



# Catholic Schools Week 2020

Catholic Schools: Living in Harmony with God's Creation



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:  
LIVING IN HARMONY  
WITH GOD'S CREATION

26 JANUARY – 2 FEBRUARY 2020



## Thursday: Living in Harmony with the Earth

30 January 2020

### Keywords:

**Solidarity, Developing World, Stewardship, Respect, Support, Care, Environment, Generations, Action, Responsibility, Love, Faith, Impact, Animals, Creation**



Numeracy Moment: Divide the class into groups of four. Ask each group to look up one of the following quotations and to write/illustrate it on a poster.

Genesis 9:9-20

Psalms 89:11

Proverbs 31:8-9

Jeremiah 2:71

Corinthians 4:2

1 John 3:17-18

2 Timothy 1:14

1 Peter 4:10

(See end of document for quotations)



**Discussion:** Place the posters around the classroom and let students walk around and read them. Display the definition of the key concept, stewardship. Ask the students how this concept relates to the Bible verses. Can they summarise what is being said in three sentences or less?



*Christian stewardship means caring for the planet and all the life on it that God has created. It means working to make sure that all the goods of the earth are distributed in a fair and just way. Solidarity with others, especially with people who are poor, is the fruit of stewardship.*



### Think, Pair, Share:

First, answer the questions by yourself. Then, share the answers firstly with one other person and then a group of four. Report back to the class. One person might record results on the whiteboard or a slide.

1. How important is it to me to have clothes and shoes that look well on me, on a scale of one to ten where one is not important at all, and ten is very important?
2. How important is it to me to have clothes that are in fashion?





**Watch:** Watch 'The Life Cycle of a cotton t-shirt' (6 mins)  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiSYoeqb\\_VY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiSYoeqb_VY)



**Quiz:** Take the quiz on a 'The Life Cycle of a T-shirt'.  
You can answer it on Kahoot or you can do it for homework using this  
Google form: <https://bit.ly/2MbGZLA>

**Link to Kahoot Quiz**  
<https://bit.ly/2ZOVYhQ>



**Watch:** Watch 'River Blue – Can Fashion Save the Planet' (2 mins).  
(Full documentary is available to view on YouTube for a small fee).

**Brainstorm:** What are some ways that you can limit the damage done by fast fashion?  
E.g., you can buy vintage clothes from charity shops.  
Try to generate at least five other ideas.





Behind the struggle for justice,  
hearts beat,  
people hurt,  
help arrives,  
support grows,  
hope blossoms,  
strength builds,  
victories come,  
change happens.

– Trócaire.

**Activity:** This poem consists of a series of lines where most consist of a noun and a verb in the present tense. Can you make your own version in groups of four, using stewardship as a title? (For example, 'earth suffers' might be one line.)



**Prayer:** Creator of the Universe,  
we pray in gratitude and praise. You were there at the beginning of all things,  
shaping our world and preparing it for us.  
You have provided the mountains and the trees,  
The waters and the earth.  
Help us to be caretakers of your gifts,  
protecting the land from abuse, and ready to share with all in need.  
Show us how to use our science and technology in creative not destructive ways.  
Deepen our awareness of our connectedness with all your creation,  
So that future generations will also enjoy every blessing.  
Amen.



(Michael Gormly SSC at <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/spirituality-for-justice/prayers>)





All Bible texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE) so different editions may vary slightly in their wording.

## **Genesis 9:9-10**

As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.

## **Psalms 89:11**

The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours;  
the world and all that is in it – you have founded them.



## **Proverbs 31:8-9**

Speak out for those who cannot speak,  
for the rights of all the destitute.  
Speak out, judge righteously,  
defend the rights of the poor and needy.



## **Jeremiah 2:7**

I brought you into a plentiful land  
to eat its fruits and its good things.  
But when you entered you defiled my land,  
and made my heritage an abomination.

## **1 Corinthians 4:2**

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.



## **1 John 3:17-18**

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

## **1 Peter 4:10**

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.



## **2 Timothy 1:14**

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

