



# JAEI

## June 2021 Environmental Prayer Diary

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

***June is environment month***

### ***Covid-19 Pandemic Daily noon-time prayer***

God bless the world,  
Give it wisdom at this time,  
Grant us relief and release,  
Be with those who are ill,  
And bless the carers fighting this pandemic,  
For Jesus Christ's sake,  
Amen





### **Prayer During a Pandemic**

#### **At this time**

Lord Jesus, give us the grace to hear your voice,  
And the strength to continue working for your kingdom in this time of pandemic.  
Do not allow us to be indifferent to those who today suffer the loss of a loved one, or who suffer from the absence of work.  
But give us the courage to accompany and side with those who suffer violence or injustice.  
Dear Lord, at this time of pandemic,  
Let us foster respect and solidarity with others, especially those who are weak or poor.  
Let us remain calm and ignore unsubstantiated rumours.  
Let us take advantage of living together as a family.  
Let us attend to moments of prayer.  
Let us cultivate responsibility, patience and hope.  
Amen.

***Acknowledgments: Rodolfo Valenzuela Núñez, Bishop of La Verapaz, Guatemala & Javier Eduardo Martinez Rueda, Colombia***

<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Join with many other Christians from around the world with the monthly Pray and Fast for the Climate Movement. Prayer points for May are on their website.</p> <p>Merciful God, we believe that you uphold and sustain all that you have made, while also lovingly giving us the freedom to live in relationship with the rest of creation. We ask your forgiveness for the ways we have abused that freedom, through what we have done and what we have left undone. We bring our lament and our longing for a renewed earth to you now: (prayer from Christian Climate Action’s prayer for climate grief)</p> <p><a href="https://prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/resources/">https://prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/resources/</a></p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>“Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take but by the moments that take your breath away.”</p> <p><i>Maya Angelou</i></p> 
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p>3</p>	 <p>“Human beings are great in their own eyes, but are not much in the eyes of Nature.”</p> <p>— Kensho Furuya</p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>“The Lord answered Job out of the storm and said: ‘Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? . . . Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundations? Tell me if you understand. who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line along it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone – while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?’</p> <p><i>Job 38.1-7</i></p>

Saturday

5

## World Environment Day

*Reimagine. Recreate. Restore.*

*This is our moment. We cannot turn back time. But we can grow trees, green our cities, rewild our gardens, change our diets and clean up rivers and coasts. We are the generation that can make peace with nature.*

*Let's get active, not anxious. Let's be bold, not timid.*

Join [#GenerationRestoration](#)

The theme of this year's World Environment Day is **Ecosystem Restoration** and will see the launch of the **UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration**.



There has never been a more urgent need to restore damaged ecosystems than now.

The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is a rallying call for the protection and revival of ecosystems all around the world, for the benefit of people and nature. It aims to halt the degradation of ecosystems, and restore them to achieve global goals. Only with healthy ecosystems can we enhance people's livelihoods, counteract climate change, and stop the collapse of biodiversity.

Ecosystems support all life on Earth. The healthier our ecosystems are, the healthier the planet - and its people. The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration aims to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems on every continent and in every ocean. It can help to end poverty, combat climate change and prevent a mass extinction. It will only succeed if everyone plays a part.

Ecosystem restoration means assisting in the recovery of ecosystems that have been degraded or destroyed, as well as conserving the ecosystems that are still intact. Healthier ecosystems, with richer biodiversity, yield greater benefits such as more fertile soils, bigger yields of timber and fish, and larger stores of greenhouse gases.

Ecosystem restoration can take many forms – for example through actively planting or by removing pressures so that nature can recover on its own. Growing trees, greening cities, rewilding gardens, changing diets or cleaning up rivers and coasts are also all good strategies. It is not always possible – or desirable – to return an ecosystem to its original state. We still need farmland and infrastructure on land that was once forest, for instance, and ecosystems, like societies, need to adapt to a changing climate. This is the generation that can make peace with nature.

Between now and 2030, the restoration of 350 million hectares of degraded terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems could generate US\$9 trillion in ecosystem services. Restoration could also remove 13 to 26 gigatons of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. The economic benefits of such interventions exceed ten times the cost of investment, whereas inaction is at least three times more costly than ecosystem restoration.

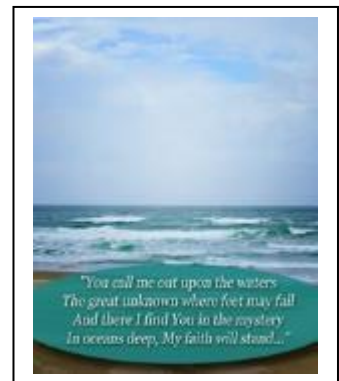
Restoration is a monumental task. Over the next ten years, every action counts. Every single day. Every country, company, organization, and individual has a role to play:

Watch how some Eastern Cape Farmers are really “doing their bit” by [Capturing carbon to restore the land](#).

Today, on World Environment Day, the call goes out to everyone as to what **you** - as an individual, family & community – will be contributing to the **Decade on Ecosystem Restoration**. We don't all live in wonderful patches of wild nature, but no matter where you are, you can choose to contribute to our environment in a positive way.

***What is your action going to be .... today and every day?***

<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>This world is not the accomplishment of a moment of your time, Lord, that we can see clearly.  Those rugged cliffs, thrust from the depths of the sea, filled with the evidence of the past, were not created in the blinking of an eye. The diamond's hardness, did not come suddenly.  This is the work of an infinite patience, the creation of something of which its creator could be pleased.  And now Lord, this infinite patience, this creative love is directed towards us, formed as we are from the very elements of the world in which we live.  Your creative Spirit still at work, tireless, ceaseless, endlessly creating in our hearts the image of your likeness.  The only difference being ... the diamond had no choice in whether it would be transformed into such beauty</p> <p>A rainbow, skilfully painted from the spectrum of colours, contained in your glorious palette.  Warm colours encircling us, embracing this earth, with a promise, a reminder of your covenant with all of your creation.  Such love, eternal and everlasting.  Thank you, Creating God for the beauty of the rainbow and the beauty of your love.  For all that you have made and are going to make.</p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)</b></p> <p>You call me out upon the waters  The great unknown where feet may fail  And there I find You in the mystery  In oceans deep my faith will stand</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I will call upon Your Name  And keep my eyes above the waves  When oceans rise  My soul will rest in Your embrace  For I am Yours and You are mine</p> <p>Your grace abounds in deepest waters  Your sovereign hand will be my guide  Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  You've never failed and You won't start now</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  Let me walk upon the waters  Wherever You would call me  Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  And my faith will be made stronger  In the presence of my Saviour</p> <p>I will call upon Your Name  Keep my eyes above the waves  My soul will rest in Your embrace  I am Yours and You are mine</p> <p><b>Words and Music by Matt Crocker, Joel Houston &amp; Salomon Lightelm</b></p>



Tuesday

8

## World Oceans Day

### 2021 Theme: *The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods*

Today we celebrate United Nations World Oceans Day with the theme of "***The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods***" as we shed light on the wonder of the ocean and how it is our life-source, supporting humanity and every other organism on Earth.



The ocean covers over 70% of the planet. It is our life source, supporting humanity's sustenance and that of every other organism on earth. The ocean produces at least 50% of the planet's oxygen, it is home to most of earth's biodiversity, and is the main source of protein for more than a billion people around the world. Not to mention, the ocean is key to our economy with an estimated 40 million people being employed by ocean-based industries by 2030.



Humanity has defined itself through its relations with the oceans over time culturally, socially and economically. The ocean has become central to maintaining life and livelihoods in every respect. Nevertheless, we have yet to understand our impacts on this life source or to discover its

interconnectivity beneath the surface.

What we do know is that the ocean is now in need of support. With 90% of big fish populations depleted, and 50% of coral reefs destroyed, we are taking more from the ocean than can be replenished. To protect and preserve the ocean and all it sustains, we must create a new balance, rooted in true understanding of the ocean and how humanity relates to it. We must build a connection to the ocean that is inclusive, innovative, and informed by lessons from the past.

### **Prayer:**

Creator God, all your works are wonderful. The earth and the oceans are yours. You made them with your hands and filled them with life both big and small. The oceans teem with your glory, and we are amazed by the beauty you have placed in them.

Almighty and Righteous, you asked us to look after the oceans, yet instead of encouraging them to teem with life as you intended, we have filled them with our waste. Forgive us for our carelessness and ignorance. We are sorry for polluting your creation.

