



# JAEI

## November 2020 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><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Prayer from UN Environmental Sabbath Programme</b></p> <p><i>We join with the earth and with each other</i> To bring new life to the land, to restore the waters, to refresh the air.</p> <p><i>We join with the earth and with each other</i> To renew the forests, to care for the plants, to protect the creatures.</p> <p><i>We join with the earth and with each other</i> To celebrate the seas, to rejoice in the sunlight, to sing the song of the stars.</p> <p><i>We join with the earth and with each other</i> To recreate the human community, to promote justice and peace, to remember our children.</p> <p><i>We join with the earth and with each other</i> We join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery: for the healing of the earth and renewal of all life.</p> <p><i>Acknowledgment - Churches Together in Britain and Ireland</i> <a href="https://ctbi.org.uk/">https://ctbi.org.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Prayer for the week in a time of coronavirus</b></p> <p><b>We lift up our voices</b></p> <p>Merciful God, We place into your care all the refugees and migrants, God who hurts with humanity, we lift up our voices and pour out our hearts to you, in sadness and grief, for those who don't have anyone to hear their suffering and pain, for those who don't have anyone to love and care, for those who don't have anyone to tell their stories and especially for those who have been suffering due to this pandemic and struggling with coronavirus to see another day in their life. We pray for their courage of heart and strength of mind and body. Keep them safe from harm. Amen.</p> <p><i>Prayer: Inmanuel Chayan Biswas, who works for Caritas Bangladesh in Cox's Bazaar refugee camp</i></p>		
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p>“Long before the awakening of thought on earth, manifestations of cosmic energy must have been produced which have no parallel today.”</p> <p><b>Pierre Teilhard de Chardin</b></p>



Tuesday

3

Way back in October 2010, “The Decade of Biodiversity” was proposed by the Government of Japan during the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) and Convention on Biological Diversity in October 2010. This endeavoured to formalise and strategise efforts to protect international biodiversity - concerns which were first tabled at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. At this meeting in October 2010, held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, a [Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020](#) was developed – which included the 20 [Aichi Biodiversity Targets](#) .



A further convention to assess the effectiveness of the Aichi Targets was due to be held in September this year, but due to the evolving nature of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has moved to hold many meetings virtually and has postponed others.

Sadly, as we approach the end of the UN Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020, progress towards global biodiversity targets including those of the SDGs (*Sustainable Development Goals*) has been grossly insufficient and largely ineffective. A [UN report revealed](#) the world had failed to meet biodiversity targets in the past decade. While there are many local examples of success, biodiversity is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history, with growing impacts on people and our planet. A renewed focus on the global biodiversity crisis began in May, when a UN report issued the dire warning that up to one million species could go extinct, many within decades, without totally transforming the ways in which we use and abuse the natural world.

At the end of September, this year, the United Nations held a Summit on Biodiversity. At this Summit, a global deal, touted as the equivalent of the [Paris Agreement](#), to halt the collapse of nature - the

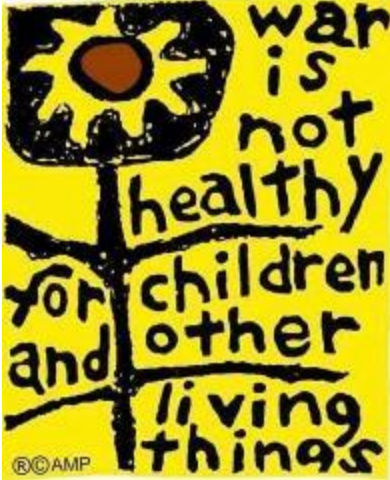

[“Leaders’ Pledge for Nature - United to Reverse Biodiversity Loss by 2030 for Sustainable Development”](#) was presented. This pledge, supported by the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada, Kenya and Uganda, among others, warns humanity is in a state of “planetary emergency” from the interdependent crisis of biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate change - driven in large part by unsustainable production and consumption - and that this requires “urgent and immediate global action”. Countries including India, Brazil and the United States have refused to sign the 10-point Leader’s Pledge for Nature and China is still sitting on the fence. South Africa is yet to commit, although in his virtual address to the Summit, President Cyril Ramaphosa said South Africa must ensure it “builds back both better and greener” as it emerges from the pandemic.


