

Sowing Hope for the Planet

Everything is interconnected

Celebrating the
Season of Creation

A project in which every Sister whose congregation is a member of UISG, and their connections are provided with an opportunity to make a difference in our care of the planet.

As Pope Francis often reminds us...

“everything is interconnected.”

Campaign of the UISG
2018 - 2019

#LiveLaudatoSi

Website
Links



Season of Creation

September 1 to October 4

“Walking Together”

PowerPoint presentation available in
English, French, Italian, Spanish on
www.jpicroma.com

Season of Creation



“The Season of Creation is an annual celebration of prayer and action to protect creation. It is celebrated by Christians of all traditions, and the leaders of faith traditions have encouraged the faithful to participate.”

Website is available in English,
French, Spanish, Italian,
Portuguese, and Polish

SeasonofCreation.org



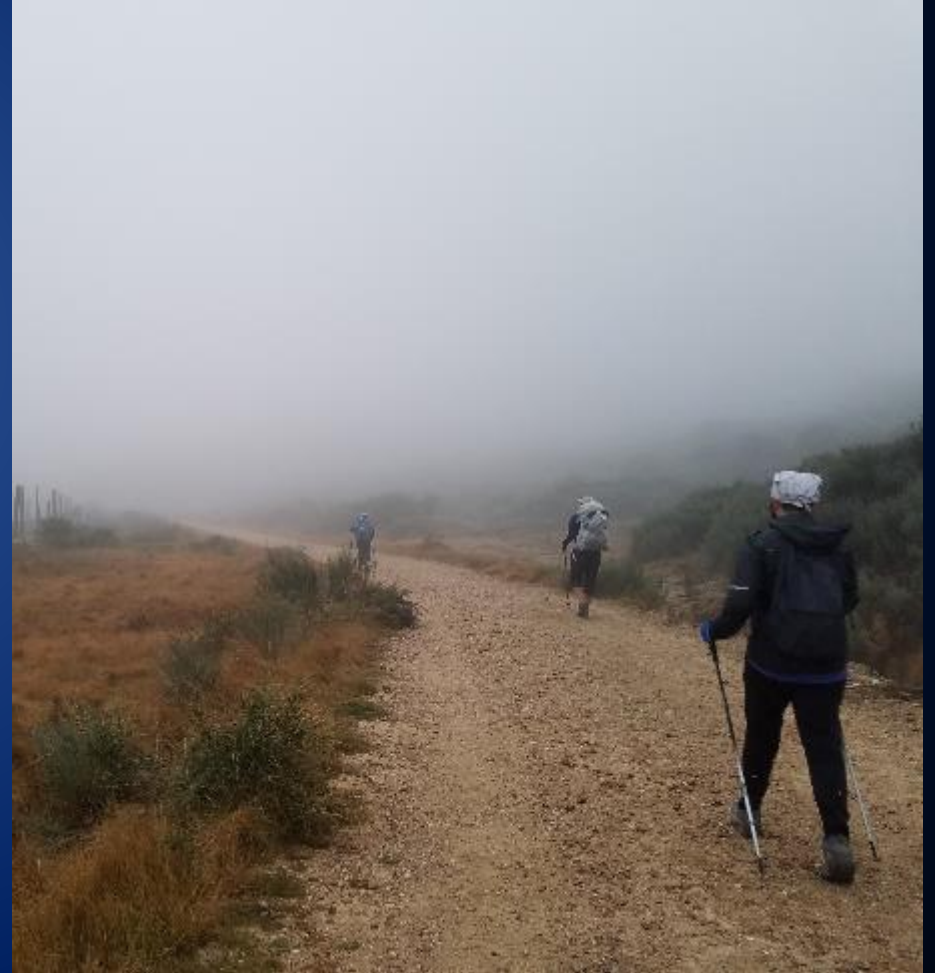
Supported by a diverse ecumenical community of partners, this site offers many wonderful resources, ideas and news about the Season of Creation.