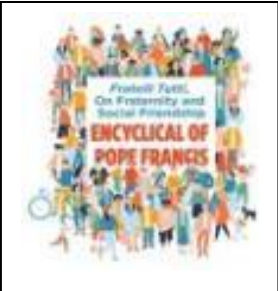
Healer and Redeemer God, you sent your son Jesus Christ to reconcile the whole world to yourself. We pray that your kingdom of healing will come today to your oceans. May your Holy Spirit help us to live lives that honour you and emulate your care for the oceans. May your Holy Spirit act through our politicians so they can work to prevent plastic entering and harming the oceans. May your Holy Spirit work in your Church to equip us to be your hands and feet in facing this problem.


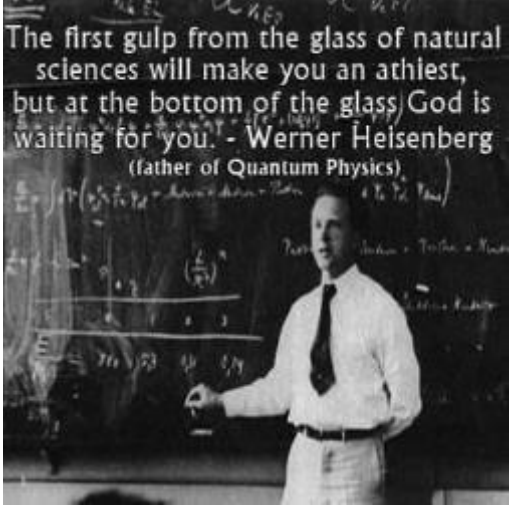
Comforter God, we ask you to help our brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering because of the problem of plastic pollution: the fisherman who pulls up nets full of rubbish, those who suffer health problems due to contaminated seafood, and those whose places of work and leisure are marred by washed up plastic. We place this problem in your hands and ask for your help. May your oceans reflect your glory once again.



