

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION **MASS FOR THE CARE OF CREATION**

Entrance Antiphon **Ps 18(19): 2**

The heavens declare the Glory of God, and the firmament
proclaims the work of his hands.

Collect

God our Father,
who in Christ, the firstborn of all creation,
Called all things into being,
grant, we pray, that, docile to the life-giving breath of your Spirit,
we may lovingly care for the work of your hands.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Father,
these fruits of the earth and of our hands;
Bring to completion in them the work of your creation, so that,
transformed by the Holy Spirit, they may be for us the food and
drink of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon **cf. Ps 97: 3**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Prayer after Communion

May the sacrament of unity which we have received, O Father,
increase communion with you and with our brothers and sisters,
so that, as we await the new heavens and the new earth,
we may learn to live in harmony with all creatures. Through
Christ our Lord.

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MASS FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

LECTIONARY READINGS

Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition

Reading from the Old Testament

Wisdom 13:1-9

If they could investigate the world, how did they fail to find sooner the Lord of these things?

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

For all men who were ignorant of God were foolish by nature; and they were unable from the good things that are seen to know him who exists, nor did they recognize the craftsman while paying heed to his works; but they supposed that either fire or wind or swift air, or the circle of the stars, or turbulent water, or the luminaries of heaven were the gods that rule the world. If through delight in the beauty of these things men assumed them to be gods, let them know how much better than these is their Lord, for the author of beauty created them. And if men were amazed at their power and working, let them perceive from them how much more powerful is he who formed them. For from the greatness and beauty of created things comes a corresponding perception of their Creator. Yet these men are little to be blamed, for perhaps they go astray while seeking God and desiring to find him. For as they live among his works they keep searching, and they trust in what they see, because the things that are seen are beautiful. Yet again, not even they are to be excused; for if they had the power to know so much that they could investigate the world, how did they fail to find sooner the Lord of these things?

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 19:1-2, 3-4 (R 1a)

R The heavens are telling the glory of God.

V The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. R

V There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. R

Or:

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c (R 31b)

R May the Lord rejoice in his works.

V Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who coverest thyself with light as with a garment. R

V Thou didst set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. R

V Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches. R

V O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth is full of thy creatures. Bless the Lord, O my soul! R

Reading from the New Testament

Colossians 1:15-20

All things were created through him and for him.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia

Psalm 104:24

℟ Alleluia.

℣ O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all. ℟

Or:

Alleluia.

1 Chronicles 29:11d, 12b

℟ Alleluia.

℣ Thine is the kingdom, O Lord; thou rulest over all. ℟

Gospel

Mt 6:24-34

Do not be anxious about tomorrow.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day’s own trouble be sufficient for the day.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Or:

Gospel

Mt 8:23-27

He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time, Jesus got into the boat and his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save, Lord; we are perishing." And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O men of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Texts from Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition.