

# **LOVING SISTER EARTH PRAYER RITUAL**

## **For Universal Harmony And the Care of our Common Home**

As you stand on this Holy Ground we invite you to take a moment to become fully present to where you are. This means putting your concerns on hold for a little while. This Holy Place is a haven of prayer where people in the past have stood before God to intercede and give thanks. Try to be present to the energy of their prayer.

### **Awareness Ritual**

Stand still and breathe gently, listening to the sound of each breath.  
Give thanks to God for the gift of life that is your breath.

Now notice your body and feel the ground under your feet.  
Give thanks for the earth for supporting you.

Bend down and feel the earth, the stones, the water. They are God's gift.  
Spend some time in silent gratitude for Sister Earth.

### **Universal Prayers for Creation**

We praise you Lord for the goodness and beauty of your gift of creation. We ask for forgiveness for our generation which has in such a short time plundered and abused your creation. We are sorry for the many ways in which we have colluded with the greed of humanity. Response...

We ask for healing for the earth, the air, the seas and the many creatures who have suffered because of pollution due to our indifference. Pour forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth. Response...

Lord we pray for the protection of the fruits of the earth. May they be shared by rich and poor alike. May we become good stewards of your gifts: water, animals, rainforests, seas and minerals. Let them not become the possession of the powerful but always remain your free gift to all. Response...

We ask that just structures be developed so the resources of the earth will be accessible to everyone, especially the poor. We pray for those who will be entrusted to implement such structures. May they, like you, hear the cry of the poor. Response...

Over the course of history the earth has witnessed much suffering and violence from humankind. Much blood has been shed on earth's sacred ground. We ask that the painful energy that this has created may be transformed to bring healing. Response...

There are many places such as this which have been enriched by humble prayer. May we experience the graced energy of prayer and make ourselves available to work together for the care of the Common Home with which you Lord have blessed us. Response...

### **Reflective Movement**

Take some quiet time now to move around the site you are at and reflect on what you have just prayed. Give the space for the Holy Spirit to touch your heart.

### **Concluding Prayer**

#### **A Prayer for Our Earth**

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 the 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.  
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 recognise 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.

***Pope Francis- Laudato Si'***