Season of Creation

The theme of this year's celebration is
“walking together.” As brothers and
sisters in Christ, we are on a
pilgrimage to better care of creation.”

“In walking together, we follow the
role of Jesus, who walked with friends
on the roads around Jerusalem.”



Pilgrimage Blessing

Dear pilgrim,

As you go into the wilderness of the land and of your heart—

May you experience the ever-flowing grace of God's presence!

May you be immersed so fully in God's love that you learn to let go and swim!

May you engage deeply and radically with the natural world,
as steward, co-creator, and friend!

May you drink anew from the divine source, the stream of living water!

And may you be transformed, may the stagnant waters of your spirit begin to
flow, and may all which is dead in you rise again!

God is here. The river awaits. Let the adventure begin. Amen.

Written by Lisa Hershey Kutolowski From The River of Life Prayer Book
for the Connecticut River Pilgrimage 2017, available courtesy of Kairos Earth



SEASON OF
CREATION

“Walking Together”

“Jesus invited us to encounter God through God’s presence in creation. Whether by considering “the lilies of the field” or the “grain of wheat that falls to the earth,” the spiritual journey of following Jesus is closely tied to the everyday wonders of nature that He experienced in His earthly journey.”





“This Season of Creation, we
strive to more deeply
understand the lessons Jesus
taught us through creation....
As pilgrims together, we
welcome the opportunity to
awaken anew to the wonder of
the Earth, our common home,
and to protect the web of life it
shelters.”





Faith leaders' invitation to join the Season of Creation

“...we join together to rejoice in the good gift of creation and reflect on how we care for it... to pause in the midst of our day-to-day lives and contemplate the fabric of life into which we are woven.”



SEASON OF
CREATION

Celebrating Season of Creation

“...Pope Francis declared that
‘the ecological crisis...
summons us to a profound
spiritual conversion.’

These five weeks offer an
important opportunity to
deepen this aspect of our faith.”

(To Go Forth)



