



20 September 2026
Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Care of Creation Sunday



INTRODUCTION:

Our Liturgy today reminds us that having Jesus in our boat does not exempt us from life's storms, but it does guarantee our ultimate safety.

As we celebrate Care of Creation Sunday, this year's theme is "Living Water", that offers a two-fold invitation. It draws our attention to the importance of water in our lives and also calling us to draw nearer to Jesus who offers us Living Water. Just as water is essential for physical life, our spiritual life needs God's presence and grace to survive and flourish.

READINGS:

First Reading: Wisdom 13:1-9
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5
Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-20
Gospel: Matthew 8:23-27

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: With gratitude for the gift of water, we commit ourselves to caring for this precious Resource as we place our petitions before the Lord:

Response: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for a parched, thirsty world where waters are polluted and rivers have run dry. May the efforts of our Church contribute to the healing of this world. We pray to the Lord.

We pray for all eco warriors who take great risks to protect the oceans, rivers and wells. May the Lord bless their work and inspire many others to join them. We pray to the Lord.

We remember farmers, fisherfolk and others who are dependent upon water for their livelihood. May the Lord touch the hearts of government and business leaders to ensure fair and just treatment for these vulnerable groups. We pray to the Lord.

In keeping with the Pope's prayer intention for September, we pray for a just and sustainable management of water, so that everyone may have access to it. We pray to the Lord.

As a parish community, we can together take several steps to conserve water and use it wisely. We ask for wisdom and courage to take the right decisions. We pray to the Lord.

Let us pause to pray for our personal and local needs in the silence of our hearts. We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Loving Father, Creator of us all, hear our prayers and grant what you know is best for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prepared by the Archdiocesan Office for Environment