



22nd April 2020
50th Anniversary of Earth Day

What is Earth Day?

The first Earth Day celebration was on **22nd April 1970** in America. 20 million Americans thought it was time to **take action** to protect our planet because so many were not treating it with respect.

50 years later, we continue to celebrate Earth Day to remind people that our Earth must be cared for.

This year, the theme is **CLIMATE ACTION**. Climate Change is the **biggest challenge** to the future of our world.

We need you to help make a change!

Did you know...

- Earth orbits the sun once every 365.25 days.
- Earth is the third planet away from the sun.
- Earth is the fifth largest planet in our Solar System and the only one known to have liquid water on its surface.
- 70% of Earth is covered in Ocean!
- Earth is an average of 93 million miles away from the sun.
- The Earth is 4.543 billion years old.
- Earth's atmosphere is 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, and 1 % other gases such as carbon dioxide, water vapor, and argon. The atmosphere keep the Earth warm.
- Earth's atmosphere nourishes and protects the life on Earth.

The conditions on Earth are perfect for life.



Watch this fascinating clip to learn more about Earth!


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCDVN7DCzYE>

When you have watched the video, stand outside with your family. Take a moment to breathe and be silent to think about our wonderful Earth.

What can you...

1. Hear?
2. Smell?
3. See?
4. Taste?
5. Feel?





The LORD God took the man and
put him in the garden of Eden to
work it and keep it.
Genesis 2:15

A reading from the book of Genesis

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the Earth. God said, "Let there be light!" And there was light. God saw that it was good. God separated the light from the darkness and called the light "Day" and the dark "Night".

On the second day, God created a dome in the middle of the waters. God said, "Let the dome be separated from the waters." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. He called the dome "Sky".

On the third day, God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered into one place and let the dry land appear." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. He called the dry land "Earth" and the waters "Seas and Oceans."

On the fourth day, God said, "Let there be lights in the sky in the day and in the night." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. He called the light in the day "Sun" and the lights in the night "Stars."

On the fifth day, God said, "Let there be living things and living creatures in the waters and in the skies." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. He called the living things and creatures in the waters "Fish", "Seaweed" and "Underwater Plants" and the creatures in the skies "Birds."

On the sixth day, God said, "Let there be living things and living creatures on the surface of the earth." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. He called the creatures "Cattle", "Lions", "Squirrels", "Deer" and all the other animals of the Earth, and called the other living things "Flowers" and "Trees".

Then God said, "Let there be human beings made in my image. Let these humans rule over all the other animals and living creatures on earth. Let them use plants and seedlings for food and to make shelter and tools. Let them make the land and seas of earth as their home." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. He breathed life into the humans and blessed them, making male and female. He called the humans "Man" and "Woman."

Then God looked at all he had made. The day and the night, the sky, the land and the seas, the sun and stars, the living creatures in the oceans, the skies and the earth, and the humans in God's own image. And God saw that it was very good.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Liturgy checklist:

Opening
Scripture
Reflection
Prayers
Mission

Liturgy

Music recommendation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0B73qRVGJs&t=596s>

Now you have read the creation story, it is time to plan a liturgy.

You can do this with your family or for your family.

What will you focus on during your liturgy?

You could use items that you find in your garden, such as leaves, stones and soil!

If it is a nice day, you could do your liturgy outside!

Use this time to appreciate our wonderful Earth with your family.



Only for grown ups to light



A CAFOD prayer to end your liturgy

Powerful God,

You hold us and everything you have made in your loving care.

You are in the whole universe and in every tiny creature.

Pour out on us, God, the power of your love.

And teach us to care for life and for beauty.

Fill us with peace, so that we do not harm others,

but love them all like sisters and brothers.

God, we know that people who are poor are very special to you

and you want us to love them too, so they are not forgotten.

We ask you to change us so that we protect your world, not destroy it.

Change the hearts of people who only care about themselves and money,

instead of caring about people and the Earth.

Show us how even small things matter,

help us see that we are all connected to each other and to the earth.

We thank you God for being with us each day,

fill us up with wonder and light,

and help us to bring peace to our beautiful world.

Amen

Video link to this prayer:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=39&v=XI50nAPurZs&feature=emb_logo

Care for our Common Home

Pope Francis has written a letter addressed to every person on the planet, asking us all to protect the earth. Will you play your part to protect our common home?

Watch the following video to see the message from the Pope:

https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Laudato-Si-animation?utm_campaign=11429135_Primary%20April%202020&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Catholic%20Agency%20for%20Overseas%20Development%20%28CAFOD%29&dm_i=12IB,6SYRZ,URKNBR,R8KEW,1

Discuss with your family: 'Why is Earth important to me?'



