



# Prayer on Climate Change

## CARING FOR ONE PLANET, ONE FAMILY



*Oh God, creator and owner of all that exists,  
you have given us rule over the works of your hands,  
and put all things at our feet because you made  
everything good.  
However, our ambition has led us to act selfishly,  
to find ways to use up your gifts  
and discard them when they are no longer useful to us.*

*Little by little, we have been wearing out what seemed to be endless,  
and very late we realized that  
where there were waters in which the fishermen sailed,  
now there are deserts and abandoned boats.  
Where there were trees in which birds nested,  
now there are ashes from logs consumed by fires.  
Where there were fields where animals grazed,  
now there is a world of concrete.  
Where there was joy when the rain watered the lands,  
now there is sadness because the rain's intensity devastated the crops.  
Where there were houses where families grew up,  
now there are memories flooded by the rising rivers and seas.  
Where the brightness of the stars and the moon could be seen,  
now the night sky lights up with car headlights.*

*Holy Father, do not let us be indifferent to what is happening around us.  
Send your Holy Spirit  
to water our arid hearts with hope,  
stoke in us the flame of fraternity,  
make us set the world on fire with acts of justice in favor of those who suffer most,  
transform our attitudes and make our minds fertile to new ways of living,  
enlighten us to propose, support and defend projects and laws that protect the environment,  
take our hands to till ways of solidarity,  
and make our works and words bear fruit.*

*Send your Holy Spirit  
like a wind that changes the way we relate to each other and to nature,  
like a fresh breeze that purifies our intentions,  
like fire that ignites our being with your love for our common home and those who live in it.  
Make us overflow with joy once again when we contemplate your wonders.*

**Amen**