This is a service that the Bishop of Rome is called to carry out, yet one to which all of us are called, so that the star of hope will shine brightly. Let us protect with love all that God has given us!

_In the end, everything has been entrusted to our protection, and all of us are responsible for it._

**ALL**
Glory Be to the Father, the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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**Opening prayer**
Pope Francis’ words on Care for Creation

**Side one**
We are losing the attitude of wonder, contemplation, listening to creation. Take good care of creation. People occasionally forgive, but nature never does.

**Side two**
_The culture of selfishness and individualism that often prevails in our society is not, I repeat, not what builds up and leads to a more habitable world: Rather, it is the culture of solidarity that does so; the culture of solidarity means seeing others not as rivals or statistics, but brothers and sisters. And we are all brothers and sisters!_
Let us look around:
Each one of us knows and is aware – our personal sins:
our failures in love and respect towards God,
towards our neighbor
and towards the whole of creation.iv

Peace to the whole world,
torn apart by violence linked to drug trafficking
and by the iniquitous exploitation of natural resources!
Peace to this our Earth!
May the risen Jesus bring comfort
to the victims of natural disasters
and make us responsible guardians of creation.

Let us accept the grace of Christ’s Resurrection!
Let us ... become agents of this mercy,
channels through which
God can water the earth, protect all creation
and make justice and peace flourish.v

Fighting poverty, both material and spiritual,
building peace and constructing bridges:
these are the reference points for a journey
that I want to invite each to take up.
But it is a difficult journey,
if we do not learn to grow
in love for this world of ours.vi

The Church is likewise conscious
of the responsibility which all of us have for our world,
for the whole of creation,
which we must love and protect.

... In this, we also sense our closeness
to all those men and women who are searching
for the truth, goodness and beauty of God.
They are our valued allies
in the commitment to defending human dignity,
in building a peaceful coexistence between peoples
and in safeguarding and caring for creation.vii

Be protectors of God’s gifts!
Whenever human beings fail
to live up to this responsibility,
whenever we fail to care for creation
and for our brothers and sisters,
the way is opened
to destruction and hearts are hardened.

To protect creation,
to protect every man and every woman,
to look upon them with tenderness and love,
is to open up a horizon of hope;
it is to let a shaft of light
break through the heavy clouds;
it is to bring the warmth of hope!