



# JAEI

## August 2021 Environmental Prayer Diary

**August is Women's month**

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

### **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

### **The Frontliners**

Dear Heroes of the front lines, indeed.  
Offering your service to those in need.  
In you a weariness that begs for relief.  
From the agony of such incredible grief.

Dear Front line Heroes behind the mask  
Committed to such a heart wrenching task  
Relentlessly you work to serve  
With hope to see that declining curve.

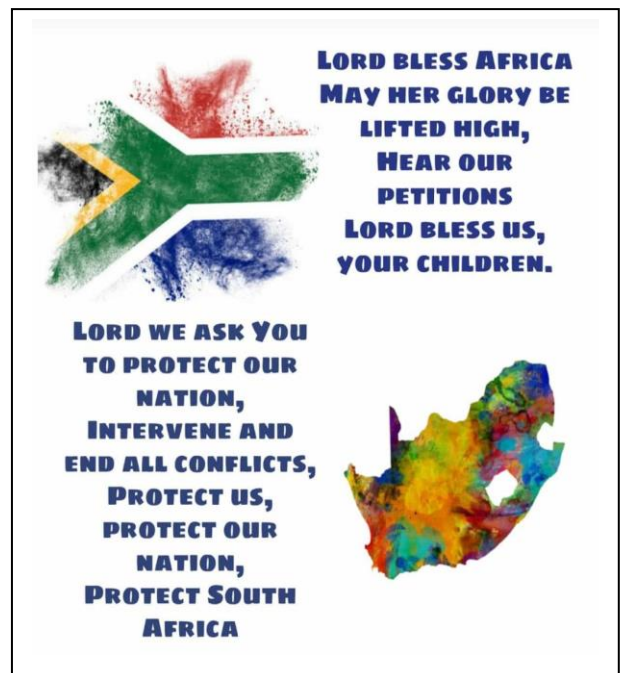
Tears of sorrow fill your eyes  
For some may live and many will die  
So afraid of what cannot be seen  
And well beyond a horrific dream


Like soldiers, you have held your ground  
Believing a cure would soon be found  
Front line heroes, brave to the last  
Keep faith in your Lord for this too will pass.

Retreat not from hope, do not despair  
For surely God is always near  
Know that all things are in His plan  
We may not always understand.

And if Angels resided on earth, abound  
As you, on the front line they would be found  
Dear Front liners, know this to be true  
Gods' Mercy is present in all that you do.



**O. Abdul Alim**



<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad  <b>Let the distant shores rejoice</b>  By your word all things were created  each in its allotted space and time.  You breathed life through your Spirit  and in the whisper of the wind we are reminded  of your Spirit's continual presence.</p> <p>The Lord reigns let the earth be glad  <b>Let the distant shores rejoice</b>  The whole of creation declares your glory, Lord.  A symphony of sound and colour surround us  if we will for a moment stand  with eyes and ears attuned.</p> <p>The Lord reigns let the earth be glad  <b>Let the distant shores rejoice</b>  The whole of humankind declares your glory, Lord.  Each precious son or daughter a unit of love  in the currency of your family.</p> <p>The Lord reigns let the earth be glad  <b>Let the distant shores rejoice</b>  Now in our worship we declare your glory, Lord.  Proclaim your Kingdom to the ends of the earth  your love to the highest mountain  your forgiveness to the depths of the sea.</p> <p>The Lord reigns let the earth be glad  <b>Let the distant shores rejoice</b>  <b>Praise to the Lord of Creation</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Women are known for never taking a backseat when it comes to conservation. The world has been graced with many fearless stalwarts who have led in the way of wildlife conservation. Every day, these heroines put it all on the line in a concerted effort to battle wildlife trafficking, poaching, and the destruction of the habitat of at-risk species, preventing the decimation of our wildlife populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Give thanks for all women who are involved in conservation and environmental care.</b></li> <li>• <b>Pray for their protection and strength in their work.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>“Every creature is a glittering, glistening mirror of Divinity.”</p> <p><b>Hildegard of Bingen</b></p> 

<p><b>Wednesday</b> 4</p>	<p><b>A Story of the sunflower</b></p> <p>It is incredible to watch life flow through nature; the way the waves rise and fall at the beach, the way the sun and moon dance their routine of day and night, the way a flower grows and blooms from a tiny seed.</p> <p>Behind the beauty of nature lies an awe-inspiring God.</p> <p>I am filled with wonder as I see his painted skies each day, and as I notice the way He clothes every living thing with garments more intricate than what our top fashion designers could imagine. Just think of the many unique patterns on a butterfly's wings for example, the many different shapes flower petals can have. We are always discovering new species, new flora and fauna.</p> <p>Perhaps as we seek to understand earth's nature more, we will also grow to understand the nature of God who made it all.</p> <p>Recently, I harvested some giant sunflowers. It is one thing to sow a seed and watch it grow yourself, but quite another to share the process with others. What started as a joke comment turned into reality when some friends at church allocated a spot for my husband and I to sow sunflowers; a spot in their orchard.</p> <p>Our friend handed my husband a pole, and he dug out some holes. I placed a seed in each hole, and our friend watered the plants on his land. Then, we all waited as our Creator God caused the plants to grow, flower and seed.</p> <p>The bees came to visit with yellow pollen all over their little heads, and the sunflowers moved to follow the travelling sun wherever it went.</p> <p>We were updated on the progress of our sunflowers as they grew taller than us, and we tasted the seeds once the flower had passed. At every stage of the sunflower's growth, there was something new to learn, something new to see, and people to share the news with.</p> <p>These sunflowers reminded me of how God grows His people and His church. 1 Corinthians chapter 3, verse 6 says, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."</p> <p>As God's church, we each have different roles, different spiritual gifts, and different areas of influence. Yet we have one Spirit that binds us all in Christ, and it is God Himself who makes a person grow. It is God who matures faith, gives the spiritual harvest and causes love to abound. His harvest is abundant, and He sends many workers into His field.</p> <p>There are those who identify hearts ready to receive a seeded word of God, and those who prepare that heart for the sowing. They dig deep to know, understand and love the people around them.</p> <p>There are sowers who speak the word of God to others through encouragement, prophecy and evangelism. There are the ones who water, faithfully and steadfastly pouring streams of God's living water on the thirsty souls.</p>
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		<p>Then, there are the seeds themselves. Soaking in the presence of the Almighty God, they are nurtured and watered until God's good work springs up in them, breaks through their earthen grave and shoots up into life.</p> <p>These are the sunflowers of God's kingdom. These are the followers of the Son and wherever He goes, they also go. The glory of God seen in their life attracts others to come and experience it. The messengers hear, experience life in Christ, and transport it to others with the glow of God's goodness all over their faces.</p> <p>When all is over and done, the sunflower makes some seeds. These are the promises that another generation of souls won to the Lord will soon be seen. While not every seed sown will produce a sunflower, God will always make some to rise up and blossom in the beauty of His amazing love.</p> <p>We plant, and we water, but it is God who grows the seed.</p> <p><b>Kristen Dang</b>  <a href="https://christiantoday.com.au/news/story-of-the-sunflower.html">https://christiantoday.com.au/news/story-of-the-sunflower.html</a></p> 
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>“Education, if it means anything, should not take people away from the land, but instil in them even more respect for it, because educated people are in a position to understand what is being lost. The future of the planet concerns all of us, and all of us should do what we can to protect it. As I told the foresters, and the women, you don't need a diploma to plant a tree.”</p> <p><b>Wangari Maathai</b>  <i>Nobel Peace Prize Laureate</i></p> 

Saturday

7

## Anglican Bishops call for halt to oil drilling in the Kavango basin, Namibia

Bishop Luke Pato, the Bishop of Namibia alerted the Anglican Church that exploratory drilling for oil and gas has commenced in the Kavango Basin, Namibia, by Canadian Company ReConAfrica, *In response the Synod of Bishops has drawn up a petition calling for the immediate halt to the drilling.*

“The process has not been an open one, with Namibians waking up to a mining venture that has already been signed and settled. There are many questions to be answered.” Bishop of Namibia, Rt Rev Luke Pato

Thirty-four bishops and three Archbishops from around the world have signed a petition calling for the immediate halt to the drilling. These include the Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Revd Dr Thabo Makgoba; Archbishop Julio Murray, chair, Anglican Communion Environmental Network; the Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, Archbishop and Primate, Anglican Church of Canada; Archbishop Mark Macdonald, National Indigenous Archbishop, Anglican Church of Canada; and Bishop Kito Pikaahu Chair of Anglican Indigenous Network, and the Bishop of Salisbury, the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, lead Bishop for the Environment, Church of England.

Since the oil company is based in Canada, the petition was also signed by Lori Ransom, Interim Executive Director: Kairos: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives

The petition was handed over in early March to the Government of Namibia, the Namibian Consulate in Cape Town, and the Headquarters of ReconAfrica in Vancouver and the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise.”

Canadian oil company ReconAfrica has bought rights to drill for oil in more than 35 000 square kilometres of the Kavango Basin in Namibia. This environmentally sensitive, protected area supplies water to the Okavango Delta, is a World Heritage and Ramsar Wetland Site, a Key Biodiversity Area and one of the seven natural wonders of Africa. The region is home to the largest remaining population of African elephants, 400 species of birds and is a sanctuary for many other animals. It is protected under the protocol of the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission.

The Bishops are protesting for the following reasons:

### 1. **Indigenous Rights**

This exploration violates San rights under the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous people. It affects three regional UNESCO heritage sites: The Okavango Delta, the Tsodilo Hills and the San Living Cultural Landscape.



*Bishop Raphael Hess and Bishop Margaret Vertue hand over the petition to the Hon. Sarafina Tshilunga, Consul-General of Namibia in Cape Town, accompanied by the Revd Dr Rachel Mash, the Province's Environmental Coordinator.*

'Unconventional oil and gas' exploration and extraction will bring roads, heavy trucks, ribbon development and pollution.

## **2. Water Scarcity**

Water is a scarce and precious commodity in Namibia, the driest country south of the Sahara. Grave concerns about the potential damage that ReconAfrica's planned 'unconventional drilling' will do to groundwater have been expressed by a specialist from the Geological Survey of Namibia and the general public.

## **3. Impact on Climate Change**

According to the ReconAfrica website, "oil generated in the basin could be billions of barrels" <sup>i</sup>, and be the "biggest oil play of the decade." Namibia is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change. With almost unrivalled solar energy potential, extracting 'billions of barrels of oil,' makes no sense. Reducing carbon emissions is a global responsibility.

## **4. Inadequate Public Participation Process**

Indications are that the deal between ReconAfrica and the Government of the Republic of Namibia were concluded behind closed doors. Initial meetings were only held in Northern Namibia. Only under duress was a further meeting organised in Windhoek, the capital city. Concerns raised by local activists have been belittled and *The Namibian*, the national newspaper which broke the story, is being threatened with legal action.



## **5. Inadequate Environmental Impact Assessment**

The EIA submitted by ReconAfrica does not comply with strict Namibian Government standards.

## **6. Moral and Spiritual Concerns**

ReconAfrica claims that drilling the Kavango basin is "pretty much a no-brainer..." The Bishops call it a sin.

Drilling in the Kavango Basin will fracture its geological structure and destroy the water system that supports this unique ecosystem and wildlife sanctuary. In so doing, it will also disrupt to the livelihoods of the indigenous people.

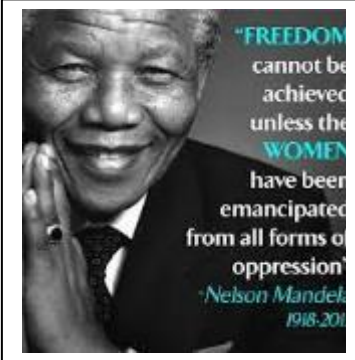
Based on the principle of restorative social and environmental justice, the Bishops call upon the international community to support Namibia and Botswana to develop renewable energy systems and help safeguard the precious Kavango ecosystem.

***Pray that the Bishops' call and the petition to end the drilling in the Kavango basin is accepted and heeded and that the drilling ceases forthwith.***

<https://anglicanchurchsa.org/bishops-call-for-end-to-oil-drilling-in-namibia/>



<https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2021/03/anglican-bishops-call-for-a-halt-in-oil-drilling-in-namibias-kavango-basin.aspx>

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202103120684.htm> |

<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p>Creator God,          We acknowledge that as your handiwork,          we stand alongside all that you have made.          Trees and rivers, mountains and valleys,          soaring birds and scuttling creatures,          all are held within your care.          May we grow in our love and appreciation          for the fabulous variety around us;          and may our awe and wonder draw us closer          to the natural world, and through it to you,          the God of all things.          We pray in Jesus name,          Amen</p> <p><b>Revd Cate Williams,</b>  <i>Mission and Evangelism Officer, Diocese of Gloucester</i></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Women's Day</b></p> <p>On this Women's Day,          as we celebrate and give thanks for the achievements of women,          we remember the women who have played a part in our lives.          Those who have          nurtured us, taught us, inspired us, loved us.</p> <p>Forgive us when we have limited women          through inequality,          by stereotype, by exclusion, through lack of          opportunity.</p> <p>On this Women's Day,          as we acknowledge the challenges women still          face,          we pray that all women may know equality          of healthcare, of education, of wealth, of prospects.</p> <p>We pray that all women may know themselves to be          respected, safe, included, empowered.</p> <p>We ask these things in the name of Jesus          in whom there is neither male nor female.          Amen.</p> 

<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>World Lion Day</b></p> <p>World Lion Day is a day for people to come together from across the world to pay tribute to the mighty lion in as many ways as possible. Like many of the world's animal species, the African lion is endangered. Threatened by habitat loss and rampant poaching, wild numbers of these animals have dipped to an all-time low.</p> <p>However, at the beginning of May this year, there was some good news when Minister Creecy of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) announced that the South African government has made a landmark decision to end the nation's captive lion breeding industry. This includes closing down facilities that offer touristic experiences like canned hunting and lion petting, and halting the commercial use of captive lions and their derivatives.</p> <p>This is a landmark achievement, but unfortunately may well pose the risk of increased poaching and illegal trade in these majestic animals.</p> <p><b><i>Pray that poaching and the illegal trade will be curbed.</i></b></p> <div data-bbox="1177 197 1485 483" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="432 622 954 965" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<div data-bbox="643 1178 1278 1809" data-label="Image"> </div>



<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>World Elephant Day</b></p> <p>World Elephant Day was created to bring the world together to help elephants. It is a day to honour elephants, to spread awareness about the critical threats they are facing, and to support positive solutions that will help ensure their survival.</p>  <p>Following population declines over several decades due to poaching for ivory and loss of habitat, the African forest elephant (<i>Loxodonta cyclotis</i>), which is found in Central and West Africa, is now listed as Critically Endangered and the African savanna elephant (<i>Loxodonta africana</i>) as Endangered on the <a href="#">IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™</a>. Previously, African elephants were treated as a single species, listed as Vulnerable; and this is the first time the two species have been assessed separately for the IUCN Red List, following the emergence of new genetic evidence.</p>  <p><i>African forest elephant</i></p> <p>Africa's elephants play key roles in ecosystems, economies and in our collective imagination all over the world. The new IUCN Red List assessments of both African elephant species underline the persistent pressures faced by these iconic animals. It is clear that poaching must be stopped and that governments ensure that sufficient suitable habitat for both forest and savanna elephants is conserved. Several African countries have led the way in recent years, proving that elephant declines can be reversed, and all must work together to ensure their example can be followed.</p> <p>Despite the overall declining trend of both African elephant species, the assessments also highlight the impact of successful conservation efforts. Anti-poaching measures on the ground, together with more supportive legislation and land use planning which seeks to foster human-wildlife coexistence, have been key to successful elephant conservation.</p> <p><b><i>Pray for all in elephant conservation and research efforts</i></b>, such as <a href="#">WWF's African Elephant Programme</a> and <a href="#">Elephants Without Borders</a></p>
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Friday

13

### Song of the Wild

Will you come back with Me to the birth of the Earth,  
Before all its life forms evolved?  
Will you sing with the heavens amazed at the sight:  
A planet with secrets to unfold?

Will you praise,  
Be amazed  
With eyes as wide as a child's?  
Will you praise,  
Be amazed  
And sing  
The song of the wild?





Will you walk home with Me on the way to the wild  
And watch baby birds break from their shells?  
Do you know how I serve as a mid-wife to all,  
The lion, the lizard and gazelle?



Will you gather with Me as the wading birds dance,  
Preparing to migrate North once more?  
Can you fathom the code I have fixed in their souls  
To navigate oceans when they roar?


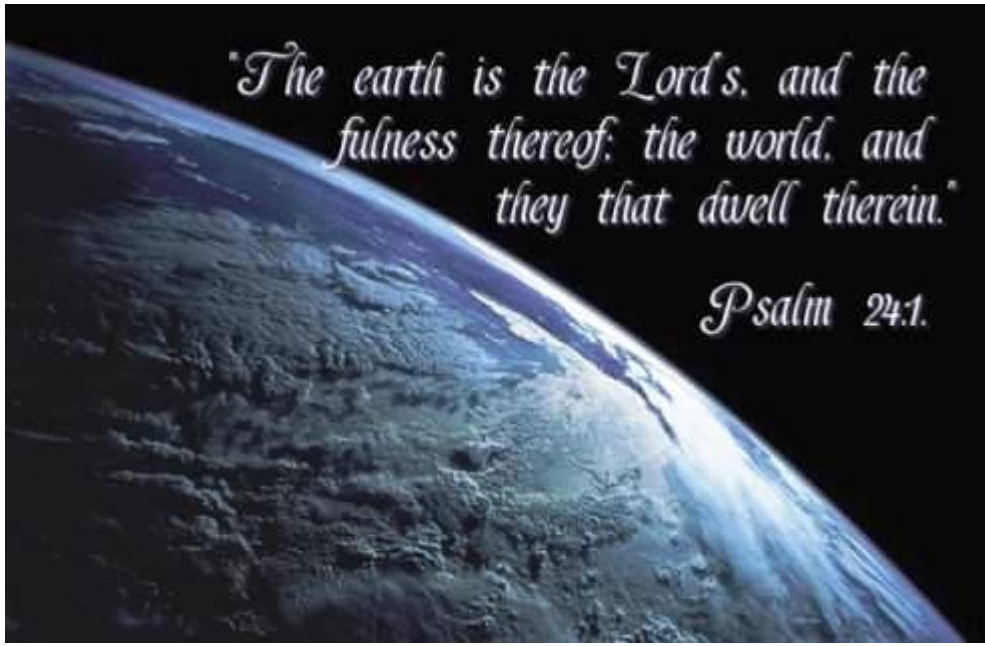
Will you sleep with your God in the desert one night  
And wake with the creatures of the sand?  
Can you fathom the wisdom instilled in their mind  
To live without water, sun or man?

