

Mí Eanáir 2025 – Féilire/Féilte

1ú Eanáir, Sollúntas Mhuire, Máthair Dé



Is ceiliúradh é an saoire seo ar mháithreachas Mhuire Íosa. Is meabhrú é ar an ról a bhí aici i slánú an chine daonna.

Is bealach an-oiriúnach é Féile Mhuire an lae inniu, Máthair Dé, chun tús a chur le bliain nua. Meabhraíonn an ceiliúradh seo dúinn gurb í an Mhaighdean Bheannaithe Muire, Máthair Dé, ár Máthair ar Neamh freisin. Dá bhrí sin, b'fhéidir go bhféadfadh ár ngealltanas idéalach don Bhliain Nua 2023 a bheith "Trí Mhuire a Íosa!"

Is ócáid í seo chun ár ndeabhóid a athnuachan do Mhuire, atá ina Máthair na hEaglaise freisin toisc gurb í ár máthair spioradálta í - agus is sinne an Eaglais. Léiríonn an Sollúntacht an gaol idir Íosa le Muire. Is sampla iontach é den chaoi ar chóir dúinn Máire a dhíol faoina teidil go léir. Cuireann an Eaglais Féile na Sollúntacht seo ar an gcéad lá den Bhliain Nua chun béim a leagan ar an tábhacht a bhaineann le ról Mhuire i saol Chríost agus na hEaglaise.

Déanaimid comóradh ar na naoimh éagsúla ar laethanta éagsúla den bhliain, ach is í Máire an ceann is suntasaí acu go léir. Tá ról agus misean speisialta aici a thug Dia di. Mar Mháthair ár Slánaitheoir agus na fuascailte, tá sí i réim mar Bhanríon ar thaobh Chríost Rí. Is idirghuí cumhachtach í dár riachtanais go léir anseo ar domhan. Agus í ag

ceiliúradh a lá Féile speisialta, aithnímid an briontanas iontach seo don Eaglais agus don domhan; iarraimid uirthi a bheith gníomhach inár saol laethúil; déanaimid aithris ar a saol suarach mar inspioráid iontach; agus comhoibrímid leis na grásta go léir a fhaighimid tríothu.

1ú Eanáir, Lá Domhanda na Síochána



Tugann an Eaglais faoi deara freisin an 1ú Eanáir mar Lá Domhanda na Síochána agus tugann sí cuireadh dúinn guí go speisialta ar son na síochána ar fud an domhain. Gach bliain ar 1ú Eanáir, ceiliúránn an tAthair Naofa Lá Domhanda na Síochána le teachtaireacht speisialta ag tabhairt cuireadh do gach duine machnamh a dhéanamh ar an obair thábhachtach a bhaineann le síocháin a chothú.

Is é an téama a roghnaigh an Pápa Proinsias do Lá Domhanda na Síochána do 2025 ná "Maith dúinn ár bhfiacha: tabhair dúinn do shíocháin", a fhreagraíonn do "thuiscint Bhíobla agus eaglasta na Bliana Iubhaile".

Is ceiliúradh bliantúil é Lá Domhanda na Síochána ag an Eaglais Chaitliceach, atá tiomanta don tsíocháin uilíoch, a tionóladh ar an 1ú Eanáir, Sollúntas Mhuire, Máthair Dé.

6 Eanáir, Epipháine an Tiarna



Ceiliúrtar Féile na Eipeafáine ar 6 Eanáir. Déanann an fhéile seo comóradh ar chuairt na bhfear ciallmhar chun adhradh a dhéanamh ar an leanbh Íosa. De réir an tseanchais, ba iad Caspar, Melchior agus Balthasar a n-ainmneacha. Astrologers a bhí ag lorg an réalta a bheadh mar thoradh orthu go dtí an Messiah geallta. Bhí sé seo leagtha amach i Leabhar Micah. De réir insintí an tSoiscéil, thug na fir chríonna bronntanais óir, frankincense agus myrrh leo. Bhí na bronntanais seo an-fhiúntach. Ba bhronntanas luachmhar agus costasach é ór, agus léirigh sé cé chomh tábhachtach is a bhí Íosa. Is cumhrán milis é Frankincense a dódh go minic sa teampall chun Dia a adhradh. Comhartha a bhí ann gur chóir Íosa a adhradh. Baineadh úsáid as Myrrh chun rudaí a choinneáil úr, agus d'úsáid na mná é chun corp Íosa a ungadh nuair a fuair sé bás. Trí é a thabhairt mar bhronntanas d'Íosa, bhí na fir ag tabhairt fógra faoi fhulaingt agus bhás Íosa sa todhchaí.

