



COP 27 November 9th Reflections Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

1Ez. 47:1-2,8-9,12

Ps. 46:2-3,5-6,8-9

1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17

Gospel: Jn. 2:13-22

The readings of today invite us to take some time to sit along the banks of flowing water and fruit trees of every kind. Can you do that today? Nature is its own Basilica. There are no walls only the beauty of the sky, and the forest and fruit trees to take refreshment from. These readings are so relevant to us as continue in the Conference Of Parties 27, UN Climate Change Conference in Egypt. And what an incredible opportunity for us now to mitigate climate change. Trees are one of the most important carbon catchers on Earth. Even more that we protect them.

Do you take time to go for walks in the basilicas in your neighborhood or countryside? Do you ever hug a tree and give thanks for its fruit, shade and gifts of life? This is one message of the reading today. That you and I take time to engage with nature, a sign of God's life among us in the trees and water. May you experience the beauty of Earth and her gifts today. May you be blessed by a walk in the woods, or walk along the water where you live.

Give thanks and praise to the Holy One who gifted our world with water, trees and fruit.

May we experience all forests as a Basilica where we can enter and praise God for the gifts of Earth.

Happy walking among the trees.

Sr. Dusty Farnan