



Protect our common home

By Annabelle Congdon 7.2

Question: How can we be at peace with creation

laudato Si Quote: “Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for subsistence, but it also has the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations.” (Laudato Si’, 67)



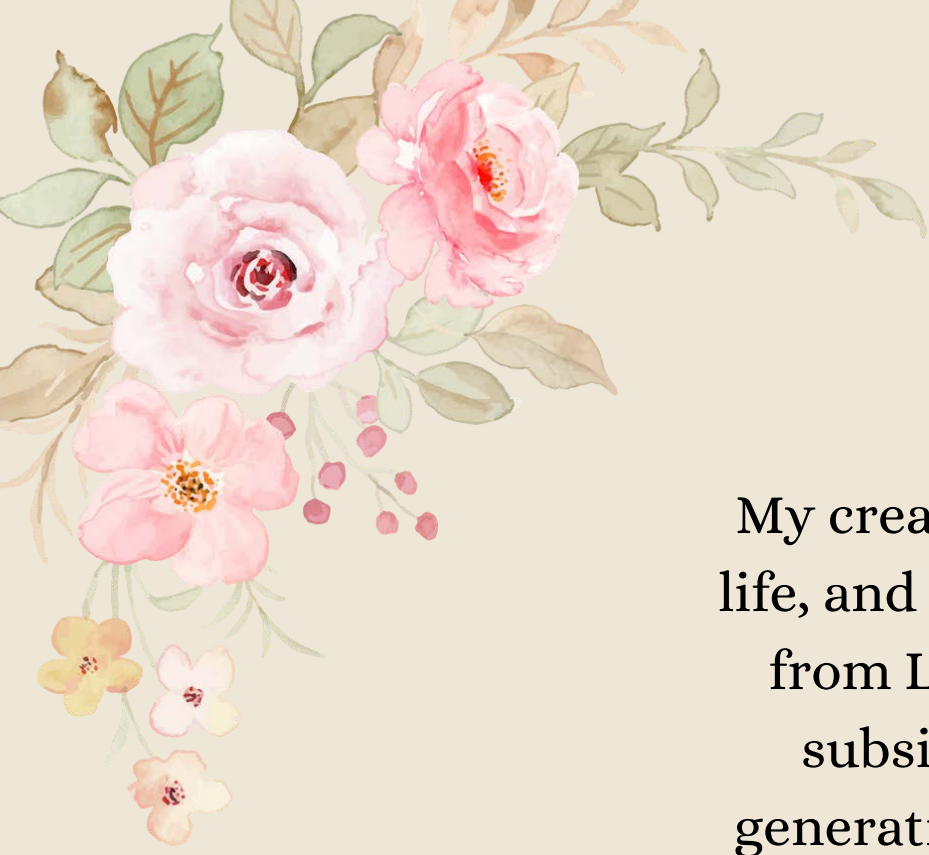
How can we be at peace with creation?

The collage consists of 30 images:

- 1. A large, dark, jagged rock formation (possibly a glacier or ice shelf) floating in the ocean.
- 2. A small boat on a calm, blue sea.
- 3. A large, white, rocky island in the middle of a blue sea.
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Reflection

My creative piece shows two sides of the human relationship with creation one side of beauty, joy, and life, and the other side of destruction, pollution, and suffering. This connects strongly with the teaching from Laudato Si' that "Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for subsistence, but it also has the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations." (Laudato Si', 67). The left side of the heart represents the amazing things we receive when we respect and care for our home, while the right side reveals the consequences of greed, and not taking care of our planet, and environmental harm. This teaching reminds us of Genesis 2:15, where God placed humanity in the garden "to till it and keep it." We are called to stewardship, not exploitation, and my collage reflects the choice we face to live in harmony with creation or to destroy it.

Connection to Hope at St Columba's

We can be at peace with creation by living with hope and respect, knowing that God calls us to care for the earth as a gift. Following the St Columba's 2025 quote of hope, we are reminded that small actions like reducing waste, recycling, planting trees, or saving energy can bring new life to our world. When we live in harmony with creation, we live out our faith, showing that hope for the future is possible through stewardship and love for our common home.

