

TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEPTEMBER 2024



Season of Creation 2024 Global Events

– Key Dates

- **September 1:** Opening prayer service led by the Season of Creation Ecumenical Steering Committee. [Watch the live event here.](#)
- **September 10:** Webinar about the Fossil Fuels Non-Proliferation Treaty with high-level speakers from religious and political spheres. [Find more details on how to join the event here.](#)
- **September 21:** Fossil Fuels Day of Action. [Find more information here.](#)
- **October 4:** Closing prayer service for the Feast of St. Francis led by the Ecumenical Youth Committee. [Find more details on how to join the event here.](#)



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 The Season of Creation begins
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 8 Feast of the Birth of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 14 Feast of the Holy Cross
- 15 Our Lady of Sorrows
- 15 UN International Day of Democracy
- 16 UN International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
- 21 Feast of St Matthew
- 21 UN International Day of Peace
- 22 World Car Free day
- 27 Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul
- 29 Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

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

- 1 September, Creation Day, also known as the Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, opens the Season of Creation 2024.
- Faith leaders from around the globe will lead this time of prayer and reflection as we celebrate the start of the Season of Creation, on this year's theme,

**“TO HOPE AND ACT WITH
CREATION”**



Season of Creation: Celebration Guide 2024

- See:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12M3weSD4D2mvjCiI3Mxen3JQZ5Rrazz3/view>

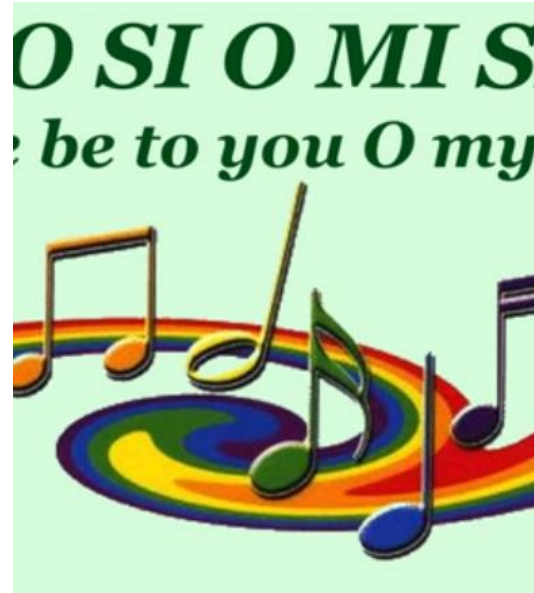


What a Wonderful World

I see trees of green, red roses too
I see them bloom for me and you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world
I see skies of blue and clouds of white
The bright blessed days, the dark
sacred nights
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_E4q_pHlxc





- **LAUDATO SI O MI SIGNORE**

In Thanksgiving for Pope Francis' Encyclical

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



Season of Creation 2024

- This resource from Trócaire is ideal for a children's group, youth group or any family or community setting where people can explore their relationship with God's Creation through reflection and activities:
- <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/4.-Nurturing-your-Family-Faith-in-Nature-as-Gaelige.pdf>
- Liturgies and activities to celebrate the Season of Creation 2024
- <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/laudato-si/season-of-creation-2024/>





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.

