



Prayer for World CLC Day 2025

Laudato Si': Is an Angel Calling Us?

Prayer Guide in English

[Entrance song]

*For the breath of God that hovered over the waters, from the beginning,
for the morning star and for those at night fixed in the firmament.*

*For the fire, the light, and also for the cold,
for the water and for the wind, everything speaks to us about you.*

Laudato Si! Laudato Si! Laudato Si! Laudato Si

*For all the oceans that draw the earth, from sunrise to sunset,
for the proud mountain and the vast valleys.*

*For the beasts of the water, the earth or the sky, this living swarm,
for men and women whom you raised up and for all their children.*

*When they express love, when they hold out their arms,
like brothers and sisters, this tell us about you.*

*Laudato Si! Be praised! Laudato Si! God the Creator!
Laudato Si! Joy of Heaven! Laudato Si! Joy! Joy in the heart!*

*For the house built by the humble of heart that shelters everyone,
the peacemakers of a blue planet where all man are neighbors.*

*In the hope of that day which will soon dawn,
here and elsewhere, you will be recognized.*

*Laudato Si! Be praised! Laudato Si! God the Creator!
Laudato Si! Joy of Heaven! Laudato Si! Joy! Joy in the heart!*

1. **Hola, y sean bienvenidas y bienvenidos al Día Mundial de nuestra Comunidad de Vida Cristiana, y a esta celebración del 10^{mo} aniversario de la Encíclica Laudato Si' del Papa Francisco.**
2. **Hello everyone, and welcome to the World Day of our Christian Life Community and to this celebration of the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si'.**
3. **Bonjour à toutes et tous, et bienvenue à la Journée mondiale de notre Communauté de Vie Chrétienne et à cette célébration du 10^{ème} anniversaire de l'Encyclique Laudato Si' du Pape François**

4. The chosen theme for 2025's World CLC Day is Laudato Si' – a praise of gratitude for all creation! Each March our World CLC Day is an opportunity to celebrate and pray together during our virtual gathering.

5. Starting from the encyclical Laudato Si', the North American Regional team invites us to **Gratitude**, to **Listening with Lament to the cry of Earth and the Poor**, and to Contemplative **Action**.
Let us deepen our sense of communion and solidarity with one another in the care of creation and all its creatures.

6. Recognizing that the cry of earth and the cry of the poor are a single cry, we hope Pope Francis' invitations encourage us to renew our commitment as CLC to a simple lifestyle, to integrate vocation & mission, and to support each other in an integral ecology conversion, personal and community based.
May this be CLC's contribution to profound personal and social change consistent with Laudato Si' in the healing –or Tikkun—of Earth.

7. A Prayer for our Earth (Laudato Si')

All powerful God, you are present in the universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with your peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle, for justice, love and peace.

8. Sometimes I feel like, ...like one of the apostles in one of the boats ...in the middle of a storm..., I am afraid....

[For the cry of the Earth / Pope Francis]

Let us pray for the cry of the Earth.

If we take the temperature of the planet,
it will tell us that the Earth has a fever,
and is unwell, like any sick person.

But do we hear this pain?

Do we listen to the pain of the millions of victims of environmental catastrophes?
Those who suffer the most from the consequences of these disasters are the poor, the ones forced to leave their homes due to floods, heat waves or droughts.

Tackling man-made environmental crises, such as climate change, pollution or biodiversity loss, calls for responses that are not only ecological, but also social, economic and political.

We have to commit ourselves to the fight against poverty and the protection of nature, changing our personal habits and those of our community.

Let us pray that each of us will listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the victims of environmental catastrophes and climate change, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.



9. I see online & learn from our CLC sisters and brothers of the chaos of armed gangs in Haiti! The political, economic and social conflict in North America ignited by a chaotic, cruel administration, brings the United States, Canada and Mexico ---like many areas of the world---into these stormy waves. Amidst the climate crisis for us all, this is an anxious, heart-breaking time...

10. Recently, members of CLC in Lebanon shared over the phone: "It was a terrible night! The explosions didn't stop!" For the past year, the violence, destruction and pain in the Holy Land, the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Ukraine for more than 3 years already... I don't know what to do anymore...! I feel totally helpless....

