



Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir

Izmir, 1/8/2025

## September 1<sup>st</sup> The day of Creation

Earth – Our Common Home

This year we celebrate 800 years of the Canticle of Brother Sun, composed by St. Francis, a little before his death. It is the Hymn of thanksgiving and Lauds to God Creator, the origin of Creation, it is the prayer of reconciliation with all beings of creation, which are called by St. Francis to praise the Lord for his Love and goodness, the reason he created us. In his Canticle St. Francis is expressing his own reconciliation with suffering and death, calling all human beings to reconciliation and peace.

September 1 was proclaimed by Pope Francis and patriarch Bartholomew as “Day of Creation”, in which all of us are called to the awareness that all creation as well as our own life is a tremendous gift, which we will never be able to appreciate enough and all humanity has a responsibility towards it because it is also ethical responsibility to every human being.

The day of Creation is meant to remind us to the responsible use of natural resources: especially water and energy with the scope to share creation with all humanity and to preserve it for future generations. It is a great responsibility of all of us.

There cannot be brotherhood if there is no responsibility to our brothers and sisters, being firstly the responsibility towards the mother earth which is providing us with our daily bread.

Let us dedicate today our meditation to the way of our life, let us reflect about the style of our life; let us spent our thoughts, and our words in sharing the idea of responsibility of our behavior towards the nature.

Let us pray with St. Francis: *Praised be you, my Lord with all your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who is the day through whom you bring us light. O praise and bless my Lord, thank him and serve him humbly but grandly!*

+ Most Rev.

+ Martin Kmetec OFM Conv.  
*Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir*