

Peace With Creation

Why is it important for children and young people to reconnect with creation?

“Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded.” Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, 2015.

Orchids, lilies, lavenders and peonies,
Live beautifully in the land, fostering alluring symphonies.
Together as a family, flowers grow in groups,
Supported by the nature around them, trees giving supportive roots.
To nurture and flourish so creation blooms,
To protect the growth of the flower so it's seeds can flourish too.
Absorb the dioxide, ignore the monoxide,
Don't let it rip away the growth of the seeds who want to enjoy a long life.
More buildings, more housing, more factories, more smog,
Decrease the likelihood of more seeds to come.
To germinate and thrive! For flowers, that is fair.
It starts where the seeds are planted,
In the land in which it should be placed with care.

Inspired by Pope Francis' quote, I wrote a poem that symbolises the youth through the nature of a flower. Change starts with the youth, like the seeds of a flower. How and where the seed grows changes the outcome, like how children are raised can make an impact. The youth are our present and future, so it is important they take charge, connect and understand what causes current issues such as climate change and how to combat it. Reconnecting with creation is to take care of it, and peace won't happen until change is acted upon.