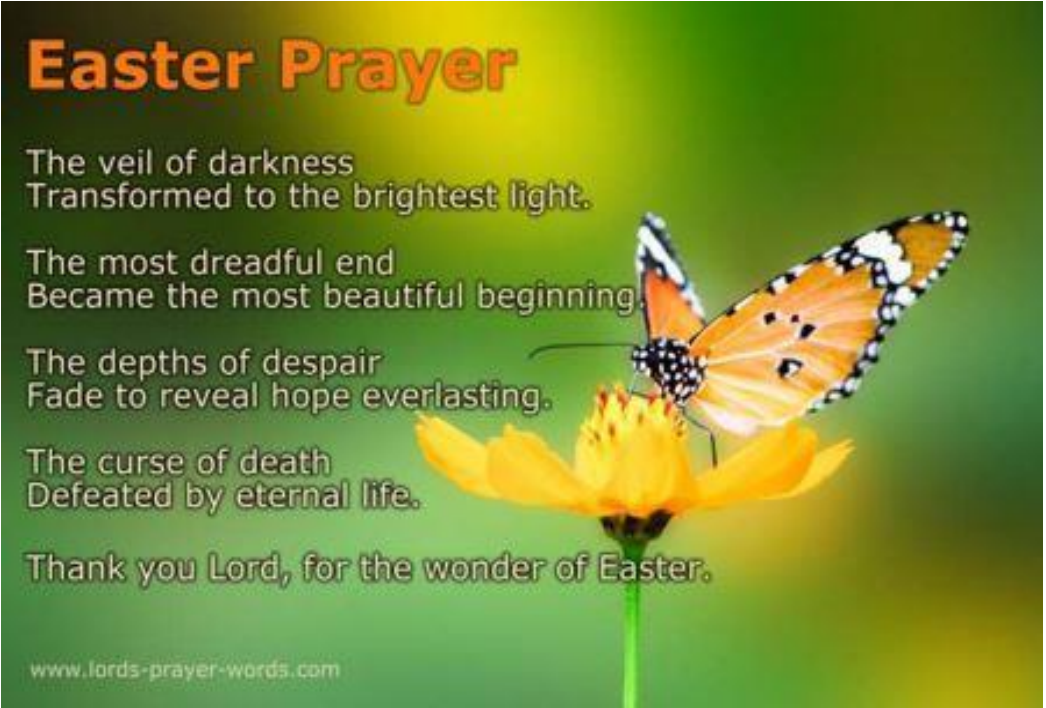







# JAEI

## April 2018 Environmental Prayer Diary

(The purpose of this Prayer Diary is to provide subjects for your reflection and prayer as the Spirit moves you)


<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p>1</p>	 <p><b>Easter Prayer</b></p> <p>The veil of darkness Transformed to the brightest light.</p> <p>The most dreadful end Became the most beautiful beginning.</p> <p>The depths of despair Fade to reveal hope everlasting.</p> <p>The curse of death Defeated by eternal life.</p> <p>Thank you Lord, for the wonder of Easter.</p> <p><small>www.lords-prayer-words.com</small></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p>2</p>	<p><b>We can encounter God in nature.</b></p> <p>Since ancient times, the natural world has been one of the ways that people come to know about God and experience his wisdom and glory. Many of the saints lived in harmony with the natural world and had special friendships with animals as a consequence of their closeness to God.</p> <p>Now .... On this Family Day take an excursion with your family and friends into nature and make this a celebration!</p> 
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”</p> <p><b>St. Francis of Assisi</b></p>

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p>“Sit down before fact like a little child, and be prepared to give up every preconceived notion, follow humbly wherever and to whatever abyss Nature leads, or you shall learn nothing.”</p> <p><i>T.H. Huxley</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>SDG Goal #11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b></p> <p><i>Facts &amp; Figures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half of humanity – 3.5 billion people – lives in cities today</li> <li>• By 2030, almost 60 per cent of the world’s population will live in urban areas</li> <li>• 95 per cent of urban expansion in the next decades will take place in developing world</li> <li>• 828 million people live in slums today and the number keeps rising</li> <li>• The world’s cities occupy just 3 per cent of the Earth’s land, but account for 60-80 per cent of energy consumption and 75 per cent of carbon emissions</li> <li>• Rapid urbanization is exerting pressure on fresh water supplies, sewage, the living environment, and public health</li> <li>• But the high density of cities can bring efficiency gains and technological innovation while reducing resource and energy consumption</li> </ul> <p><i>Prayfully reflect on this.</i></p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>EGO</b></p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>ECO</b></p>  </div> </div>




