

Dialogue of Faith and Life

SEPTEMBER 2022

A close-up photograph of a hand reaching upwards, palm facing up, towards a bright, glowing sun. A faint rainbow is visible in the background, creating a hopeful and uplifting atmosphere. The image is used as a background for a text overlay.

Jeremiah 29:11

I know the plans I have
for you ... plans to give
you a future full of hope

A CELTIC MOMENT



*The Celtic grace of looking deeply
and the Celtic faith of believing fully
lives on enduringly within each of us,
beseeching our beholding.*

*Like the unceasing prayer of Celts,
an ancient call to gather the ordinary,
savour the sacrament that lies within,
bless whatever life offers to us
in the routine, the mindless, the duty,
the cherished, the surprising, the serene.*

A CELTIC MOMENT (contd)



*Let our open gaze fall faithfully
over a stretch of hurried days,
see among their swiftly moving pieces
a story threaded with touch of Divine.*

*Celtic moment, Soul moment, Sacred
moment,
in simple task or thin veil of mystery,
whatever our day brings we can bless,
whatever our lives hold we can
reverence.*

A CELTIC MOMENT (contd)



Gather all to our soul:

the silent sparkle of untamed moments,

the hurried haze of endless duty,

the silky joy of surprising experience,

the shadowed grasp of unwanted pain.

Recover the lost cloak

of Celtic rhyme and Celtic rhythm,

put on the rich garment

of intentional communion,

embrace the commonness of life

woven on the endless loom of the Holy.

(Adapted) JOYCE RUPP

Important Dates in September

- 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- 1 Season of Creation begins, and ends on October 4,
- 3 Anniversary of the death of Alan Kurdi
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 8 Feast of the Birth of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 9-14 Hajj (Annual Pilgrimage to Mecca, (Islamic))
- 14 Feast of the Holy Cross
- 14 Eid-al-Adha (Festival of Sacrifice, Islamic)
- 15 Our Lady of Sorrows
- 15 UN International Day of Democracy
- 16 UN International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
- 21 UN International Day of Peace
- 22 World Car Free day
- 25 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
- 27 Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul
- 29 Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

Season of Creation 2022

Theme: 'Listen to the Voice of Creation'



1 September

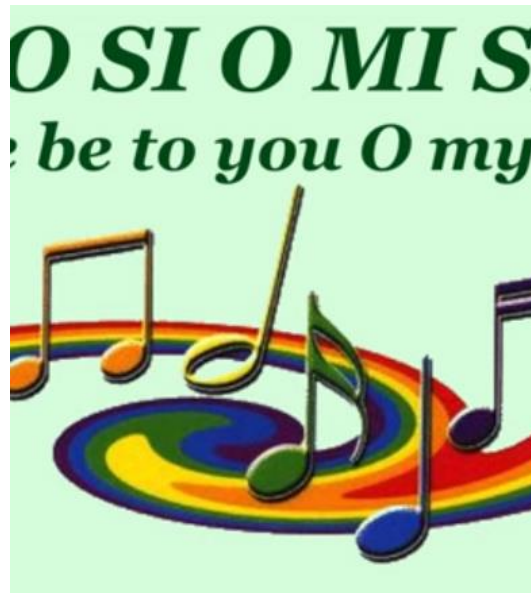
- 4 October 2022

#SeasonOfCreation

#CreationTime

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

- The celebrations of the Season of Creation begin on 1 September and end on 4 October.
- [Message of Pope Francis on the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation \(1 September 2022\)](#)
- <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2022/07/11/resources-for-the-season-of-creation-2022/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUUiBGTmfW8&t=7s>



- **LAUDATO SI O MI SIGNORE**

In Thanksgiving for Pope Francis' Encyclical

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tCkCfyg5bU>





How inseparable
the bond is between
concern for nature,
justice for the poor,
commitment to society,
and interior peace.
(LAUDATO SI No. 10 p 10)



A prayer for our Earth (Pope Francis)

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.


Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this
earth,

so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.





