

# Hope and Act with Creation

Creation Time 2024  
Prayer Vigil





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In collaboration with the Centro Comunicazione - SMC

# Introduction

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**Guide:** Welcome to this prayer vigil dedicated to the Season of Creation. This year's theme is "Hope and Act with Creation". We will reflect on how our Comboni charism interprets the prophetic message of *Laudato Si'*, listening to the cry of the earth and the poor.

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## Opening Hymn

(Choose an appropriate hymn on the theme of creation)

## Biblical Reading

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**Reader:** From the book of the prophet Isaiah (35:1-2)  
"The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God."

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## Reflection on *Laudato Si'*

**Guide:** Pope Francis reminds us in *Laudato Si'*: "We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature." (LS 139)

(Moment of Silence)

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# Prayer for the Displaced in Mozambique

Sr. Laura Malhati from Nampula, Mozambique;

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(1-7 september)

**All:** Creator God, we pray for all those who have been forced to leave their homes due to violence and conflict in Mozambique. Give them strength, courage and hope in these difficult times. Guide those who work to bring peace and security to the region, especially the Comboni Sisters present in the camps of Corrane and Impiri. Help us remember that, despite difficulties, we are capable of choosing good and regenerating ourselves.



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## Mediative Song

(Choose an appropriate song on the theme)



# Reflection on the Amazon and COP30

Sr. Gabriela Lado & Sr. Maria Jesús Sanabria M. from Cujubim, Amazonia brasiliana

(8-14 september)



**Guide:** The Amazon, a treasure of biodiversity and culture, is facing unprecedented threats. Let us pray for the preparation of COP30 to be held in 2025 in Belén, Brazil, that it may lead to concrete decisions for environmental justice and the defense of indigenous peoples' rights.



## Prayer for the Amazon

**All:** Lord, help us to be attentive and responsible custodians of Your creation. May we be instruments of change, working for environmental justice and the dignity of all peoples. Guide us towards a sustainable future, where harmony between humanity and nature is restored.

(Invite participants to briefly share a personal commitment to care for creation)



# Prayer for the Holy Land and Bedouin Communities

Sr. Lourde Garcia & Sr. Cecilia Sierra  
from Al Lazaria, Palestina

(15–21 september)



**Guide:** Let us pray for the mission of the Comboni Sisters in the Holy Land, particularly for the project of planting 1,500 trees in the Judean Desert.



**All:** Lord, may we be like trees planted in the desert, bringing life and hope where there is desolation. May our commitment to the care of creation and justice be a tangible sign of Your love for all Your children and for all creation.

## Hymn

(Choose an appropriate song on the theme)

# Prayer for Education in South Sudan

Sr. Beta Almendra da Wau, Sud Sudan

(21-30 september)



**Guide:** Let us pray for South Sudan and for the educational commitment of Sisters in South Sudan in concretely applying the teachings of Laudato Si'.

**All:** Creator God, we thank you for the gift of the youth of South Sudan and for their enthusiasm in caring for our common home. Bless the efforts of all educators who are committed to spreading the message of Laudato Si'. We pray especially for the girls of Wau and all of South Sudan, that they may have access to education and become active guardians of our common home.

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## Final Blessing

**Guide:** Lord, may we be instruments of Your love and peace, bringing hope and comfort to those who suffer. Help us build a more just and sustainable world for all, transforming areas of conflict into oases of peace and rebirth. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

## Final Hymn

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**Prayer  
Intentions**





# Prayer for the Displaced in Mozambique

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(1-7 sept)

That human beings, while capable of the worst, may also be capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start, despite their mental and social conditioning. (LS n. 205)



# Prayer for the Amazon

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(8-14 sept)

We thank you, our Creator God, for the precious gift of Mother Nature, our common home with all its diversity, which sustains us with everything we need. We pray for all those who are dedicated to fighting for the preservation of our resources and who risk their lives day after day to defend Nature and territories from the selfishness of the oppressor and the exploiter, so that we can live in our common home with dignity and freedom.

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# Prayer for the Holy Land and Bedouin Communities

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(15-21 sept)



We pray for the desert's flourishing and the resilience of Bedouin communities. Inspired by St. Daniel Comboni, may our actions bring hope and life to the vulnerable, responding to the cries of the earth and of the poor, as envisioned in 'Laudato Sì.



## Prayer for Education in South Sudan

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(21-30 sept)

Let us pray for all girls, especially the girls of Wau and of South Sudan

"The care of our common home is a journey of hope, a pilgrimage of faith, and an act of love. May our prayers and actions be seeds of change, blooming in the deserts of our world and bringing the spring of justice and peace. Together, with God's grace, we can make the desert bloom and transform our Earth into a garden of universal brotherhood."



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