<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>Father, we pray for a vision of your world as your love would make it:  A world where the weak are protected and none go hungry or poor;  A world where the benefits of life are shared;  A world where nations, races, cultures and religions live with mutual respect;  A world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love;  And that we may have the courage and inspiration to play our part in building it.</p>
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p>You alone are unutterable,  from the time you created all things that can be spoken of.  You alone are unknowable,  from the time you created all things that can be known.  All things cry out about you;  those which speak, and those which cannot speak.  All things honour you;  those which think, and those which cannot think.  For there is one longing, one groaning,  that all things have for you ...  All things pray to you that comprehend your plan  and offer you a silent hymn.  In you, the One, all things abide,  and all things endlessly run to you  who are the end of all.</p> <p><b>St. Gregory Nazianzen, c.330-389</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p>“Wonderful how completely everything in wild nature fits into us, as if truly part and parent of us. The sun shines not on us, but in us. The rivers flow not past, but through us, thrilling, tingling, vibrating every fibre and cell of the substance of our bodies, making them glide and sing.”</p> <p><b>John Muir</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Pied Beauty</b></p> <p>Glory be to God for dappled things –  For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;  For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;  Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches’ wings;  Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;  And <i>áll trádes</i>, their gear and tackle and trim.</p> <p>All things counter, original, spare, strange;  Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)  With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;  He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:  Praise him.</p> <p><b>Gerard Manley Hopkins</b></p>




<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>11</p>	
<p>Thursday</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, our brothers the animals to whom thou gavest the earth as their home in common with us.</p> <p>We remember with shame that in the past we have exercised the high dominion of man with ruthless cruelty so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to thee in song, has been a groan of travail. May we realize that they live not for us alone but for themselves and for thee, and that they love the sweetness of live.</p> <p><b>St. Basil the Great</b></p>
<p>Friday</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>Earth teach me freedom as the eagle which soars in the sky. Earth teach me regeneration as the seed which rises in the spring. Earth teach me to forget myself as melted snow forgets its life. Earth teach me to remember kindness as dry fields weep with rain.</p> <p><b>from Ute prayer</b></p>

<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>Read Mark 1:29-39</b></p> <p><b><i>Jesus prays in a solitary place.</i></b></p> <p>During the winter months, it is a struggle sometimes to get out of bed. We are tempted to hit the snooze button on our alarms and pull the duvet back over our heads.</p> <p>Here we read how Jesus starts his day with prayer. Before anything else, while it is still dark, he makes sure to give time to God. In our busy lives it can be hard to do this. We get caught up in ‘doing’ – not ‘being’.</p> <p>Prayer was vital to that great inspirational figure, Oscar Romero. Juan José Ramirez, a young seminarian, recalls seeing a figure hunched in prayer for hours. He found himself impatient with this almost motionless person, the opposite to his hero Romero, the man of action who fought for the poor. Of course, the praying man turned out to be Romero himself.</p> <p>As Cardinal Vincent Nichols reminds us: “If we want to truly imitate Oscar Romero and follow his example, then we too, every day, must make the cries of the poor in every part of the world central to our prayer. This is the most radical action we can take.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lord, I pray for stillness and peace from the daily distractions around me. Amen</i></p> <p><b><i>This reflection was written by Sarah Croft who works in CAFOD’s Campaigns Team <a href="http://www.cafod.org">www.cafod.org</a></i></b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p>Lord, make us instruments of your peace;  Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  Where there is injury, pardon;  Where there is discord, union;  Where there is doubt, faith;  Where there is despair, hope;  Where there is darkness, light;  Where there is sadness, joy;  For the sake of your dear Son, Jesus Christ.</p> <div data-bbox="1149 1094 1546 1465" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>SDG Goal #11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Pray that this goal may be achieved</i></b></p> <div data-bbox="1263 1476 1546 1745" data-label="Image"> </div>