Celebrating Season of Creation

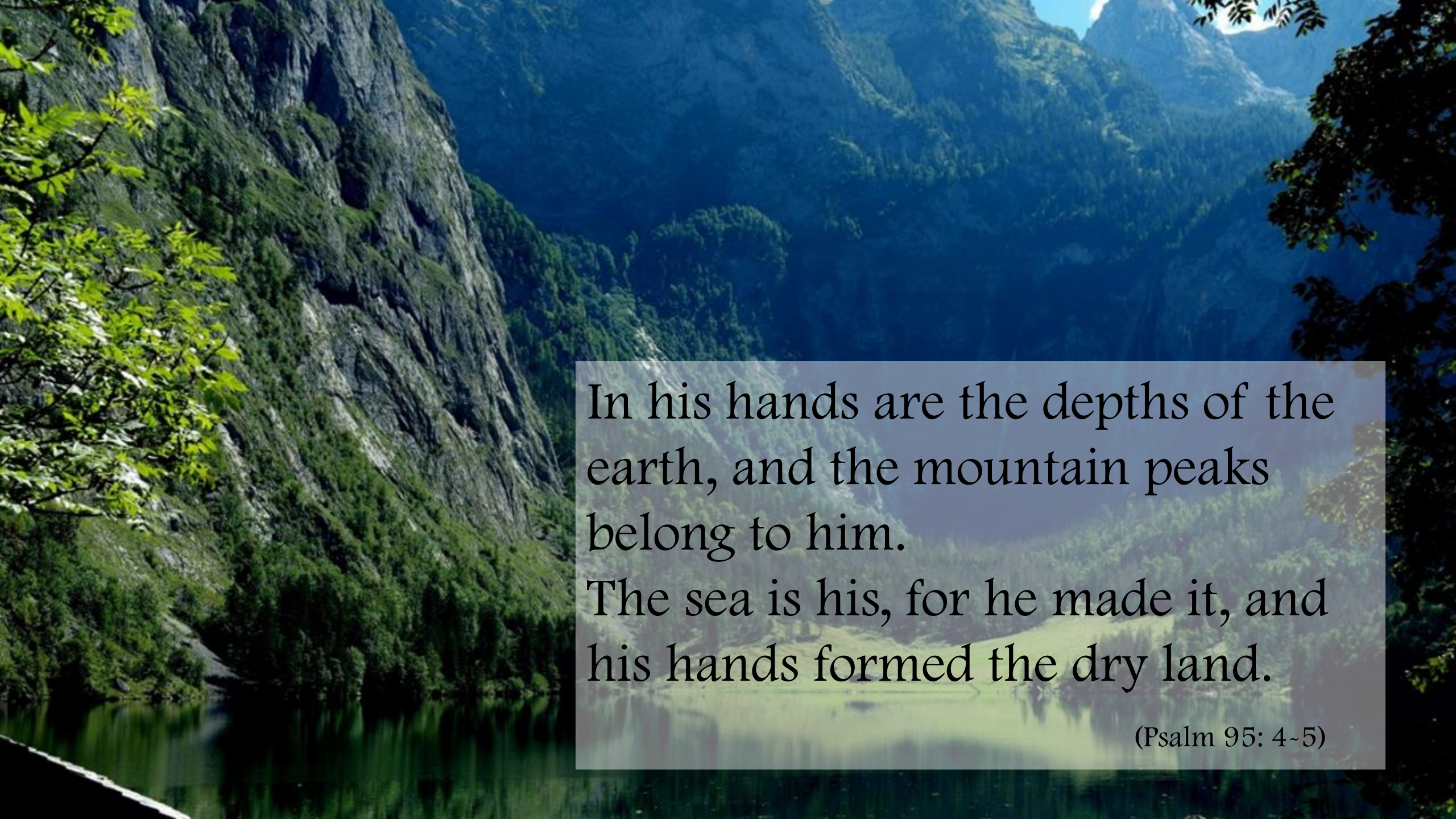
WAYS TO CELEBRATE

“Offering prayers of thanksgiving for the life-giving food that sustains and nourishes us. Briefly consider how all nourishment ultimately comes from the earth, and for all the human hands that helped bring this food to your table.”

(To Go Forth)

May we recognize, as *Laudato Si'* has taught us, that this “moment of blessing, however brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life”
(no. 227)



A scenic view of a mountain valley. In the foreground, a river flows through a lush green forest. The middle ground shows steep, rocky mountain slopes covered in dense green vegetation. In the background, more mountain peaks are visible under a clear blue sky. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and majestic.

In his hands are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

(Psalm 95: 4-5)

Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE



Counteract the “Throwaway Culture”

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis brings attention to our “throwaway culture,” which “quickly reduces things to rubbish” (no. 22). In our daily life, we can identify to choose reusables and commit to making one change during this month.

- Coffee mugs
- Reusable bags
- Cloth napkins

(To Go Forth)

Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession:

In calling for a deep “ecological conversion,” Pope Francis has emphasized the importance of examining one’s own conscience, of recognizing one’s sins against creation, however great or small.

Practicing reconciliation and performing spiritual work of mercy for our common home, such as an act of “grateful contemplation of God’s world”

(Laudato Si’, no. 214)

(To Go Forth)



"In his hand is the soul of every living thing
and the breath of every human being!"

(Job 12:10)




Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE

Involve the Community:

- Gather information on recycling in the community as raise awareness about the programs available
- Schedule community clean-ups
- Involve the children in cleaning up recreation areas





Blessed are you, O God,
Creator of the universe,
who have made all things good
and given the earth for us to cultivate.
Grant that we may always use created things gratefully
and share your gift with those in need,
out of the love of Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

Amen





SEASON OF CREATION

2018 CELEBRATION GUIDE

[Global Catholic Climate Movement Full Celebration Guide \(PDF\)](#)

Linked resources are available
in English, French, Spanish,
Italian, Portuguese, and Polish



The Season of Creation website has provided a full celebration guide to aid in planning celebrations

Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE

Pray and Worship:

