

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Tuesday 2nd January 2024

By Revd Kit Gunasekera

A New Year Blessing by John O'Donohue

On the day when
The weight deadens
On your shoulders
And you stumble,
May the clay dance
To balance you.

And when your eyes
Freeze behind
The grey window
And the ghost of loss
Gets into you,
May a flock of colours,
Indigo, red, green
And azure blue,
Come to waken in you
A meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays
In the curragh of thought
And a stain of ocean
Blackens beneath you,
May there come across the waters
A path of yellow moonlight
To bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,
May the clarity of light be yours,
May the fluency of the ocean be yours,
May the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow
Wind work these words

Of love around you,
An invisible cloak
To mind your life

I like the way O'Donohue uses nature to connect us with blessing and God, our Creator. We are mindful of those who have been adversely affected by nature recently. Let us give thanks for the gift of nature and pray for the people of Japan affected by the recent earthquake and all those nearer home affected by recent storms. Let us also pray and act to safeguard nature from harmful human interference.