<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Small but wise - Proverbs 30: 24-28</b></p> <p><sup>24</sup><i>There are four things on earth that are small but unusually wise:</i></p> <p><sup>25</sup><i>Ants—they aren't strong, but they store up food all summer.</i></p> <p><sup>26</sup><i>Hyraxes—they aren't powerful, but they make their homes among the rocks.</i></p> <p><sup>27</sup><i>Locusts—they have no king, but they march in formation.</i></p> <p><sup>28</sup><i>Lizards—they are easy to catch, but they are found even in kings' palaces.</i></p> <p>Can you find some ants – watch their movements. They all have their own job to do, and they do it well. Although each ant is a strong individual, it cannot survive without the colony. Much like us – we may feel strong, but can we survive without each other and without Christ in our lives? In a silent prayer. Open your heart to God and tell him where you are feeling vulnerable.</p> <p>How do you need Jesus to be your Strength today?</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>Reflection:</b></p> <p><b><i>Pope Francis - Laudato Si</i></b></p> <p>“8. Patriarch Bartholomew has spoken in particular of the need for each of us to repent of the ways we have harmed the planet, for “inasmuch as we all generate small ecological damage”, we are called to acknowledge “our contribution, smaller or greater, to the disfigurement and destruction of creation”. He has repeatedly stated this firmly and persuasively, challenging us to acknowledge our sins against creation: “For human beings... to destroy the biological diversity of God’s creation; for human beings to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying its wetlands; for human beings to contaminate the earth’s waters, its land, its air, and its life – these are sins”. For “to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God”.</p> <p>9. At the same time, Bartholomew has drawn attention to the ethical and spiritual roots of environmental problems, which require that we look for solutions not only in technology but in a change of humanity; otherwise we would be dealing merely with symptoms. He asks us to replace consumption with sacrifice, greed with generosity, wastefulness with a spirit of sharing, an asceticism which “entails learning to give, and not simply to give up. It is a way of loving, of moving gradually away from what I want to what God’s world needs. It is liberation from fear, greed and compulsion”. As Christians, we are also called “to accept the world as a sacrament of communion, as a way of sharing with God and our neighbours on a global scale. It is our humble conviction that the divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God’s creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet”.</p> <p><b><i>Prayerfully</i></b> reflect on this</p>	

<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>18</p>	<p><b>Evolution - Creation Continues</b></p> <p><i>Karl Rahner said that we are “pressured” from within to evolve. That pressure is what we have always called the Holy Spirit. And the Spirit is creatively at work in this moment, urging us to evolve, to become a new kind of human being such as the world has rarely seen before. But what has been rare must now become commonplace. -Judy Cannato</i></p> <p>Science today—particularly physics, astrophysics, anthropology, and biology - is confirming many of religion’s deep intuitions. The universe is not inert, but is “inspired matter.” We might call this driving force instinct, evolution, nuclear fusion, DNA, hardwiring, the motherboard, healing, growth, or springtime. Nature clearly renews itself from within. <i>God seems to have created things that continue to create and recreate themselves from the inside out.</i> A fully incarnate God creates through evolution.</p> <p>The very meaning of the word <i>universe</i> is to “turn around one thing.” There is either some Big Truth in this universe, or it is an incoherent universe. We are hardwired for the Big Picture, for transcendence, for ongoing growth (another name for evolution), for union with ourselves and everything else. Either God is for everybody and the divine DNA is somehow in all creatures, or this God is not God. Humans are driven, hopefully even drawn, toward ever higher levels of conscious union and the ability to include (to forgive others for being “other”). “Everything that rises must converge,” as Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) observed.</p> <p>Unfortunately, many people view God as a deity who tortures and excludes forever those people who don’t agree with “him” or get “his” name right. <i>How could you possibly trust such a small God or ever feel loved, safe, and free?</i> Jesus undid the stingy, violent view of God when he said, “You, evil as you are, know how to give good things to your children. . . . If you, then how much more, God!” (Matthew 7:11). The God I have met and been loved by is always an experience of “how much more!” If we are created in the image and likeness of God, then whatever good, true, or beautiful things we can say about humanity or creation we can also say of God—but they’re even more true! God is the beauty of creation and humanity multiplied to the infinite power.</p> <p>For me, this wondrous universe cannot be an incoherent and accidental cosmos, nor can it be grounded in evil, although I admit that this intellectual leap and bias toward beauty is still an act of faith and trust. I further believe that <i>a free and loving God desires our participation in co-creation.</i> The Great Work is ours too.</p> <p><b>Richard Rohr</b>  <i>Centre for Action and Contemplation</i>  cac.org</p>
------------------	-----------	--