#### **So what is our responsibility as People of Faith?**



Biodiversity has intrinsic value first and foremost because it is the handiwork of God and reflects God, but biodiversity in all its richness, that is, its quantity and its genetic and ecosystem variety, is also necessary for a healthy world in which to live. Believe it or not, some of the most vital creatures on earth are the micro-organisms that live within the soil! Ecosystems which are biological communities of interacting organisms in a geographical area have their own unique combination of species.

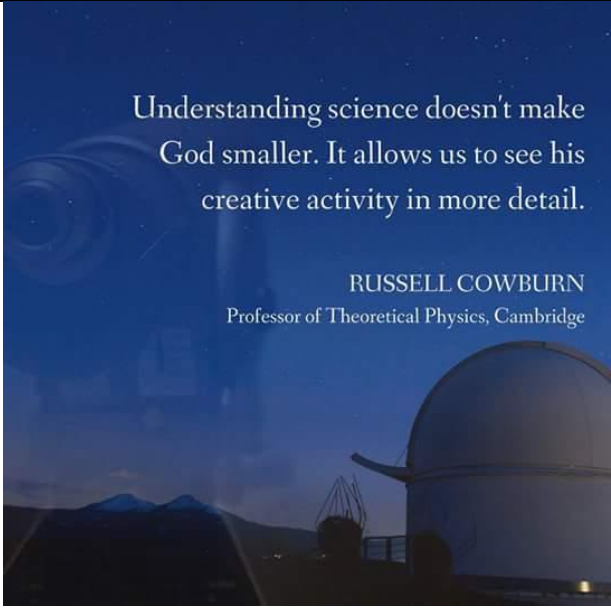
#### **Pray for**

- Leaders of South Africa to commit in earnest to the “*Leaders’ Pledge for Nature*” and ensure that the actions contained therein are carried out
- Leaders of Countries that have not yet committed to the “*Leaders’ Pledge for Nature*” as well as Leaders of Countries that refuse to sign the Pledge – that their hearts might be changed
- People of the World to commit to action to protect biodiversity

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>“There are some four million different kinds of animals and plants in the world. Four million different solutions to the problems of staying alive.”</p> <p><i>David Attenborough</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p>5</p>	
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p><b>International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in Armed Conflict and War</b></p> <p>The impact of armed conflict on the natural environment is often acknowledged, but its scale is largely underestimated. From 1946 to 2010, conflict was the single most important predictor of declines in certain wildlife populations. International humanitarian law protects the natural environment and aims to limit the damage caused to it, not only because the environment sustains human life, but because of its intrinsic value.</p> <p>On 5 November 2001, the UN General Assembly declared 6 November of each year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict .</p> <p>Though humanity has always counted its war casualties in terms of dead and wounded soldiers and civilians, destroyed cities and livelihoods, the environment has often remained the unpublicized victim of war. Water wells have been polluted, crops torched, forests cut down, soils poisoned, and animals killed to gain military advantage.</p> <p>Furthermore, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has found that over the last 60 years, at least 40 percent of all internal conflicts have been linked to the exploitation of natural resources, whether high-value resources such as timber, diamonds, gold and oil, or scarce resources such as fertile land and water. Conflicts involving natural resources have also been found to be twice as likely to relapse.</p> <p>The United Nations attaches great importance to ensuring that action on the environment is part of conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding strategies, because there can be no durable peace if the natural resources that sustain livelihoods and ecosystems are destroyed.</p> 

<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	 <p>If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other. Mother Teresa</p>
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>The Operation Noah Prayer</b></p> <p>Creator God, how deep are your designs! You made a living earth, cloud, rain and wind, and charged us with their care. We confess that the way we live today is changing the climate, the seas and the balance of life, dispossessing the poor and future generations. Build our lives into an Ark for all creation, and, as you promised Noah never to repeat the flood, so make us heralds of a new rainbow covenant: Choosing life for all that is at risk – for creation, neighbours near and far, Our children and ourselves. Amen.</p> <p><i>Acknowledgment - Churches Together in Britain and Ireland</i> <a href="https://ctbi.org.uk/">https://ctbi.org.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Prayer for the week in a time of coronavirus</b></p> <p><b>Prayer for uncertain times</b></p> <p>Lord Jesus Christ, light of this world, thank you for the hope you have given us. Help us to give our worries to you and, above all, to trust in your unfailing love. For you have promised us "Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you." Almighty God, our protector, let us trust in you to carry us through this time of uncertainty. Jesus, hear our cries as we mourn those who've left us. Whatever tomorrow may bring, we will praise your name. Amen.</p> <p><i>Prayer: Sasha Breakenridge, CAFOD volunteer</i></p>		

