

Happy May the 4th! I realize that Star Wars fans everywhere are waking up this morning with smiles on their faces.

Today is also International Space Day. Nathan, our son, has opened my eyes to space in new ways and so in many ways the following is thanks to him (I wrote it, he does not know it is coming.) His interest in space has taught me much and the more I learn the more I am filled with awe.

A prayer on International Space Day, May 4

God of infinite creativity, we stand in awe of the universe that you have made. In elegance and skillful craft, you made stars and nebulae; black holes and planets; binary stars that circle each other and comets whose tails stretch across solar systems. You have made stars and planets and moons in such variety that our heads spin.

Surely the heavens declare your glory, O God, and galaxies proclaim your handiwork. And we, all we can do is cry "Glory, glory be to you for the work of your hands, the wonder of your creativity, the vastness of your ingenuity." Before such a wonder we are brought to silence; we are filled with awe.

God who gave human beings minds to wonder and the ability to explore, we have studied the stars, visited the moon, taken pictures of distant planets. Everything we learn leads us to more questions, ever deeper into the wonder of the universe you have made, deeper into awe.

Teach us, O God, the humility essential to study and exploration. Show us the path to living as good stewards of the whole of creation, including space. Call us as the human race to stand against putting weapons in space or using our exploration of space to harm others.

These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Word who was present at the creation of the universe. Amen.

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