7ú Eanáir, Baisteadh an Tiarna



Breathnaítear ar Fhéile Bhaisteadh an Tiarna gach bliain. Titeann sé ar an Domhnach tar éis 6 Eanáir, mar sin i mbliana is é 8 Eanáir an dáta. Déanann sé comóradh ar bhaisteadh Íosa in Abhainn na hIordáine ag Eoin Baiste. Íosa anointe leis an Spiorad Naomh agus a chumhacht. Fógraítear Meisias dó.

Téann sé anois faoi ag déanamh go maith, ag obair na comharthaí a dhéanamh ar a dtugtar an Seirbhíseach Dé. Is é an té a thugann dea-scéal do na boicht agus a insíonn an slánú.

Tugtar cuireadh dúinn ní hamháin smaoineamh ar bhaisteadh an Tiarna Íosa ach ar ár mbaisteadh féin freisin.

- Cé chomh minic is a smaoiním ar mo bhaisteadh agus cad a chiallaíonn sé i mo shaol laethúil?
- An bhfeicim mé féin mar mhac nó iníon ionúin Dé?

- An féidir liom smaoineamh ar shampla le déanaí de nuair a bhí mé i mo sholas dóibh siúd timpeall orm?

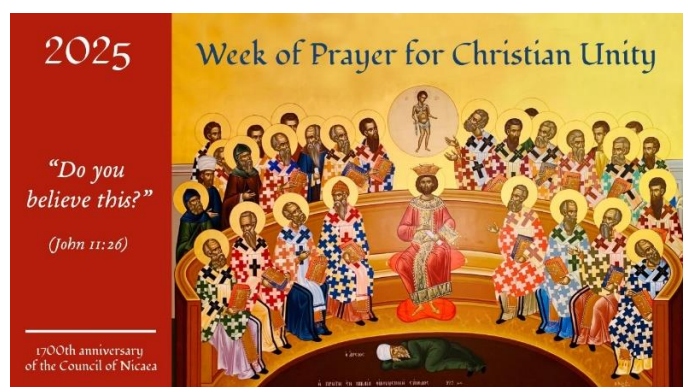
"Is é an baisteadh doras na beatha spioradálta agus geata na sacraimintí."

Tomás Aquinas

Seachtain an 18 Eanáir – 25 - An tSeachtain Ghuí le hAontachta Chríostaí

Tugann Seachtain na hUrnaí d'Aontacht Chríostaí 2025 cuireadh chun tarraingt ar an oidhreacht chomhroinnte seo agus dul i ngleic níos doimhne leis an gcreideamh a aontaíonn na Críostaithe go léir.

Tagann téacs treorach an Bhíobla don tSeachtain Urnaí d'Aontacht Chríostaí 2025 ó Eoin 11:17-27. Téama na seachtaine ná, "An gcreideann tú é seo?"



Tugtar cuireadh d'eaglaisí agus do phobail Chríostaí ar fud an domhain an tSeachtain Urnaí d'Aontacht Chríostaí 2025 a úsáid chun guí le chéile ar son na hAontachta i measc eaglais i rith na bliana.

24ú Eanáir, Naomh Francis de Sales



Rugadh Francis de Sales i 1567 agus fuair sé bás i 1622. Bhí cónaí air sa Fhrainc agus tháinig sé ó theaghlach mór. Bhí dáréag deartháireacha agus deirfiúracha aige. Theastaigh óna athair go mbeadh sé ina dhlíodóir, ach bhí a fhios ag Proinsias go raibh Dia ag glaoch air a bheith ina shagart agus freastal ar dhaoine eile. Oirníodh é i 1593. Is é éarlamh na scríbhneoirí é mar scríobh sé go leor litreacha agus leabhar faoi chreideamh a bheith aige i nDia.

Muinín i nDia

Duine cineálta, comhbhách a bhí ann a roinn grá Dé le daoine eile. Mhúin Frances de Sales do dhaoine muinín a bheith acu i nDia. Dúirt sé, "Ná bíodh aon eagla ort roimh an méid a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ann amárach. Tabharfaidh an Dia grámhar céanna a thugann aire duit inniu aire duit amárach agus gach lá." Ba chóir go mbeadh síocháin inár gcroíthe mar tá a fhios againn go bhfuil Dia linn.

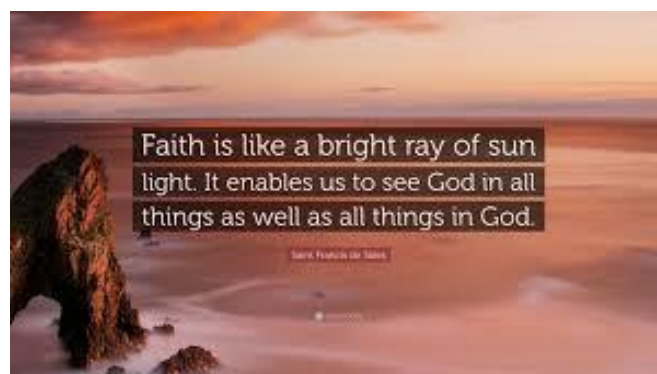
Guigh i gcónaí

Mhol Proinsias de Sales do dhaoine guí. Dúirt sé gur comhrá le Dia atá sa phaidir. Trí urnaí, labhraímid le Dia agus labhraíonn Dia linn. Bhí a fhios aige go raibh sé tábhachtach a bheith ina ndaoine urnaí. Mar a dúirt sé, "Tá Urnaí do gach duine." Cuireann beatha an naoimh seo i gcuimhne dúinn guí i gcónaí.

Bí foighneach

Dúirt Francis de Sales: "Bíodh foighne agat le gach rud, ach go príomha bíodh foighne agat leat féin." Bhí a fhios aige go mbíonn inní orainn uaireanta faoi bhotúin atá déanta againn agus breithiúnas gear a thabhairt orainn féin. Ach chruthaigh Dia sinn agus tugann sé grá dúinn díreach mar atáimid. Labhraíonn focail Naomh Proinsias de Sales lenár saol inniu. Bhuaigh a shlí séimh, cineáltacht agus diúscairt grianmhar dó

an teideal "Gentleman Saint." Is é éarlamh na scríbhneoirí, na n-eagarthóirí agus na n-iriseoirí é. Roinnt Sleachta Naomh Proinsias de Díolacháin:



25 ú Eanáir , Tiontú Naomh Pól



Ar 25 Eanáir, ceiliúraimid Féile Tiontú Naomh Pól an Apostle. Is léiriú é a chlaohlú radacach ar chumhacht neamhghnách athshamhlaithe an tSoiscéil. Mar scoláire Giúdach díograiseach, rinne sé géarleanúint ar Chríostaithe gan áireamh - an chéad mhairtíreach do Chríost, Stiofán ina measc.

Tar éis dó teagmháil a dhéanamh le Críost, áfach,
Bhí Pól ina fhórsa dostoppable do ríocht Dé.

Tiontú Phóil chun na Críostaíochta

Lá amháin, bhí Saul "bagairtí dúnmharaithe análaithe i gcoinne dheisceabail an Tiarna," agus chinn sé dul síos go dtí an Damaisc chun a fháil amach an bhféadfadh sé fianaise ionchoiritheach a fháil chun na Críostaithe a ghabháil ann (Gníomhartha 9). Mar sin féin, bhí pleananna eile ag Dia dó:

Ar a thuras, agus é ag druidim leis an Damaisc, lasadh solas ón spéir go tobann timpeall air. Thit sé go talamh agus chuala sé guth ag rá leis, "Saul, Saul, cén fáth a bhfuil tú ag géarleanúint orm?" Dúirt sé, "Cé tusa, a dhuine uasail?" Tháinig an freagra, "Is mise Íosa, a bhfuil tú ag géarleanúint. Anois téigh suas agus téigh isteach sa chathair agus inseofar duit cad a chaithfidh tú a dhéanamh." Sheas na fir a bhí ag taisteal leis gan urlabhra, mar chuala siad an guth ach ní raibh siad in ann aon duine a fheiceáil. D'éirigh Saul ón talamh, ach nuair a d'oscail sé a shúile, ní fhéadfadh sé faic a fheiceáil; mar sin threoraigh siad leis an láimh é agus thug siad go Damaisc é. Ar feadh trí lá, ní raibh sé in ann a fheiceáil, agus níor ith sé ná níor ól sé. - Na hAchtanna 9: 3-9

Tar éis na heachtra seo, labhair Dia le creidmheach darb ainm Ananias, ag iarraidh air Saul a aimsiú, lámha a leagan air, agus a radharc a chur ar ais. Bhí drogall ar Ananias é sin a dhéanamh ar dtús, mar bhí a fhios aige stair Saul maidir le géarleanúint a dhéanamh ar Chríostaithe. Mar sin féin, d'áitigh Dia air, ag rá, "Téigh, óir is uirlis roghnaithe de mo chuid é an fear seo chun m'ainm a iompar roimh Gentiles, ríthe, agus Israelites," (Gníomhartha 9:15). Rinne sé ansin mar a d'ordaigh Dia, ag athchóiriú radharc Saul - agus ag baisteadh air.

Tar éis a chomhshó, d'athraigh Saul a ainm go Paul. Ansin thosaigh Saul ag fógart an tsoiscéil sa Damaisc agus níos faide i gcéin, ag insealbhú saol na ministreachta tiomnaithe.

Rachadh Pól ar aghaidh chun pobail luath-Chríostaí na Meánmhara a mhúnlú go suntasach, ag taisteal agus ag scríobh litreacha gan áireamh de threoir agus léargas spioradálta. Tá aireacht Phóil leagtha amach ó aspail eile mar gheall ar a theachtaireacht go bhfuil an soiscéal do Gentiles agus Giúdaigh araon. Meastar gurbh é údar 13 leabhar sa Tiomna Nua é – níos mó ná aon scríbhneoir bíobalta eile.

Is beag scéal ón mBíobla atá chomh corraitheach le bóthar Phóil go dtí an Damaisc. Trí chumhacht Chríost, tháinig fear a bhí ina villain fuath-líonadh laoch grá-líonadh. Trí é féin a chur faoi bhráid Íosa go hiomlán, bhí Pól in ann an soiscéal a scaipeadh ar fud an domhain aitheanta.

Mar thoradh ar an taithí a bhí ag Pól ar Bhóthar na Damaisce bhí a bhaisteadh agus a theagasc sa chreideamh Críostaí. Bhí sé ar an duine ba chinniúnaí de na haspail, ag fulaingt pian brúidiúil fisiciúil, géarleanúint, agus ar deireadh, mairtíreacht.

Nocht sé a rún go mairfidh sé saol cruatain don soiscéal:

"Is féidir liom gach rud a dhéanamh trí Chríost a neartaíonn mé." (Filipigh 4: 13)

January 27ú Eanáir, Naomh Angela de Merici



Thug Naomh Angela de Merici, 1470-1540, bunaitheoir na nUrsalach, í féin ar oideachas Críostaí bunaithe ar ghrá, cineáltas agus daingne, agus imní don duine aonair.

"Beidh tú i gcrích níos mó ag focail chineál agus ar bhealach cúirtéiseach ná ag fearg nó rebuke géar . . ."

