

ISSUES AND ACTIONS

March, 2005



“Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care, and economic opportunity.”

March 8 is International Women’s Day: *a time to celebrate the feminine in nature.*

Questions for reflection:

What do I recognize as specifically feminine in nature?

What can I do to celebrate this today?

What is happening in my local area regarding an issue affecting the welfare of women? How can I give support to what is just in this instance?

“Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.”

At this time of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ, the Word through and for whom all things were made, let us consider the Passion of the Earth.

We witness the passion of the earth - the rape of the woods and forests, the befouling of the air, the ravaging of the land, the destruction of mountains and streams, the struggle of the seas to overcome the assaults of oil, refuse, and the spilling forth of the fruits of greed, the poisoning of fish, birds, and the extinction of creatures, the overthrow of the balance of nature.

We need the courage and determination of Veronica, to find a way to wipe clean the effects of greed and carelessness; like Simon the Cyrenean, we must shoulder the burden thrust upon us by finding ways to stem the flood of ruin.

Daily, we must find ways to further Life in our world, as well as to work with others toward the systemic changes that counter the culture of expediency and greed that now prevails.

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Highly recommended reading: *Crimes Against Nature*, by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Kennedy convincingly lays out incontrovertible facts regarding how the current administration links with corporations to plunder the nation and subvert our democratic processes.



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Looking ahead to Earth Day, April 22, 2005: www.earth911.com

This website may not include absolutely every environmental resource, but it can answer many environmental questions..., local and general. Visit the site's home page and type in your ZIP code. You'll find information about your community from a variety of resources.... Everything from what to do with your solid waste to educational activities for adults and children. For pet lovers try www.pets911.com

www.earthday.org This website provides a wealth of information on Earth Day.

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In our next mailing of Issues and Actions we will be sharing information from our Sisters and Associates on how we are carrying out the principles of Earth Charter. All information may be sent to Mary Campos at:

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or mailed to:

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