

## Theme Sharing

22th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Cost of Discipleship

If invited to pick and choose within the Gospels, and build up our religion from only the parts that appeal to us, what a comfortable church we would have! We might keep the stories about Christ's birth and infancy, his temptation in the desert and his healing miracles. We would include our favourite parables — like the Prodigal son, the Pharisee and the Publican, and of course, the Good Samaritan. But would we leave out that Gospel for today, that hard teaching about renouncing self, taking up the cross, losing our lives for the sake of Jesus? And even if we have not removed those words from our Gospels, do we remain deaf to them in practice, in our lives?

In a way, isn't following Christ like accepting a friend whom we must accept in full or not at all; welcoming the demands as well as the benefits of friendship? Just as we need to take people as they are, without trying to change them to suit ourselves, so with the Gospel: we accept the whole of Christ's recorded words, because we trust him and know that his ways are truth.

So what does the Lord want from us? What does he mean by "renounce yourself," "lose your life for my sake," "carry your cross," or (in the epistle) "present your bodies as a holy sacrifice?" Surely these words don't refer to anything suicidal, to devaluing of this present life, its joys and its achievements? And yet, are these not something more than a pious way of saying: Put up with what cannot be changed? These are questions to revolve in the mind, without expecting any quick or simple solution. If we will allow, God's Word challenges us out of any complacency with a comfortable, conforming religion. It unmasks our many evasions, our double standards, our desire for "cheap grace" – wanting salvation at cut price, unwilling to involve ourselves in sacrifice. Perhaps a clue to this Lord's demand is in the first reading, in Jeremiah's extraordinary accusation that he was *seduced* by God. Letting his prophetic vocation overpower him, Jeremiah was involved in many a thankless task. He had *fallen in love with God*, so that nothing held him back from doing God's will, no matter where this might lead. Have *we* fallen in love with Christ? Are we seduced by him, so as to give to his service

all that is ours to give? Wouldn't that be *becoming a living sacrifice*? We might overly focus on the "renunciation" in today's Gospel so as to miss its positive aspect. All growth, all lasting achievement demands effort and sacrifice. Yet the sacrifice can be a satisfying part of experience, when orientated towards a high and valued goal. (Examples: athletic training; mountain-climbing; studying a language; practicing any skill.) So, the self discipline involved in Christian life, and accepting the circumstances in which God places us, contribute to our personal destiny. And we look forward in hope to the great reward of loyal service – when the Son of man, coming in glory, will reward all according to their behaviour.

## Pope's Monthly Prayers Intention

### September General and Missionary Intention

Evangelization: Parishes at the service of the mission

That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.

## Diocese & Other News

### Celebrate Season of Creation

Season of Creation starts on September 1st with the World Day of Prayer for Care for Creation and ends on the Feast day of St. Francis, October 4th. Two events are already planned during this month: Live Laudato Si Workshop at St. Patrick's (September 29th) and Blessing of the Animals at St. Joseph's (September 23rd). Prayer resources can be accessed on the website [www.seasonofcreation.org](http://www.seasonofcreation.org). If you would like additional resources or help with planning an event to celebrate the season, please contact Marilou LeGeyt - 403-218-5519 or [marilou.legeyt@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:marilou.legeyt@calgarydiocese.ca). Join Christians around the globe as we pray and take action for our common home.

### Bishop McGrattan at the Mosque:

Forgiveness, Punishment and Justice  
Bishop McGrattan will be speaking at Baitan Nur Mosque (4353 54 Ave. NE, Calgary), on the theme of "Forgiveness, Punishment and Justice" along with Islamic Imam Taha Syed

on Sept. 9, 2017 from 4:30-6:00pm with a free dinner provided. Please RSVP by Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> to: 1-866-628-5435.

## Parish Activities

### Marian Devotion Mass

Tuesday 6:30 pm English Marian Devotion Mass will be resumed on September 12.

### OLPH Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Annual General Meeting

AGM will be held on Sunday, Oct 29, 2017 at 1:00pm at the Upper Hall. All parishioners are welcome to join. A light lunch will be served.

The AGM is an excellent opportunity to meet the PPC members, find out the 2017 activities of all the other Parish Groups, and the upcoming plans in 2018 for Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

### OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Election of Lay Councillors

The OLPH Parish Pastoral Council is made up of the Pastor, Deacons and twelve lay members. The terms of office for 4 of these lay councillors will expire at the end of this year. Pursuant to Article 14 of the Council's Constitution,

Fr. Nguyen and the Council decided at its recent meeting that a general election be held on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Nominations Forms to fill these positions are now available at both the side entrance and the back of the church.

Article 4.2 of the Council's Constitution, which sets out the requirements of council membership (lay councillor), states as follows:

"Any member of the parish who satisfies the following requirements is eligible for appointment as a lay councillor. For the effective discharge of the Council's mandate, a parishioner wishing to serve on the Council must be:

- registered with the parish as a parishioner;
- over the age of 18;
- a practicing Catholic and active in the parish;
- willing to serve on the council at least for a full term of two year;
- comfortable to work with his peers as a team and not be self-seeking;

- willing to attend, and contribute to, the meetings of the Council and its committees; and
- willing to attend training sessions, camps or programs intended for his or her spiritual or management development."

Parish groups may nominate their members to stand for election. A parishioner may "self-nominate", or nominate another parishioner as a lay councillor to the Council. Keeping in mind the above requirements, please nominate the best people to serve on the Council, so that the parish can continue the mission of Jesus, and help each of its members to achieve the fullness of one's Christian vocation through holiness or spirituality, community and ministry. Please note that a written Consent from the nominee is required. The duly completed Nomination/Consent Form must be submitted to the Parish Office under confidential cover by Friday, September 29. A copy of the Council's Constitution and its Bylaws is placed on the Notice Board at the back of the church for general information. The documents are also available on the parish website: [www.myolph.org](http://www.myolph.org). For further enquiries, please call OLPH Parish Secretary (403-265-7926) or Michael Chu (403-630-6080).

### Sunday School registration

All classes of Sunday School for 2017-2018 school year will be open for registration on September 10.

Time: 11 am - 1 pm

Venue: OLPH Upper Hall

Any family with Kindergarten to Grade 6 children please register. School fee is \$10 per student and \$25 for family with 3 or more students.

### Young Adults Group Registration

Young Adults Group in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church invites parishioners between post-secondary to those considering family life to be members of this parish group and join in our upcoming events.

For all those who are interested in the OLPH Young Adults Group, we will be holding a registration session where you can learn more about our group after 10:00am mass on September 10 in Upper Hall. There are many exciting events this year so come find out what our group is all about! All who are

interested are invited to join. Please feel free to contact us at [olphyoungadults@gmail.com](mailto:olphyoungadults@gmail.com) or visit our website at <http://olphyoungadults.weebly.com/> for more information.

### Youth Group Registration will be on September 10

Time: 11:00am to 12:30pm

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

We encourage all youths from grades 7 to 12 to sign up for the activities and events in the year. Events this year include monthly sports youth nights, spiritual talks, ski trip, volunteering, choir performances and much more!

All youths and parents are welcome.

For more information please contact Jenny Lam ( [jenny\\_lam\\_9@hotmail.com](mailto:jenny_lam_9@hotmail.com) )

### RCIA Adult Catechumenate Class – New Class Notice

The 2017 adult Catechumenate classes are now accepting new applications for enrollment. Any interested party, or adult Catholics who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, or Christians from other ecclesial communities considering to join the Catholic Church, please contact :

- The parish office 403-265-7926, or

- Joseph Yip 403-547-0618 (in the evening).

They may also pick up a 'RCIA Adult Catechumenate Class Application Form' at the Church entrances, complete it and return to the parish office.

All parishioners are earnestly encouraged to play their role in evangelization and invite their friends.

### Safe driving and parking in OLPH

Summer vacation is finishing and the Sunday school will soon resume. Please be aware of the safety for yourself and other parishioners, drive with care within the prescient of the OLPH, preferably at a speed of 10 kph. When using the parking lots, please park your car within the designated parking space and be considerate for other users. Thank you for your kind attention and co-operation.