<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p>The 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the UNFCCC was originally scheduled to take place from 9-19 November 2020, in Glasgow, UK. On 28 May 2020, the COP Bureau decided that it would take place from 1-12 November 2021, in Glasgow, UK.</p> <p><b>Pray</b> that the continued virtual discussions will be positive and fruitful so that all parties can focus on the issues to ensure a productive outcome for the next vital conference.</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>World Science Day for Peace and Development</b></p> <p><i>The theme of the year 2020 is "Women in Science."</i></p> <p>World Science Day for Peace and Development was proclaimed by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2001 (UNESCO 31 C/Resolution 20). The Day highlights the significant role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. It also underlines the importance and relevance of science in daily living.</p> <p>By linking science more closely with society, World Science Day for Peace and Development aims to ensure that citizens are kept informed of developments in science. It also underscores the role scientists play in broadening our understanding of the remarkable, fragile planet we call home and in making our societies more sustainable.</p> <p><b>Thanksgiving for all who work in Science and Technology</b></p> <p>We praise you, O God, for creating humankind in your image and giving all human beings a common genetic makeup regardless of race, gender or ethnicity:</p> <p>We are awed by the knowledge that there are trillions of cells in our bodies and each one of them stores of the secret of life in its DNA</p> <p>We are amazed by scientists' use of technology to learn about cells, tissues and organs and how any changes in the gene can affect our daily lives.</p> <p>We pray for all scientists - engineers, students, teachers, researchers, physicians, technicians who work diligently to unfold your holy mysteries and ask your blessing on each one of them.</p> <p>May these technological developments be used for the good of all and to alleviate suffering in the world and promote peace.</p> <p>We thank you, O God, for the wisdom and knowledge that you bestow on scientists who work at revealing the secrets of creation.</p> <p>We stand in awe and wonder at the history of the universe and life on this planet.</p> <p>This knowledge strengthens our faith in your creative power</p> <p>We are grateful for this wonderful creation and being a part of your blessings</p> <p>Praise be to you, O God.</p>	

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	 <p>Understanding science doesn't make God smaller. It allows us to see his creative activity in more detail.</p> <p>RUSSELL COWBURN Professor of Theoretical Physics, Cambridge</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>Read Matthew 21:33-43</b></p> <p>In Matthew's Gospel, the parable of the tenants reminds us of God's call for us to protect our common home and those within it.</p> <p>The landlord sends his tenants to work the land, but they forget their role in caring for it, and their responsibility in returning its rewards to him. Then the landlord sends his son to remind them of what is required of them. It is a mark of respect, he does not wish ill on them, despite all they have done. In this, we see Christ's ultimate sacrifice out of love and care for God's children. The landlord then takes away all responsibility and hands it over to new tenants who will recognise the importance of sharing the wealth.</p> <p>We must see ourselves in this parable, we are the tenants, we are provided with all we need to make God's vineyard possible. We have been granted the ultimate responsibility to care for the crop and protect creation. But at times we have forgotten about the beauty we have been given, and our responsibility to make it fruitful. We risk losing everything. Just as the tenants in the parable did.</p> <p>So let us ask ourselves today, what fruits will I produce for the Lord?</p> <p><b>Prayer</b></p> <p>Lord, help me to recognise myself in this parable, the role I play as tenant of your vineyard and the harvest you hope for. Guide us all to work for the common good, for the protection of our common home and those within it, so that we may create your kingdom on Earth.</p> <p>Amen.</p> <p><b>Juliette Bone</b> A retreat leader at St Cassian's retreat centre in Kintbury <a href="http://www.cafod.org.uk">www.cafod.org.uk</a></p>

