

The following two prayers are from the encyclical letter,
LAUDATO SÍ: ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

All-powerful God, you are present in the
whole 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 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.

A CHRISTIAN PRAYER IN UNION WITH CREATION

Father, we praise you with all your creatures. They
came forth from your all-powerful hand; they are
yours, filled with your presence and your tender love.

Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus, through you all things were made.
You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother,
you became part of this earth, and you gazed upon
this world with human eyes. Today you are alive in
every creature in your risen glory.

Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light you guide this world towards
the Father's love and accompany creation as it groans
in travail. You also dwell in our hearts
and you inspire us to do what is good.

Praise be to you!

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love,
teach us to contemplate you
in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of
you. Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every
being that you have made. Give us the grace to feel
profoundly joined to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world as
channels of your love for all the creatures of this
earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money that
they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may
love the common good, advance the weak, and care
for this world in which we live.

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.

Praise be to you!

Amen.

*Given in Rome at Saint Peter's on 24 May, the Solemnity of
Pentecost, in the year 2015, the third of my Pontificate.*

