

New Year's Prayer — CWR Board 1/14/21

Each January 1 we celebrate the World Day of Peace, and receive a message from the Holy Father to set the direction for the year. This year Pope Francis's message is entitled "A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace." The message contains many of the themes of his recent encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*. The following selection is a thought-provoking summary:

At a time like this, when the barque of humanity, tossed by the storm of the current crisis, struggles to advance towards a calmer and more serene horizon, the "rudder" of human dignity and the "compass" of fundamental social principles can enable us together to steer a sure course. May we work together to advance towards a new horizon of love and peace, of fraternity and solidarity, of mutual support and acceptance. May we never yield to the temptation to disregard others, especially those in greatest need, and to look the other way; instead, may we strive daily, in concrete and practical ways, "to form a community composed of brothers and sisters who accept and care for one another."

2021 World Day of Peace message from Pope Francis

Goggle 54th World Day of Peace message of Pope Francis, A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace to read the entire message from Pope Francis



I am the New Year

I am the new year.

I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living.

I am your opportunity to practice
what you have learned about life
during the last twelve months.

All that you sought
and didn't find is hidden in me,
waiting for you to search it out
with more determination.

All the good that you tried for
and didn't achieve
is mine to grant
when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do,
all that you hoped but did not will,
all the faith that you claimed but did not have -
these slumber lightly,
waiting to be awakened
by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity
to renew your allegiance to the One who said,
'behold, I make all things new.'

I am the new year.

- Author Unknown

Closing Prayer

May the Lord bless you and keep you!
May the Lord let his face shine upon
you, and be gracious to you!
May the Lord look upon you kindly and
give you peace! Amen