<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b><i>Fratelli tutti</i></b> (All Brothers) is the third encyclical of Pope Francis, subtitled of "on fraternity and social friendship". In the document, Francis states that the COVID-19 pandemic has proven the failure of the world to work together during the crisis. The encyclical calls for more human fraternity and solidarity, and is a plea to reject wars.</p> <p>The document was signed on 3 October 2020, on the occasion of Pope Francis's visit to the tomb of his namesake, Saint Francis of Assisi, and was published the following day, the saint's feast day.</p> <p><b>Overview</b></p> <p>The encyclical calls for more human fraternity and solidarity, and is a plea to reject wars. The document focuses on contemporary social and economic problems, and proposes an ideal world of fraternity in which all countries can be part of a "larger human family."</p> <p><b><i>Take some time to download and read the "Fratelli Tutti" and prayerfully consider what fraternal love, that Pope Francis writes about, means to you.</i></b></p> <p><i>(Over the course of future Prayer Diaries, aspects of this Encyclical will be considered)</i></p>
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>A Prayer to Make Poverty History</b></p> <p>Christ our Lord, your light shines into the shadows, and shows us where the obstacles to change lie.</p> <p>We know that often they are in our own hearts, in the way we live, and in our daily choices and actions.</p> <p>We pray that we may accept the light of your love as a challenge to change ourselves and our world.</p> <p>We pray that, each day, we make the choices and take the actions that will bring an end to poverty and hunger, and lead us all towards a fairer world.</p> <p>Be with us, Lord, as we face your challenge and learn how to live our lives in love.</p> <p>Amen</p> <p><b>Linda Jones</b> CAFOD</p> <p><i>Acknowledgment - Churches Together in Britain and Ireland</i> <a href="https://ctbi.org.uk/">https://ctbi.org.uk/</a></p>



<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	<p><b>Prayer for the Environment</b></p> <p>Caring God,          We thank you for your gifts in creation, for our world, - the heavens tell of your glory;          we thank you for our land, its beauty and its resources and the rich heritage we enjoy.          We pray for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth, that we may use your gifts responsibly;          for those who work on the land and sea, and in industry, that they may enjoy the fruits of their labours and marvel at your creation;          for artists, scientists and visionaries, that through their work we may see creation afresh.          We thank you for giving us life; for all who enrich our experience and that you have called us to celebrate your creation. Give us reverence for life in your world.          We thank you for your redeeming love;          May your word and sacrament strengthen us to love as you love us.          God, Creator, bring us new life. Jesus, Redeemer, renew us. Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us.          Amen</p>
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**Prayer for the week in a time of coronavirus**


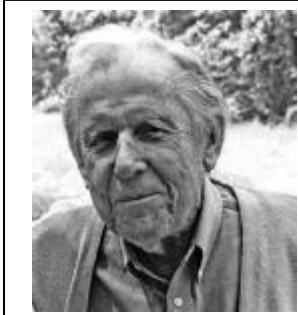
***An Examen for Life During COVID-19***



1. *Take a moment to settle. Take a deep breath. Get comfortable. Like a rock settling on the bottom of a lake after it's thrown in, let yourself settle.*  
 Acknowledge how you are feeling in this moment. If being calm is hard, acknowledge it. If you find yourself frustrated or stressed, acknowledge it. God wants to be present in all parts of our lives - not just the easy or serene moments.
2. Ask for light and insight as you prepare to review your day. For some that light may come in the form of a sense of the Divine. For others it's from a deep sense of your true self.
3. Take a moment to think about how COVID-19 has impacted your life. Even as we are being asked to distance ourselves from one another socially, ask yourself what connections you find yourself grateful for? Who makes you feel grounded and connected to God?
4. Public health issues have a way of making us recognise how interwoven our lives are with others in society. It can help us realise who we may often choose not to see or connect with. Is there a person or group of people especially affected by COVID-19 that you don't often choose to see or connect with normally? What connections to others are you becoming more aware of? Who do you normally choose to reach out and connect to? Who do you avoid or refuse to see? If you can, picture the faces of these people. What connections do you take for granted in your life? What connections impact you the most?
5. Note the emotions you feel when you think of these individuals without judging or over-analysing. Simply acknowledge them, pay attention, and listen to where God may be speaking.
6. As you think of the ways we are connected or disconnected to one another, pick a connection (or lack thereof) that seems important, significant, or is manifesting itself the strongest. Pause and reflect on where you're being invited to grow from that moment. If you are a person of faith, take a moment to pray with it.
7. God gifted us with limitless creativity and imagination. Even in this time of separation and possible isolation, what is one way you can maintain meaningful connection to others - whether directly, through technology, or intentional focus and attention?


*Take a deep breath and moment of quiet. When you are ready, return to your day.*

**Susan Haarman, Loyola University Chicago**



<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p>16</p>	<p><b>Every Creature Is a Word of God</b></p> <p><i>God brought things into being in order that his [sic] goodness might be communicated to creatures, and be represented by them; and because his goodness could not be adequately represented by one creature alone, he produced many and diverse creatures, that what was wanting to one in the representation of the divine goodness might be supplied by another. For goodness, which in God is simple and uniform, in creatures is manifold and divided. –Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologica, I, 47, 1</i></p> <p>Each and every creature is a unique word of God, with its own message, its own metaphor, its own energetic style, its own way of showing forth goodness, beauty, and participation in the Great Mystery. Each creature has its own glow and its own unique glory. To be a contemplative is to be able to see each epiphany, to enjoy it, protect it, and draw upon it for the common good. (Some Sundays I am drawn to awe, prayer, and service by the Nature Channel much more than by the morning church service!)</p> <p>Sister Iliia Delio, OSF, a speaker at some CAC conferences, writes in true Franciscan style: “The world is created as a means of God’s self-revelation so that, like a mirror or footprint, it might lead us to love and praise the Creator. We are created to read the book of creation so that we may know the Author of Life. This book of creation is an expression of who God is and is meant to lead humans to what it signifies, namely, the eternal Trinity of dynamic, self-diffusive love” (<i>Christ in Evolution</i>, p. 62).</p> <p>Meister Eckhart, OP, says it even more succinctly: “Anyone who truly knows creatures may be excused from listening to sermons, for every creature is full of God, and is a book.” And that is from one who was a member of the Order of Preachers!</p> <p><b>Gateway to Silence:</b> Let all the earth bless the Lord.</p> <p><i>From Richard Rohr’s daily meditations</i> <a href="http://www.cac.org">www.cac.org</a></p>	
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p>17</p>	<p>“The natural world is the larger sacred community to which we belong. To be alienated from this community is to become destitute in all that makes us human. To damage this community is to diminish our own existence.”</p> <p><b>Thomas Berry</b></p>	

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Lord Most High</b></p> <p>From the ends of the earth  From the depths of the sea  From the heights of the heavens  Your name be praised</p> <p>From the hearts of the weak  From the shouts of the strong  From the lips of all people  This song we raise Lord</p> <p>Throughout the endless ages  You will be crowned with  praises  Lord Most High  Exalted in every nation  Sovereign of all creation  Lord Most High be magnified</p> <p><b>Gary Sadler</b></p> <p><a href="#">YouTube - Ross Parsley</a></p> 
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b><i>For Equilibrium, a Blessing:</i></b></p> <p>Like the joy of the sea coming home to shore,  May the relief of laughter rinse through your soul.</p> <p>As the wind loves to call things to dance,  May your gravity be lightened by grace.</p> <p>Like the dignity of moonlight restoring the earth,  May your thoughts incline with reverence and  respect.</p> <p>As water takes whatever shape it is in,  So free may you be about who you become.</p> <p>As silence smiles on the other side of what's said,  May your sense of irony bring perspective.</p> <p>As time remains free of all that it frames,  May your mind stay clear of all its names.</p> <p>May your prayer of listening deepen enough  to hear in the depths the laughter of God.”</p> 

<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>World Fisheries Day</b></p> <p>World Fisheries Day is celebrated every year on 21 November throughout the world by fishing communities and serves as an important reminder that we need to change the way we manage global fisheries in order to maintain stocks and healthy aquatic ecosystems.</p> <p>A recent United Nations study revealed that more than two-thirds of the world’s fisheries have been over fished or are fully harvested. It also stated that more than a third of the world’s fisheries are in a state of decline because of factors such as the loss of essential fish habitats, pollution, and global warming.</p> <p>Fish forms an important part of the diets of people around the world, particularly those that live near rivers, coasts and other water bodies. A number of traditional societies and communities are rallied around the occupation of fishing. This is why a majority of human settlements, whether small villages or mega cities, are situated in close proximity to water bodies. Besides the importance of water for survival and as a means of transportation, it is also an important source of fish and aquatic protein. But this proximity has also lead to severe ocean and coastal pollution from run-off and from domestic and industrial activities carried out near-by. This has led to depletion of fish stocks in the immediate vicinity, requiring fishermen to fish farther and farther away from their traditional grounds.</p> <p>Besides, overfishing and mechanisation has also resulted in a crisis – fish stocks are being depleted through ‘factory’ vessels, bottom trawling, and other means of unsustainable fishing methods. If these issues are not collectively addressed, the crisis will deepen.</p> <p>World Fisheries Day helps to highlight these problems, and moves towards finding solutions to the increasingly inter-connected problems we are facing, and in the longer term, to sustainable means of maintaining fish stocks.</p> 

