

Thoughts and Smiles – January 1, 2022

Welcoming a New Year

A new year stands on my doorstep
ready to enter my life's journey.
Something in me welcomes this visitor:



the hope of bountiful blessings
the joy of a new beginning
the freshness of unclaimed
surprises.

Something in me rebuffs this visitor:
the swiftness of the coming
the boldness of the entrance
the challenge of a year's good-bye.

Something in me fears this visitor:
the unnamed events of future days
the wisdom needed to walk love
well
the demands of giving away and
growing.

A new year stands on my doorstep.
with fragile caution I move
to open the door for its entrance,

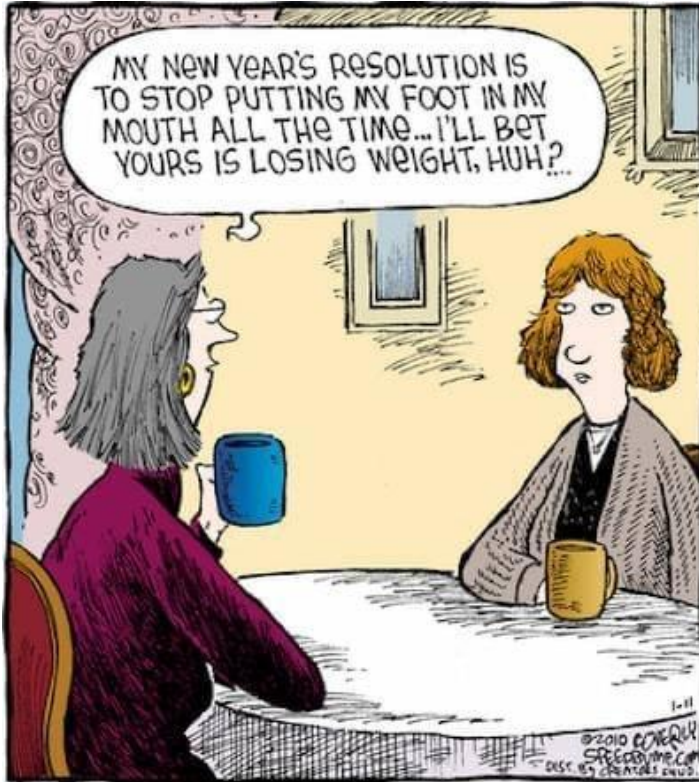
my heart leaps with surprise,
joy jumps in my eyes,
for there beside this brand new year
stands my God with outstretched hand!

God smiles and gently asks of me:
can we walk this year together?

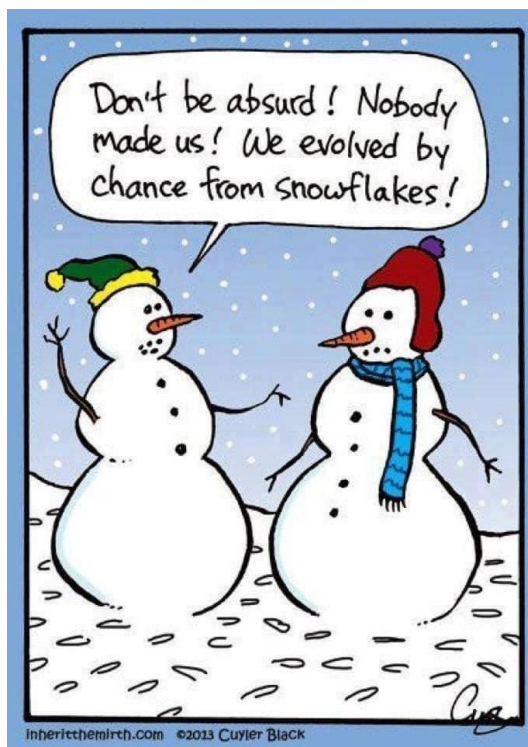
And I, so overwhelmed with goodness,
can barely whisper my reply: "Welcome in!"



— posted on the [Sisters of Saint Martha of Antigonish](#) website.



And some smiles for the day...



A Little Poem For Seniors, so true it hurts!
Another year has passed
And we're all a little older.
Last summer felt hotter
And winter seems much colder.
There was a time not long ago
When life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand
About 'Living in the Past'
We used to go to weddings,
Football games and lunches..
Now we go to funeral homes
And after-funeral brunches.
We used to go out dining,
And couldn't get our fill.
Now we ask for doggie bags,
Come home and take a pill.
We used to often travel
To places near and far.
Now we get sore asses
From riding in the car.
We used to go to nightclubs
And drink a little booze.
Now we stay home at night
And watch the evening news.
That, my friend is how life is,
And now my tale is told.
So, enjoy each day and live it up...
Before you're too damned old!



"Hurry! Our New Year's resolutions start in ten minutes."

Here's a prayer of thanksgiving and supplication for the New Year. It was written by Joe Shadle.

In Times of Transition

God of Love,
You are with us in every transition and change.
As we enter into this new era with excitement
and even some anxiety,
we recall your deep compassion, presence,
and abounding love.
We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills
with which you have blessed us.
We thank you for the experiences
that have brought us to this moment.
We thank you for the work of others
that gives breadth and depth to our own work.
Be with us as we move forward,
rejoicing with you and supporting one another.
We ask this in your Holy Name.
Amen.

Have a terrific week!
And A very Happy New Year



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SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 - SERVICES IN JANUARY WILL BE VIRTUAL This week, go to the website and click "watch" at 9:30 a.m.