A prayer for our Earth (Pope Francis)

(continued)

Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each
thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

Sea Prayer



KHALED HOSSEINI

ILLUSTRATED BY DAN WILLIAMS

Resource Pack for KS2/KS3 Teachers

B L O O M S B U R Y

3 September Remembering Alan Kurdi 2015

Anniversary of the death of Alan Kurdi 2015 (A 3-year-old boy found dead on a Turkish beach)

Resources available at:

<https://www.unhcr.org/uk/5c17c5fe4.pdf>

(As with all resources here, check videos and other material in advance to make sure they are suitable for your school)

Space for Grace

Online Prayer

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85815763533?pwd=RVpwenBqYU43SkR6YU11aUNkLzFTUT09>





8 September Feast of the Birth of Our Lady

- Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.
- We listen to the beautiful music of
- Ave Maria (Liam Lawton) - Roisin O'Reilly,
Liam Lawton & Joseph McManners at
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPlhamm-uY>

8 September: International Literacy Day

- See Celebration of the International Literacy Day in UNESCO Headquarters:
- <https://en.unesco.org/events/celebration-international-literacy-day-unesco-headquarters>



9-14 September: Hajj (Annual Pilgrimage to Mecca, Islamic)

Every year, millions of Muslims from around the world make the journey to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, for the annual pilgrimage (or Hajj).

Dressed in the same simple white clothing to represent human equality, the pilgrims gather to perform rites dating back to the time of Ibrahim (Abraham) (peace be upon him).

See:

<https://islamicfoundation.ie/services/hajj-and-umrah/>



September 14

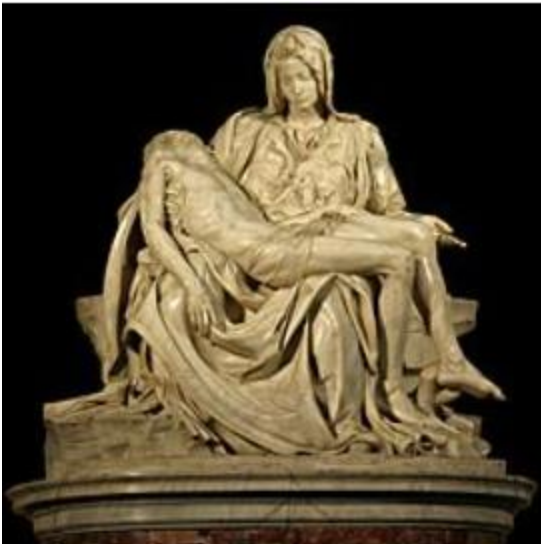
Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

- The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine. See also Exploring the Feasts of the Orthodox Christian Church:
- <https://www.goarch.org/exaltation>



15 September: Our Lady of Sorrows

See Pietà (Michelangelo)



The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, given to our Blessed Mother focuses on her grief during the passion and death of Jesus.

For reflections on this feast, see:

<https://www.jesuits.org/stories/spirit-verse-our-lady-of-sorrows/>

and listen to *Stabat Mater* (Gandrille)

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



15 September: UN International Day of Democracy

- The International Day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. Democracy is as much a process as a goal, and only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society and individuals, can the ideal of democracy be made into a reality to be enjoyed by everyone, everywhere.
- <https://www.un.org/en/observances/democracy-day>



15 September: UN International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

- The theme for the 2022 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, to be marked on 16 September, is Montreal Protocol@35: global cooperation protecting life on earth.
- The theme recognises the wider impact the Montreal Protocol has on climate change and the need to act in collaboration, forge partnerships and develop global cooperation to address climate challenges and protect life on earth for future generations.
- https://www.ozoneprogram.ru/eng/news/2022_world_ozone_day/#



21 September: UN International Day of Peace

- **2022 Theme: End racism. Build peace.**
- Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.
- But achieving true peace entails much more than laying down arms. It requires the building of societies where all members feel that they can flourish. It involves creating a world in which people are treated equally, regardless of their race.
- <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

22 September: World Car Free Day



- **Care of the earth and its precious resources**
- This is a global event held on September 22.
- It encourages drivers to give up their cars for a day and use public transportation, ride a bicycle, or simply walk.
- The first Car Free Days were organized in Bath (UK), Reykjavík (Iceland), and La Rochelle (France) in 1995.
- That same year, the World Car Free Day consortium was established to support such campaigns worldwide.
- The first nationwide campaign was organized in the United Kingdom in 1997.
- In 2000, the European Commission supported the initiative and held a Europe-wide Car Free Day on September 22.