In the name of Jesus,

**A Rocha International**

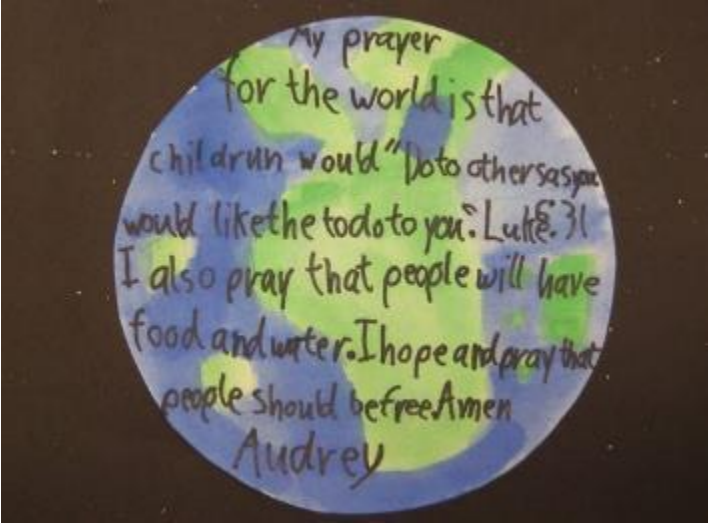

<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>9</p>	<p><b>Encyclical Letter <i>Fratelli Tutti</i> of Pope Francis on the Fraternity and Social Friendship</b></p> <p><b>Globalization and Progress Without a Shared Roadmap</b></p> <p>29. With the Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayyeb, we do not ignore the positive advances made in the areas of science, technology, medicine, industry and welfare, above all in developed countries. Nonetheless, “we wish to emphasize that, together with these historical advances, great and valued as they are, there exists a moral deterioration that influences international action and a weakening of spiritual values and responsibility. This contributes to a general feeling of frustration, isolation and desperation”. We see “outbreaks of tension and a build-up of arms and ammunition in a global context dominated by uncertainty, disillusionment, fear of the future, and controlled by narrow economic interests”. We can also point to “major political crises, situations of injustice and the lack of an equitable distribution of natural resources... In the face of such crises that result in the deaths of millions of children – emaciated from poverty and hunger – there is an unacceptable silence on the international level”.<sup>[27]</sup> This panorama, for all its undeniable advances, does not appear to lead to a more humane future.</p> <p>30. In today’s world, the sense of belonging to a single human family is fading, and the dream of working together for justice and peace seems an outdated utopia. What reigns instead is a cool, comfortable and globalized indifference, born of deep disillusionment concealed behind a deceptive illusion: thinking that we are all-powerful, while failing to realize that we are all in the same boat. This illusion, unmindful of the great fraternal values, leads to “a sort of cynicism. For that is the temptation we face if we go down the road of disenchantment and disappointment... Isolation and withdrawal into one’s own interests are never the way to restore hope and bring about renewal. Rather, it is closeness; it is the culture of encounter. Isolation, no; closeness, yes. Culture clash, no; culture of encounter, yes”.<sup>[28]</sup></p> <p>31. In this world that races ahead, yet lacks a shared roadmap, we increasingly sense that “the gap between concern for one’s personal well-being and the prosperity of the larger human family seems to be stretching to the point of complete division between individuals and human community... It is one thing to feel forced to live together, but something entirely different to value the richness and beauty of those seeds of common life that need to be sought out and cultivated”.<sup>[29]</sup> Technology is constantly advancing, yet “how wonderful it would be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation could come with more equality and social inclusion. How wonderful would it be, even as we discover faraway planets, to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters who orbit around us”.<sup>[30]</sup></p> <p><b><i>Prayerfully consider how this is affecting our own Country</i></b></p>
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<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p>“What is a scientist after all? It is a curious man looking through a keyhole, the keyhole of nature, trying to know what's going on. “</p> <p><b>Jacques Yves Cousteau</b></p>	
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>		
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>Psalm 95</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;</p> <p><sup>7</sup> for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.</p> <p>Today, if only you would hear his voice,</p> <p><sup>8</sup> “Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,<sup>[a]</sup> as you did that day at Massah<sup>[b]</sup> in the wilderness,</p> <p><sup>9</sup> where your ancestors tested me; they tried me, though they had seen what I did.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, ‘They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways.’</p> <p><sup>11</sup> So I declared on oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’</p>	

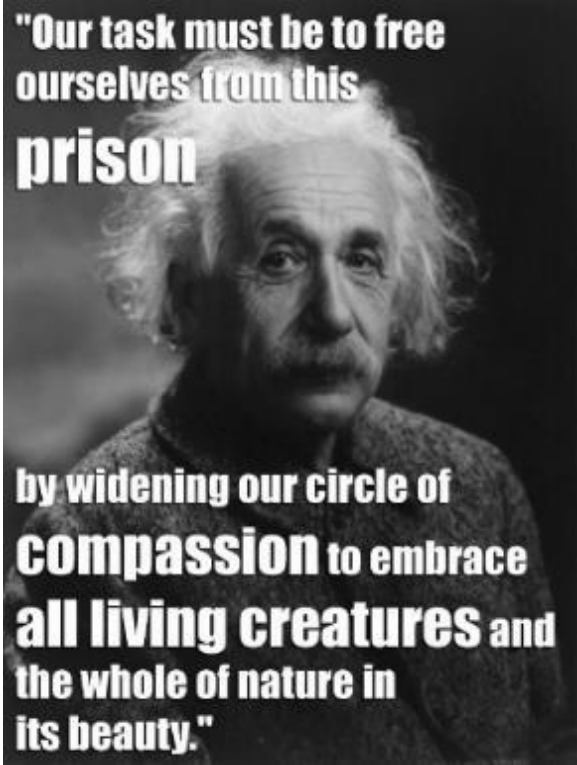

<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>Loving God,          You saw everything that you had made – and it was very good.          We are awed by what we see that is still good but weep for what we have spoilt.          Give us the heart and will in our living and praying to restore all creation to the very good.          So we may show our love to you, the Lord of love. Amen</p> <p><b>Revd. Linda Atkin</b>  <a href="https://greenchristian.org.uk/show-the-love-prayer-2021/">https://greenchristian.org.uk/show-the-love-prayer-2021/</a></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p>14</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p>15</p>	<p><b>Global Wind Day</b></p> <p><i>What is wind?</i> In school we learn that <i>wind</i> is the movement of air, caused by the uneven heating of the earth by the sun and the earth's own rotation. <i>winds</i> range from light breezes to natural hazards such as hurricanes and tornadoes, <i>wind</i> is the movement of air caused by the uneven heating of the earth by the sun.</p> <p>We also learn that wind energy is a clean, renewable energy. Wind energy (or wind power) describes the process by which wind is used to generate electricity. Wind turbines convert the kinetic energy in the wind into mechanical power. A generator can convert mechanical power into electricity. Modern wind turbines are increasingly more powerful and efficient. A single wind turbine of the latest generation can produce approximately 15 million kilowatt-hours per year at a good site.</p> <p><i>Global Wind Day</i> is held annually on 15 June celebrating wind, its power and the possibilities it holds to reshape our energy systems.</p> <p><b>Pray today</b> for all those who are researching and establishing clean and renewable energy from this remarkable power source</p> <p><b>"All praise be yours, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air..."</b></p> 



