



SEASON OF CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION – SEPTEMBER 1ST – OCTOBER 4TH

CHRISTIANS PRAY AND CARE FOR CREATION, TOGETHER

HOW IT STARTED

The Season of Creation, running yearly **between September 1 and October 4**, is that **time of the year when Christians are invited to pray and care for creation**. September 1 was proclaimed as a day of prayer for creation (World Day of Prayer for Creation, or Creation Day) by Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I for the Orthodox in 1989, and was embraced by the other major Christian European churches in 2001 and **by Pope Francis for the Roman Catholic Church in 2015**. And it has happened that in recent years many Christian churches have started celebrating the “Season of Creation” (also known as Creation Time) between that date and October 4, which is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (author of the Canticle of the Creatures in the 13th century) that some Western traditions observe. **It is meant to give flexibility to celebrate prayer services for creation in alternative dates throughout the month, while engaging in different actions to care for creation throughout the season.**

Pope Francis and Patriarch Bartholomew released their special messages for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, kicking off the month-long Season of Creation celebrations. Both leaders used strong language **to stress the urgency of the ecological crisis and the need to take action on climate change**. Pope Francis said in his message, *“Christians or not, as people of faith and goodwill, we should be united in showing mercy to the earth as our common home and cherishing the world in which we live as a place for sharing and communion.”*

Patriarch Bartholomew said in his message, *“During the [World Day of Prayer for Creation], from the Ecumenical Patriarchy we recall the need to make everyone aware of the ecological problems faced by our planet.”*

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

The Season of Creation website provides background on celebration of this season plus suggested activities for parishes, individuals, and communities.

- **PRAY**

You can **ORGANIZE A PRAYER SERVICE FOR CREATION** and develop the program for your service using any of the **Liturgical Resources, Bulletin Announcements and Prayers of the Faithful** available on the website Seasonofcreation.org. Through these ecumenical resources, Christian Churches have organized **hundreds of prayer services on 6 continents**, with lots of them being ecumenical in nature and with participation of local bishops and faith leaders.

- **TAKE ACTION**

Besides praying, there is an urgent need for action to tackle the ecological crisis. Catholics, Protestant Anglican, Orthodox and interfaith groups are call do TAKE ACTION FOR CREATION with the support several specific resources.

JOIN CHRISTIANS AROUND THE GLOBE AS WE PRAY AND TAKE ACTION FOR OUR COMMON HOME. ORGANIZE AND REGISTER YOUR SEASON OF CREATION EVENT.

VISIT THE WEBSITE: www.seasonofcreation.org