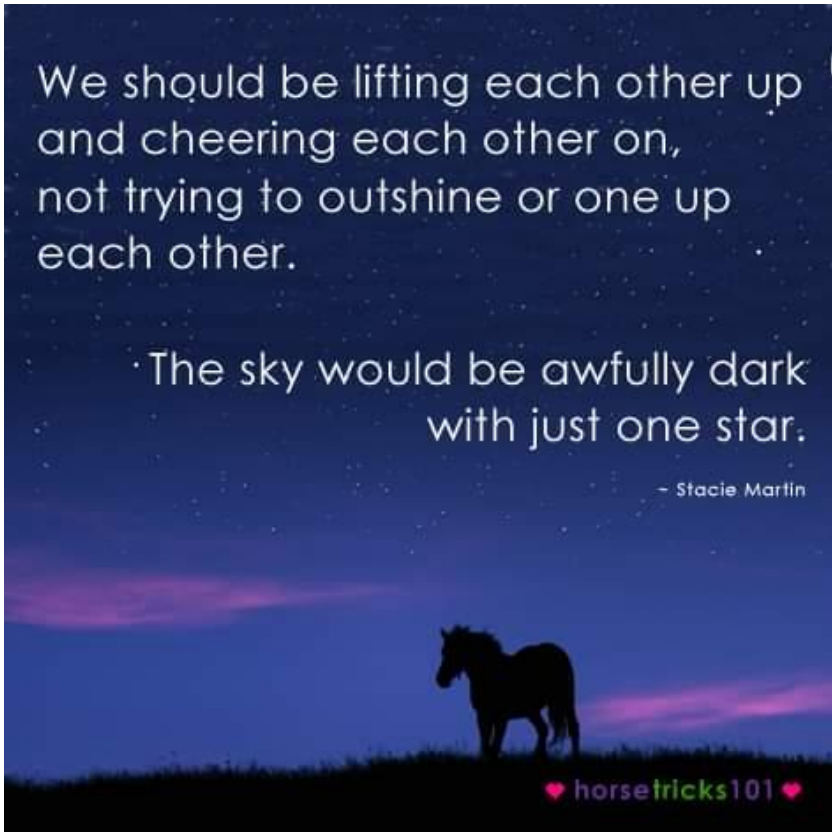
If you don't feel at home with the rain forest snakes  
If you're troubled when creatures change their skin,  
Then surrender the claim that you rule on this Earth  
And discover creation as your kin.


**Words: © Norman Habel 2000**


<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p>14</p>	
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p>15</p>	<p>Creator God,  Thank you for the waters of the earth,  for the life-sustaining rains,  lakes, and deep oceans.  Keep us mindful of how precious these are,  and how vulnerable they are.  Help us to work together for clean water,  and for the sharing of it with those who have need of it today.  Amen.</p> <p><b><i>Rt Revd Christine Hardman</i></b>  <i>Bishop of Newcastle</i></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p>16</p>	<p><b>Sleeping In The Forest</b></p> <p>“I thought the earth remembered me,  she took me back so tenderly,  arranging her dark skirts, her pockets  full of lichens and seeds.  I slept as never before, a stone on the river bed,  nothing between me and the white fire of the stars  but my thoughts, and they floated light as moths  among the branches of the perfect trees.  All night I heard the small kingdoms  breathing around me, the insects,  and the birds who do their work in the darkness.  All night I rose and fell, as if in water,  grappling with a luminous doom. By morning  I had vanished at least a dozen times  into something better.”</p> <p><b><i>Mary Oliver</i></b></p> 

<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p>Redeemer God          Have mercy on us for our over consumption of the world's resources,          For our lack of responsibility in devastating the habitats of your creatures,          For our thoughtlessness in filling the world with our rubbish,          For the pursuit of economic growth which leaves our brothers and sisters in poverty.          Forgive us our selfishness, that has led to this climate crisis, and bring us together as One World for Now is the Time to Act.</p> <p><b>Maureen Thompson</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	
<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>International Orangutan Day</b></p> <p>International Orangutan Day is a day on which we focus attention on the conservation status of the wild Orangutans facing extinction in their home rainforest habitats on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo. Rainforests on these two islands are being destroyed to grow Palm Oil trees and with palm oil an ingredient in half of the products in supermarkets we should check that the products we buy use palm oil from ethically produced sources.</p>  <p><b>Are you aware of the palm oil content in the products you use?</b></p>

