



Earth Day Program Outline:

- » Opening Prayer
- » Scripture Reading #1
- » Scripture Reading #2
- » Video and discussion
- » Activity
- » Closing Prayer
- » Bulletin Insert (English)
- » Bulletin Insert (Spanish)

This Earth Day guide will help you plan a one-hour celebration at your parish or school. You can pick the time/date for your celebration. As always, please feel free to contact us at programs@catholicclimatecovenant.org to discuss your program or if we can answer any questions.

Thank you for helping care for Creation and our vulnerable sisters and brothers.

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Care for Creation: Care for the Poor.

Earth Day Guide 2016

Introduction:

April 22, 2016 marks the 46th anniversary of Earth Day, a secular celebration that many faith communities have incorporated into their annual calendars. This year, we join with the Earth Day Network to celebrate "Trees for the Earth."

Why trees?

1. **Trees help lessen the impact of climate change. They absorb carbon dioxide from our atmosphere. In fact, an acre of mature trees absorbs annually the same amount of carbon dioxide produced by driving the average car 26,000 miles.**
2. **Trees help us breathe clean air. Trees absorb pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark.**
3. **Trees help communities. Trees help communities achieve long-term economic and environmental sustainability and provide food, energy and income. This is especially beneficial for poor communities overseas.**