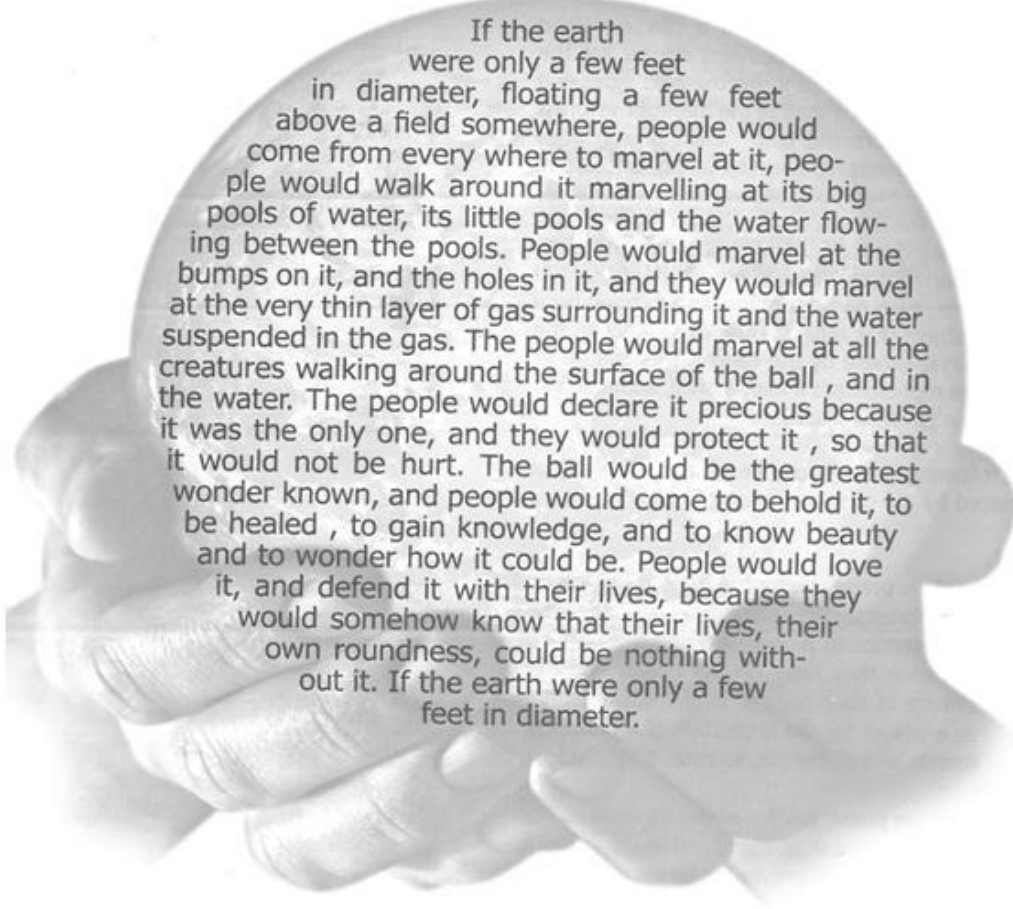
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p>Light and Darkness, night and day.  <i>We marvel at the mystery of the stars.</i>  Moon and sky, sand and sea.  <i>We marvel at the mystery of the sun.</i>  Twilight, high noon, dusk and dawn.  <i>Though we are mortal, we are Creation's crown.</i>  Flesh and bone, steel and stone.  <i>We dwell in fragile, temporary shelters.</i>  Grant steadfast love, compassion, grace.  <i>Sustain us, Lord; our origin is dust.</i>  Splendour, mercy, majesty, love endure.  <i>We are but little lower than the angels.</i>  Resplendent skies, sunset, sunrise.  <i>The grandeur of Creation lifts our lives.</i>  Evening darkness, morning dawn.  <i>Renew our lives as You renew all time.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Rabbinical Assembly of the United Synagogue of America</i></b></p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p>“I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for man if he spent less time proving he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority”</p> <p><b><i>Elwyn Brooks White (1899-1985)</i></b></p>
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	



