

Monthly Devotion

JANUARY

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint”

Isaiah 40:31



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As we arrive in a New Year and a new month, it is an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on what has been; allowing ourselves to bring before God any times of loss and sorrow, repentance for the times when we have strayed, thankfulness for the moments of joy and happiness that we have received. Having laid our sorrows and joys before Him we should then move on and to do so with Hope.

Hope in God who will not leave us or forsake us!

The prophet Isaiah reminds us that when we place our hope in the Lord, we will be free and strong.

‘But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.’ Isaiah 40:31.

Isaiah likens our relationship with God to an eagle which soars above the earth, gliding on the air thermals. The air thermals are unseen and allow the birds to soar effortlessly above the earth.

As we trust in God, we have the ability to be strong and unfettered by the demands of the world through the power and strength of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit, the unseen yet powerful Spirit of God, present here on earth as our Comforter and Guide to help us rise above that which might hold us back and move forward, indeed, ‘soar ‘into the New Year with Hope.



To Pray

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly,
thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others,
mindful that our steps make an impact
and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life,

help us enter the New Year reverently,

aware that you have endowed

every creature and plant, every person and habitat
with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honour rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls,

help us enter the New Year joyfully,

willing to laugh and dance and dream,

remembering our many gifts with thanks

and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love.

In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ
bless us now and, in the days, ahead.

Amen

Our monthly devotion is written by Susan Hutchinson
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