<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>World Mosquito Day</b></p> <p><b>World Mosquito Day</b> is observed to spread awareness about diseases caused by mosquitoes. Assisting the people to take precautions regarding the spread of Malaria and other deadly diseases caused by mosquitoes is a primary activity for the day. The day is also celebrated to appreciate the efforts taken by healthcare officials, NGOs and government agencies in helping people fight against various incurable diseases caused by Malaria.</p> <p>Mosquito menace is a big problem worldwide. A small puddle of stagnant water causes mosquito breeding, leading to an infestation in that area. A simple mosquito bite could act as a carrier of many deadly diseases in humans such as. Malaria, dengue, chikungunya, encephalitis.</p> <p>As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads rapidly around the globe, there is an urgent need to aggressively tackle the coronavirus while ensuring that other killer diseases, such as malaria, are not neglected. While malaria and COVID-19 can have similar presentation with a number of common symptoms which may lead to misdiagnosis of malaria for COVID-19 and vice versa, particularly when clinician relies mainly on symptoms. The WHO Global Malaria Programme is leading a cross-partner effort to mitigate the negative impact of the coronavirus in malaria-affected countries and, where possible, contribute towards a successful COVID-19 response.</p> <p>Let us beat the stress of Malaria with mosquito nets, repellents and knowledge to overcome the mosquito menace.</p> <p><b><i>Pray for all who are involved in research and response in the Covid-19/Malaria struggle.</i></b></p> 
<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	 <p><i>'The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.'</i></p> <p><i>Psalm 24:1.</i></p>


<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p>Creator God          In bright light and dull darkness          In the energy of each day and the rest that comes with night  <b>We remember the goodness of God</b>          In the heavens high above our heads          In waters that run deep around the world  <b>We remember the goodness of God</b>          In solid land and flowing seas          In vivid flowers and fruit laden-trees  <b>We remember the goodness of God</b>          In the rising and setting of the sun          and the cycles of the seasons          In the patterns of the shining stars  <b>We remember the goodness of God</b>          In oceans teeming with fish          In skies filled with birds  <b>We remember the goodness of God</b>          In a world filled with animal life          And in ourselves as human beings  <b>We remember the goodness of God</b>          And God looked and saw all that he had made, and indeed it was very, very good.          In rest and reflection, in wonder and worship  <b>We remember the goodness of God.</b>  <b>Amen</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	 <p>We should be lifting each other up          and cheering each other on,          not trying to outshine or one up          each other.</p> <p>The sky would be awfully dark          with just one star.</p> <p>- Stacie Martin</p> <p>horse tricks 101</p>

<p><b>Tuesday</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>Job 12:1-12</b></p> <p>Then Job replied:</p> <p><sup>2</sup>“Doubtless you are the only people who matter, and wisdom will die with you!</p> <p><sup>3</sup>But I have a mind as well as you; I am not inferior to you. Who does not know all these things?</p> <p><sup>4</sup>“I have become a laughingstock to my friends, though I called on God and he answered— a mere laughingstock, though righteous and blameless!</p> <p><sup>5</sup>Those who are at ease have contempt for misfortune as the fate of those whose feet are slipping.</p> <p><sup>6</sup>The tents of marauders are undisturbed, and those who provoke God are secure— those God has in his hand.<sup>[a]</sup></p> <p><sup>7</sup>“But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you;</p> <p><sup>8</sup>or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you.</p> <p><sup>9</sup>Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this?</p> <p><sup>10</sup>In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.</p> <p><sup>11</sup>Does not the ear test words as the tongue tastes food?</p> <p><sup>12</sup>Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p>“Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature—the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter.”</p> <p><b>Rachel Carson</b> <i>Catalyst for the modern environmental movement and author of Silent Spring</i></p> 

