

Live in Mercy

Care for Our Common Home is the 8th Works of Mercy

- As a spiritual work of mercy, care for our common home calls for a 'grateful contemplation of God's world' which 'allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us'.
- As a corporal work of mercy, care for our common home requires 'simple daily gestures which break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness' and 'makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world'.

'In today's world, hunger, violence and poverty cannot be understood apart from the changes and degradation affecting the environment.' Pope Francis' recognition of this led him to introduce an eighth work of mercy in 2016: 'care for our common home'.

Source: Pope Francis, Show Mercy to Our Common Home (2016),

§5: http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2016/documents/papa-francesco_20160901_messaaggio-giornata-cura-creato.html

Ministry of Friends of Creation would like to share our thoughts with you; as when we 'Feed the Hungry', 'Give Drink to the Thirsty', 'Clothe the Naked', 'Shelter the Homeless', please have in mind that if we care for the environment, we are doing all the above not only here and now, but also for future generations and for the world. Every one of YOU CAN DO it even in this lockdown situation.

1. Contemplating with the beautiful nature, the sky, the moon, the sun, the air, the plants, the flowers, the birds, and all the creation of God.
Thanks, and Praise God every day and at every moment that is possible.
See God everywhere and in every living thing, feel the love of God every second, and spread the joyful feeling to the world.
2. Practice simple daily gesture
 - Avoid one time use plastics. For example, bring your own tiffin, container and reuse bag for take away food and drinks.
 - Don't waste food. Cook only what can reasonably be consumed. Avoid meat, especially beef and dairy which is no.5 contributors to greenhouse gas.

- Plant trees and grow your own food even with little space that you have, be creative.
- Reduce waste by making enzyme, compost. Reuse boxes, plastics containers as organizers in your cabinets, use it as soap holder etc, explore with your creativity.
- Reduce Water consumption. For example, Harvest Rain Water for exterior floor washing and water the plants. Reuse the clean waste water from water filter for bathing and toilet flushing. Brush your teeth with one cup of water, etc
- Avoid consumerism. Think before you buy, do you really need it? do you already have it in your store room? Can you make it yourself with what you have at home?
- Reduce or avoid usage of Fossil Fuel. For example, work from home, reduce number of trips to market or grocery shopping. Avoid investing in funds that has Fossil Fuel companies.
- Save electricity. Remember to switch off your computer, TV, electric appliances when not in used. Set your aircon temperature to 25c and higher. Or invest in solar panel
- Care for other living beings. Just be aware that deforestations are taking away the home of the wildlife, and is pushing them to extinction. We have no right to do this to God's creation. Use your conscience for any investment or to support any petition. Reduce paper usage is helpful too, for example, use handkerchief instead of tissue paper. Avoid printing unnecessarily, if required to print please print on both sides of the paper.
- Have a recycle bin at home. If you have waste that is unavoidable, you need to clean the recyclable waste and send to the nearest recycle centre. Or you can choose to put in one clear plastic bags and put besides the MBPP dustbin, which MBPP will collect it for recycle purpose.

If you have questions or doubts, or need any help to implement 8th work of mercy, you can contact the members of Ministry of Friends of Creations or email to chiangkhalin@gmail.com. You can also find contacts of Care for our common home in the Penang State Creation Justice Commission website. <https://www.pgdiocese.org/creation-justice-commission-penang>