

A Prayer for Our Times

You will not remember the night at the turn of the century when 1999 became 2000. It was a big event celebrated worldwide. People wondered what the new century would hold. Here is one of the many prayers that was written for the start of this century

A Prayer for the 21st Century

by John Marsden

*May the road be free for the journey,
May it lead where it promised it would.
May the stars that gave ancient bearings
Be seen and be understood:
May every aircraft fly safely;
May every traveller be found;
May sailors in crossing the seas,
Not hear the cries of the drowned.*

*May gardens be wild like jungles,
May nature never be tamed.
May dangers create of us heroes,
May fears always have names.
May the mountains stand to remind us
Of what it means to be young;
May we be outlived by our daughters,
May we be outlived by our sons.*

*May the bombs rust away in the bunkers,
And the doomsday clock be rewound;
May the solitary scientists, working,
Remember the holes in the ground.
May the knife remain in the holder,
May the bullet stay in the gun,
May those who live in the shadows
Be seen by those in the sun.*

Road travel, road safety

Space travel air travel

Terrorism, violence, bombings

Refugees and immigration

Water safety, boat safety

Environmental issues, global warming

Water quality

Heroes, good sorts and villains

Housing and homelessness

Mental health

Addictions

Success and failure

FRIENDSHIPS AND BULLYING

Hope and dreams

Employment and unemployment

Landmines

Poverty

GLOBALISATION

Above are some current issues that are affecting our modern world. Could you pick one or two of them or more, and try to write a prayer for our times?