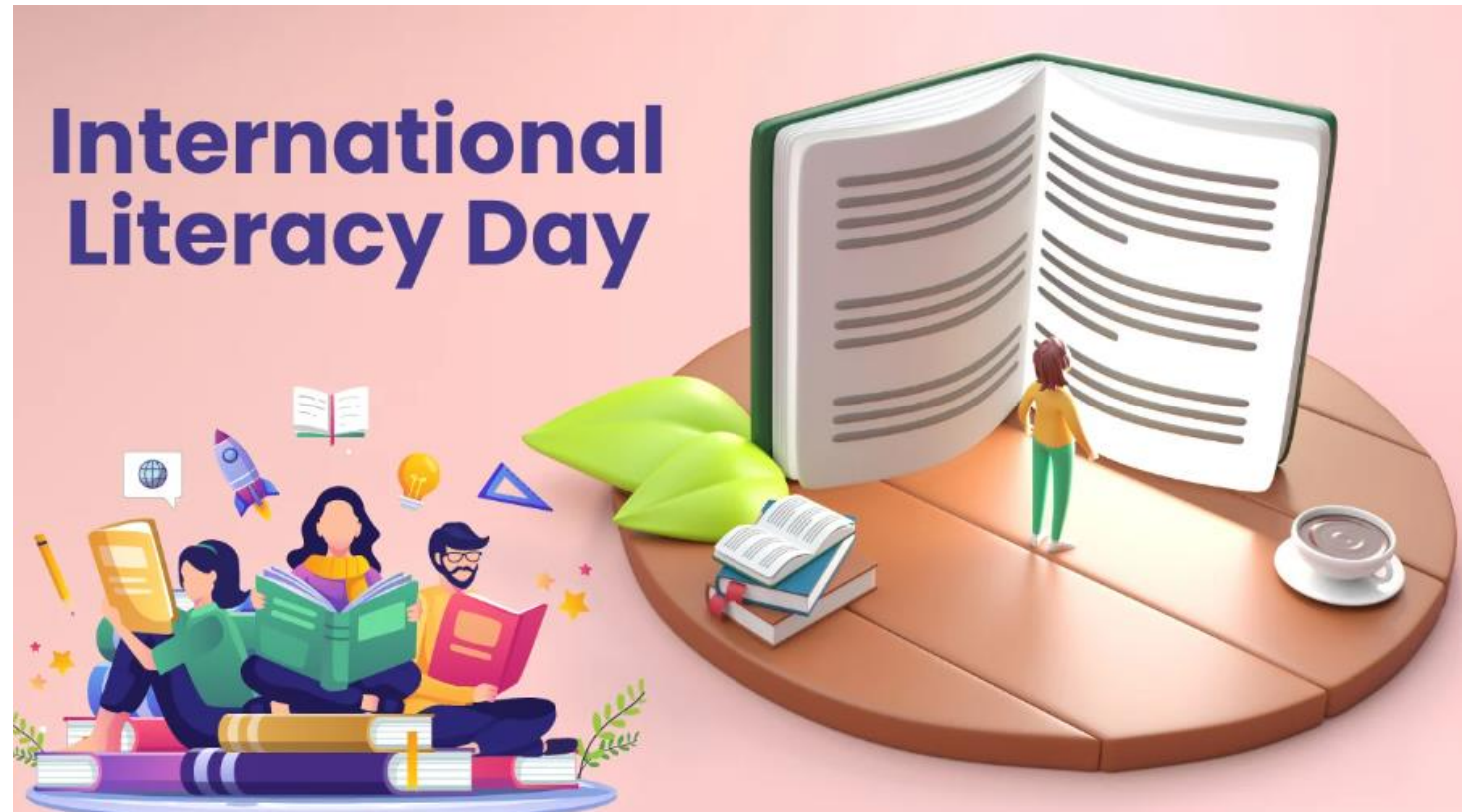


8 September Feast of the Birth of Our Lady

- 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:
- Promoting multilingual education: Literacy for mutual understanding and peace.
- <https://www.unesco.org/en/days/literacy>



September 14

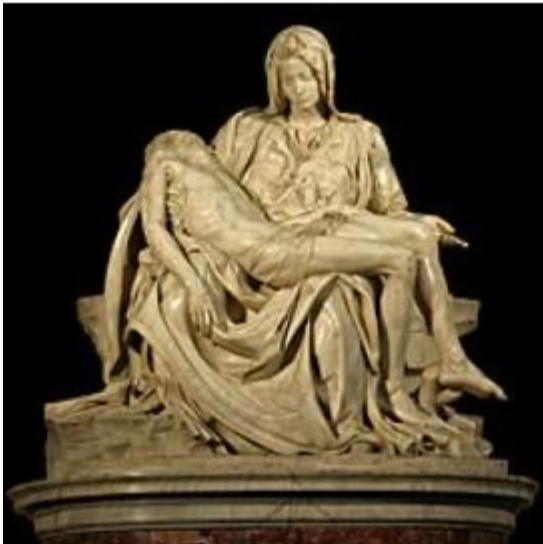
Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

- 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*, 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/>

