WITH ALL THAT EXISTS.

The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. Community actions that intervene in favor of the common good and seek to build a better world, expressing self-giving love, can become intense spiritual experiences. ... We can ask Mary to help us look at this world with wiser eyes. (LS #231-232-233)

God of life, teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to contemplate with admiration, to acknowledge that we are profoundly united to all creatures in our journey towards your infinite light. Thank you because you are with us every day. Strengthen us, please, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. AMEN