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	<p><b>A prayer - we are sorry</b></p> <p>God we are sorry for the way we use your gifts to us so carelessly. We are sorry that our actions are spoiling the precious balance between the earth and the sun so that our world is becoming too hot. We are sorry for wasting food while others go hungry We are sorry for wasting water when some children spend four hours each day collecting it. We are sorry for buying things we do not need. We are sorry for throwing away things just because they are old or unfashionable. We are ashamed that the world is such an unfair place We are sorry when we choose to bury our heads in the sand rather than seek fair solutions. Lord forgive us and disturb us until we change to make your world a better place</p> <p><b>R Croft and J Laynesmith</b>  <i>Acknowledgment - Churches Together in Britain and Ireland</i>  <a href="https://ctbi.org.uk/">https://ctbi.org.uk/</a></p>
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**Prayer for the week in a time of coronavirus**

**An Ignatian Examen on Working During The Pandemic**

Lord,




I am thankful for good colleagues and the opportunity to collaborate with so many around me.  
I am thankful for the opportunity learn and practice new things.  
I am grateful for extra time with family, and for all the new ways I have found to connect with friends.  
I am grateful for my health and for the health of my family.



Over the course of the last months,  
I have felt your presence in the care and compassion of those working around and with me to find the best path forward for our community.  
I have felt your presence in our continuous striving for better, striving to find solutions that serve the greatest number of people in the best way possible with the least risk of harm.  
I have felt your presence on days when my work – at my workplace or at home – was not great, and I was humble or needed to make apologies.

I have been challenged and needed your guidance in thinking with a community-focus rather than an individual one, and I've been challenged in finding the right response on other occasions when I judge that others are falling into that same pit.  
I have felt challenged by all the meals I've cooked and dishes I've washed. I have felt true joy in the quiet moments of fellowship and connection that only could have happened because of this common event.

I continue to welcome and be open to your presence in my life and in this work.  
I pray that we continue to be inclusive and broad in our thinking, that we continue to be imaginative and innovative, that we have the energy required to sustain us.  
I pray that we continue to be intentional collaborators, guided by your spirit.

*by Rebecca L. Cull*

<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>The wisdom of Mother Teresa</b></p> <p>Mother Teresa once said; 'There are no great acts, just simple acts with great love'.</p> <p>Lord, break our hearts for the needs of others, and help us stand together- show us what we have to offer. Break our hearts for communities in our own country affected by recession, debt and hopelessness- for our friends, neighbours, and those we do not know personally.</p> <p>Lord, we pray too for those in the majority world experiencing poverty and lack of food, those without education, healthcare and vulnerable to disaster and exploitation. Fill us with compassion and a sense of solidarity as one people. Prepare our hearts to love, our hands to serve, and our mouths to speak against injustice - simple acts, with great love.</p> <p>Amen</p> 
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p>"We still do not know one thousandth of one percent of what nature has revealed to us"</p> <p><b>Albert Einstein</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	 <p>The rich industrialist was horrified to find the fisherman lying beside his boat, smoking a pipe.</p> <p>'Why aren't you out fishing?' asked the industrialist.</p> <p>'Because I have caught enough fish for the day,'</p> <p>'Why don't you catch some more?'</p> <p>'What would I do with them?'</p> <p>'You could earn more money. Then you could have a motor fitted to your boat to go into deeper waters and catch more fish. Then you would have enough money to buy nylon nets. These would bring you more fish and more money. Soon you would have enough money to own two boats . . . maybe even a fleet of boats. Then you would be a rich man like me.'</p> <p>'What would I do then?'</p> <p>'Then you could sit back and enjoy life.'</p> <p>'What do you think I'm doing right now?'</p> <p>From <i>Timeless Simplicity</i> by John Lane</p> 

