



First Friday Reflection

Aug 2023



TWELVE FIRST FRIDAY STEPS TOWARDS THE LAUDATO SI GOALS



AWARENESS

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience. **What is required is an "ecological conversion,"** whereby the effects of Christians' encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them," wrote Pope Francis."

PRAYER

God of love,
show us our place
in our world
as instruments
of your affection for
all beings because
no one is forgotten
by you.
Amen.

ACTION

Encourage a greater contact with nature in a spirit of wonder and gratitude and celebrations for the healing of our environment and asking forgiveness for harmful activities.

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Image by Sasin Tipchai from Pixabay

Australian Reflection

"Ecological spirituality begins in the acknowledgment, grateful and joyful, that all creatures owe their existence to God. Humans are not somehow separate from the rest of creation. We share it intimately with other creatures. We acknowledge God as Creator of us all." ([USCCB](#))

- Spend time in Creation with the Creator. Immerse yourself in the sights, sounds, and sensations. Dwell on the thought that Creation is sacred and deserves our respect through loving thought and action. Discover God in the Creation - the natural world, its creatures, and its ecosystems.
- Read the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference (ACBC) 2021-2022 Social Justice Statement '[Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor](#)'.
- Read something by an eco-spiritual writer. (Recommendations: 'An Astonishing Secret' by Daniel O'Leary; 'Care for Creation [A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth]' by Delio, Warner, and Wood).
- Find out about [Earthcare](#) Schools, Parishes, and Families.