[Lamentation song]

*All creatures of our God and King
lift up your voices, let them ring
fill the Earth with lamentation
cry out abuses of our power
tell what we lose with every hour.*

*To our greed and depredation
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*



11. In addition to the cry of the poor, there is the cry of the Earth! "Through a reckless exploitation of nature, [human beings] risk destroying our Common Home". Pope Francis also speaks of "the possibility of a real ecological catastrophe under the effect of the consequences of industrial civilization" [LS 4] (Horizonte 183). Am I the only one who realizes that everyone tries to row in their own way and that we go around in circles?
12. Am I alone ... in being alone?
13. But what would happen if we, in the boat of CLC, in the midst of this storm, this chaos, this polarity, this fear of the law of the strongest...we dare to Hope?!
14. Today we commemorate and celebrate three events
15. The Feast of the Annunciation to Mary
16. The 10th Anniversary of the Encyclical Laudato Si'
17. Our belonging to the World movement of the Christian Life Community
18. The Feast of the Annunciation. Since its inception, CLC has had a "special devotion to Mary". What if... we let ourselves be guided by Mary?
19. Mary's prayer at the Annunciation, one of the most important moments of her life, is a model for our own prayer. She asked to be totally open to all that God asked of her: "I am the Lord's servant; may your Word to me be fulfilled", says Luke.
20. **Entrance prayer**
Let us pray that each and every one of us may listen with our hearts to the cry of the environmental crisis, to the cry of the Earth and to the victims of disasters and wars, committing ourselves personally to caring for the world we inhabit. "Hope invites us to recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always change course, that we can always do something to solve problems" (LS 61).

21. Since 2015, with the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, the Pope has continued calling us:
«Dear brothers and sisters: "With graced imagination, hope and act with creation"».

Get up and set out with your brothers and sisters to answer these two questions:

1/ Here at home, what is the cry of the Earth?

2/ Here at home, what is the cry of the Poor?

And so, everyone is called to an awakening and changing one's life.

22. Visitation of the Angel to a girl called Mary

On the day of the Annunciation, the Angel, with a flower in his hand, does not call her "Mary". He gives her a nickname: "Full of grace"

Mary will listen to this incredible announcement. She does not complain. She questions realistically.

Like Mary, let us seek to answer the questions:

1/ How can God's plan be accomplished?

2/ How can we respond, like Mary, to the call of God, at the exhortation today of Pope Francis in the face of the ecological challenges of our planet?



23. Elizabeth: from Disappointment...

"Look, your relative Elizabeth is in her sixth month, she who was called infertile" Elizabeth is the wife of the priest Zachariah. They both live in Palestine and are described as "just and blameless before God".



But Elizabeth, "infertile" and "advanced in age", has not given her husband any children.

Mary runs to her cousin's house, ...she is eager to share some news, some good news.

Mary and Elizabeth: a fraternal, joyful, profound embrace before the mystery of life that births, willed by God.

The two women seem to be dancing. They vibrate at the announcement of God's coming and they transmit the rhythm of his love.

24. Elizabeth: at the blessing...



To be a good dancer, with you, Lord, as elsewhere, you must not know where it leads.

You have to follow, be cheerful, be light and, above all, not be stiff.

You should not ask for explanations about the steps you like to take.

You have to be like an extension, agile and alive of you.

- 1/ **Like Elizabeth, in my faith in the love and will of God, do I experience difficulties, crosses, sterility in my life?**
- 2/ **Who has been or have been an angel in my life who gives me back a deep joy, a desire to dance with the Lord?**
- 3/ **From what infertility does the angel of the Lord wants to make me fruitful today?**

25. Zechariahs' doubt

Zechariah has not left the house. He stands in the shadow of the door, his mouth closed. The Gospel reports that it is because of the vision he had in the Temple. However, being mute does not prevent one from dancing like Mary and Elizabeth.



But to dance, one must go out, one must meet others, leave security or the fear of the unknown, choose to let go to dance in step with others. Zechariah stands on the threshold.

One more step and he will leave the shadows for the full light. One more step and he will fully enjoy the joyful dance of the two women.

- 1/ **How to leave the security and fear of the unknown that paralyzes the decision and discernment of one's mission?**
- 2/ **How to get out of doubt and inaction?**

26. Joseph's dream and discrete action



In this “Annunciation to Joseph”, in the heart of his sleep, Joseph’s conscience is enlightened by the Holy Spirit. From now on, Joseph can act according to the divine plan and move from mere human will to an act of faith.

Joseph’s response, his “let it be done”, is crystalized in the decision to take Mary into his home, the one who brings the Salvation of the world.

Joseph’s will is seized by God and his house becomes that of Emmanuel.

1/ Joseph, you are the only witness to Mary’s secret. What if I learned of your beautiful silence?

2/ Am I ready to take care of those whom God entrusts to me on a daily basis?

