

SOME LOVELY ADVICE FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE SEASON THAT'S IN IT



In good times learn how to be open and communicate, so that you will be able to continue to do so in times of difficulty.

Celebrate happy moments, and individual successes and support each other in the difficult passages of life. Value everyone's achievements, however insignificant they may appear.

Respect each other's freedom. Everyone needs space, some more than others. An awareness of individual needs gives people a sense of being trusted and valued. Give a kind look. Never underestimate the value of a gaze of love.

Learn to forgive. Before we can forgive others, we must learn to forgive ourselves. Be slow to point out the limitations of a loved one.

Listen to the older members of the family tell their stories and encourage children and adolescents.

Be slow to judge another whose situation you do not fully understand.

Always find time for family prayer, even a few moments every day.

POPE FRANCIS (Excerpt from *The joy of Love*)

The Legend of the Christmas Spider and Tinsel

Once upon a time, there was a poor widow living in her tiny home with her young children. One day, the children discovered a cast-off tree and pulled it into their home for the holidays. The kids were so excited to have their very own Christmas tree and were so upset when their mother explained that they could barely afford food for dinner for the evening, much less decorations for the tree. The children understood, so they wiped away their tears as they climbed into bed that Christmas Eve.

The tree stood bare in the corner, and the widow shook her head sadly as she herself turned in for the night. But household's spiders had seen the sadness of the children and their mother, so they climbed all over the tree that night, leaving intricate webs in their wake. Early that Christmas morning, the children called out to the widow, "Mother, mother! Come and see what has happened to the tree! It is beautiful!" Their mother rushed in to find that during the bitter night while they slept, spiders had spun magical glittery garlands all across the tree's barren branches.

As the family stood in wonder staring at the beauty before them they realized that they had everything they truly needed. They had each other, and that was more than enough! As their prayers of gratitude for their blessings reached God's ears, he reached down and touched their tree, turning the dusty webs into magical strands of gold and silver, and the grateful family never wanted for their needs again! From that day forward, it became a tradition for many families to add tinsel to their trees as a way to show their gratitude to God for the many gifts he has bestowed upon them!

-Author Unknown



PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

"May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever."

— Ray Pritchard



New Here?

You are very welcome. Please keep up to date with us at enniskerryparish.ie You can register as a parishioner by mailing us at stmarys@enniskerryparish.ie or stmochonogs@enniskerryparish.ie



PARISH LINK

December 23rd/

24th/25th



We Remember... This weekend's intentions Sun 24th Dec

St. Mochonog's 10am: Geelon, Elliot & O'Toole Family.

St. Mary's; 11am: Elizabeth & Charlie O'Neill & Felim O'Neill, Bill & Madge Quinn (Christmas Remembrance)
Ann Keogh Cronin (1st A)

St Mary's 6pm: Patsy Byrne RIP (A)

Mass Intentions Sat 30th/Sunday 31st Dec:

St Mary's 6pm: Mary Kelly (A)
JP & Margaret Kelly (A)
Richard & Moira Price (A)
St Mochonog's 10am: Owen Roche (A)
Joseph Fisher (A)

Down Time Thursday (with exposition)

If you need a little time out for peace and quiet, to say a prayer, light a candle or just be as you are, please join us on **Thursday 28th of December from 7 pm to 8 30pm.** This could be a lovely opportunity to reflect on the trials, tribulations, and joys of the past year and where God has been in it all.

The Blessed sacrament will be exposed beforehand.



A few updates!

- We have three funeral leaders who are currently in training to lead the full funeral service when needed. This will be a great asset to the parish in years to come.
- The new music group in St Mary's is established now and we would love more voices!
- St Mochonog's is currently putting together a team to prepare for the forthcoming bicentennial celebrations. Watch this space!
- Our hospitality team in St Mary's is finally up and running! A big thank you to all involved



THANK YOU



To Everyone who has played a part in making our faith communities warm friendly and welcoming this year.. From sacristans to singers, from cleaners to caterers, ministers to musicians, groundsmen to handymen, from finance to flower arranging, funeral leaders to funeral helpers, secretaries. to screen managers, readers to rota providers, artists to altruists, meeting attendees to all our faithful attendees! Each and everyone of you are stars!

Christmas Light

At the darkest, deadest, depressed nature's hour,
holiness yeasted a light,
a glimmer, slowly seen,
and then hope burned,
and knowing slowly caught.

This is Christmas, light and dark, and nature's canvas dims, paints the inner meaning, born in a cave.
The first etch of Redemption.

Bernard Kennedy

