





























# Lent 2018 CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION Calendar

## PRAY + LEARN + ACT + ADVOCATE

*“ Faith . . . by revealing the love of God the Creator, enables us to respect nature all the more, and to discern in it a grammar written by the hand of God and a dwelling place entrusted to our protection and care.” –Pope Francis*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>“Caring, protecting, demands goodness, it calls for a certain tenderness ... Great tenderness... is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love. We must not be afraid of goodness, of tenderness!</b></p> <p><i>- Inauguration homily of Pope Francis 2013</i></p> <p>This calendar is designed to accompany you on a 40-day journey of prayer, reflection, instruction, and suggested acts of sacrifice, solidarity, and advocacy to care for our Earth and protect those who are most vulnerable to environmental stresses worldwide.</p> <p><b>† Blessings on your Journey †</b></p>			<p><b>† FEBRUARY 14</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> As Lent begins let us keep in mind our Creator and his Gift of Creation and reflect on our connection to the Earth at both our beginning and end: <i>“Remember . . . you are dust and to dust you will return.”</i></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> <i>“If anyone wishes to come after me ...” Lk 9:22</i> We are called to take up our cross. <b>What sacrifices can we make to live more simply and use fewer of the Earth’s resources?</b></p> 	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> On Fridays during Lent we abstain from meat. Choosing a meat-free meal is one of the most effective things you can do to reduce your carbon footprint.</p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> <a href="http://www.thevegetariansite.com/env_animalfarming.htm">www.thevegetariansite.com/env_animalfarming.htm</a></p> <p><b>+ Soup &amp; Sacrifice +</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> “As a corporal work of mercy, care for our common home requires “simple daily gestures which break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness” and “makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world”</p> <p><i>-Pope Francis</i></p>
<p><b>First Sunday 18</b></p> <p><b>PRAY: The Canticle of the Sun of St. Francis:</b></p> <p>Praised be my Lord. . . for our brother the Sun, which brings us the day . . . shining with a very great splendor, O Lord, he signifies you to us!</p> <p><a href="http://www2.webster.edu/~barrettb/canticle.htm">www2.webster.edu/~barrettb/canticle.htm</a></p> 	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Look into a purchase of locally-grown food today. Visit a farmers’ market , or join a CSA to get weekly shares of local produce [CSA = Community Supported Agriculture] <a href="http://www.localharvest.org">www.localharvest.org</a></p> 	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> We are using up our resources at an unsustainable rate for the care of future generations.</p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Do one thing today to <i>“Live simply that others may simply live.” - attributed to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton &amp; others before her</i></p> 	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> Investigate Renewable Energy technologies, like solar power, to become less dependent on the power grid.</p> <p><b>ADVOCATE:</b> for a sustainable economy, clean environment, and energy security.</p> 	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> The world’s poor will be hit hardest by climate change.</p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Join Catholics taking action and raising our voice on behalf of Creation and the poor. Sign the St. Francis Pledge: <a href="http://CatholicClimateCovenant.org">CatholicClimateCovenant.org</a></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Conserve Earth’s resources by minimizing disposables. Use your own mug for coffee or water at work.</p>  <p><b>ACT:</b> Bring your own bowl and mug to a Soup &amp; Sacrifice meal with friends or in your parish</p> <p><b>+ Soup &amp; Sacrifice +</b></p> 	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>PRAY</b> for children worldwide. “Future generations cannot be saddled with the cost of our use of common environmental resources” <i>-Benedict XVI</i></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Join the Blessed Nuno Society to pray for orphans in Mexico &amp; elsewhere</p> <p><a href="http://BlessedNunoSociety">Blessed Nuno Society</a></p>
