

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO A “GREEN MASS” for the Care for Creation
with BISHOP LOUIS TYLKA**

Bishop Lou is offering this Mass in Thanksgiving to God for the goodness of creation, our ‘common home’, and to pray for its present and future integrity.

He invites parishes to celebrate together as a diocesan family.

**Saturday, October 5, 2024, 10:00 AM
St. Anthony Church, 2525 S Skyway Road
Bartonville, IL 61607**

Lunch and short program to follow.

No cost for lunch; Please RSVP by Saturday, Sept 21 to ensure there is enough food.

*To register for lunch and info session complete the following form and return it to Mary Ann Hughes, 202 North Ranch St., Westville, IL 61883 by Saturday, September 21.

hug13@aol.com

217-597-1021

Parish Name: _____

Attendee Name & Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Attendee Name & Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Attendee Name & Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

**Help launch Care For Creation
across the Peoria Diocese**

Curious about the ‘what’ and ‘why’ of this new, special Mass? Turn over this page to Victory Noll Sisters thru Catholic Climate Covenant



*Peoria Diocesan Council of
Catholic Women*

**The ‘Green Mass’ for the Care for
Creation =
An Integral Part of the Proclamation of the
Gospel and the Life of Discipleship**

‘Care for Creation’ goes back to Genesis, when God pronounced ‘it is good’ over everything he created, and commanded the man and woman to “cultivate the earth and care for it.” (Gen 2:15) The Scriptures are full of references to the beauty of creation as a reflection of the Creator’s benevolence, abundance, and love.

In our own post-industrial times, there has been an increasing loss of awareness of God as creator and a corresponding degradation in our relationship to His creation. And we have also seen how our ecological crises are having the greatest impact on the poor.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is that body of Catholic doctrine that pertains to our care for human dignity and the common good, especially regarding our social, political, and economic life.

‘Catholic social teaching emerges from the truth of what God has revealed to us about himself. We believe in the triune God whose very nature is communal and social. God the Father sends his only Son Jesus Christ and shares the Holy Spirit as his gift of love. God reveals himself to us as one who is not alone, but rather as one who is relational, one who is Trinity. Therefore, we who are made in God’s image share this communal,

social nature. We are called to reach out and to build relationships of love and justice.’ (USCCB, Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions)

Care for Creation is an integral part of CST and has been promoted heavily by recent popes and bishops.

In today’s world, where political ideologies overshadow the Gospel, ‘care for creation’ is often subsumed by purely secular approaches that at times are even anti-humanist. This makes it all the more urgent for Catholics to propose our balanced, reasonable, God-centered approach into the conversation, based as it is on revelation and Catholic anthropology that has stood the test of time.

By practicing wonder and awe at the natural world, we are positioned to steward wisely its resources so that they are accessible to all, including the poor and future generations. A ‘throwaway culture’ has led to the disrespect and degradation of people and creation. Catholics promote a culture of stewardship under God, cultivation with love and care all the gifts God gives.

For many today, especially the younger generations, care for creation is an issue of urgency and importance. The church has much to offer in this area. Recent popes have spoken eloquently and it’s important we add this important part of Catholic teaching to our holistic proclamation of the Gospel (above reflections from Fr. Charles Klamut)