



**Development
and Peace**
CARITAS CANADA

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REFLECTION AND PRAYER

AN ENVIRONMENTAL SABBATH PRAYER

Great Spirit,

give us hearts to understand;
never to take from creation's beauty more than we give,
never to destroy wantonly for the furtherance of greed;
never to deny to give our hands for the building of earth's beauty;
never to take from her what we cannot use.

Give us hearts to understand that to destroy the earth's music is to create confusion;
that to wreck her appearance is to blind us to beauty;
that to callously pollute her fragrance is to make a house of stench;
that as we care for her she will care for us.

Amen.

The Roundtable Association of Diocesan Social Action Directors. 2006. Living God's Justice: Reflections and Prayers (Cincinnati: St. Anthony Messenger Press), p.96.