<p><b>Second Sunday 25</b></p> <p><b>PRAY: The Canticle . . .</b></p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our sister the Moon, and for the Stars, which God set clear and lovely in heaven. <i>“Where were you when I founded the earth? .... While the morning stars sang together....” Job 38:4,7</i></p> 	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>ADVOCATE:</b> There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. . . Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering . . .</p> <p><a href="http://LaudatoSi">#25</a></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> “The works of charity &amp; justice as well as the promotion of solidarity, justice, peace . . . and <i>stewardship of creation</i> build up the Kingdom of God.” - Disciples Called to Witness, USCCB</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> for wisdom to know how to live in the light of so much inequality in the world</p>  <p><b>ACT:</b> Turn off lights that you are not using.</p> <p><b>Enjoy the night sky!</b></p>	<p><b>MARCH 1</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> <i>“We come together to take charge of this home which has been entrusted to us . . . Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope.”</i></p>  <p><a href="http://LaudatoSi">#244</a></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Become more aware of how much food you discard and avoid wasting it. For the hungry in our midst - and globally - consider involvement with your local <a href="http://St.VincentdePaul">St. Vincent de Paul</a> pantry, <a href="http://CasaMaria">Casa Maria</a>, <a href="http://SrJoseWomenCenter">Sr Jose Women’s Center</a>, <a href="http://CRSRiceBowl">CRS Rice Bowl</a> or <a href="http://BreadfortheWorld">Bread for the World</a>.</p> <p><b>+ Soup &amp; Sacrifice +</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> Refresh your memory today on what items are allowed for curbside recycling.</p>  <p><b>ASSESS:</b> Are you recycling everything you can? Find out at <a href="http://Tucson.gov">Tucson.gov</a>’s “Do More Blue” website: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/n8l9bzs">tinyurl.com/n8l9bzs</a> or your local recycling facility</p>

<p><b>Third Sunday 4</b></p> <p><b>PRAY: The Canticle</b> </p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our brother the Wind, and for Air, Cloud, &amp; all Weather, by which you uphold in life all creatures.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> It's hard to open ourselves up to the realities of the climate crisis.</p>  <p>Learn more about Church Teachings: <a href="http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/Teachings">www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/Teachings</a></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> for the vulnerable: "Exposure to atmospheric pollutants produces a broad spectrum of health hazards, especially for the poor, and causes millions of premature deaths." Pope Francis: <a href="#">Laudato Si'</a> #20</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> about what you can do to make Tucson (or your city) more sustainable</p> <p><b>ACT:</b> get involved at: <a href="http://www.sustainabletucson.org/what-you-can-do/top-10/">www.sustainabletucson.org/what-you-can-do/top-10/</a></p> 	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>ASSESS:</b> Purchase more thoughtfully with respect to the environment, human rights and social justice. Question your need before buying.</p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> Visit: <a href="http://www.betterworldshopper.com">www.betterworldshopper.com</a></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Plan ahead to bring reusable bags when shopping. Want a bag made <u>from</u> recycled materials? Most are <u>sold in bulk</u> for groups and promotions but you can find a few single bags <u>here</u> and <u>there</u>... or sew your own!</p> <p>+ Soup &amp; Sacrifice +</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>LEARN</b> what <i>Catholic Relief Services</i> (CRS) is doing to help people around the world live better by taking better care of the environment at <a href="http://www.crs.org/climate-change">www.crs.org/climate-change</a></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> by supporting the <b>CRS collection</b> this weekend</p>
<p><b>Laetare Sunday 11</b></p> <p><b>PRAY: The Canticle</b> </p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our sister Water, which is very useful to us, and humble and precious and clean.</p> <p><a href="#">CRS collection</a></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>LEARN:</b> When it comes to conserving water, small adjustments can have a big impact.</p> <p><b>ACT:</b> on water-saving tips from: <i>100+ Ways to Conserve Water</i> <a href="http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve/">wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve/</a></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>ADVOCATE:</b> "Since we derive all our electricity from nature, the relationship of humanity and environment has the broadest implications for energy policy." - U.S. Bishops</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Examine the cost of buying water in disposable plastic bottles to both your pocketbook and the environment &amp; consider alternatives.