### Breakfast Corner and Movie

#### Afternoon

Date: September 24 (Sunday)

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Sponsor: Queen of China Club  
Breakfast Corner after 10:00am and 11:30am mass. Breakfast includes one bowl of rice vermicelli soup with assorted meatballs & fish balls and one Chinese flavoured tea egg. Complimentary muffins and drinks after 8:30am mass.  
Movie Afternoon – "Francisco - El Padre Jorge" (Chinese Subtitle) 1:00pm to 3:30 pm.  
Movie is free of charge. Breakfast ticket is \$5 each.  
Join us in this event of food, socializing, and faith sharing.

### Together in Action 2017

The theme this year is:

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will obtain MERCY." (Matthew 5:7)"

Our parish's target is \$22,607 as designated by the Diocese. As of June 14, our campaign has received a total of \$28,231.41. Let's give sacrificially, act out our faith, and join Together in Action

## Weekly Activities

Fri	Sept 8
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St. Angela School Start of Year Mass

Time: 9:00a.m.

Place: OLPH Church

OLPH Senior Centre

Time: 9:00a.m.-12:00 noon

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

OLPH Scout

Time: 6:30pm.-8:30pm

Place: Upper Hall & Lower Hall

Sat	Sept 9
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Legion of Mary ( meeting )

Time: 9:45 a.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

Faith Sharing Group ( N.E)

Time: 10:30a.m.-12:00noon.

Contact: Sr. Sze 403-230-3801

Tai Chi Lesson

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Yoga beginner class

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:45p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

R. C.I.A (Mandarin)

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Place: K of C Room

Young Adults choir practice

Time: 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Lower Hall

Faith Sharing Group ( N.W.)

Time: 7:30p.m.-10:00p.m.  
 Contact: Anna Tam 403-285-5023  
 Grace Chan 403-208-1806

Sun Sept 10

R. C.I.A (Cantonese and English)

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Sunday School, Youth Group and

Young Adults group registration

Time: 11:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Time: 12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH K of C Room

## Stories Faith Sharing

### Acceptance

"How can I be a great man like you?"

"Why be a great man?" said the Master.

"Being a man is a great enough achievement."

## Read More Know More

### World Day of prayer For The Care of Creation

#### Mercy to our Common Home

United with our Orthodox brothers and sisters, and with the support of other Churches and Christian communities, the Catholic Church marks September 1 the "World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation". This Day offers "individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live."

It is most encouraging that concern for the future of our planet is shared by the Churches and Christian communities, together with other religions. Indeed, in past decades numerous efforts have been made by religious leaders and organizations to call public attention to the dangers of an irresponsible exploitation of our planet. In response to a growing concern for the integrity of creation, the Third European Ecumenical Assembly in Sibiu in 2007 proposed celebrating a "Time for Creation" during the five weeks between 1 September (the Orthodox commemoration of God's creation) and 4 October (the

commemoration of Francis of Assisi in the Catholic Church and some other Western traditions). This initiative, supported by the World Council of Churches, has since inspired many ecumenical activities in different parts of the world. It is also encouraging that throughout the world similar initiatives promoting environmental justice, concern for the poor and responsible social commitment have been bringing together people, especially young people, from diverse religious backgrounds. Christians or not, as people of faith and goodwill, we should be united in showing mercy to the earth as our common home and cherishing the world in which we live as a place for sharing and communion.

To Be Continued

## 主日分享

### 常年期第二十二主日

#### 十字架的愛

上星期日的福音讀經講述伯多祿明認耶穌為基督、為天主子，揭開耶穌傳道生涯新的一頁。耶穌稱讚他有福，並稱他為磐石，著他帶領教會。踏入新的傳道階段，耶穌感到時機成熟，遂開始向門徒預言受苦。伯多祿以新領袖身分，把耶穌拉到一邊勸阻，以為是得體，深明大義，以忠信僕人的身分去保護耶穌。結果他由先前得到耶穌的讚賞，變成捱罵；從手執天國鑰匙的要人，淪為天國的敵人撒殫；從建立教會的磐石，變為耶穌的絆腳石。

伯多祿其實也相當無辜，他祇懷著一般猶太人的期望：盼望有一天國家能恢復主權，而他們所期待的默西亞，就是一位能幫助他們復國的救星；一位要受苦的默西亞是不可思議的。理由其實很簡單。按以色列人的歷史，真正來自天主的人戰無不勝；倘若戰敗，是因為有人犯罪引致。默西亞既來自天主，當然不犯罪，天主必然處處保護祂。如果祂受苦，顯示祂不再來自天主。基於此簡單的邏輯，伯多祿善意勸諫耶穌。

