

First Step to Service

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN

A service-learning opportunity for students developed
by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Youngstown.

Worksheet

9 - 12

March & April 2023

LEARN

We show respect for God through our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

"When nature is viewed solely as a source of profit and gain, this has serious consequences for society. This vision of "might is right" has engendered immense inequality, injustice and acts of violence against the majority of humanity, since resources end up in the hands of the first comer or the most powerful: the winner takes all. Completely at odds with this model are the ideals of harmony, justice, fraternity and peace as proposed by Jesus." (Pope Francis, The Joy of Love [Amoris Laetitia], no. 82)

PRACTICE

Some examples of caring for creation are:

- **Reduce! Reuse! Recycle!** Discuss ways you can incorporate each of these practices into your daily routine.
- **Food Waste.** One issue in our culture is of food waste. While the poor and vulnerable go without enough food, we often find ourselves tossing out the leftovers. Use those leftovers, instead of creating food waste, thereby conserving resources for your family and the earth.

Take a short 10-minute break from electronics, television, movies and games today. During this break, find a way to show your care for creation. What will you do today?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Name some other examples of how you can care for God's creation at home, at school, or in your local community:

- Separate trash to recycle items that qualify.
- _____
- _____
- _____

There are a lot of scripture references about caring for God's creation. Can you name one?

Hint: visit www.usccb.org if you need help.

- PSALM: _____
- DANIEL: _____
- MATTHEW: _____
- OTHER: _____

THINK & DISCUSS

- Think about some of the things you do on a daily basis, and what you could possibly do in a different way to conserve resources, and show that you are caring for the Earth and all of God's creations?

For example: When getting ready for school and warming up the car - only allow the car to run for 5 minutes, instead of 15 minutes which will reduce the amount of emissions in the atmosphere, and will conserve on gas in the tank!

TAKE ACTION

- Choose one idea, as a class, or on an individual basis, and turn it into an action plan. Care for God's Creation.