- Host an ecumenical prayer service
- Integrate creation into Sunday liturgies
- Host a creation-centered retreat

A full prayer service, as well as ideas for creation themes in liturgies are available in the Season of Creation guide



SEASON OF
CREATION

Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE



Hold an education or sustainability event:

- Clean local waterways
- Plant a tree
- Organize a meditative walk

Examples, suggestions, and ideas are available in the Season of Creation Guide



Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE

Participate in a campaign:

- **Rise for Climate Action** (a march on September 8)
- **The Big Shift** (a campaign to take the World Bank to 100% renewable energy)
- **Sowing Hope for the Planet**



Examples, suggestions, and ideas are available in the [Season of Creation Guide](#)





...ever since the
creation of the
world, the invisible
existence of God
and his everlasting
power have been
clearly seen by the
mind's
understanding of
created things.

(Romans 1:20)

Celebrating Season of Creation

WAYS TO CELEBRATE

Laudato Si' Pledge: a worldwide campaign to raise awareness of the Laudato Si' message and to encourage the Catholic community to take action with the urgency required by the climate crisis.

Answering Pope Francis' urgent call in Laudato Si, I pledge to:

- Pray for and with creation
- Live more simply
- Advocate to protect our common home



Celebrating Season of Creation

Divesting from Fossil Fuels

A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

Catholic institutions around the world are coming together in record numbers to divest from fossil fuels. It's part our commitment to care for God's creation and "the least of these."

There is an urgent need to keep fossil fuels in the ground. Your institution has an important role to play.



Celebrating Season of Creation


Divesting from Fossil Fuels

Since the 2016 launch of the GCCM Catholic Divest – Invest Project, Catholic institutions are leading the fossil fuels divestment movement worldwide:

- [95 institutions](#) concretely responding to Pope Francis's call to keep fossil fuels underground
- From 2017 to today, 22 religious orders (provinces and general curia) have publicly committed to divest from fossil fuels

Climate action cannot wait.
It is urgent to act now.

Catholic leaders are standing up to say that they are committed to action on climate change to hear "the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."



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.
Praise be to you! Amen.

~Pope Francis
Laudato Si' 246

Celebrating Season of Creation

Divesting from Fossil Fuels

Link

This September, the world's attention will turn to a [global climate summit in San Francisco](#) which will showcase commitments from non state actors—businesses, cities, and faith communities—that are making bold progress on climate change. The summit will be the occasion to launch the **new joint catholic divestment announcement** where Catholic institutions will publicly commit to removing their money from fossil fuels companies.

Linked resources are available in English, French, and Spanish



Divesting from Fossil Fuels

This commitment can be signed both by Catholic institutions who already avoid investing in fossil fuel corporations and by Catholic institutions deciding to remove their funds from fossil fuel companies. This is a commitment to **divest within 5 years**, so it's fine to sign it even if your organization hasn't implemented the divestment decision yet.

Considering fossil fuels divestment as part of the Sowing Hope for the Planet Campaign is a concrete way to put the Laudato Si' in practice.

Link

[Global Catholic Climate Movement Divestment Page](#)

Linked resources are available in English, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, and Polish



“Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.”

(Laudato Si’, 9)



SEASON OF
CREATION

Celebrating Season of Creation

EVENT CAPTURE REQUEST

In our continued efforts to both spread the word and to recognize the many efforts associated with the campaign *Sowing Hope for the Planet*, we are making a request to begin capturing information from your events

We would like to receive a PowerPoint slide from our congregations sharing any events that promote Sowing Hope for the Planet. Please include the following information on the slide:



- Name of congregation
- Place of event
- Title of event
- Congregation website
- Photos from the event

Email to: hopeforplanet@gmail.com



Almighty and ever-living God,
you have made us stewards over the created
world,
so that in all things we might honor the
demands of charity.

Graciously hear our prayers,
that your blessing may come upon all those
who use these objects for their needs.

Let them always see you as the good
surpassing every good
and love their neighbor with upright hearts.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen