

THE TASK OF HUMANITY: APPRECIATE AND SUPPORT CREATION

By Sister Christine Hilliard, CSJ

Responsorial Psalm

O LORD, our Lord, how glorious is your name over all the earth! What is man that you should be mindful of him, or the son of man that you should care for him?

You have made him little less than the angels, and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him rule over the works of your hands, putting all things under his feet.

All sheep and oxen, yes, and the beasts of the field,

The birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas.

PSALM 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9

Reflection

An obvious psalm of praise, the author commends God for giving humans both dignity and responsibility. Creation, too, recognizes the gifts God has given to humanity as it stands between heaven and earth. Acknowledged to be God's agents in the governance of creation, humans have power and authority for the sake of justice, not only for themselves but for the entire cosmos. In essence, humanity supports and nourishes the kinship between all of creation . . . just as the Creator does.

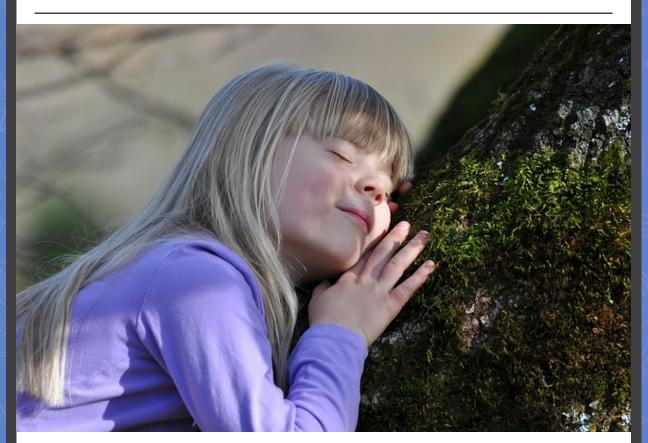


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For Prayer

Pray Psalm 8. Envision each of the creatures mentioned. Reflect on your relationship with each today. Ask a specific blessing for each. End with a prayer of gratitude for them and your relationship with them.

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