

Prayer for Mother Earth as a Living Being

Creator and sustainer of all life, we are all part of Mother Earth, an indivisible, living community of interrelated and interdependent beings with a common destiny;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Creator and sustainer of all life, Mother Earth is the source of life, nourishment and learning, and provides everything we need to live well;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Creator and sustainer of all life, exploitation, abuse and contamination by humans have caused great destruction, degradation and disruption of Mother Earth, putting life as we know it today at risk;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Creator and sustainer of all life, in an interdependent living community it is not possible to recognize the rights of human beings alone without causing an imbalance within Mother Earth;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Creator and sustainer of all life, the regenerative capacity of our planet is finite and we, humans, must reexamine our consumption and production patterns to safeguard life on Mother Earth for future generations;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Creator and sustainer of all life, to guarantee human rights it is necessary to recognize and defend the rights of Mother Earth and all created beings;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Creator and sustainer of all life, there is an urgency to take decisive, collective action to transform structures and systems that constitute threats of any kind to Mother Earth;

Response: Help us to remember that Mother Earth is a living being.

Closing prayer

Holy Wisdom and Compassionate One, in the community of life to which we belong, it is Mother Earth who sustains, contains and nurtures all beings. We ask your blessing upon world leaders and government officials who will assemble in Rio de Janeiro for the United Nations World Conference on Sustainable Development in June of this year. Inspire, guide and encourage them to recognize that the central challenges of sustainable development is the re-balancing, as equal partners, of ecology, economy and equity, especially in relation to

those living in poverty, so that all life on Earth is equally respected and protected as your gift of life.

Open wide the hearts of all those who attend Rio +20 so they can hear and value each other knowing that the well-being of all life on this planet depends on our interdependence, our true and humble harmony with nature. Strengthen the voice of the many women and men, part of civil society, who have a passionate concern for the health of the earth. Give all of us the courage to welcome your dynamic Spirit so we may turn our hearts and actions to the well-being of our generous Mother Earth. Amen.

With thanks from the Society of the Sacred Heart - website:
<http://sacredheartattheun.org>