



Parish Newsletter—22nd Sunday in Ordinary time- 1st to 8th Sept 24

To Hope and Act with Creation: The 2024 Season of Creation

(1<sup>st</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October)

Today, we are starting the month-long prayerful observance of the 2024 Season of Creation whose theme is 'To hope and act with creation'. This stems from St Paul's letter to the Romans (8.22). St Paul noted that as humans long for salvation, so also is the rest of creation, and he equated the earth to the mother who experiences the pain of giving birth and that we groan with the creation as we wait in hope for our bodies to be redeemed. We can visualise mother earth and all she holds looking pitifully to us humans who are cruelly destroying her beauty and order.

During this time, we reflect on our relationship with the environment and how our lifestyles and decisions as individuals and communities significantly impact on the natural world and its inhabitants. It reminds us that as humans, we are part and parcel of the earth's ecosystem. That is to say, we form one biological community with all living organisms, and that we are designed to coexist and mutually sustain each other's flourishing. An objective examination of conscience reveals that humans are to blame for the new imbalances in creation, and so we need to reform and take positive actions that will sustain the balance in the environment, the biodiversity and the ecosystem.

Biblical wisdom reveals the close relationship that exists between us humans and the other creatures. We all come from one source: God the creator of everything in the heavens and everything on the earth (Gen. 1 &2). Many Biblical texts personify creatures and demonstrate how they are bonded with us humans. For example, the canticle of the three young men in Daniel who sang, glorifying God from the heart of the fire, invited all things that the Lord made to give glory and eternal praise to God. They recognised the hand of the creative God in the heavens, sun, moon, stars, water, dew, cold and snow, nights and days, mountains and hills and invited them all to bless God (Dan. 3:57-90).

Saint Francis of Assisi in his canticle of creatures, referred to the planet earth as our sister and our mother. This has serious implications; it means that if we expect Mother Earth to look after us, we must look after her. This year's theme is inviting us to consider that there is hope, and the expectation of a better future, but that hope can only be realised if we are proactive in prayer and actions, by making choices that favour biodiversity and the ecosystem. Fr. Aloysius

MASSSES— 1st to 8th Sept 2024

Table with 4 columns: Day, Time, Date, and Mass Details. Rows include Sun 01 9.30am, Mon 02 9.30am, Tues 03 9.30am, Wed 04 9.30am, Thurs 05 9.30am, Fri 06 9.15am and 11.30am, Sat 07 9.30am, and Sun 08 9.30am and 11.30am.

Lectors

Table with 3 columns: Time, Date, and Lector Name. Rows include 9.30am 01/09/2024 Fremlyn, Marcy; 11.30am 01/09/2024 Mary Ann, Kenneth; 9.30am 08/09/2024 Cath Slatter, Cosmos; 11.30am 08/09/2024 Elvita, Alister.

Eucharistic Ministers

Table with 3 columns: Time, Date, and Minister Name. Rows include 9.30am 01/09/2024 Felix; 11.30am 01/09/2024 Patricia, Loveness; 9.30am 08/09/2024 Sophie; 11.30am 08/09/2024 Marcel, Frank.

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

The sick of the Parish: Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Gerard Griffith, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosi, John Crawford, Mr. Tran, Owen Darroch, Lucia Drabik.

Anniversaries during the week : Feasts during the week: Michael Flahive, Eileen Nora Clarke, Margaret rose Mullins, Roy Darlison, Nora Bernadette Hanbury, Marion Glennon, Evelyn Russell, James Crone, Mark Stein, Kathleen Palmer.

Clergy Anniversaries: Mgr James Dunlop Crichton, Rev. Bernard Salt, Rev. Thomas Doherty, Rev. James J. Holland, Deacon Francis Andrews, Rev Paul Devaney,

Novena prayer for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Lord God, the day of our salvation dawned when the Blessed Virgin gave birth to your Son. As we celebrate her nativity grant us your grace and your peace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

