



Laudato Si'  
Special Anniversary Year  
2020-2021

SEASON OF CREATION  
1.09 - 4.10.2020  
Jubilee of the Earth

World Day of Prayer for  
the Care of Creation  
1st September

## THE COURAGE TO CHANGE TO EMERGE FROM THIS PANDEMIC BETTER PRAYER | REFLECTION | EXPERIENCES

Friday, 4 of September 2020 - online for 1h

### PRAYER at the season of creation

#### •Bishop Eduardo GARCIA

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A writer, specialized in epidemiological issues, says that: we are facing a zoonotic disease, that is, it passes from animals to humans. Since they are new to humans, this is one of the reasons why they are so devastating to us. What is the initial reason for this? It is an event that we call overflow and this happens in areas with great environmental degradation. Environments rich in biological diversity, with many types of plants, animals, fungi, bacteria, are also places that host many viruses. They live there, unnoticed, for millions of years without causing any disease, until suddenly they pass to humans. And when there is environmental degradation, it means that we are interfering in that ecosystem and we are inviting viruses to become our viruses. For us, it is a terrible situation, it is a pandemic, it is death; but for them it is survival. The new coronavirus pandemic reveals and heralds the possibility that the post-pandemic future will be, as Pope Francis recently put it, "tragic and painful." But it also creates a new opportunity.

Politics and economics do not agree on their gaze and blame themselves for environmental degradation and the misery in which many find themselves submerged. But this is useless if you do not recognize your own mistakes and seek forms of work oriented to the common good.

The only way out is to assume that these problems concern us all and that therefore the solutions involve all of us in solidarity without exclusions.

Pope Francis said: " Only if we discover that our true wealth is relations and not merely material goods will we find alternative ways to live and inhabit a society that is not governed by the god of money, an idol that deludes and leaves it increasingly inhuman and unjust ".

So for that hope not to be an illusion, a new paradigm of life is needed that causes a real change in the immediate future. This implies in the light of Laudato Si' to:

- Recognize the worth of each person and the entire human community in harmony with all that is created
- The invitation to seek other ways of understanding the economy and progress

- To rediscover the human sense of ecology and to respect it
- Not to remain passive in the face of an international, regional and local policy that generates inequity and poverty.
- Not to accept an ideology that leads to the culture of waste
- Bring ourselves to choose a new lifestyle from an option rooted in the gospel of life.

It is the moment to go from a devotional or perceptual faith to a faith as a liberating option for man and the world, that takes shape in changes that positively affect the whole of society.

It is the new time and the opportunity to work with energy for the Kingdom without disembodied dogmatization with no commitment to real and concrete life.

It is the time of the missionary disciples immerse in the mud of life, in the spaces of power and in politics, taking the chance to get their hands dirty and lose so that we all win.

We cannot isolate the conscience with the secret hope that everything will pass, God has put the world in our hands and it is up to us to make that common home that he dreamed of.