27. What if today, the announcement of the angel Gabriel was through the Pope's call to any person of good will?

Do I respond...

... like Mary?

... like Zechariah?

... like Elizabeth?

... like Joseph?



28. While waiting for our heart's answer, what if we called on our head?!

The message of Laudato SI' is twofold:

- Everything is connected
- There is an Antidote

Everything is connected:

The climate crisis and the crisis of social injustice have their origins in the moral crisis of our industrial society of unbridled overconsumption, throwaway culture and indifference. Let us remember...the boat in the storm...

But, if we are ready to hear it, there is...

The antidote: Contempl-Action-Community:

Which is composed of 3 words, 2 seemingly opposite verbs and a way of doing things: Contemplating... Acting... in Community

29. **First word: Contemplation,**

which we can also understand as meditation or prayer; and which we can summarize as SET:

S for Stop!!: We stop running, we stop wanting to do everything... We take a break... I close my eyes, take a deep breath, stop at 1-2-3 and exhale slowly through my mouth as if I had a straw. I do this 3 times... Right now... I inhale 123 and exhale... One last time... I breathe...

E for Embrace: Welcome the here and now: I breathe, I listen, I look around me and more importantly the people with me...

T for Thanks: Thanking that I am alive and I am grateful for this gift from God.

30. Risk of side effects!:

I may find out that:

"Less is more"

Less accumulation of things = less worries, and + time for joy...

"The struggle for life becomes sharing with Life"

My most precious resource, my time, I can share it with others for others...

31. **Second word: Action**

"Little moment after little moment...One small step at a time". I decide to harmonize my life with my dreams, my deep human values, my faith...all my "I have a dream – Imagine"

32. **Third word: in community**

It is decided...I stand up and commit myself, in my community, to a process to respond here at home with others, to the cry of the Earth, to the cry of the Poor.

33.. And... I don't forget to take the time to return to meditation and prayer... And back to contemplative-action ...and so on in this cycle of deep listening and responding.

34. And... if like Mary, ...with Mary,
I dared to take the risk to listen to the message of Pope Francis,
to meditate on it
and dare to say, "Here I am!" and "Let it be done to me according to Your Will" ...
to get up and... take action...
35. So step by step, moment by moment, with you, with him, with her, together perhaps
we will become Pilgrims of Hope...
"...Together with all creatures, we walk this earth seeking God...
Let us walk singing! May our struggles and our concern for this planet not rob us of
the joy of hope" (LS 244).
36. [Song: Let's go out to sea with Ignatius]

[chorus]

*Let's go to the high seas, let's take the wind,
let's get out of the harbor, let's dare to dream again!
Let's go to the high seas, let's take the wind,
the risk is great, but it makes us alive!*



*To sing to God and bless him, let us walk with Ignatius
who teaches us to serve, and to love boldly.
He was wounded by a cannonball, the beginning of another story
the spirit of Christ lifted him up, his heart beating full of hope.*

*To embark into the unknown, with our **fragile** strength
to walk with Jesus in the light of the **Gospel**.
To bear witness to our faith and become **missionaries**
let us bring our songs, let us open our voices, let us trace paths that are **prayers**.*

[chorus]

*Let's cross the oceans that invite us to the **great journey**;
let's reinvent our hearts as children and go **together**;
let's expand all the paths that lead us to live as **brothers and sisters**;
let's open our hearts, let's open our hands, our struggle is **without borders**.*

[chorus]

*Cultivate all our talents, in a more **fraternal** land
let us commit ourselves, young and old, to the **universal** adventure.
For unexpected encounters, let us share our **experiences**,
following the example of Jesus, let us forge bonds of **trust**.*

[chorus]

*To draw a new world with a hundred colors of **hope**
let us not forget, the earth is round, it can unite our differences
seek God daily and find Him **in all things**
let us offer our lives every morning, let us give thanks to Him, **He hears us!***

37. And now, as a gift to take with you home...:Questions to help the heart and the head move forward and move ... from I to We...

Why not look for and read one or two avenues to explore in issue 183 of Horizons? It's a beautiful "toolbox" full of resources...

Why not propose to put Laudato SI' and Pope Francis' call on the agenda of our local, regional and national community meetings?

As a member of an Ignatian movement, how can we offer our "expertise in discernment and spiritual conversation" where we live?

... And we can use all the other good ideas inspired by you, from your own heart...

38. Jubilee Prayer

Franciscus

39. Prière du Jubilé

41. Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.
42. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.
43. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