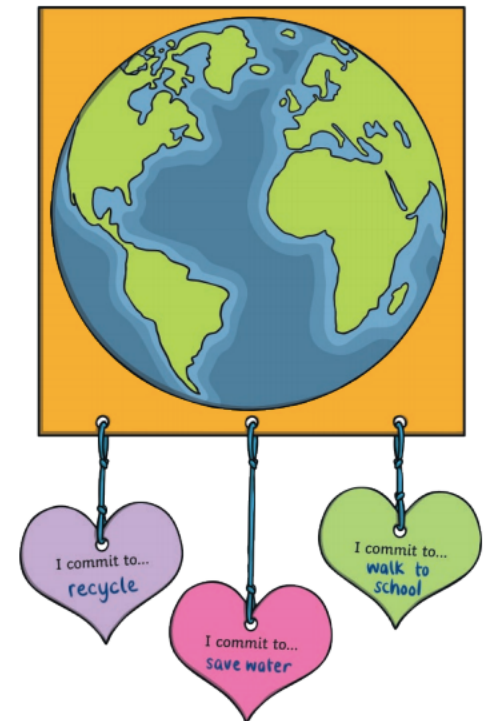
Challenge: Could you write a letter to Pope Francis in response to his message?



Earth Day Activities

Remember to send any work to your teachers so they can put it on the blog!

- Make your own Earth Day poster and stick it in your window! Let people know how important it is to look after our Earth. On the following slides, I have given you some fantastic examples from CAFOD.
- Write your own Earth Day prayer.
- Write an acrostic poem about our Earth and how special it is. Colour it in and make it wonderful - perhaps pop it in your window.
- https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/45563/540173/version/2/file/Colour%20my%20world_Be%20kind%20to%20the%20Earth_CAFOD.pdf
- Earth Day Commitments Craft (see picture on the right)
- Research Greta Thunberg and her mission to slow down/stop Climate Change. What could you do to change the world like Greta? Write a plan for your mission.



Laudato Si'

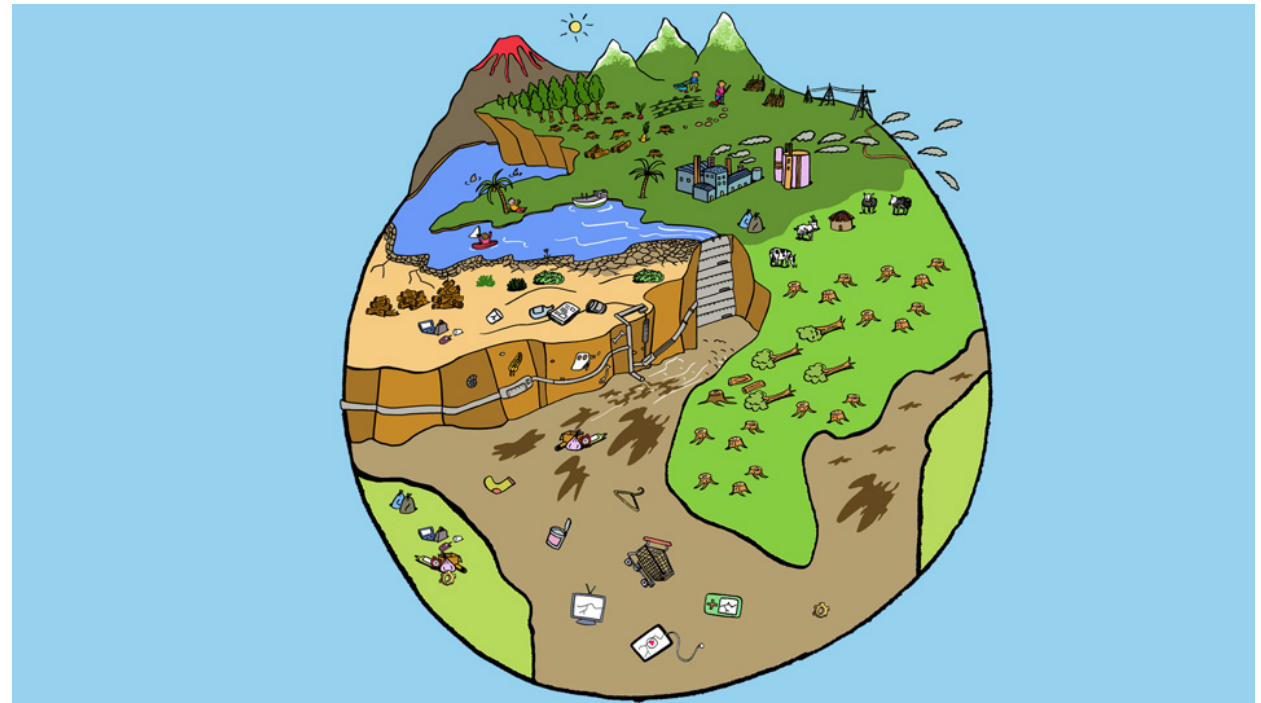
CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME



HOW CAN WE CARE FOR GOD'S WORLD?

CAFOD
Just one world

CAFOD is a charity, limited by guarantee no. 0181738. Illustration: For job health. Printed on paper from well-managed forests.



Climate change affects
us all, but it is the poorest
communities who will suffer the most



The World Can't Wait