

Program Nine: Creation and Spirituality

At times beautiful, at times awe-inspiring, creation informs our spirituality and invites us to take responsibility for its health and vibrancy - not only for this for this generation, but all generations to come.

Materials

Videos

- Program Nine: Creation and Spirituality

Websites

Visit the websites of people interviewed for this series:

- Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savanna
- Elliot Allen Institute of Theology and Ecology
- Farmland Legacies Project
- Heirloom Seed Sanctuary
- Inter-Church Uranium Committee Educational Co-operative (ICUCEC)
- Justice and Peace Commission
- Madonna House
- Prairie Garden Seeds
- Scarboro Missions
- Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul
- St. Gabriel's Parish, Willowdale, ON
- St. Joseph Villa Retreat and Ecology Centre
- St. Peter's Abbey, Muenster, SK

Documents

- Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment June 2015. Coming Soon
- Building a New Culture - Central Themes in Recent Church Teaching on the Environment

Read the original documents for papal statements quotes in this program:

- John Paul II, General Audience (January 26, 2000)
- Benedict XVI, Message for the World Day of Peace (January 1, 2010)
- Francis, General Audience (May 21, 2014)

Books

- Ten Commandments for the Environment Benedict XVI. Ave Maria Press. 2009



Study Guide

Goal

The goal of Program Nine is to introduce to the seventh theme of the CCCB document "Building a New Culture - Central Themes in Recent Church Teaching on the Environment" about the created world inviting a sense of mystery and awe.

Steps

1. Show the video "Program Nine: Creation and Spirituality"
2. Ask students to form small groups to describe the following impressions from the video:
 - What is the seventh theme of the document and why is it important?
 - How does the natural environment bring wonder and awe into your life?
 - What did you know after viewing the video that you didn't know before?
 - Which quote from what pope in this episode means the most to you and why?
3. Option for Take-Home Assignment. Using the internet, find more facts about:
 - Existing Catholic eco justice initiatives
 - The writings of Popes on the environment
4. Write 1.5 pages on the results of your research.
5. Group discussion
In groups, first share your short essays and then, asking one person to represent the discussion, make presentations to the class about any or all of the above.
Include suggestions on how students could start an ongoing eco justice project or become involved with local Catholic eco justice projects already in existence.