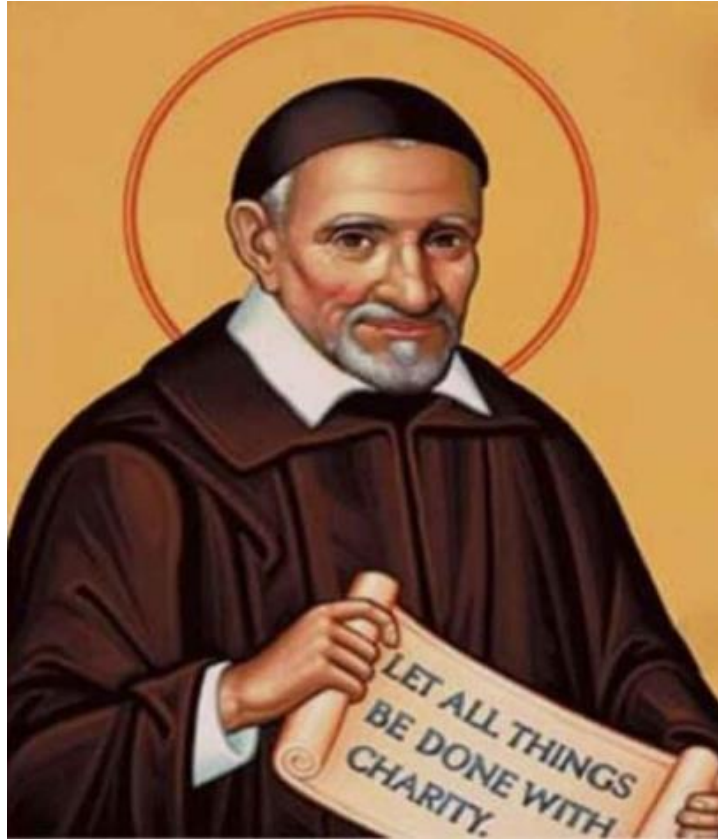
25 September: Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)

- The Jewish New Year is called Rosh Hashanah and usually falls during September or early October.
- This is a two-day holiday which celebrates the start of the new year according to the Jewish calendar.
- In 2022, Rosh Hashanah will begin at sundown on September 25th and end at sundown on September 27th.
- <https://www.touristisrael.com/rosh-hashana-in-israel/33431/>



27 September:
Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul
Read his life-story and his legacy of caring for others:

<https://catholicreadings.org/saint-vincent-de-paul/> <https://www.svp.ie>



29 September: Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

- The Feast of St Michael is on 29 Sept. On this Feast, in some schools (Mary Ward schools, Loreto), a picture or a statue of St. Michael is carried to a sacred space by the youngest pupil in the school. Today, we pray for protection for all.
- This practice stems from a story of an attack in 1695 on the Bar Convent in York founded by Mary Ward. The sisters prayed to the archangel St Michael to protect them. When a vision of St Michael on a white horse appeared over the house, the mob fled in terror. An engraving of St Michael now hangs over the front door of the Bar Convent to commemorate this story.
- See <http://www.historyofyork.org.uk/themes/tudor-stuart/the-bar-convent>



Prayer to St
Michael
Loreto
Primary
School,
Grange Road

St Michael, the Archangel,
protect us from all harm.
Wrap your wings of peace
around each one of us.
Sing softly to us from heaven
and guard us and our families
with love.
Thank you for watching over
us
at home and here at school.
Help us to spread God's love
everywhere we go.
Amen.



Best wishes to all!

As we continue to celebrate the
Season of Creation
until 4 October, we end with
For the Beauty of the Earth
by John Rutter

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIBkpAm3fhw>

