

## Day Six of Special Prayers

We pray to see the relationship between the Environment and Poverty

### Your Creation

O Lord, grant us the grace to grow deeper in our respect of  
And care for your Creation.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

O Lord, help us to recognize the sacredness of all of your  
Creatures as signs of your wondrous love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, help us turn from the selfish consumption of  
Resources meant for all and to see the impacts of our  
choices on the poor and vulnerable.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

### An End to Waste

Let us pray for an end to the  
Waste and desecration of God's creation  
For access to the fruits of creation  
To be shared equally among all people  
And for communities and nations to find sustenance  
In the fruits of the earth and the water God has given us.

Almighty God, you created the world and gave it  
Into our care so that, in obedience to you,  
We might serve all people:  
Inspire us to use the riches of creation with wisdom,  
and to ensure that their blessings are shared by all;  
That, trusting in your bounty, all people may be  
Empowered to seek freedom from poverty, famine, and oppression.

**"To have dominion over all creation does not imply unrestrained exploitation. We are to treat creation as the creator would, not from our own selfish consumption but for the good of all creation."**

**- Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J.**

## Let Us Pray for the Poor

Let us pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected all over the world, that their cries for daily bread may inspire works of compassion and mercy among those to whom much has been given.

Let us pray for the farmers with limited or marginal land throughout the world, for those who lack access to water and other resources, and for the light of research and support services to shine in the lives of all God's people.

Let us pray for the health of women, children, and families around the world, especially for an end to maternal and child mortality, that in building healthy families, all God's people may be empowered to strengthen their communities and repair the breaches which divide nations and peoples.

Let us pray for an end to the waste and desecration of God's creation, for access to the fruits of creation to be shared equally among all people, and for communities and nations to find sustenance in the fruits of the earth and the water God has given us.

Let us pray for all nations and people who already enjoy the abundance of creation and the blessings of prosperity, that their hearts may be lifted up to the needs of the poor and afflicted, and partnerships between rich and poor for the reconciliation of the world may flourish and grow.

Lord, hear our prayer - *National Catholic Rural Life Conference*

### Sharing the Loaves and Fishes

Sharing the loaves and fishes,  
You gave us an image of solidarity with the hungry, O Lord.  
Sharing yourself in the bread and wine,  
You called all to the table, O Lord.  
Give me the hunger to be a part of the feeding  
And the healing of this world.  
Nourish me with your Grace,  
So I may work with joy to serve your children.  
Open my eyes and my heart  
To recognize those in poverty  
And increase my awareness  
Of the structures and systems  
That need to be changed  
So we may all break bread together.  
In your name we pray for the end of hunger.

- *Education for Justice*