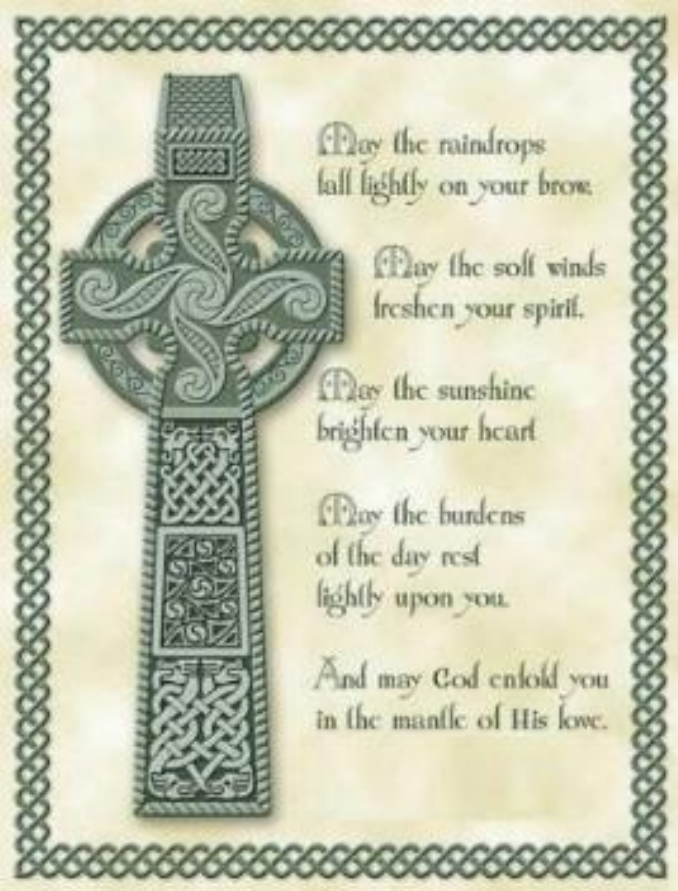
<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>16</p>	<p><b>Youth Day</b></p> 
<p>Thursday</p>	<p>17</p>	<p><b>World Desertification Day</b>  <b>Desertification and Drought Day</b></p> <p><b>2021 Theme: “Restoration. Land. Recovery. We build back better with healthy land”</b> focusing on turning degraded land into healthy land. Restoring degraded land brings economic resilience, creates jobs, raises incomes and increases food security. It helps biodiversity to recover. It locks away the atmospheric carbon warming the Earth, slowing climate change. It can also lessen the impacts of climate change and underpin a green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>  <p>Nearly three quarters of the Earth’s ice-free land has been altered by humans to meet an ever-growing demand for food, raw materials, highways and homes. Fixing damaged ecosystems mitigates against climate change and bolsters nature’s defences against disasters and extreme weather events such as wildfires, droughts, floods, and sand and dust storms. Restoring natural landscapes reduces close contact between wildlife and human settlements, creating a natural buffer against zoonotic diseases.</p> <p>Avoiding, slowing and reversing the loss of productive land and natural ecosystems now is both urgent and important for a swift recovery from the pandemic and for guaranteeing the long-term survival of people and the planet.</p> <p>Investing in healthy land as part of a green recovery is a smart economic decision – not just in terms of creating jobs and rebuilding livelihoods, but in terms of insulating economies against future crises caused by climate change and nature loss, and in accelerating progress on all 17 Sustainable Development Goals as we recover from COVID-19.</p> <p><b><i>This issue is a huge challenge to everyone, and while as individuals we cannot hope to solve the crisis in one foul swoop .... Each of us can play our small part. What will your small part be?</i></b></p>

