

Prayer and Witness Challenge - September - Season of Creation 2021

Kia ora koutou.

[The Season of Creation 2021](#) runs from 1 September 2021 until 4 October 2021. In 2015 Pope Francis published his ground-breaking encyclical on the environment '*Laudato Si' - On Care for Our Common Home*. In it he calls on all of us to think about what is happening to our planet, urging us to listen to both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. We are invited to join Christians around the world in celebrating this season in prayer... The Season of Creation offers all of us a unique opportunity to renew our vocation to become stewards of God's creation. [\(adapted from Season of Creation, NLO site\)](#)



"Yet all is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start." *Laudato si'* #205

Before you start the prayer and challenge sheet, find out about [Laudato Si by watching this video clip](#).

Ka ngahau - Have fun!

Day Primary school focus	Pray (adapted from Prayer of the Faithful, NLO)	Read	Listen/Watch	Create and Share
Monday 6th Sept 	Hēhu Karaiti You opened the ears of the deaf man. Please open our ears to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. E te Ariki... Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.	Read Jesus cures a deaf man	Watch this short video clip of the piece of Scripture you have just read	In the story, two friends took the deaf man to Jesus. How can you help a friend while still in lockdown? Here is a cool challenge! See if you can learn how to sign and sing the Hail Mary (or even a little bit of it!) Share what you can do with your teacher. Have a go at learning how to sign your name and others!



<p>Tuesday 7th Sept</p>	<p>Te Atua</p> <p>Let us pray for those in need of someone to listen to them. Help us to respond generously with our time and aroha to all we encounter each day.</p> <p>E te Ariki... Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.</p>	<p><u>Proverbs 3:27 (The Message)</u></p> <p><i>Never walk away from someone who deserves help. Your hand is God's hand for that person.</i></p> <p>Learn this verse from Proverbs by heart. Then work out ways you can provide aroha to those who need it!</p>	<p>Listen to this beautiful hymn, <u>For the Beauty of the Earth - John Rutter</u></p> 	<p><u>Roll The Earth Cube (an online activity)</u></p> <p>Make sure after each roll that you read the message carefully and answer the questions with those in your bubble.</p> <p>If you have access to a printer you might want to <u>make your own Earth Cube</u>...look at the Today I will challenge.</p> <p>What changes will you make today to help protect our common home?</p> <p>Retrieved from <u>https://theearthcube.org/</u></p>
<p>Wednesday 8th September</p>	<p>God of all Creation</p> <p>Let us pray that we may gain a deeper appreciation of the beauty and diversity of all that you have created and of how we are all connected to each other and to the natural world. Help us to do our bit to care for Your creation</p> <p>E te Ariki... Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou</p>	<p><u>Read this interpretation of the Creation story from The Voice bible.</u></p>  <p>Before Māori heard the Creation story from the Bible they had their own creation story - Watch here: <u>A Maori Tale of Creation - Ranginui and Papatūānuku</u></p>	<p><u>Watch the Creation story here.</u></p> <p>SING! <u>Seven Days - by Jane Mitchell.</u></p>  <p><u>https://butterflymusic.com.au/</u></p>	<p>You have been given the answer, can you think of the question?</p> <p><u>Complete the chart and share with a classmate.</u></p> <p><u>Praying with Playing Cards</u> - why not have a go at praying using playing cards.</p> <p><u>Multi Sensory Creation prayer</u> - Here is a fun way to pray a Creation prayer.</p>

<p>Thursday 9th September</p>	<p>Creator God</p> <p>We know that the survival of our planet and the well-being of humanity is threatened.</p> <p>We pray that all countries agree to reduce global warming and to care for the poor.</p> <p>E te Ariki... Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.</p>	<p>Read about the story of Noah's Ark and God's promise to Noah. (Genesis 7-9...maybe an adult could read this to you)</p> 	<p>Watch Noah's Ark</p>	<p>Go for a walk around your garden or your neighbourhood (with an adult's help) and collect items that show the colours of the rainbow.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create your rainbow. 2. Take a photograph of it. 3. Send it to your teacher. 4. Your teacher might make a montage of all the images and share it back!! <p><i>Here is an example of what to do. It was created by Beauden and Molly-Rose Sherwood and their Mum and Dad.</i></p>  <p>Read "In the Beginning" with Andrew Chin. Extra for experts ...a bird sound is used to tell you when to turn the pages. Do you know what it is? https://butterflymusic.com.au/</p>
<p>Friday 10th September</p>	<p>Loving God</p> <p>We pray for people in the world whose basic rights are not met. Give us the courage to speak up on their behalf.</p> <p>E te Ariki... Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.</p>	<p>A reminder that God wants us to help others. It's worth reading this again!</p>	<p>Sometimes it can feel a little lonely, separated from our friends BUT we are never alone God is always with us,</p> <p>Listen to this song and have a go at the actions</p>	<p>With your family, go outside and pray. You can sit quietly in your garden or perhaps you could "pray a nature walk" around your closest park! Here is how you can do this. Remember you need to be as quiet 🤫 as you can when you are outside enjoying God's beautiful creation.</p> <p>Multi Sensory Creation prayer - Here is a fun way to pray a Creation prayer.</p> <p>Send a message to one of your friends, or a teacher in your school. Saying you are thinking of them and praying</p>

<https://butterflymusic.com.au/>

for them. 🙏



Calling all Year 7 and 8 students in the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch!! -



[How about entering the Justice and Peace Commission Competition!](#)

Day Secondary school focus	Pray	Read	Listen/Watch	Create and Share
<p>Create and Share Activities can be done over the course of the week</p>	<p>O Great Spirit</p> <p>O Great Spirit whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me! I am small and weak; I need your strength and wisdom.</p> <p>Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.</p> <p>Make my hands respect the things you have made and my ears sharp to hear your voice.</p>	<p>Read about the Season of Creation 2021 here! You might find a project you can follow or start in your community.</p>	<p>Have you found Aotearoa Catholic yet?</p> <p>There are some great clips on there to help you with your prayer life. Here is one of them!</p>	<p>Replay the video and really think about the questions you are being asked. Spend time outside exercising and enjoying God in nature!</p>

Make me wise so that I may understand
the things you have taught my people.

Let me learn the lessons
you have hidden in every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be greater
than my brothers or sisters, but to
fight my greatest enemy – myself.

Make me always ready to come to
you
with clean hands and straight eyes.

So when life fades, as the fading
sunset,
my spirit may come to you without
shame.

Amen.



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