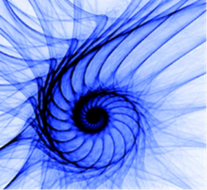
**Blessing Every Day**

A project from the Mission Theology Advisory Group



The Mission Theology Advisory Group is an ecumenical group formed in partnership between Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and the Church of England We provide resources in the areas of Spirituality, Theology, Reconciliation, Evangelism and Mission.

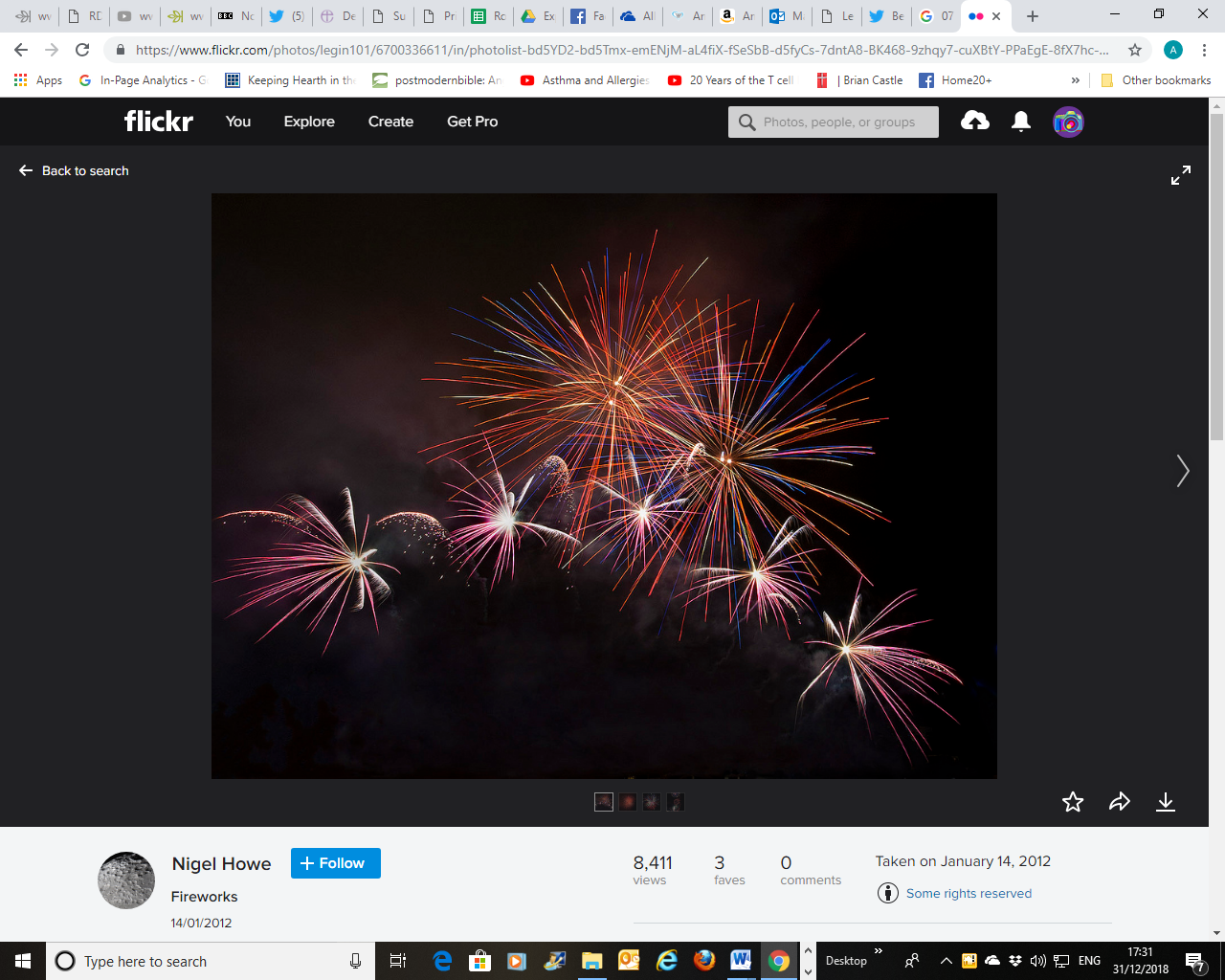
This resource belongs to our Spirituality series. Please print and share.

More information from

[www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/deeper-god-mission-theology](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/deeper-god-mission-theology)

<https://ctbi.org.uk/mission-theology-advisory-group-resources/>

**A Blessing on New Year’s Eve**



*Nigel Howe/flickr*

On New Year’s Eve, we pause before a new beginning. As our calendars prepare to move on to another year, we might stop and think about what has happened in the year that is ending.

Our precious planet has travelled one more orbit around the sun. Have we taken care of our planet, used its generous and bountiful resources wisely and well? What more could we do in the future to respect the Earth and take care of it for future generations?

Every year sees all kinds of political decision and change among the different nations, affecting us all. People struggle for power: some win, some lose. Other people struggle to survive: some win, some lose. Wars drive people towards hope of help and better lives. What have we done to care for our neighbours? What welcome have we given to new people around us? What decisions have we made to make our country and our communities places to be proud of?

Newspapers like to commemorate people in the news who have died over the year, as well as talk about people who have done well or received honours. As we pause on the edge of the old year and look back, who has been lost to us, whose memory we take forward into the New Year? What achievements or events can we celebrate within our own families and take forward with us as building blocks for the future?

Before the singing of Auld Lang Syne, the popping of champagne corks and the excitement of the fireworks, we can pause on the very edge of a finished year and ask God’s blessing on all that we have been and done over the past twelve months. It doesn’t matter if we didn’t manage to do everything we thought we would, or if things didn’t work out. We can offer all our joys and sadnesses, our hopes and disappointment to God.

# A Prayer of Blessing on New Year’s Eve

Loving God,

All time and space belongs to you:

bless to us the year that is now past.

Receive all that we have done; forgive all we have not done,

but meant to do.

Help us to remember and celebrate the good times past:

friendships, kindness, laughter, being together.

Help us to put behind us the difficult times:

struggles with health, money, relationships.

Help us when we grieve for those we leave behind.

Take from us the burden of our mistakes

and lighten our hearts with promise of change

and new beginnings.

*Amen*