

FOR PARISH LITURGY LEADERSHIP FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION

The following ideas can be adapted according to need, context, timing and opportunity for your parish community.

Date	Sunday	Sunday theme
27 Sept	26 th Sunday ordinary time 4 th week in the Season of Creation	Year A. Humble repentance Consider the health of our rivers and streams

Today's Readings

1st Reading: Ez 18:25-28

Psalm (25) 24: 4-9 Remember your mercies, O Lord (Three versions below)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIHxdEggFuY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7RJhQxEW58>

<https://www.cjmmusic.com/downloads/psalms/audio/ps024-remember-your-mercy-lord.mp3>

2nd Reading: St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Gathering Rite

Tena koutou katoa

Greetings to you all as we gather here today to hear God's word and unite with him in the Eucharist. We're gathered together today to celebrate the 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time in the Season of Creation.

In the first reading Ezekiel challenges the House of Israel to act justly and with integrity.

Matthew's gospel tells us of a father asking his two sons for help. One replies yes but doesn't help and the other says no to his father then changes his mind and does help. Both Ezekiel and Jesus assure us that even when our first word is "No", God has the last word, and it is "Yes."

Our focus today for the Season of Creation theme is on the rivers. We rely on rivers and streams to irrigate our farmlands and provide clean drinking water as well as the enjoyment and wonder these waterways give us. Our lives depend on healthy rivers and streams.

May we hear our Creator God in the gospel when he asks us for help to heal and protect our rivers, and in response we say yes and take action.

Please stand for the opening hymn.

Prayer of the Faithful (choose from any of the following)

Invocation

Leader: Lord help us to hear the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Pope Francis has inspired us with his encyclical *Laudato Si*. May we hear his call to care deeply about the health of our planet and take action to protect our rivers from pollution.

Many voices are warning us about the adverse health of our rivers. May we heed their words and advocate for the protection of our waterways.

It is the poorest in our communities who are affected most when fresh clean water is no longer freely available. May we work to ensure fresh clean water remains freely available to all

We pray for those seeking election. May they may use their wisdom to look for sustainable solutions to preserve our rivers for the present and the future.

Suggested hymns

He is Lord

Amazing grace

Come to the water all who are thirsty

River of life flowing out from me.