<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>International Earth day</b>  <b>2018 Theme: End Plastic Pollution</b>  Earth Day 2018 theme <b>End Plastic Pollution</b> will focus on mobilising the world to End Plastic Pollution, including creating support for a global effort to eliminate single-use plastics along with global regulation for the disposal of plastics.</p> <p>From poisoning and injuring marine life to the ubiquitous presence of plastics in our food to disrupting human hormones and causing major life-threatening diseases and early puberty, the exponential growth of plastics is threatening our planet's survival. Although convenient and useful, plastic has become an international scourge.</p> <p>You are called to examine your lifestyle (and that of family, friends and even acquaintances) as to your own part in the crisis of plastic pollution. Consider health concerns and other risks associated with the use and disposal of plastics, including pollution of our oceans, water, and wildlife, and about the growing body of evidence that decomposing plastics are creating serious global problems. Do YOU use and dispose of plastic responsibly? – if not, now is the time you need to make a life-style change! We only have ONE Planet – our <b>Common Home</b>.</p> <p><b>A Prayer for Earth Day</b></p> <p>Dear Creator God, let me always be in awe of Your wonderful works of creation. I don't want to take the details of the world You created for me for granted. Everything around me is wonderfully complex and splendid. You, Lord, are both an Engineer and an Artist that built a world to perfectly sustain life. But you didn't stop there. You also made immense details that please all of our senses as well. There are beautiful things to see, sounds to hear, textures to feel, yummy food to taste, and even delightful aromas to bring us enjoyment. Thank you for the details of life. In Jesus' Name, <b>Amen</b>.</p>	
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p>Earth Day is one of many opportunities environmentalists take to bring light to renewable energy, recycling and other ways to “go green.” But should Christians be concerned about taking care of our planet? Here's an answer from Billy Graham:</p> <p><i>“I've always been concerned about the environment, and my concern has grown in recent years with all the talk about global warming and the need for alternative energy sources and things like that. Why don't churches say more about this?</i></p> <p><i>Why should we be concerned about the environment? It isn't just because of the dangers we face from pollution, climate change, or other environmental problems - although these are serious. For Christians, the issue is much deeper: We know that God created the world, and it belongs to Him, not us. Because of this, we are only stewards or trustees of God's creation, and we aren't to abuse or neglect it. The Bible says, “The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it” (Psalm 24:1). “</i></p>	

<p>Tuesday</p>	<p>24</p>	 <p>Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. —Thomas Merton</p>
----------------	-----------	--

<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>25</p>	<p><b>World Penguin Day</b></p> <p>Penguins are among the most beloved and well-studied bird groups. Restricted to the Southern Hemisphere, they range from Antarctica to the Galapagos Islands.</p> <p>Endemic to Southern Africa, the African Penguin has been sliding towards extinction since industrial fishing started around the Cape. In the 1950s, more than 140,000 pairs bred on the west coast of South Africa and Namibia. Today, only 25,000 pairs remain. The last four years have seen a population crash, leading BirdLife International to change their conservation status to 'Endangered'.</p> <p>Anchovies and sardines comprise, in volume, the biggest component of South Africa’s fishing industry. In terms of revenue, it’s the second biggest – however, they are also the penguin’s primary food source. This constant conflict between the fishing industry and penguin colonies is a cause for concern regarding the penguin’s ultimate survival.</p> <p>As shoals of anchovies and sardines have migrated south into cooler waters, penguins now have to swim further to catch fish, which leaves adults weakened. Many have died or abandoned their chicks, leaving the population of these enigmatic birds that feed on the fish to plummet drastically over the past decade.</p> <p>Adding to the penguin’s dilemma, they are threatened by food shortages, climate change, human disturbance, and increased predation by seals and more recently, these birds have succumbed to the highly pathogenic H5N8 avian flu along the coastline of the Western Cape. Oil spills also pose a continuous threat; the Treasure oil spill in 2000 hit the main penguin landing beaches and oiled nearly 20,000 penguins. There have been 14 major oil spills in South Africa since 1968.</p> <p>As a result of all these cumulative problems, it is projected that the African penguin may</p> 
------------------	-----------	---

