A hand holding a white dove

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### **PRAYER FOR PEACE—Pope Francis**

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried… But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: “Never again war!”; “With war everything is lost”. Instil in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarrelling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words “division”, “hatred” and “war” be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be “brother”, and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

A colorful circle with text

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**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**A healing service** will take place on Monday evening the **20th of November** for the parish of Enniskerry. Please pass the word to anyone you know who would be comforted by attending.

A close-up of hands holding a cross

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**REMEMBRANCE MASS**

Our remembrance mass will take place on the **19th of November at 10am in St Mochonog’s and 11 am in St Mary’s.** If you have a loved who died in the last twelve month’s that you would like specially remembered, please drop a photograph and name to the parish office this week if possible please. They will be remembered at a brief candle lighting ceremony during the mass.

A cartoon of a bear

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A person in a tuxedo with his hand up and a stand with notes

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**FOR ALL MUSIC LOVERS!**

Dun Laoghaire Choral Society is presenting 'Saints and Sinners' - a colourful and

uplifting programme of Giacomo Puccini's 'Messa di Gloria' plus a

selection of opera choruses for choir and soloists - to debut our exciting 2023-2024 season.

Date: Sunday 19 November 2023

Time: 7 PM. Venue: Church of the Assumption, Dalkey, Co. Dublin

Tickets: €25 (full price) / €20 (unwaged / OAPs / students)

Tickets are available from Eventbrite at <https://tinyurl.com/dlcsopera>

BIG SING FOR PEACE

A group of kids singing

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Please come and support the efforts to raise funds for the conflict in the Middle East.

A group made up of singers from local choirs, from Powerscourt parish and a few from our own parish are joining forces and singing in Enniskerry village from 5pm to 6pm on Sunday evening the 12th of November.

There will be lots of familiar tunes. Come and enjoy!

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

“Love is taking a few steps backward maybe even more to give way to the happiness of the person you love.”— **Winnie the Pooh**

**NEW MUSIC MINISTRY - WE NEED MORE VOICES**

Join us every Tuesday evening at 7 30 in St Mary’s. It’s relaxed and informal.

All are welcome

Cartoon of children singing

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A flame on a candle

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A group of colorful signs with clothespins

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A big welcome to our Confirmation families today

A chalice of wine and bread

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**PARISH LINK**

**NOVEMBER**

**11th/12th**

**Welcome to our celebration of the Eucharist this weekend!**

**Next week’s Intentions: 18th/19th Nov**

**St. Mary’s 6pm**: William Ryder (A) Marie Kelly (A), Josephine Ryder (A) Eileen O’Farrell (1st A), James Colliton (A)

Sarah & Michael Keogh (A), Elizabeth Kelly (A)

**St. Mochonog’s 10am**: **St Mary’s 11am** Mass for all who died Nov ’22 – Oct ’23.

**We Remember... This weekend’s intentions – 11th/12th Nov**

**St. Mary’s** 6pm:   Wesley Acres (A)

**St Patrick’s** 10am: Tom O’Gorman (A)

Danny O’Gorman (A)

**St Mochonog’s**:    Michael Kearns (A)

**St Mary’s 11am:**

**A LESSON FROM A BIRD**

##### **I once watched a most incredible thing. I watched a small bird trying to gather string, which I presumed would have gone into the building of a nest. It is amazing that this little creature acting on instinct alone would gather this kind of material for building. You see, a bird cannot reason, "A piece of string would be nice to use for building my nest, so I'll take it." God has given this little bird the natural instinct to function.**

You probably are thinking, "What's so incredible about watching a bird do what it naturally does?" I watched as the bird made several attempts to gather the string. She would pick up one end of the string in her beak and fly upward, but the string would fall, and she would try again. This activity went on for several minutes. What made this so incredible to me was that the other end of the string was attached to a boat sitting on a boat trailer.

I thought of the bird's PERSISTENCE in her efforts. No matter how many times she failed, the bird kept on trying. How often do you and I show this kind of persistence in our endeavours? Even though the odds of getting that piece of string were greatly against the bird, I found myself hoping that she would succeed.

I thought of the bird's FOCUS on the string. She was oblivious to the fact that the string was attached to an immovable object. All she saw was the string, and she went after it. How often do we keep a singular focus on a particular goal? Too often we allow our focus to scatter, and then we wonder why we didn’t achieve what we set out to do.

I thought the bird had great CONFIDENCE. Her intention was to get that string. The bird was not deterred by the fact that a large boat was in her way. Watching the scene unfold as time and again the bird would try to fly away with that string, I almost expected to see the boat lift off the ground.

We need to be PERSISTENT and FOCUSED in our efforts to be the best people we can be and CONFIDENT that God will be with us all the way!

A bird on a branch with a nest

Description automatically generatedA bird on a branch with a nest

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A rainbow over a green field

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**DOWNTIME THURSDAY**

Why not pop into the church for some quiet time on Thursday 30th November from **7pm to 8 pm.** You can sit in silence with candlelight and gentle music. Take a few minutes for yourself and just “be”. Light a candle, say a prayer. Just sit if that’s what you need.

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In our hectic, noisy world, the spiritual discipline of silence is becoming more and more difficult to exercise. To do so you would have to intentionally put yourself in a quiet place … no speaking, no technology, no entertainment, no listening to voices of other people. That would be hard to accomplish these days, wouldn’t it?  
Even in the early mornings when I sit in the dark sipping my coffee, I am aware of noise: the clock ticking, the computer humming, the birds beginning to chirp, a cell phone letting me know a text has arrived. Times of stillness are so needed today.

A group of candles with lit candles

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A bird on a branch with a nest

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**COMMUNITY PRAYER GATHERING**

Out next gathering with St Patrick’s Powerscourt

will take place on **Wednesday 6th December,**

**at 10 am** **in St Mary’s**. This will be an

**Advent service** and we would love to have

as many along as possible. It will provide

a prayerful opportunity. to prepare

for Christmas before the stress of the season

takes hold!

All are welcome.