*****“For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.”*

*(Romans 1: 19-20)*

Today, on World Environment Day, we contemplate our personal and communal action toward the preservation of the environment. As part of God’s creation, we are given the privilege of protecting the environment and ensuring responsible action for created life. This responsibility includes reflecting on our use of natural resources, thinking about how we manage our waste and keeping the environment clean.

In health care, our responsibility to the environment is increasingly important as we consider the future health of all individuals. Just one of the ways we look to improve the health of the environment and global community is through sharing our abundant resources – especially those that can be used in the developing world. By consciously stewarding our medical resources, we protect the Earth and provide care to those who are lacking medical goods. When we take conscious steps to protect the environment, we are working with God to preserve life.

*Prayer*: God of all creation, as we look at the environment, your divine power and immense love are ever present. We thank you for the beautiful creation and abundant resources you have provided your children. We ask for your help in revealing how we can be better stewards of your creation. Help us to use only the resources we need, never being selfish by taking more than necessary. Please give us the opportunity to appropriately share our wealth with those who are less fortunate instead of disposing of our surplus. Help us to remember that the environment is home to all life and that we must take up the responsibility to ensure all life is respected. We thank you for this day and ask for your blessing on this journey.

Amen.

Related information:

<http://www.unep.org/wed/about/>

<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/>

<http://www.chausa.org/Environmental_Responsibility/>