

Reflection Thursday 2nd Week Advent – 2021

Just as John the Baptist offered his listeners new hope and the possibility of renewal, Advent cries out joyfully offering us New Life. Given the struggles and challenges of the pandemic and what's happening in the world around us, W. Paul Young offers us these thoughts:

*“Don't forget that in the midst of all your pain and heartache, you are surrounded by beauty, the wonder of creation, art, music and culture, the sounds of laughter and love, of whispered hopes and celebrations, of new life and transformation, and of **reconciliation and forgiveness**.*

Our reconciling, compassionate and merciful God wants us to be in touch with this new, infinite, unknown and approaching life that sets our souls quivering with rapture, our minds aglow and our hearts weeping with joy at the coming of Christ this Christmas.

God wants us to feel ever more deeply the rich beauty, the deep colour and energy of life that speaks of the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that we experience in the presence of all new born babies. Only this Baby, this child, who is to be born in a manger, Jesus Christ, not only reaches out to us with open arms but speaks of renewal, of a lasting promise not just for us but for the whole world.

We can hope again, believe in the impossible, and revive lost dreams sewn into our hearts by a loving God. We can believe again that justice will reign, that reconciliation is possible, and that war will die out because of lack of support.

Today we are called to be instruments of this new hope by seeking reconciliation with God and each other and so that we, in our turn, can be instruments of reconciliation, mercy and compassion for which a world filled with pain cries out.

Let Christ be born anew in our hearts!”

I changed my password to "incorrect". So, whenever I forget what it is, the computer will put up a sign saying "Your password is incorrect".

Entered what I ate today into my new fitness app and it just sent an ambulance to my house.