

Fresh starts ~ and new beginnings

God of fresh starts and new beginnings,
Be in the dawning of this new day, and in the start of this new year.
Awaken us to your comforting yet challenging presence,
And open our lives to your possibilities, rather than to our own or others'
expectations.

God of the clean sheet and the blank piece of paper,
Meet us in our fear and trepidation,
Hold our hand as we step over our abyss of self-doubt and inhibitions into your
unknown.
Be patient, yet persistent, as we cling to our old certainties and the comfortably
familiar.

God of clay and creation,
Give us grace to be plastic and pliable in your nurturing hands,
Willing to take on new shape or form as you wish,
Not weeping over the old, but rejoicing in the new and evolving.

We give thanks that although we appear to be ordinary, plain clay vessels,
You can see opportunities not restraints,
Beauty not mere functionality.

God of fresh starts and new beginnings,
Help us to meet you anew at this our fresh start.
As we embark on our new beginnings let us remember God's promise to us in his
new covenant, and take courage from it.

Liz Styan

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Dear Lord,

We thank you for every new day that dawns for us  
whatever the challenges it may bring.

Thank you for giving us the strength  
to meet those challenges

Above all we thank you for that very special day  
when we were given the gift of Jesus Christ  
sent to begin your plan of redemption for the world.

Help us to fulfil that plan  
throughout every day of our lives

Amen



## Weekday Prayers

Monday/Washing – Lord, help me to wash away all my selfishness and vanity so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday/Ironing – Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday/Mending – O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example to others.

Thursday/Cleaning – Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday/Shopping – O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

Saturday/Baking – Help me, my Saviour, to brew a pot of brotherly love and serve it with clean sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday/The Lord's Day – O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

**Anon**