耶穌雖然斥責伯多祿，但非常有分寸，而且帶有特別的信息。當魔鬼誘惑耶穌朝拜他時，耶穌毫不留情地斥責：“撒殫，走開”；但斥責伯多祿

時，耶穌則說：“撒殫，退到我後面去！”兩者分別很大。真正的撒殫永不改變，永遠與天主為敵；伯多祿受環境及民族期望所限制，不自覺地做了魔鬼的工具，故耶穌的斥責是警醒，是教育，告訴伯多祿他真正的地位是在後跟隨祂，不要在祂前面，企圖帶領他，因為在前反而礙手礙腳，成為絆腳石。

接下來耶穌指出，誰若願意跟隨祂，就該像祂一樣背著十字架；這句話使背十字架成為基督徒的特徵。當然，愛也是基督徒的特徵，不過基督徒更應講背十字架的愛。基督徒不光是在順境中言愛，更強調逆境中的愛。諸事順遂，有求必應，自是感激不盡，此時講愛不難；相反地，頭頭碰著黑，天主好像對自己的祈求充耳不聞時，又能否同樣地朗聲言愛呢？

所以，停留在順境中的愛總有危險性，十字架的愛才是徹底的基督徒的愛。十字架可能給人一種消極的感覺，以為壓制自己、克苦、守齋、不言享受、不敢吃好的東西、不敢穿好的衣服等才算是背十字架。但真正的十字架是積極的，是向外流露的愛的表現。耶穌選擇走十字架的道路，就是因為這是犧牲的愛的最高境界，而犧牲的愛最感人。

讓我們體會今日福音中耶穌的要求，十字架的愛並非一般人的邏輯所能懂的，而是真正愛基督的人才領會得到；超越求福免禍的境界，我們才是成熟的基督徒。嘗試問問自己能接受逆境中的愛、犧牲的愛、十字架的愛嗎？如果仍然覺得勉強，就讓耶穌斥責伯多祿的話警醒我們：“撒殫，退到我後面去！”

## 教宗及福傳祈禱意向

### 九月祈禱及傳教意向：

福傳意向：為堂區

願我們充滿福傳精神的堂區，能成為傳達信仰與看見愛的地方。

## 堂區活動

星期二黃昏敬禮永援聖母彌撒  
 將於九月十二日六時三十分照以往時

間舉行。

## 香港榮休主教陳日君樞機蒞臨本堂

香港榮休主教陳日君樞機將於九月十三日蒞臨本堂。是日下午三時三十分奉獻彌撒；五時有簡短講座；晚上六時三十分在本堂上禮堂晚宴。席券每位十五元，彌撒後可到正門購票。詳情可致電堂區辦事處或致電 Simon Lau 查詢。

## 永援聖母堂堂區牧民議會週年大會

堂區牧民議會週年大會將於十月二十九日下午一時於上禮堂舉行，當天將有簡便午餐供應，歡迎所有教友參加。

## 永援聖母堂堂區牧民委員會平信徒堂委選舉

本堂堂區牧民委員會（以下簡稱『堂委會』）現由主任司鐸，執事，及十二名平信徒（以下簡稱『堂委』）組成；其中四名堂委的任期將於年底任滿。根據堂委會章程第十四章，阮神父聯同堂委會在週前的會議中，議決在本年十月二十九日（星期日），舉行堂委大選。本堂現在開始接受堂委提名，提名表格可在聖堂側門入口處或聖堂後面索取。