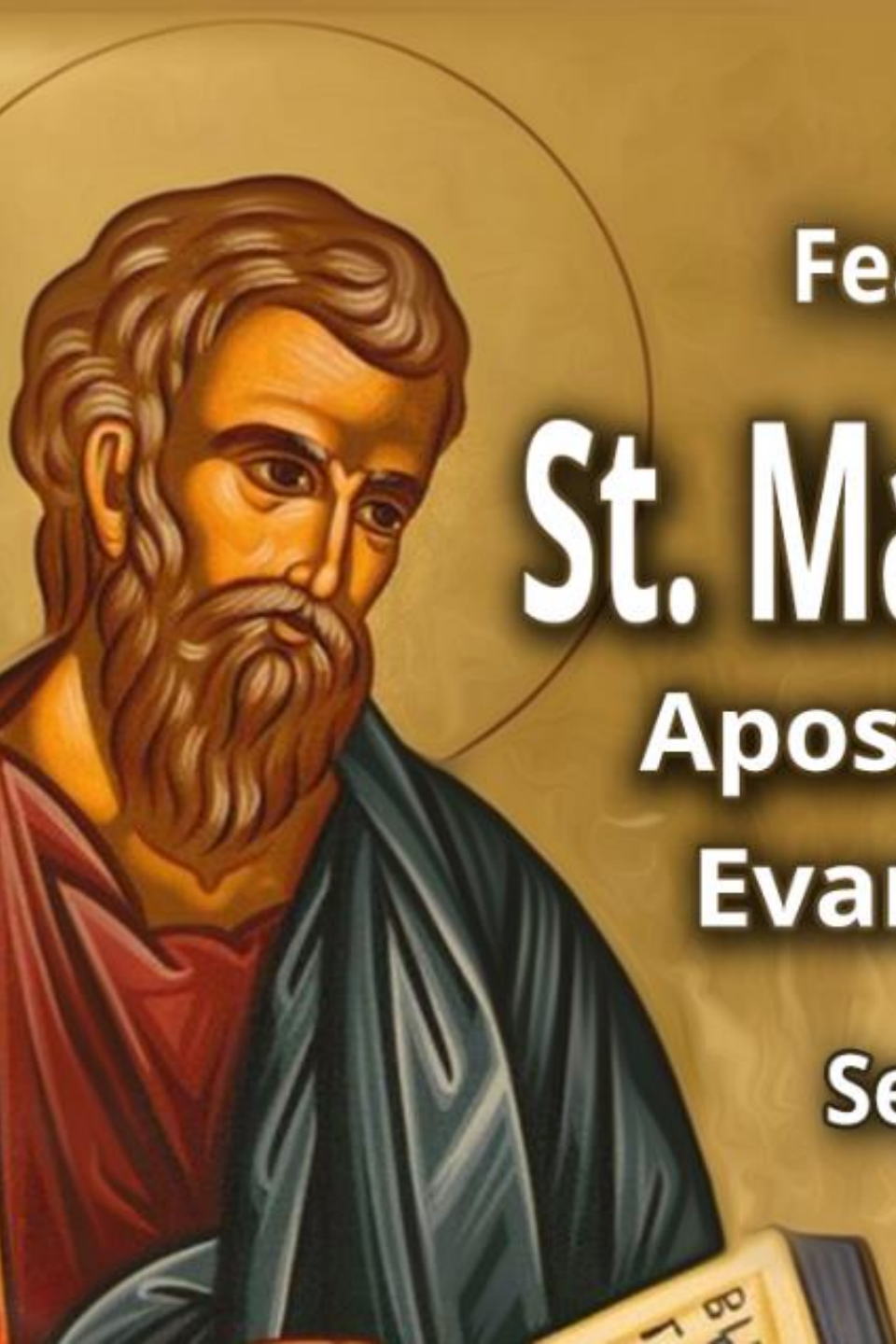
and listen to *Stabat Mater* (Gandrille)

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

15 September: UN International Day of Democracy

- The theme for 2024 is ***Empowering the Next Generation***.
- 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.
- See also [About the United Nations | Resources - Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Loreto \(ibvmunngo.org\)](https://www.ibvmunngo.org)





