

A Sisters of the Holy Cross Workshop

Responding to the Cry of the Earth

As mindful stewards of the Earth's resources, please limit printing of these materials by journaling your responses to this worksheet.

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis invites all people, not just members of the church, to enter into dialogue about our common home (LS 3). This workshop on "Responding to the Cry of the Earth" is an opportunity for you to connect with your own experiences and reflect on where you are being called to act. You are invited to prayerfully spend time with the following readings from *Laudato Si'*:

- ▶ paragraphs 20-26, on pollution and climate change
- ▶ paragraphs 27-31, on water
- ▶ paragraphs 32-42, on loss of biodiversity

Reflection Questions

What about each reading stands out you?

How do your personal lifestyle and lifestyles in your community lead to the issues presented in the readings?

Conversation Starters

How are people who live in poverty adversely affected by climate change?

Why is the environmental crisis being met with a weak response?

What does using a biblical lens reveal about the environmental crisis?

What does using an ecclesial lens reveal about the environmental crisis?

Closing Charge

What can you do on personal and community levels to address the issues of pollution, climate change, water scarcity and loss of biodiversity?

Prayer for Response to the Cry of the Earth

Creator God, you brought us forth from Earth, and in your love for us, you entrusted to us the care and protection of all creation.

Grant us the wisdom to be awed and humbled by your gifts, O God, that we might never forget: Violence against creation is violence against us all.

Even as we celebrate the beauty and bounty that surrounds us, may we also acknowledge the suffering we have inflicted on creation, through our actions and through our failures to act.

The cry of the Earth is a wound we feel at the soul level. As we experience this pain, O God, convert our hearts, that we might transform our vision of what is possible through active hope.

Amen.

Prayer provided by Holy Cross
International Justice Office:
www.holycrossjustice.org

For more information, visit cscsisters.org/OurTimelsNow.