

ACTIONS

1. Pray / share this prayer with your family, friends, coworkers and your faith community.
2. Think about how you may **reduce** your consumption, **reuse** what you already have and **recycle** what you no longer need. That is to say, live simply so others may simply live.
3. Say no to the Pentagon and all its wars and preparations for war, which is the nation's worst polluter.

Note: Other peace leaflets produced by 8th Day Center can be found at www.8thdaycenter.org/resources/leaflets.html You may wish to use them for your own vigils, in classrooms, etc.

Become an Associate of the 8th Day Center for Justice by making a donation at www.8thdaycenter.org/joinus/donations.html Or you may send a check.

By your financial support for our justice work, you will receive *Centerings* – our quarterly magazine – regular email bulletins on timely issues, our environmental online magazine and the use of our extensive libraries.

8th Day Center for Justice
*A Catholic Faith-based NGO
for Social Change*

Celebrating



35 Years

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A PRAYER FOR EARTH DAY



Earth Day, celebrated April 22, is a day designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment of which we are all a part.

It was founded by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson as an environmental teach-in in 1970 and is celebrated in many countries every year.

The United Nations celebrates an Earth Day each year on the March equinox, a tradition which was founded by peace activist John McConnell in 1969.

NEW GENESIS - A PRAYER

(adapted from a text by Robert Muller)

In a new beginning, that is, today, the Spirit of God again moved over the earth.

And God saw that all nations of the earth, black and white, poor and rich, from North and South, from East and West, and of all creeds were sending their emissaries to a tall glass house of United Nations, to study together, to think together and to care together for the world and all its people.

ALL: And God said: That is Good.
And it was the first day of the New Age of the Earth.

And God saw the keepers of peace were separating the combatants of quarreling nations, that differences were being resolved by negotiation and reason instead of arms, and that the leaders of nations were seeing each other, talking to each other and joining their hearts, minds, souls and strength for the benefit of all humanity.

ALL: And God said: That is Good.
And it was the second day of the Earth at Peace.

And God saw that humans were loving

the entire creation, the stars and the sun, the day and the night, the air and the oceans, the earth, and the waters, the fish and the birds, the flowers and the herbs, and all their human brothers and sisters.

ALL: And God said: That is good.
And it was the third day of the Earth of Joy.

Our every action -- individually and collectively -- impacts the earth, our home.

And God saw that humans were suppressing hunger, disease, ignorance and suffering all over the globe, providing each human person with a decent, conscious and happy life, and reducing the greed and undue influence of those with exorbitant wealth.

ALL: And God said: That is good.
And it was the fourth day of the Earth of Justice.

And God saw that humans were living in harmony with their planet and in peace with one another, wisely managing their resources, avoiding waste, curbing excesses, replacing hatred with love, greed with contentment, arrogance with humility, division with cooperation, and mistrust with understanding.

ALL: And God said: That is good
And it was the fifth day of the new Ecosystems of the Earth.

And God saw that the people's efforts at diplomacy, justice, and care for creation turned the hearts of vengeful people from hate, to understanding, and finally, after much work, to love. Faith, hope and love replaced mistrust, fear and hurt.

ALL: And God said: That is good.
And it was the sixth day of the Earth of Cooperation and Reason.

And God saw humans restore God and the dignity of the human person and creation as the Alpha and Omega, placing institutions, beliefs, politics, governments, and all human entities in the service of God, the people and the planet.

And God saw them adopt as their supreme law: "You shall love God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no greater commandment than these.

ALL: And God said: That is good.
And it was the Seventh day of the Earth of God.

*For more info on Earth Day, see
Earth Day 2009: the Green Generation
www.earthday.net/earthday2009*