

## **THY KINGDOM COME-EARTH, AIR, FIRE AND WATER**

### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

The almost stillness of a summer day, stirred by the slightest breeze. The first hairline crack, spreading across the smoothness of an eggshell, battered from within. The smudge on the skyline, as our eyes discern a new arrival, as yet unformed in our vision. We wait in this moment, a pause which is not a pause, the droplets of time between Ascension and Pentecost. Stir our senses to the world which surrounds us, visible and invisible. Like the Sacraments which you impart, we are caught between two realities, the universal heartbeat of the now and the not yet. As we meditate in upon your working through Earth, Air, Fire and Water, draw us deeper into the mysteries of your love. **Amen**

### **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

Eons before the first feet trod above, mineral treasures formed below, forged in secret without our hands. Harvested now by human ingenuity, we choose their destiny, moulding them as a child plays with clay. Iron has no independent will to become surgical steel, or the barrel of a gun. And yet, we are not independent of the Earth which we walk. Our bodies are born from the same swirling, ancient dust which grew into mountains and hills, rivers and oceans, planets and stars. We are woven from the fabric of Creation, but tasked with its care. Guide us to be responsible stewards of the Earth from which we are made, teach us to use its resources with wisdom and respect, mindful of the needs of others, living and yet to live. **Amen.**

### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

Unseen, unhurried, a gentle breeze brings pollen which will find its future in rippling stalks of wheat. Wild and high wind, whipping waves and buffeting sea-gulls, chasing angry clouds through a mad March sky. Soft and sleepy breath, flowing through the lungs of a kitten, dozing on a sunny window-sill. The air which moves through the world, infusing it with life, movement and energy, gives us a glimpse of the idea of your Spirit. Touch our hearts and imagination with that spark, a scintilla of the vast possibility your love and radiance reveals; help us to feel its warmth in terms of cold, darkness or doubt. **Amen.**

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

The picture of a pillar of fire by night, guiding a battered and beleaguered people through a desert shrouded in darkness, still speaks in a world blazing with neon-light. We have not outgrown the physical and spiritual needs which make us human. Centuries past, men, women and children huddled around their hearths in this land, warmed by the flames, listening to tales of ice and wolves, and new songs about the Christ. Ideas of love, forgiveness and gentleness came to dance in the flickering orange glow. Your Holy Fire leads us in different, unexpected directions, whenever and wherever it descends, but it reliably brings us to a new home. Give us courage to travel in the ways you have set before us. **Amen**

### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

You moved upon the face of the waters at the dawn of Creation, and in human flesh, plunged into the Jordan river, feeling the rush of water on skin. It is through that same elemental touch that you embrace us in the Sacrament of baptism, drawing us into the Body of the Church, through the same substance which forms our blue, white and green globe. And yet we do not always respect water, nor share its blessings with generosity. We pollute the physical oceans, lakes and streams which nourish us and our fellow creatures, and we leave many of our human brothers and sisters thirsty, or drinking-in disease and filth. We also dishonour the Sacrament of Baptism, when we allow Christian communities to become places of oppression, judgement and harm instead of compassion, healing and nurture. Lead us into better ways we pray, to enjoy and share the wonderous gifts you offer to and through all that you have made. **Amen**

### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

Creatures of body and spirit, incarnate ourselves through Earth, Air, Fire and Water, we await your coming in a form which enfolds and transcends the world we currently know. Open our eyes to see the elements surrounding us, the people whom we encounter, and all of Creation, as living icons: things of infinite beauty and value in themselves, and windows to your greater truth and love. **Amen**