

On Earth as It Is in Heaven: Cultivating a Contemporary Theology of Creation (Catholic Theological Formation Series (CTF))

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With the 2015 publication of Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'*, many people of faith have found themselves challenged to seek new ways of addressing serious ecological questions — issues essential to the flourishing of all creatures and not just human beings. This volume brings together fifteen select scholars to consider pressing contemporary environmental concerns through the lens of Catholic theology.

Drawing from the early church fathers and other authoritative voices in the Christian tradition, the contributors to *On Earth as It Is in Heaven* show how ancient, creedal Christianity offers significant insights into our current ecological dilemmas and speaks powerfully about what it means for us today to care well for God's good creation.

CONTRIBUTORS and TOPICS

- **Robert Louis Wilken** on honoring centipedes and toads — and all of God's created works
- **Christopher J. Thompson** on not reducing creatures to "resources" solely to be "used"
- **Steven A. Long** on understanding the created order as a participation in the divine, eternal law
- **Marie George** on human stewardship of creation as both kingship and kinship
- **Matthew Levering** on "be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth" — a good idea?
- **Dawn M. Nothwehr, OSF,** on sustainability from a Franciscan perspective
- **John A. Cuddeback** on land use and household stewardship
- **Faith Pawl** on animal flourishing and suffering
- **Paul M. Blowers** on evolutionary theory and the promise of restoration for all creation
- **Christopher A. Franks** on Job, poverty, gratitude, and "a gentle life"
- **Jonathan J. Sanford** on how Aristotle and Maritain illuminate our obligation to care for creation
- **Paige E. Hochschild** on contemplating rather than dominating nature, building

on Augustine and George Grant

- **Chris Killheffer** on how monastic sources help us rethink gluttony and its remedies
- **David Vincent Meconi, SJ,** on the wonderful, awe-filled interrelationship between creatures and their Creator
- **Esther Mary Nickel, RSM,** on the liturgy as the space in which all creation is consecrated before the cross of Christ

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About the Author

David Vincent Meconi, SJ, is associate professor of historical theology at Saint Louis University. His previous books include *The Cambridge Companion to Augustine* and an annotated edition of Augustine's *Confessions.*

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