



Reflection Resource for 19 October

We pray for an end to fracking and fossil fuel exploitation

Karakia tīmatanga Opening prayer

E Te Atua, Te Kaihanga o te Ao,

God, Creator of our world,

we pray for Papatuanuku, our fruitful mother Earth,
sustaining every living creature but threatened today
from global abuse by humans of its fragile resources.

Let us renew our resolve to ensure that whatever we do
will enhance Earth's life for now and generations to come.

May our dreams help Earth's promise to unfold,
enabling your mercy to bless our world with abundance. Amen.

Dennis Horton

Whakaahuatanga Reflection

"We live in a world of extraordinary beauty, blessed with wonderful gifts by our Creator, and containing life, love and diversity in abundance. The future of humanity itself has become dependent on the wise choices made by the human family to ensure the flourishing in abundance of life, love and diversity. There must be continuing reflection on the value of life so that wise choices can be made."

"Cultivating and caring for creation is God's indication given to each one of us not only at the beginning of history; it is part of God's project; it means nurturing the world with responsibility and transforming it into a garden, a habitable place for everyone. Benedict XVI recalled several times that this task entrusted to us by God the Creator requires us to grasp the rhythm and logic of creation. But we are often driven by pride of domination, of possessions, manipulation, of exploitation; we do not 'care' for it, we do not respect it, we do not consider it as a free gift that we must care for. We are losing the attitude of wonder, contemplation, listening to creation; thus we are no longer able to read the rhythm of the love story of God and we no longer read the signs."

1: New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference A Consistent Ethic of Life 1997

2: Pope Francis, World Environment Day 2013. (adapted)



Karakia mo te houhorongo

Here we stand, Te kaihanga o te Ao.
Forgive us when we treat this beloved planet
as if we own it and can use it as we wish.
Forgive us when we recklessly exploit its resources and
pollute its complex ecosystems.
Our lifestyle of wasteful over-consumption
in the rich industrial countries is insensitive
to the effect of global warming on peoples and ecosystems around the world.
We want to express our love and care for all creation.
We know we must learn more about the problem and take effective action.
Here we stand wondering and confused because of the bounty
you have given us.
And here we stand, Te kaihanga o te Ao,
and we ask you to help us care for the earth
as our responsibility. Amen.
The Uniting Church in Australia (adapted)



AND HERE WE STAND AND REFLECT

What do you know about Fracking and Fossil Fuel use in New Zealand?
Edward de Bono proposes the 'six thinking hats' as a way to approach a particular problem.
We invite you to reflect on the issue of Fracking using the six hats.

WHITE HAT FACTS:

What are the threats to our environment as a result of fracking and fossil fuel use?

RED HAT EMOTIONS:

What do you feel when you see the effects of climate change on our land and in our waters?

BLACK HAT NEGATIVES: Why do you think some people aren't bothered about the health of our Earth?

YELLOW HAT POSITIVES:

What are five positive actions that you observe others doing to take care of Papatuanuku?

GREEN HAT NEW IDEAS:

What is one action that you can take in your work, community, school to advocate for and change what you are doing now?

BLUE HAT SUMMING UP:

What quote, prayer, thought or mantra will you take with you as a reminder?



Carmel College Students

AND ACT

Write a personal commitment or pledge of action in response to our human addiction to fossil fuels and keeping things the way they are.

Ritualise this commitment in some way: sow seeds, walk in your garden water, watch a sunset, make an altar, write a poem or prayer, paint, compose a song, dance, listen to earth as it sings!

Karakia tika Prayer for justice



Grant us a spirit of concern for the future of our environment;

Bring an end to the exploitation of the earth's scarce resources;

Encourage us to be responsible stewards of your creation.

Response: Lord, make us prophets of our time

Grant us a spirit of respect, recognising the value and integrity of each person;

Encourage us to be accepting of ourselves and of others.

Response: Lord, make us prophets of our time

Help us become advocates of peace, bringing an end to conflict and division;

Renew our commitment to challenging the causes of injustice.

Response: Lord, make us prophets of our time

Grant us a spirit of openness to see God within and around us;

Help us rejoice in the good we have experienced as we move forward to the future;

Help us use our senses to celebrate beauty and creativity in the world.

Response: Lord, make us prophets of our time

Grant us a spirit of truth to recognise failings, which have hurt us, others and the world;

Give us the humility to ask forgiveness for our part in any wrongdoing;

Response: Lord, make us prophets of our time

Grant us a spirit of generosity to reach out in trust to those we encounter;

Help us to embody God's love in our relationships with one another.

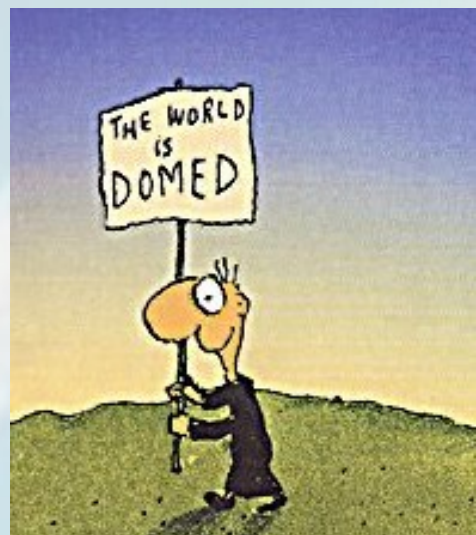
Response: Lord, make us prophets of our time

Sophie Stanes /CAFOD

Karakia whakamutunga

God help us to change
To change ourselves and to change our world
To know the need for it.
To deal with the pain of it
To feel the joy of it.
To undertake the journey without
understanding the destination.
The art of gentle revolution. Amen.

Michael Leunig





Mercy Global Action at the UN

Promoting Human Solidarity And Care for Earth

FURTHER ACTION

On **October 19**, pray for our home *Papatuanuku* Mother Earth: that humanity find new sustainable sources of energy, rather than fossil fuels, and that all nations actively commit to lowering emissions to prevent runaway global warming which will affect the most vulnerable nations on Earth.

Consider also more longer term actions:

- Think of one simple thing that you might do differently to walk more lightly on *Papatuanuku*, e.g. save water; use less petrol, power or fewer resources?
- Measure your personal Carbon/Ecological footprint using one of these websites: www.myfootprint.org (easy) or www.carbonzero.co.nz/EmissionsCalc/login.aspx (requires detailed information)

Or write to the Government on any of following:

- Pressure mine companies to be more transparent in listing the actual chemicals used in fracking fluid and make that list open to the public and public scrutiny.
- Place a moratorium on fracking. Provide more financial support to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment to complete her report on fracking monitoring and regulation.
- Place a moratorium on the practice of 'landfarming'. Insufficient research has been carried out related to this process and it's long-term effect on the environment. For this reason the adoption of the precautionary principle is recommended.
- Ask the Government why they are continually trying to attract mining companies to come here instead of supporting or attracting investment in fossil free technologies that do not harm the environment or help reverse the effects of climate change.