<p><b>Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>World Wild Dog Day</b></p> <p>Southern Africa’s most endangered large carnivore and one of the most endangered carnivore species in the world, the Wild Dog, is the flagship species of the Endangered Wildlife Threatened Carnivore Conservation Group.</p> <p>The Wild Dog has been the focus of a major long-term study programme in the Kruger National Park since 1989, sponsored by the <a href="#">Endangered Wildlife Trust</a>. The Greater Kruger National Park contains the only viable South African population of <a href="#">Wild Dogs</a>. Information and knowledge gained from this study has been used to improve management strategies for the species.</p> <p>This population has fluctuated significantly during this time ranging from less than 200 animals to approximately 400. Impala, the major prey species of the Wild Dog provide adequate food for adults and their pups.</p> <p>The Wild Dog is a highly social species that lives in packs. Normally only the alpha male and female breed and other pack members help to raise the pups. Attempts are being made to improve the Wild Dog population in South Africa by introducing the dogs into other reserves and managing these sub-populations as a single meta-population.</p> <p>In 1997, a PHVA (Population and Habitat Viability Assessment) for the conservation of Wild Dogs was held in Pretoria and the Wild Dog Advisory Group (WAG) was formed as a result of this workshop. WAG’s major objective is the establishment of a second viable Wild Dog population. This is an ongoing effort.</p> <p><b><i>Pray for all involved in this critical research and programme management and that funding would be made available for this important work.</i></b></p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p>I’ve always loved butterflies, because they remind us that it’s never too late to transform ourselves.</p> <p><small>-Drew Barrymore-</small></p> 





<p><b>Saturday</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p>The world around us is full of beauty  <b>We praise your name O God.</b>  For the gift of life on earth  <b>We praise your name O God.</b>  Open our eyes to see your artistry  <b>Your image in all that you have made.</b>  Where our praise is short or silent  <b>All creation sings out with joy.</b>  Here we join creation's song  <b>We praise your name O God</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>African Traditional Medicine (uMuthi) Day</b></p> <p>Traditional African medicine is a holistic discipline involving the use of indigenous herbalism combined with aspects of African spirituality.</p> <p>About 80% of Africa's population relies on uMuthi for their basic health needs. Traditional medicine is often the only healthcare service that is available, accessible and affordable to many people on the continent. The word 'uMuthi' translates in isiZulu as 'tree' confirming that much of the medicine is of plant origin and the industry needs to be regulated if we are to manage our indigenous vegetation resources.</p>  <p><b><i>Pray for those involved in negotiations in this matter</i></b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>Acts of environmental degradation could soon be classified as international criminal offenses if a newly drafted definition of 'ecocide' is adopted. The drafted definition has been put together by legal minds from around the world under the Stop Ecocide Foundation and with hopes that it will be adopted by the International Criminal Court. The draft proposal ...defines ecocide as "unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelihood of severe and widespread or long-term damage to the environment." It comes at a time when there are concerns that not enough is been done to tackle the climate crisis. The aim is to get the law adopted by ICC member states, consequently forcing leaders of ICC signatory countries to take actions that prevent gross environmental destruction. If adopted, ecocide would become the fifth offence prosecuted by the ICC alongside crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide and the crime of aggression.</p> <p><b><i>Pray for those working on this draft proposal to be inspired by truth and justice</i></b></p> <p><a href="https://inhabitat.com/legal-experts-draft-a-definition-of-ecocide-to-help-protect-the-planet/">https://inhabitat.com/legal-experts-draft-a-definition-of-ecocide-to-help-protect-the-planet/</a></p> <p><i>Acknowledgement: <a href="https://greenchristian.org.uk/resources/prayer-guide/">https://greenchristian.org.uk/resources/prayer-guide/</a></i></p>

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