



SEASON OF
CREATION 2021

A home for all

Season of Creation – September 1 to October 4

During this Season of Creation, Pope Francis calls us to pray, to acknowledge and embrace our role as recipients of God’s gift of creation as well as caretakers of this universe.

This year’s theme: **A HOME FOR ALL: Renewing the Oikos of God** (*Oikos is Greek for home or household.*) underscores our duty to act as caretakers of “the integral web of relationships that sustain the well-being of the Earth.”

Abraham’s tent, serves as a symbolic reminder of the hospitality he showed to strangers as recounted in Genesis 18 and a reminder that we are to extend that same hospitality to all we know and those we do not around this world, protecting and sharing justly God’s creation; living “our commitment to safeguard a place for all who share our common home.”

September 1, 2021 – Day of World Prayer

“The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.

(Excerpt from Pope Francis’ prayer in his Laudato Si’ encyclical)

First Sunday 9/5 -- Thank You for Creating Day and Night/The Sun and Moon and Stars/The 24 Hours of Life

Sunday 9/5	Monday 9/6	Tuesday 9/7	Wednesday 9/8	Thursday 9/9	Friday 9/10	Saturday 9/11
Take a walk outside at night this week and marvel at the beauty of creation	Set aside 10 minutes this day to consider how you can limit waste in your life.	Turn off the light every time you leave a room. Open the blinds and enjoy the sunlight.	Bring a plant into your home for beauty and to purify your air	Take 10 minutes today to concentrate on your breathing. Appreciate the air which is God's gift to us. Relax in the joy of this gift.	Learn how you can help the people of Haiti. Attend lecture of Dr. Moussanto Dantil, Director of Center for Technology at Notre Dame Pignon: St. Matthew's Church, Voorheesville, 6:30 pm (see St. Thomas website)	Take a moment to reconnect with a friend or relative you haven't spoken to recently. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for the lives of your friends and family.

Second Sunday 9/12 Thank You for the Waters of Life that Cool, Refresh, Baptize and Sustain Us

Sunday 9/12	Monday 9/13	Tuesday 9/14	Wednesday 9/15	Thursday 9/16	Friday 9/17	Saturday 9/18
Reconnect and Rejoice today with your family of parishioners at the St. Thomas Picnic, Elm Avenue Park, 12:15 pm to 4:30 pm	Say a prayer For all those suffering drought, floods and fires	Donate to Mater Christi Food Pantry which assists a large number of refugees and immigrants Collection: 3-4p St. Thomas Parking Lot	Check the Environmental Working Group website https://www.ewg.org/ For information about safe sunscreens and other items	Consider donating to a charity such as Water for Blessings https://waterwithblessings.org/ to help those in need of clean water	Plan today to avoid using any plastic item – at the end of the day – consider what you learned and how you can continue this practice	Pick up a Clynk bag in the St. Thomas Church gathering space. Fill and return to Hannaford. The returns will profit projects that protect water.

Third Sunday 9/19 – Thank You for the Land Where We Live the Life You Have Given Us

Sunday 9/19	Monday 9/20	Tuesday 9/21	Wednesday 9/22	Thursday 9/23	Friday 9/24	Saturday 9/25
Say a prayer for our brothers and sisters in need around the world	Plan a meal this week using only locally grown food	Donate food for St. Francis Food Pantry Collection: 3-4p St. Thomas parking lot	Buy some wool dryer balls and stop using dryer sheets. They are reusable, reduce wrinkles, and reduce dryer time, therefore saving energy. You can find them on Amazon	Check the calendar of activities at 5 Rivers and consider participating in one of the programs.	Take 10 minutes to assess how well you are caring for yourself. Make a plan to care for yourself today.	Schedule 10 minutes to pray for creation.

Fourth Sunday 9/26 Thank You for the Creatures Great and Small who spend Life in the Water, on Land or in the Air

Sunday 9/26	Monday 9/27	Tuesday 9/28	Wednesday 9/29	Thursday 9/30	Friday 10/1	Saturday 10/2
Reduce your consumption this week. Consciously plan to buy less, reuse or upcycle an item each day this week.	Plan a meatless meal for one day this week	Put a recycle bin/basket in your bathroom	Google information about St. Francis of Assisi, consider what his life means to us today	Walk through your neighborhood, taking time to notice the beauty of the birds in the sky, the plants on ground and the people who populate your world.	Schedule 10 minutes to pray for yourself, for the strength and wisdom to care for and protect creation.	Consider how you did with recycling, reducing purchases, upcycling items

October 10/3 Thank you for our sisters and brothers who share Life with us on this planet of your creation