

Season of Creation

IPA VIRTUAL PRAYER SERVICE

to

Honour and Advance the Rights and
Care of the Earth



"Listen to the Voice of Creation"



JOIN WITH US
ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 4TH AT 1:30PM (IRISH TIME)
TO MARK THE END OF THE SEASON OF CREATION
FOR OUR
VIRTUAL PRAYER SERVICE



The Burning Bush
Ex 3:1-12



IPA Meditative Virtual Prayer Service



To

Honour and Advance the Rights and Care of the Earth

Season of Creation – Feast of St. Francis – October 4th 2022

Opening Hymn

Karliene – Mother Earth



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=calo1UGSDgw>



The Burning Bush
Ex 3:1-12

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

Explanation of what you have brought with you to this Meditative Prayer Service today

Jacinta

“I have heard their cry...I know their sufferings...Come, now! I will send you...I will be with you” (Ex 3: 1-12)

The **burning bush** is the Symbol for the Season of Creation 2022. Today, the prevalence of unnatural fires are a sign of the devastating effects that climate change has on the most vulnerable of our planet. Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice.

On the contrary, the fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt. Horeb did not consume or destroy the bush. This flame of the Spirit revealed God's presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered, and promised to be with us as we followed in faith to our deliverance from injustice.

In this Season of Creation, this symbol of God's Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation.

Pause

We take a moment to consider our vulnerable planet

Miriam

In "Our Way of Life" (C14) for Reflection #2: we are told

"In the beauty of creation and in the unfolding of our lives, we discover the mysterious presence of the Divine inviting us to pray unceasingly, joining in the praise and yearning of all creation."

Brian

During this Season of Creation what have you noticed?

Have you stopped to look, to listen, to hear, to smell or to taste?

Have to slowed to breathe in?

Consider what we are being asked to do in Rob Bell's Poem Walk, Don't Run

Maureen O Connell

WALK DON'T RUN

By Rob Bell

Walk, don't run.

That's it.

Walk, don't run.

Slow down, breathe deeply,
and open your eyes because there's
a whole world right here within this one.
The bush doesn't suddenly catch on fire,
it's been burning the whole time.

Moses is simply moving
slowly enough to see it. And when he does,
he takes off his sandals.

Not because
the ground has suddenly become holy,
but because he's just now becoming aware that
the ground has been holy the whole time.

Efficiency is not God's highest goal for your life,
neither is busyness,
or how many things you can get done in one day,
or speed, or even success.

But walking,
which leads to seeing,
now that's something.
That's the invitation for every one of us today,
and everyday, in every conversation, interaction,
event, and moment: to walk, not run. And in doing so,
to see a whole world right here within this one

Pause

We take a moment to think on what we have noticed:

Brian

We are invited to listen to creation's call. What is God saying to us through the Book of Nature? Spend more time, with awareness, evoking the senses, contemplating God's love for us through creation. Can we allow nature to be a teacher, a friend, a channel of God's love?

"Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

When was the last time you felt you were standing on holy ground? Perhaps it was in your garden, feet planted on the wet grass, or the life-giving soil. Maybe it was at the beach for summer vacation, feet sinking into the sand as the water washes over them. Wherever it was, go there right now in your mind's eye and try to feel what you felt in that moment. Feel the presence of God in that thin place where heaven and earth nearly touch.

The lands and waters of this world are sacred places. We know it when we rest in them and we know it from our sacred texts. As Christians, to see the world as creation is to see the world as sacred.

Chat / Unmute: What it is that you have noticed more so during this Season of Creation?

Pause

We take a moment to think on the flooding in Pakistan and those affected

And when we consider the fragility of our planet I invite:

Sister

God of Life,
We praise you for the beauty of Creation,
its richness and variety.
Yet, through greed and ignorance,
We scar your world with plastic waste and throw so much away.
Make us more like Jesus, treading gently on our common home,
And breathe your spirit in us, that we may care more deeply for Your Earth.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sr. Rupa

The concrete tangibility of the earth, the fragility of the living world, the haunting beauty of nature – all these are potentially a means of divine disclosure.

The human experience of the senses could reveal a path leading to the "heart of reality", to God.

There is a deeper unity in all things, with diversity ultimately held together by God.

Teilhard de Chardin

Pause

We take a moment to think conflict in our world and

Gemma Thomson

FINAL BLESSING:

Bless us, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as we go forth with joy and hope to care for God's creation,

- Walking gently on the earth,
- In right relationship,
- Nurtured by your love,
- Taking only what we need,
- Giving back to the earth in gratitude,
- Honouring all with reverence,
- Reconciling and healing,
- Mindful of those who will come after, and of the poor today
- Recognising our proper place as part of, not apart from, your creation.

Ignite your spark within us, that we may know ourselves as truly human and irrevocably part of the web of Life.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCN4unX1K3I&feature=youtu.be>



Photo by [Federico Respini](#) on [Unsplash](#)