		<p>become extinct within the next 15 years.</p> <p>Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds, or SANCCOB, do the most amazing work in rehabilitating rescued penguins. Relocating penguins to within reach of the masses of anchovies and sardines is only a possibility for chicks – and a difficult one with no guarantee of success.</p> <p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constructive discussion and agreement between the Fisheries Industry and Conservation authorities</li> <li>• Give thanks for the extraordinary efforts of SANCCOB</li> <li>• Pray for the necessary funding for SANCCOB to continue their amazing work.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	 <p>If the earth were only a few feet in diameter, floating a few feet above a field somewhere, people would come from every where to marvel at it, people would walk around it marvelling at its big pools of water, its little pools and the water flowing between the pools. People would marvel at the bumps on it, and the holes in it, and they would marvel at the very thin layer of gas surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The people would marvel at all the creatures walking around the surface of the ball , and in the water. The people would declare it precious because it was the only one, and they would protect it , so that it would not be hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and people would come to behold it, to be healed , to gain knowledge, and to know beauty and to wonder how it could be. People would love it, and defend it with their lives, because they would somehow know that their lives, their own roundness, could be nothing without it. If the earth were only a few feet in diameter.</p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p>“God is the foundation for everything. This God undertakes, God gives. Such that nothing that is necessary for life is lacking. Now humankind needs a body that at all times honours and praises God. This body is supported in every way through the earth. Thus the earth glorifies the power of God.</p> <p><b>Hildegard of Bingen</b></p>

<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p>Gracious God, you have given us much this day: the wheat and grapes which found our feast, the wit and will to transform them into bread and wine, and the precious presence of your Son who transfigures and redeems all that we have broken and lost. Send us out now to care for this fragile earth, our island home. Grant us the wit and the will to transform the toxic, irreverent ways we live, and the saving presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, who goes before us and calls us into this world you love. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and forever, Amen.</p> <p><b><i>St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Medina, Washington</i></b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>Psalm 65</b></p> <p><sup>1-2</sup> Silence is praise to you, Zion-dwelling God, And also obedience. You hear the prayer in it all.</p> <p><sup>2-8</sup> We all arrive at your doorstep sooner or later, loaded with guilt, Our sins too much for us - but you get rid of them once and for all. Blessed are the chosen! Blessed the guest at home in your place! We expect our fill of good things in your house, your heavenly manse. All your salvation wonders are on display in your trophy room. Earth-Tamer, Ocean-Pourer, Mountain-Maker, Hill-Dresser, Muzzler of sea storm and wave crash, of mobs in noisy riot - Far and wide they'll come to a stop, they'll stare in awe, in wonder. Dawn and dusk take turns calling, "Come and worship."</p> <p><sup>9-13</sup> Oh, visit the earth, ask her to join the dance! Deck her out in spring showers, fill the God-River with living water. Paint the wheat fields golden. Creation was made for this! Drench the ploughed fields, soak the dirt clods. With rainfall as harrow and rake bring her to blossom and fruit. Snow-crown the peaks with splendour, scatter rose petals down your paths, All through the wild meadows, rose petals. Set the hills to dancing, Dress the canyon walls with live sheep, a drape of flax across the valleys. Let them shout, and shout, and shout! Oh, oh, let them sing!</p> <p><b><i>(The Message)</i></b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>May the waters flow peacefully; may the herbs and plants grow peacefully; may all the divine powers bring unto us peace. May the rain come down in the proper time, may the earth yield plenty of corn, may the country be free from war. The supreme Lord is peace.</p> <p><b><i>Hindu prayer</i></b></p>

