

## ADORATION SERVICE – World Environment Day 2025

*(Readings, homily, prayers, songs ad libitum for Adoration as part of the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction for use on Thursday, 5th June or First Friday, 6th June)*

### EXPOSITION

#### ADORATION

June 5 is World Environment Day. Recent teachings of the Church clearly point out that it is our Christian duty to care for the earth. The world is filled with the divine presence and is constantly revealing God to us. We are invited to contemplate this mystery, recognise God's presence in all that exists, and join all of creation in worshipping the Creator. Let us now listen to a reading from the Papal Encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

#### Reading *Laudato Si'* 85

God has written a precious book, "whose letters are the multitude of created things present in the universe". The Canadian bishops rightly pointed out that no creature is excluded from this manifestation of God: "From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine". The bishops of Japan, for their part, made a thought-provoking observation: "To sense each creature singing the hymn of its existence is to live joyfully in God's love and hope". This contemplation of creation allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us, since "for the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice". We can say that "alongside revelation properly so-called, contained in sacred Scripture, there is a divine manifestation in the blaze of the sun and the fall of night". Paying attention to this manifestation, we learn to see ourselves in relation to all other creatures: "I express myself in expressing the world; in my effort to decipher the sacredness of the world, I explore my own".

#### Invocation (adapted from *Daniel 3:57-88*)

Response: *To God be glory and praise forever*

All you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, clouds and sky, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, birds of the sky, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord	℟
And you, women and men, O bless the Lord	℟
All you servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord	℟

## Hymn

Great indeed are your works, O Lord

## Silent Pause

### Input / Homily Points and Reflection

The United Nations selects a different theme each year for the celebration of World Environment Day. The theme for this year is *Ending Plastic Pollution*. The official website ([unep.org/events](http://unep.org/events)) explains the theme as follows:

“For decades, plastic pollution has seeped into every corner of the world, leaching into the water we drink, into the food we eat, and our bodies. While plastic pollution is a major concern, it is also one of the most fixable of today’s environmental challenges, with some obvious solutions at hand. World Environment Day will spotlight the scientific evidence on the impacts of plastic pollution and drive momentum to refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink plastics use. It will also reinforce the global commitment made in 2022 to end plastic pollution through a global plastic pollution treaty.”

*(A few lines from personal experience, illustrating how plastic pollution is affecting the locality – clogged drains, filthy roads, degraded soil, harm to animals and plants, health hazards, etc. could be added here. Images from the accompanying presentation may also be used if AV facilities are available)*

We pause a while, reflecting on how we are contributing to plastic pollution.

Am I buying more than what is necessary?

Can I lead a simple life that is more in tune with nature?

## Silent Pause

### Prayer (from Catholic Climate Covenant)

Loving God, Creator of all, we thank you for the beauty of our world and the gift of creation. Help us to be good stewards of your earth, to reduce our plastic use, and to protect the environment. Inspire us to make choices that honour your creation and to encourage others to do the same. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

## REPOSITION

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*This adoration prayer service has been prepared by Fr Luke Rodrigues SJ. Parishes, religious communities and congregations are free to adapt and use as they see fit.*



**Archdiocesan Office for Environment** (Archdiocese of Bombay)  
c/o: St Pius X College, Aarey Road, Goregaon East, Mumbai 400063  
Email: [ecoteam@aoebombay.org](mailto:ecoteam@aoebombay.org)  
Website: [aoebombay.org](http://aoebombay.org)