Feast of

St. Matthew

Apostle and
Evangelist

Sept 21

21 September: St
Matthew

- <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/saint-matthew/>

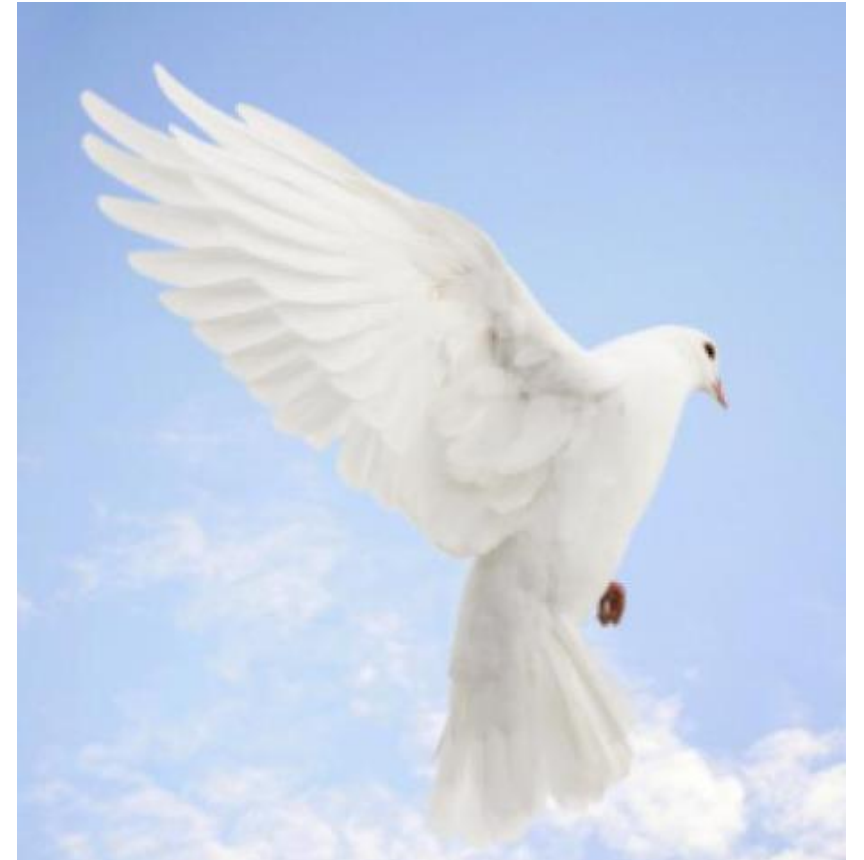
21 September: UN International Day of Peace

Listen to the music of
Peace is the gift of Christ the Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwjCDg90q5E>

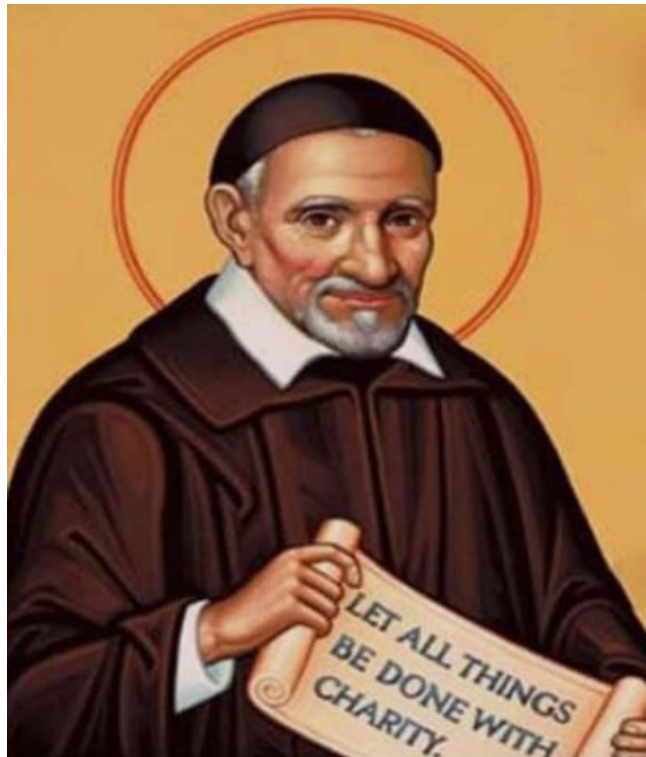
Universal Peace prayers:

<https://devonfaiths.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Universal-Peace-Prayers-DFBF-April-2020.pdf>



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>



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

- <https://www.svp.ie/>



Society of St. Vincent de Paul



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.



*Loreto Schools from
Australia and Ireland sharing
Sport, Faith and Ethos
30 September*

- We welcome staff and students from Loreto, Mandeville Hall, Toorak, Melbourne at the end of September and look forward to this event on 30 September.





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>