

April 2015 Staff Meeting Faith Formation

Slide 1

Leader: We begin our prayer + in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

During the month of April, even as our faith speaks of new life in Christ, we are surrounded by the new life of springtime and focus on our call to care for the earth with our celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd.

Rachel Louise Carson, who lived from 1907 – 1964 was an American marine biologist and conservationist whose book *Silent Spring* and other writings are credited with advancing the global environmental movement.

Slide 2

She said

“The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction.”

We are surrounded every day by many wonders that we often don't even notice. For a few moments, I invite you to reflect on the wonders of the coral reef. The growth is so slow that we may not even consider this wonder as being alive.

Slide 4 (Play video: <https://vimeo.com/88829079>)

Slide 3

Together let us pray an Hawaiian indigenous prayer for the earth:

Let us give thanks for the world around us.
Thanks for all the creatures, stones and plants
Let us learn their lessons and seek their truths,
So that their path might be ours,
And we might live in harmony, a better life.

May the Earth continue to live,
May the heavens above continue to live,
May the rains continue to dampen the land,
May the wet forests continue to grow,
Then the flowers shall bloom
And we people shall live again. Amen.