會章第 4.2 節說明作為一個堂委所需具備的條件，現轉載如下：

『任何符合以下條件的堂區信友都有資格被任命為堂委。為了有效地完成堂委會的使命，有意服務堂委會的堂區信友必需是：

已在本堂區註冊的信友

年齡滿 18 歲

實踐信仰而且活躍於本堂區的天主教徒

願意完成堂委會兩年的任期

不標榜自我，認同團隊精神，樂意與其他堂委合作共襄事工

願意出席及服務堂委會及屬下小組

願意出席於目標在於拓展牧靈及行政管理的訓練班，訓練營，或訓練課程。』

堂區各善會單位可提名會員參選成為堂委；堂區教友亦可自我提名，或提名另一教友參選。請提名最符合上述條件的堂區教友，參選堂委。使堂區能繼承基督的使命，從靈，聖，公和

義方面，幫助每一位成員，去完成基督徒各自的使命。

所有被提名者即(參選人)必須簽署參選同意書。填妥的提名表格及參選同意書，應最遲於本年九月二十九日(星期五)，以密件方式交回堂區辦事處。教友可在聖堂後面佈告版，或上網堂區網頁( [www.myolph.org](http://www.myolph.org) )，參閱堂委會章程及則例。如有任何查詢，請致電堂區辦事處秘書 (403-265-7926)，或堂委會主席朱樂安(403-630-6080)。

## 成人慕道班新班報名

2017 年 新一屆成人慕道班現正接受報名。有興趣者，或已領洗但仍未領受堅振聖事的成人教友，或正考慮加入天主教會的任何基督徒團體人士，皆請聯絡堂區辦事處 403-265-7926 或 Joseph Yip 403-547-0618 (晚間) 亦可在教堂入口處拿取「成人慕道班申請表」，填妥後交回堂區辦事處。期盼教友能善盡本份，熱心介紹親友參加，為傳福音出一分力。

## 主日學新生註冊

主日學將於九月十日為 2017 至 2018 年度新生註冊。

時間：上午十一時至下午一時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

請各位家長為他們幼稚園至小六的子女報名，學費為\$10，三名學生或以上的家庭\$25。

## 永援聖母堂大專青年團報名

永援聖母堂大專青年團誠意邀請所有即將步入大學校園及所有年輕成人的教友參加這個為我們而設的組織。我們將於 9 月 10 日(星期日)上午 10 時彌撒後於上禮堂報名及互相認識。

歡迎所有有興趣的人參與。

欲了解更多有關以上活動的詳細內容及加入我們這個年輕人的大家庭，請隨時聯絡我們：

[olphyoungadults@gmail.com](mailto:olphyoungadults@gmail.com) 或網站

<http://olphyoungadults.weebly.com/>

## 卡城永援聖母堂青年會報名

日期：9 月 10 日報名

時間上午十一時至下午十二時三十分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

我們鼓勵從 7 年級到 12 年級的青少年報名參加青年會。請快來結交新朋友，並加深信仰的了解。歡迎所有的青少年和家長參加。

詳情請與 Jenny Lam

([jenny\\_lam\\_9@hotmail.com](mailto:jenny_lam_9@hotmail.com)) 聯絡。

## 溫馨提示：安全駕駛及停泊車輛

暑假即將結束，主日學接著復課，請各位車輛駕駛者在聖堂停車場範圍內將車速減慢，不超過每小時十公里 (10kph) 為宜，小心駕駛，以策安全。如需要停泊車輛，請停放在已劃定車位或指定範圍內，並希能為其他使用者考慮切勿隨意停放，多謝合作。

## 早餐交流會及電影欣賞

日期：9 月 24 日 (星期日)

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

贊助善會：聖母會

早餐交流會 - 10 時，11 時 30 分彌撒後有早餐供應；早餐包括四寶湯米粉壹碗及茶葉蛋壹隻；8 時 30 分彌撒後免費茶水及 muffin。

電影欣賞 - 《平民教宗方濟各》(中文字幕) 下午 1 時至 3 時 30 分

電影欣賞免費，早餐票每位 5 元。

聚會將包括有美食、生活交談及信仰分享。

## 2017 教區公益金，齊來獻愛心

2017 年教區 TIA 籌款的主題為：『憐憫人的人是有福的，因為他們要受憐憫。』瑪竇福音：第五章七節

截至 6 月 14 日，捐款已累積至 28,231.41 元。

懇請各位教友繼續支持，慷慨解囊！

## 活動一週

星期五 9 月 8 日

St. Angela School 開學彌撒

時間：上午 9 時

地點：永援聖母堂

永援聖母松柏軒

時間：上午 9 時至正午 12 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

永援聖母堂童軍

時間：晚上 6 時 30 分至 8 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂及下禮堂

星期六 9月9日

### 聖母軍

(聖母軍聖母無玷聖心支團)