<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p>Heavenly Father,          You have taught us, through your servant St Francis,          That all creation is your handiwork.          Grant us your grace that we may          Exercise wise stewardship of this Earth;          Tread lightly upon it;          And cherish its resources;          That our children may enjoy its riches, throughout all generations,          And your name be glorified through all that you have made.          Amen.</p> <p><b><i>Rt Revd David Walker</i></b>  <i>Bishop of Manchester</i></p>
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	 <p>Praying for rain and doing nothing          about Climate Change          is like praying for the exams and          not studying</p> 
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>Strength of a Mountain</b></p> <p>God took the strength of a mountain,          The majesty of a tree,          The warmth of a summer sun,          The calm of a quiet sea,          The generous soul of nature,          The comforting arm of night,          The wisdom of the ages,          The power of the eagle's flight,          The joy of a morning in spring,          The faith of a mustard seed,          The patience of eternity,          The depth of a family need,          Then God combined these qualities,          When there was nothing more to add,          He knew His masterpiece was complete,          And so, He called it ... Dad</p> <p><b><i>Author Unknown</i></b></p> 

<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>World Giraffe Day -</b></p> <p>World Giraffe Day is a worldwide celebration of these amazing and much-loved animals, but an annual event to create awareness and shed light on the challenges giraffe face in the wild.</p> <p>As a species, the giraffe remains as vulnerable on the <a href="#">IUCN's Red Data</a> list. While we can celebrate and give thanks that South Africa's giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis angolensis</i>) population remains steady and has "least concern" status (even showing an increase in the past couple of decades), the same cannot be said for other populations across the Continent which range from critically endangered to vulnerable.</p> <div data-bbox="1289 197 1497 427" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="432 645 799 864" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>A silent extinction is happening before our eyes, and to halt this tragedy, scientists are working hard to gain a better understanding of how many giraffe there are, where they live, and how they move and use their habitat, in particular in areas where they share it with people. To this end, scientists working with the <a href="#">Giraffe Conservation Foundation</a> are employing the <a href="#">Twiga Tracker</a>, the largest GPS satellite tracking programme of giraffe in Chad, Kenya, Namibia, Niger, Uganda and Zimbabwe to monitor movements of these majestic creatures as well as initiating anti-poaching tactics where needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Give grateful thanks</b> that the South African giraffe population is stable, and pray that it remains so.</li> <li>• <b>Pray</b> for the plight of giraffe in the rest of Africa, and for the scientists who are working so hard to protect them</li> <li>• <b>Pray</b> that local communities would respect and conserve these amazing gentle giants</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>Stress Ball Prayers</b></p> <p>In these stressful times, an ideal stress reliever is a stress ball. Make your own and then sit quietly (preferably outside in a garden).</p> <p><i>What you need:</i> Flour, balloon, funnel, wool, koki-pen.</p> <p>Fill a balloon with flour using a funnel and a stick to push the flour in to get the balloon nice and filled. Tie off the top of the balloon and decorate it using some wool for hair and draw a little face on it making a little stress ball friend!</p> <div data-bbox="1182 1592 1497 1760" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Stress balls are a wonderful way to help us calm down, allowing us to better live out the direction to be "quick to listen, slow to anger" which can really help us to avoid conflict.</p> <p>Being able to slow down, instead of reacting in anger, is also a really good way to remind ourselves to pray rather than react out of our own emotions, and to pray over how to respond peacefully.</p> <p><b><i>What situations are you praying for peace in right now?</i></b></p>

<p>Wednesday</p>	<p>23</p>	
<p>Thursday</p>	<p>24</p>	<p><b>Through the Window Connecting with Creation even when you can't get outside.</b></p> <p><b>Animals</b>  If you have a pet, sit somewhere where you can see it or even have it on your lap if it is that sort of a pet. If you can see animals outside your window, sit where you can see them. If neither of those is possible find a picture of a favourite animal in a book or on the internet, or feel free to use the picture of the cat on this sheet.</p>  <p><b>Meditation</b>  Animals are many and varied, and sometimes we forget that we are an animal too. In more than one creation story the creator puts the human animal in charge, with the expectation that they will take care of the other animals; wanting what is best for them and being kind to them. Sometimes the human animal forgets this. Sometimes we forget to be kind to other animals, and sometimes we even forget to be kind to ourselves even though we are made in the image of a creator who shows unfailing and never ending compassion.</p> <p><b>Something to think about</b>  If you have a favourite animals, think about why you like them. How do you show kindness to yourself? When have others shown compassion to you?</p> <p><b>Acknowledgment: Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin and St Mary Magdalen, Tetbury</b>  <a href="https://tetburychurch.co.uk/through-the-window-connecting-with-creation-through-lent-even-when-you-cant-get-outside/">https://tetburychurch.co.uk/through-the-window-connecting-with-creation-through-lent-even-when-you-cant-get-outside/</a></p>

