

DAY 6 – Friday 15th May

Read – Genesis 1 : 24 – 31

²⁴ *And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds : the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.*

²⁶ *Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,^[a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

²⁷ *So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

²⁸ *God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”*

²⁹ *Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.*

³¹ *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.*

Reflect

The reading for today depicts the vast array of creatures, including human beings, all sharing a home on planet earth.

We have seen this in the stories from Kenya as families and their livestock thrive when water is plentiful. Donkeys have the strength to carry water. Goats and cows can provide milk for breakfast, helping the children concentrate at school.

Another Kenyan lady, Rosalia, used to collect water from 6am to 6pm but thanks to the nearby 'dry dam' it takes her just 30 minutes. She is a climate change champion. She says "We are making ourselves the first on the frontline of climate change. I feel happy that I can call it my 'earth' dam, and that makes me so happy!"

Pray

God of life, Water of life, who quenches all our thirsts, become in us a spring that gushes up to eternal life, flowing through our giving, acting and praying that all may drink deeply from your abundance and all of creation may thrive.

Amen.

Meditate

Water is so essential to life, it is no wonder that Jesus says He is the 'Living Water' and invites whoever thirsts to come to join Him (John 4 : 1-15).

Pray that the words of Jesus will speak to the thirsty parts of our soul and our societies.

What is this unquenchable thirst that keeps the global economy consuming more and more resources which perpetuate the climate crisis?

Pray that the global economy may stop driving climate change and that, together, we may be able to tackle the root causes of inequality, allowing life on Earth to thrive.

Take time to reflect on all that you have learned about in this devotional.

Consider what your action might be in response.