<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>Matthew 10:24-33</b></p> <p><sup>24</sup> “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!</p> <p><sup>26</sup> “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.</p> <p><sup>28</sup> Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. <sup>30</sup> And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.</p> <p><sup>32</sup> “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.</p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>Buy Nothing Day</b></p> <p>Whether or not you've participated in it, you've definitely seen the reports of people going from being their best selves to being their worst selves on Black Friday. This is why some genius person in Canada, some 25 years ago, began something different as a protest to mass consumerism, and it quickly spread around the world.</p> <p>Dubbed as a 24-hour shopping detox, the day encourages relaxing over consumption. Rather than push people out of the way to get the last pair of cheap socks, heat up some leftovers and settle in for a day of Netflix and chill! ... and you will save 100% of what you would have spent!</p> 

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	<p>Father, we live in a world where things have gone badly wrong because we have forgotten you and put money before morality. We have adopted our own way of life and have not served your Kingdom. We have chosen what pleases us and have not done your will. Lord, forgive us our sin and follies and blindness. Turn us back to yourself, for the sake of your Son, the only Saviour of the world.</p> <p>Amen</p>
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**Prayer for the week in a time of coronavirus**

**Love never fails**

Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.


Love compels us to fight against coronavirus alongside our sisters and brothers living in poverty.

Love compels us to stand together in prayer with our neighbours near and far.

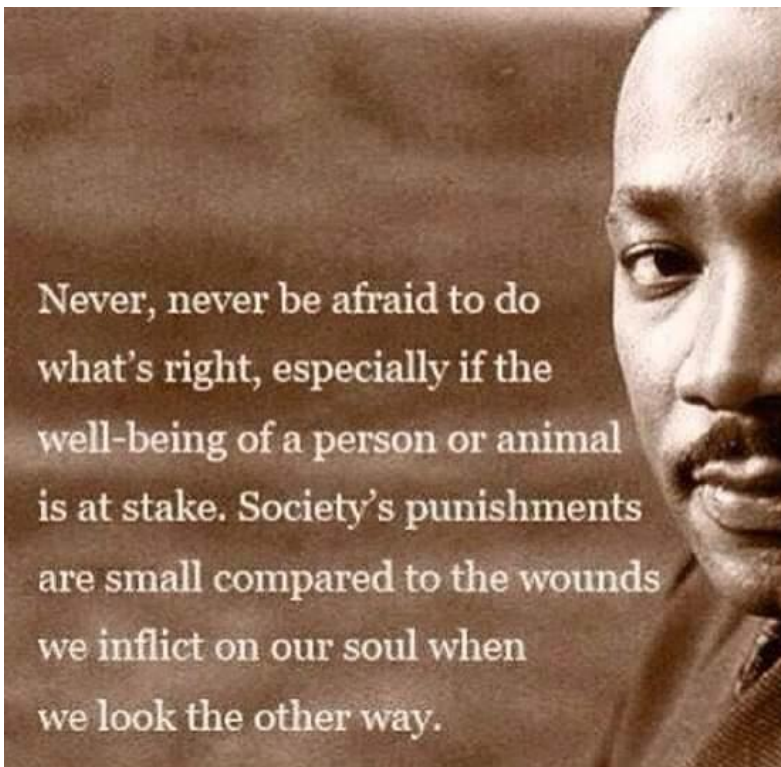
Love compels us to give and act as one.

Now, it is clear that our futures are bound together more tightly than ever before.

As we pray in our individual homes – around the nation and around the world – we are united as one family.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>30</b>	 <p>Nothing exists by itself alone. We all belong to each other; we cannot cut reality into pieces. My happiness is your happiness; my suffering is your suffering. We heal and transform together.</p> <p>- Thich Nhat Hanh</p>
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<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>You asked for my hands that you might use them for your purpose,  I gave them for a moment, then withdrew them, for the work was hard.  You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice.  I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused.  You asked for my life that you might work through me.  I gave a small part that I might not get too involved.  Lord, forgive my calculated efforts to serve you only when it is convenient for me to do so, only in those places where it is safe to do so, and only in those who make it easy to do so.  Lord, forgive me, renew me, heal me, nurture me, empower me, send me out as an instrument of your peace and justice that I might take seriously the meaning of servant-leadership.  Amen.</p> <p><b>Joe Seramane</b>, <i>Christian Aid Lifelines, South Africa</i>  Taken from "2020 Season of Creation - Jubilee for the Earth"</p>
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