

## You Can Make a Difference

Putting your thumbprint on the **Make Your Mark For Climate Justice Promise/Pledge** is a sign of commitment to making the unique contribution that only you can make. You can personally make a difference by reducing the carbon emissions that you cause.

In our homes, in the places we work and during the course of our daily lives we make choices about using electricity, gas, petrol, oil and about buying food and other goods that require energy to produce, to run and eventually to dispose of. If we all make better choices about energy use, about reducing, re-using and recycling, then each individual's efforts, however small, will collectively make a big impact on reducing the effects of climate change.

Ireland ranks among the highest of greenhouse gas producers in the world. The energy used by each Irish person produces 100 times more carbon emissions that an African does. This is excessive and unjust. We are contributing to the climate change that is having a devastating effect on the poorest and which is destroying the environment God entrusted to our care. **Your contribution to Climate Justice is as unique as your thumbprint because only you can make it.**

## Make Your Mark as a promise to act for Climate Justice

*Lord God,* You made us stewards of creation, yet greed and misuse of resources are destroying the world you entrusted to us. Those who do least to cause climate change are unjustly suffering the most. They are without water, land, livelihoods and many are forced to leave their homes.

*I Pledge* to take greater care of my environment to do what I can in my own home and place. I pledge to use your gifts wisely and carefully, mindful that what I do today will affect our world, the lives of others far away and generations yet to be born.

I place my thumbprint here as a sign of this promise and I ask you for the strength to put it into action in my life and in the witness that I give to others. I make this prayer through Christ Our Lord.

*Amen.*

**CLIMATE  
JUSTICE**  
Play your part



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## Prayer for Creation

O God, you created the universe and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth. Fill us with reverence for all that you have made and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race and our place in Creation.

We know that the poor and vulnerable are those who suffer most when the environment is harmed and laid waste. Guide us in the path toward responsible stewardship of the goods of the Earth, that we may ensure that all persons, especially the poor and powerless, may share in the benefits intended for all humanity.

In our own lives and in the places where we live, grant us wisdom to see where we have not lived up to your invitation to cultivate and care for Creation. Give us the strength to change our ways.

May our action promote the common good of the human family, and be a witness of just living in accordance with your will and in harmony with Creation.

Come Holy Spirit, heal and renew the face of the earth as you heal and renew our hearts.

*(Adapted from Earth Day Reflections)*

SMA Justice Office, African Missions, Wilton, Cork. [Justice@sma.ie](mailto:Justice@sma.ie)

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**ACT FOR  
CLIMATE JUSTICE**

*"Be good Stewards of the manifold grace of God."  
1 Peter 4:10*

### Climate Justice

Because of human activity and greed our environment is being damaged and destroyed to the extent that it is now a cause of great concern.

Scientists tell us that the Carbon Emissions or Greenhouse Gases generated by our energy use, is the main reason for climate change. The great injustice of climate change is that the poorest who live in less developed parts of the world, and who do least to cause climate change, suffer most. Millions have lost homes, land and livelihoods to encroaching deserts and seas.

Human beings are failing in the task of caring for God's creation. As Christians we are called to love God and neighbour, including those living far away.

**This is a matter of both Justice and Faith. We must therefore, as part of our Christian living, become better stewards of creation.**



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