時間：9時45分(開會)

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

### 東北區信仰小團體聚會

時間：早上10時30分至12時

聯絡：施修女 403-230-3801

### 楊式太極班

時間：上午10時至12時30分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

### 瑜珈初班

時間上午11時30分至12時45分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

### 成人慕道班(國語)

時間：下午3時至5時

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

### 大專青年團練習聖詩

時間：下午5時至7時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

### 信仰小團體(西北區)

時間：晚上7時30分至10時

聯絡：Anna Tam 403-285-5023

Grace Chan 403-208-1806

星期日 9月10日

### 成人慕道班(粵語及英語)

時間上午9時30分至12時30分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

### 主日學、青年會及大專青年團報名

時間：上午11時至1時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

### 堂區牧民議會開會

時間：下午12時30分

地點：聖堂騎士會室

## 靈修小故事

### 祇有十英寸深

一個孩子坐在公園的長椅上，打開他的聖經，邊讀，邊大聲讚美天主：“亞利路亞！亞利路亞！天主真偉大！”他旁若無人地大聲喊著，一點兒也不介意別人是否會笑他。

一會兒，一個在本地大學讀書的年輕人走了過來。他覺得自己受了教育，明白真理，急於把自己的知識顯示出來。他問這個孩子為什麼這麼高興。

“嗨！”男孩兒愉快地笑了，反問道：“你難道不知道天主的大能嗎？我剛剛讀到聖經中說，天主使紅海的

水分開，在海中開辟道路，以色列人就過去了！”

受過教育的年輕人輕快地笑了，他在男孩兒的身邊坐了下來，他要打開這孩子的眼睛，讓他看到聖經“神跡”的真相：“這太容易解釋了！現代科學的研究表明，紅海的那一段在那個時候，祇有十英寸深。以色列人盡可趟著水過去，一點兒問題都沒有！”男孩兒啞口無言。他看看年輕人，又轉眼看自己膝蓋上打開的聖經，無言對答。而這個年輕人呢，覺得自己啓迪了這個幼稚、無知的孩子，給了他一個更為合理的科學角度，便非常滿意地起身離開了。但他剛邁出兩步，就聽到身後的男孩兒更大聲地喊：

“亞利路亞！讚美天主！”年輕人就回轉身，問男孩兒為什麼又讚美天主呢。

“哇！”男孩兒高興地大叫著，“天主比我想像得還偉大！祂不光把整個以色列人都帶出紅海，祂還用十英寸深的水，把整個埃及人的軍隊都給淹死了！”

## 知多一點點

### 照料受造界祈禱日

#### 慈悲對待我們的共同家園

聯合東正教的弟兄姐妹們，並在其它基督信仰教會和團體的支持下，天主教會9月1日舉行一年一度的「照料受造界祈禱日」。這個祈禱日旨在「為每位基督徒及各團體提供一個寶貴時機，藉此更新自己守護受造界的聖召，感謝天主將祂的奇妙化工託付給人類，並為保護受造界呼求祂的助佑，為人類傷害世界的罪行呼求祂的慈悲」。令人極為振奮的是，基督信仰教會和團體以及其它宗教都在關切地球的未來。近幾年來，宗教首領和組織發起眾多創舉，促使輿論更加關注不負責任地濫用地球資源所帶來的危險。歐洲大公教會第3屆會議為回應人們日益關注受造界的完整性，提議舉行一個為期五週的「受造界時期」，從9月1日（東正教紀念天主創造宇宙日）至10月4日（天主教會和某些其它西方傳統紀念亞西西聖方濟各日）。從那時起，這項受到世界基督教

會理事會支持的創舉在世界各地啓發了眾多大公性質活動。

可喜的是，促進環境公義、關懷窮人以及負起社會責任的類似創舉正在全世界凝聚了不同宗教背景的人士，尤其是青年。基督徒和非基督徒、有信仰者和善心人士，我們都應團結一致，以慈悲對待大地，我們的共同家園；同時珍惜我們所生活的世界，使之成為人類分享和共融的場所。待續