

## PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK BECAUSE OF THEIR ENVIRONMENT

From the Letter to the Romans, "We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?" Romans 8: 22-24

Loving God, in the beginning you created all things in your goodness. Humanity is not separate from creation and the Earth is our one common home. Humanity is called to be stewards and make the earth a beautiful garden but we have devastated the soil and polluted our waters. (Pope Francis tells us "as stewards of God's creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling").

Pray with me for all of those who are sick because of their environment. Please respond, God of Creation, heal them.

- For those who are sick because they lack a source of clean water, God of Creation, heal them.
- For those who are sick because air pollutants hinder their breath, God of Creation, heal them.
- For those who are sick because they live amidst war and violence, God of Creation, heal them.
- For all of those who are sick because their natural environment is unhealthy, God of Creation, heal them.

God of Resurrection, we wait in hope for the day humanity and creation are restored to the wholeness of Eden. We ask all this in Christ's name. Amen.