**Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor**

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:

the bush grown more silent,

the birdsong less vibrant,

the stream’s sluggish ripple.

Have mercy and open our ears.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:

the soil depleted,

the sky smudged,

the oceans rubbished and the great currents slowed.

Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:

the workers who struggle to get by,

the women subjected to violence,

the people who are excluded.

Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:

the sound of hungry children,

the distress of the mentally ill,

the silent pain of homeless women and men.

Have mercy and open our ears.

Send your Spirit upon us Lord to renew our sight,

to restore our hearing,

and to reclaim your reign of justice for all people

and peace for creation.

AMEN

[Australian Catholic Bishop’s Statement 2021-2022](https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/) ‘Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor’.