

DAY 7 – Saturday 16th May

Read – Genesis 2 : 1 – 4

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Adam and Eve

⁴ This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.....

Amen.

Reflect

God rested when the work of creation was done.

In the Sabbath, the time of rest, we find a radical alternative to the current economical thirst for more.

The Sabbath emphasizes the need for restoration for people and the Earth.

Rosalia (who we heard about yesterday) understands this need to restore the land. She has planted 120 trees. “Now that we have a water point nearby, even the children can come and fetch water” she says. “The Grandchildren grow trees at home.”

Pray

God of the Sabbath, forgive us for ignoring the rhythms of nature for over extending the Earth and each other.

Instil in us sustainable ways of resting and enjoying the goodness of your creation and protecting the earth with all our Brothers and Sisters throughout the world.

Amen.

Meditate

Where are your nearest trees? Do you appreciate them for their beauty, for the home they provide, for the insects and the birds and the shelter they give and the life-giving oxygen which they freely give to the world?

We often seek rest and relaxation in nature. As well as admiring the beauty of creation, how might our resting help in restoring the Earth? The trees of the Bible, from the Garden of Eden to the city of Revelation, take on a renewed significance in this era of climate emergency.