

Addendum 2: How to incorporate the symbol in your events and celebrations

Activities

- Organise an encounter to introduce this year's Season of Creation theme and symbol. Briefly introduce and explain the theme and symbol, then dedicate a few minutes to open dialogue or small group discussions so people can share how they feel about the theme and symbol and what activities they would like to organise during the season.
- Hold a procession of the fruits of the Earth from your local community or region, inviting a diversity of people to help bring these gifts to the table: different ages, different races, different genders.
- Organise an activity where participants are invited to create a short skit based on Romans 8:19-25. Reflect on how there can be different ways to represent the groans of the Earth and firstfruits of the Spirit as hope.
- As you use the liturgical resources in the Season of Creation Celebration Guide, you could also organise a moment of prayer to recall our ancestors of faith and those who defend our common home and the most vulnerable, people who are or were living witnesses to the hope and action with Creation. You may recall the indigenous people in your land, faith leaders, social workers and all those who work for socio-environmental justice, especially those who work in campaigns against the fossil fuels industry and for those engaged in campaigns for the fossil fuel phase-out and a just energy transition.
- Research on what are the local seeds that are easy to grow and cultivate where you live, and see if your community can offer these seeds to the faithful. You can incorporate this at the end of a prayer service, offering some reflection on how we are all called to bear the firstfruits of hope, and commit to check on how these seeds have grown by the time of next year's Season of Creation.



Crafts

Invite the children and youth of your community to create a small model or a drawing or a painting of a seed and all the Earth's creatures that are needed to make it grow and blossom: water, soil, pollinators, work of human hands, etc. See the following images for ideas:



At the beginning of the season, distribute to the children of your community a small bean (or any other option that easily germinates) that they can plant in a cup with water or with a cotton ball. Give them clear and simple instructions to help cultivate the bean and contemplate the process of its germination. Invite the children to offer these germinated beans in a closing prayer service at the end of the season. See examples:

