

## *A New Year's Day Blessing*

A poem of the First Nations (Native Indians)

*May the Lord bless your sight:  
that it will always be as clear as the full moon.*

*May the Lord bless your thoughts:  
that they may be pure and fresh as ice on a lake.*

*May the Lord bless the work of your hands:  
that it may be as fruitful as corn that ripens in the fields.*

*May the Lord bless your family:  
that they may be as carefree as otters  
and as industrious as bees.*

*May the Lord bless your days on earth:  
that they may flow calmly as a river after the rapids.*

*May the Lord bless your tears:  
that they may be soft as maple trees  
when the birds return to their nests.*

*May the Lord bless your life and your death:  
that you may spend your days  
protected by His powerful and generous hands.*

*HAPPY AND HOLY NEW YEAR !*