</p>  <p><a href="#">Bottle Water is Wasteful - The Water Project</a></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>ADVOCATE:</b>  "We must not think that these efforts are not going to change the world. They benefit society... for they call forth a goodness which, albeit unseen, inevitably tends to spread." <a href="#">Laudato Si'</a> #212</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> "To protect creation, to protect every man and every woman, to look upon them with tenderness and love, is to open up a horizon of hope..." - Pope Francis</p>  <p>+ Soup &amp; Sacrifice +</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p> <b>St. Patrick</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> "I arise today, through the strength of heaven, light of the sun, radiance of the moon, splendor of fire, speed of lightning, swiftness of wind, depth of the sea, stability of the earth." - St Patrick's Breastplate <a href="http://tinyurl.com/8ejgasm">tinyurl.com/8ejgasm</a></p>
<p><b>Fifth Sunday 18</b></p> <p><b>PRAY: The Canticle</b> </p> <p>Praised be my Lord for our sister Mother Earth, which sustains us and keeps us, and yields diverse fruits, and flowers of many colors, and grass.</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>St. Joseph</b> </p> <p><b>ACT:</b> "Work is part of God's plan for the world; by responsibly cultivating the goods of creation, we grow in dignity as men and women made in God's image." <a href="#">Pope Francis on St Joseph</a> <a href="http://tinyurl.com/lkd4d2j">http://tinyurl.com/lkd4d2j</a></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>Spring Equinox</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b>  There is always hope for a tree: If it is cut down, it will sprout again. Job 14:7</p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Consider planting a tree! <a href="http://www.arborday.org/trees/climatechange">www.arborday.org/trees/climatechange</a> or "Trees for Tucson"</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>ADVOCATE:</b> "The Church has a responsibility towards creation and she must assert this responsibility in the public sphere." — Pope Benedict XVI <a href="#">Caritas in Veritate</a></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> When our eyes are enlightened ... they open to the contemplation of God in the beauty of nature and the grandeur of the cosmos, and lead us to discover how everything speaks to us of... His love. -Pope Francis</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>ACT:</b> Don't know where to recycle old electronic gadgets or other items? Visit Tucson Clean &amp; Beautiful Inc.'s Recycling Directory to find out.</p> <p>+ Soup &amp; Sacrifice +</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> On the eve of his Passion, Jesus asks: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" Mt 26:40</p> <p>Spend an <b>EARTH HOUR</b> in prayer today while fasting from non-essential energy use. Reflect on all Jesus sacrificed to save us <a href="http://www.earthhour.org">www.earthhour.org</a></p>
<p><b>PALM SUNDAY 25</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> Reflect on St. Luke's Palm Sunday Gospel: "...if they keep silent even the stones will cry out." Lk 19:40</p>  <p>Are the stones of our fragile Earth crying out? Have <u>we</u> been silent for too long?</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> especially for the poor and vulnerable this Holy Week. "Environmental degradation makes the life of the poor especially unbearable." - Pope Benedict XVI</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> Reflect on Pope Benedict XVI's message for the 2010 World Day of Peace: "If You Want to Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation" <a href="http://tinyurl.com/yfd3cdp">tinyurl.com/yfd3cdp</a></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>PRAY:</b> Reflect on the meaning of covenant. "... the covenant between human beings and the environment ... should mirror the creative love of God..."</p>  <p>Pope Benedict XVI</p>	<p><b>HOLY THURSDAY 29</b></p>  <p><b>PRAY:</b> Reflect on the precious gift of the Eucharist, Christ's Real Presence consecrated for us from the "fruit of the earth and work of human hands"</p>	<p><b>GOOD FRIDAY 30</b></p>  <p><b>PRAY:</b> Meditate on the deep <b>Mystery of Love</b> crucified "on a tree" ... "Behold the wood of the cross, on which hung the Savior of the world." - Good Friday Liturgy</p>	<p><b>HOLY SATURDAY 31</b></p> <p><b>PRAY: The Exsultet:</b> On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this <b>CANDLE</b>, a solemn offering, the work of <a href="#">bees</a> and of your servants' hands ... drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious!</p> 
<p> <b>April 1 EASTER SUNDAY</b> On this glorious day "let the earth rejoice, in shining splendor" even though it is so often mistreated &amp; greedily exploited, resulting in an alteration of natural equilibria. I think especially of those areas affected by climate change, which not infrequently causes drought or violent flooding, which then lead to food crises in different parts of the world. - Pope Francis, Easter 2016</p>						