<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p>Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies."</p> <p><b><i>Psalm 148:1-4</i></b></p>
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>The True Patterns of the Universe</b></p> <p>Truth is One. If something is spiritually true, then all disciplines and religions will somehow be looking at this "one truth" from different angles, goals, assumptions, and vocabulary. If it is the truth, it is true all the time and everywhere, and sincere lovers of truth will receive it from wherever it comes. CAC teacher Brian McLaren suggests how we might find truth revealed in the patterns of the universe. He writes:</p>  <p>It becomes more obvious the longer you live that all life is full of patterns. Reality is trying to tell us something. Life is speaking to us. There's lots of mystery out there, to be sure, and no shortage of chaos and unpredictability. But there's also lots of meaning . . . messages trying to find expression, music inviting us to listen and sing, patterns attracting our attention and interpretation. The chaos becomes a backdrop for the patterns, and the mysteries seem to beckon us to try to understand. . . .</p> <p>But above and behind and beyond the sometimes confusing randomness of life, something is going on here. From a single molecule to a strand of DNA, from a bird in flight to an ocean current to a dancing galaxy, there's a logic, a meaning, an unfolding pattern to it all.</p> <p>Like wood, reality has a grain. Like a river, it has a current. Like a story, it has characters and setting and conflict and resolution. . . . Creation reveals wisdom through its patterns. It reveals wisdom about its source and purpose and about our quest to be alive . . . if we are paying attention.</p> <p>Of course, we often struggle to know how to interpret those patterns. For example, if a tornado destroys our house, an enemy army drops bombs on our village, a disease takes away someone we love, we lose our job, someone we love breaks our heart, or our best friends betray us, what does that mean? Is the logic of the universe chaos or cruelty? Does might make right? Do violence and chaos rule? Is the Creator capricious, heartless, and evil? If we had only our worst experiences in life to guide us, that might be our conclusion.</p> <p><i>We must honestly admit that we don't always understand the seemingly random forces at play, but if we believe that the Risen Jesus is the full and trustworthy unveiling of the nature of God, then we live in a safe and love-filled universe. Brian continues:</i></p> <p>[Genesis and the Gospel of John] dare us to believe that the universe runs by the logic of creativity, goodness, and love. The universe is God's creative project, filled with beauty, opportunity, challenge, and meaning. It runs on the meaning or pattern we see embodied in the life of Jesus. In this story, pregnancy abounds. Newness multiplies. Freedom grows. Meaning expands. Wisdom flows. Healing happens. Goodness runs wild.</p> <p><b><i>From Richard Rohr's daily meditations</i></b>  <a href="http://www.cac.org">www.cac.org</a></p>

<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p>Protect us, O Lord, from thoughts without action,          Guide us, O Lord, from words without feelings,          Defend us, O Lord, from ideas without results,          And surround us with your presence.          Amen.</p> <p><b>David Adam</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p>“Look around the world. Wherever you damage the environment, you have conflict. We have had enough conflict in South Africa – now is the time for peace.”</p> <p><b>Lewis Pugh</b>  <i>Environmental campaigner, maritime lawyer and endurance swimmer</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p>Give us, Father, we pray, a deeper understanding of your purposes, that we may be steadfast amid the turmoil of our times. May our faith never fail, nor our love grow cold, nor our hope become faint. May we look up and lift our heads as we look for the redemption of your world, through Jesus Christ your Son and our Redeemer.          Amen.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	 <p>May the raindrops          fall lightly on your brow.</p> <p>May the soft winds          freshen your spirit.</p> <p>May the sunshine          brighten your heart.</p> <p>May the burdens          of the day rest          lightly upon you.</p> <p>And may God enfold you          in the mantle of His love.</p>

