

# Peace & Justice Report

For the week of August 11, 2017

*Liturgical seasons help us to celebrate the most important parts of our lives. Advent and Christmas make us aware of, prepare for, and celebrate the Incarnation. Lent and Easter deepen the message and life of Jesus about how to live with and love each other. It culminates with the Resurrection. Pentecost gives us the promise of the presence of the Spirit as we strive to live Jesus' life of love, acceptance, and sacrifice. Ordinary Time helps us integrate what we have learned and celebrated.*

*We are now invited into a new Season, the Season of Creation (Sept. 1—Oct. 4) to come to appreciate the glory and responsibility we have as part of creation with all of our brothers and sisters (two legged, four legged, finned, feathered, crawling, stars, and planets.)*



*Francis tells us "We cannot help but admire the beauty and harmony that exists in all of creation;*

*that is the gift that God gives us so that we may find him and contemplate him through his work."*



In parts of Laudato Si he says "climate change is a global problem with grave implications. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal"(25)



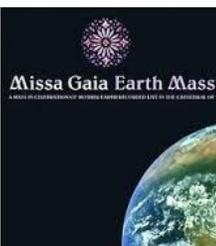
"All of us are linked by unseen bonds and together form a kind of universal family." (89)

"Others will no longer be seen as strangers, but as part of 'we' which all of us are working to create." (151)

"Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope." (244)



All of creation lives uniquely. Yet creation is something we all share. What an opportunity for unity on our planet. There are events/rituals/songs/art that have become traditional as we enter into and remember the liturgical seasons. How can we be creative in bringing new traditions to make this season as memorable and important?



We celebrate the Christmas season with Handel's Messiah, let us celebrate the Creation season with the Missa Gaia. We remember the way of the cross during Lent, let us celebrate the Creation Season with the Cosmic Walk. We celebrate Easter with a sunrise service, let us celebrate the Creation Season with a picnic with friends enjoying food just harvested from local gardens.

*We, too, are creators.*