



CALLED TO ACTION

Session 8: Care for Creation

living the Faith
celebrating Prayer
promoting Justice
ready to Serve

Song – All the Ends of the Earth

– Bob Dufford

Refrain:

All the ends of the earth,
All you creature of the sea,
lift up your eyes to the wonders of the Lord.
For the Lord of the earth,
the master of the sea, has come with justice for the
world.

Break into song at the deeds of the Lord, the
wonders He has done in every age.

Heaven and earth shall rejoice in his mighty; every
heart, every nation call Him Lord.

Video Link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TK6gY1tkJAw>

Prayer – Psalm 148: Praise for God's Universal Glory

Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
Praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels;
Praise him, all his hosts!
Praise him, sun and moon;
Praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.
He established them forever and ever;
He fixed their bounds, which cannot be
passed.
Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike,
old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to
him.
Praise the LORD!



Called to Action: Written by The Logos Project on behalf of Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry enabling young people to live their faith.



Scripture – All the Earth is the Lords (Psalm 24:1-2)

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Church Teaching - Catechism of the Catholic Church 2415

2415 The seventh commandment enjoins respect for the integrity of creation. Animals, like plants and inanimate beings, are by nature destined for the common good of past, present, and future humanity. Use of the mineral, vegetable, and animal resources of the universe cannot be divorced from respect for moral imperatives. Man's dominion over inanimate and other living beings granted by the Creator is not absolute; it is limited by concern for the quality of life of his neighbour, including generations to come; it requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation.

Ice-Breaker 1 - If you love me make me smile

This is an ice breaker for groups that are pretty close and know each other.

Have the group in a circle and ask for a volunteer to be in the middle. Their objective is to get back into sitting in the circle with everyone else. To do that the volunteer needs to make another participant in the circle smile by doing something to make someone in the circle smile without touching anyone and whoever smiles will then swap with the person in the middle.

Debrief: Conclude the activity with discussion about the importance of smile and laughter. Why do we smile, why do we laugh? What are the things that make us laugh and smile?

Do we think God smiles or laughs? Think back on the creation story. What did God feel at the end of each day of creation? Creation makes God smile! Let us take care of creation in order for God to continue smiling and laughing with us.

Ice-Breaker 2 - Beauty of creation

(for groups who don't know each other so well)

Display a selection of items that have been created by God on the floor with participants gathered around in a circle. Allow the participants a minute or so to observe the items and then throw a cloth over the items. Tell participants that there are XX number of items and invite them to recall (individually first) what the items were. Items could include:

- Leaves
- Tree branch
- A flower
- Some sand or soil
- A pot plant
- Photo of a baby
- Pencil
- A faith symbol eg a cross, a rosary or a carving
- A packet of biscuits or lollies
- Rubber band
- A book (could be the Bible)
- A bowl of water
- Packet of matches
- A tennis ball
- Calculator or phone

Once they have had some time to recall individually share as a group to make sure the whole list is covered and then lead into a discussion about what they think of as being created by God. Do we just think about nature and people or when we go out to play a game of tennis do we think that we can do this because of God as well?

God's creation is all around us; the things that we see and the thing that we cannot see. We will take good care of those creations if we accept the fact that God entrusted them to us.



Activity – Climate Change Quiz

Background:

In order to show respect to our Creator-God, we should be good stewards or care takers of his creation. A requirement of our Christian faith is to care for the Earth. We are called to protect God's creation that includes people, animals, plants, and all that sustains life on this planet. Caring for the environment is an essential element of our living relationship with God, therefore, environmental issues and challenges has strong moral dimensions that we all have to take notice of.

Activity: Climate Change Quiz

Split the group into 4 equal sizes.

Ask each group to come up with a name and a chant for their group (their names and chants should be about the environment).

Give them 15 minutes to complete the task and ask them to present to the whole group.

Label the four corners of the room as A, B, C and D, with the centre of the room 'all of these'.

Read one question at a time and give the group limited time to choose. All participants in the one group must be in the one corner/centre. Tell them that in some questions, they have to justify their answers. When all groups have chosen a corner, announce the answer and add some comments from the notes or from the group.

Questions and Answers

1. Which region is home to over 60% of the world's people, with two-thirds living in extreme poverty?
 - a. Asia-Pacific
 - b. North America
 - c. Africa
 - d. Europe
 - e. None of these

Answer: a. Asia-Pacific. The poorest will be most vulnerable to climate change because they have little influence on policy and limited resources to overcome extreme weather events.

2. Is there any evidence of climate change?
 - a. Yes, heaps
 - b. Yes, a bit
 - c. Not much
 - d. No, none
 - e. Depends on who you talk to – the scientists say “yes” and the politicians say “no”

Answer: Accept a, b or e and ask respondents to justify and discuss their ideas.



Activity – Climate Change Quiz continued

3. What can result from global warming?
- Heat waves, floods and avalanches
 - Wind storms, droughts, storm surges and contamination of water supplies.
 - Reduced agricultural output
 - Retreating glaciers, higher sea level
 - All of these

Answer: e. All of these. Everyone will be affected.

4. Some nations will be more severely affected by rising sea levels. Why?
- Because they are close to the sea
 - Because they have lots of low-lying land
 - Because they are poor, and can't afford flood prevention measures
 - Because they have a high population density
 - All of these

Answer: e. All of these.

5. In 2000, the Red Cross reported that more people had to leave home because of environmental disasters than war. How many environmental refugees are there?
- 500,000
 - 1 million
 - 2 million
 - 25 million
 - 50 million

Answer: d. 25 million. This means 58% of all refugees are from environmental disasters.

6. What is the most common greenhouse gas emitted from human activities?
- Nitrous oxide
 - Carbon dioxide
 - Methane
 - Oxygen
 - None of these

A: b. Carbon dioxide



Activity – Climate Change Quiz continued

7. Carbon dioxide is released into the air by burning fuels such as oil to produce food and other things we consume. How many kilograms of carbon dioxide does the car of a family of three produce per year?
- 7,500
 - 750
 - 75
 - 7.5
 - .75

Answer: a. 7,500. Short distance drivers account for the most easily-reducible emissions. Walking, bike riding, car pooling or taking the bus can make a big difference.

8. Why is climate change an issue of justice?
- Because the poor will be affected first and most
 - Because the poor have contributed less to climate change than the rich
 - Because poor countries have fewer resources to combat the effects of climate change
 - Because poor communities depend more on food production
 - All of these

Answer: e. All of these. Climate justice looks at who is hurt and how, and who is responsible. Poor countries will probably suffer more from climate change due to their geography and lack of resources to adapt.

Congratulate the team with the most correct answers.

Before concluding the session, have some time for group discussion and ask them questions like:

Name one fact or idea from the quiz that was new to you? What did you think about it?

What are some actions your family or community can take towards stopping global warming?

