



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Integral Ecology and the Call to Respond to God's Love

"...social love moves us to devise larger strategies to halt environmental degradation and to encourage a 'culture of care' which permeates all of society." *Laudato Si'*, 231

"In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis calls us to live an integral ecology, which has two components: understanding the interconnection between social and ecological issues and a sense of interconnection, love, and gratitude for the giftedness of all of creation and our lives.

Similarly, in the Contemplation on the Love of God from the Spiritual Exercises, we ponder the many gifts that God pours out onto our lives and ask for the grace to make a heartfelt return of that love 'in deeds more than in words.'...

As news reports share about the invasion of Ukraine, today we uplift a prayer for peace as we remember the deep truth that issues of war, human dignity, ecological justice, and peace are all interwoven in the fabric of integral ecology." (Renewing the Earth, Living *Laudato Si'* in the Year of Ignatius, **Ignatian Solidarity Network**, 2/24/22)

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

O Prince of Peace,
Once more we hear the guns of war,
Once more we see the faces
Of frightened children.

We pray for the people of Ukraine,
That they may be granted peace;
We pray for the people of Russia,
That they may demand peace;
We pray for our country,
That we may be a positive part
Of peacemaking in this world.

O Prince of Peace,
Lead us from this dark time
To a deeper understanding
Of the global human family,
So all may break bread together
In the secure embrace of peace.
Amen

(Written by: Jane Deren, Ph.D.)

Various Catholic agencies are collecting donations to aid with the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Here are two places to donate. The international Caritas confederation is collecting funds to help Caritas Ukraine. In the United States, that is through **Catholic Relief Services**: <https://bit.ly/3LWtOKa>. The **Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia** also has a link: <https://ukrarcheparchy.us/donate>. (Catholic News Service, 2/25/22)