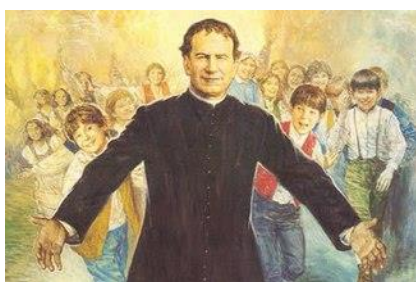
Naomh Aingeal de Merici

28ú Eanáir, Naomh Tomás Aquinas



Rugadh Naomh Tomás Aquinas san Iodáil sa bhliain 1224 agus fuair sé bás sa bhliain 1274. Múineadh do Thomás gur gnéithe d'aon fhírinne amháin iad nochtadh Críostaí agus eolas daonna agus nach féidir leis a bheith i gcoimhlint lena chéile. Tá sé ina phátrún ar scoileanna, ollscoileanna, mic léinn agus díoltóirí leabhar.

31ú Eanáir, Naomh Eoin Bosco



Bhunaigh St. John Bosco 1815 - 1888 a rugadh i bPiedmont, na Salesians chun oideachas a chur ar bhuachaillí ar feadh a saoil. Bhí baint aige freisin le hábhar caiteiciúil a fhoilsiú don óige. Is éarlamh é ar an óige agus ar na foilsitheoirí Caitliceacha.

Sagart, oideachasóir agus scríbhneoir Caitliceach Rómhánach Iodálach ab ea John Bosco (16 Lúnasa 1815 - 31 Eanáir 1888). D'oibrigh sé i Torino, áit a raibh tinnis ar an daonra mar gheall ar thionsclú agus uirbiú. Chaith sé a shaol ag cur oideachais ar pháistí sráide, ar dhaoine óga, agus ar óige eile. D'fhorbair sé modhanna teagaisc bunaithe ar ghrá seachas ar phionós, modh ar a dtugtar an Córas Coisctheach Salesian.

Bhunaigh sé na Salesians chun oideachas a chur ar bhuachaillí ar feadh a saoil. Bhí baint aige freisin le hábhar caiteiciúil a fhoilsiú don óige. Is éarlamh é ar an óige agus ar na foilsitheoirí Caitliceacha.

Seachtain na Scoileanna Caitliceacha 2025

Téama – Beo i gCríost!

Beidh Seachtain na Scoileanna Caitliceacha 2025 ar siúl ó

Dé Domhnaigh 19ú Eanáir to Dé Sathairn 25ú Eanáir, 2025

"Tá Críost beo! Is é ár ndóchas é, agus ar bhealach iontach tugann sé an óige chuig ár saol, agus éiríonn gach rud a bhaineann leis óg, nua, lán den saol. Is iad seo na chéad fhocail, mar sin, gur mhaith liom a rá le gach Críostaí óg: Tá Críost beo agus ba mhaith leis go mbeifeá beo! - Pápa Proinsias, Christus Vivit, Roinn 1.

Agus machnamh á dhéanamh acu ar an téama, fiosróidh scoileanna Caitliceacha cad is brí le bheith beo go hiomlán mar dhuine – an saol beo go hiomlán i gCríost. Íogair d'oiriúnacht aoise na ranganna agus na mblianta éagsúla, fiosróidh an téama conas atá muid ann dá chéile i gCríost, ag tógáil ó fholláine an duine aonair, ag leathnú coincheap na fíor-fholláine do dhaoine eile, dár dteaghlach agus dár bpobail, agus don Eile, i nDia. Déanfaidh an téama idirghabháil ar an dóchas, ar fhíorchuspóir agus ar bhrí shaol an duine, agus, sna blianta níos sinsearaí, ar fhíorshaoirse.

Mar is gnách, nascfar an téama ag an mbun leibhéal le Lá na Seantuismitheoirí ar an gCéadaoin de Sheachtain na Scoileanna Caitliceacha.



Déanfaidh na hacmhainní machnamh ar na gnéithe seo laistigh den téama uileghabhálach agus bainfidh siad úsáid as machnamh scrípte ar urnaí, gníomh, guth na mac léinn, agus imní dá chéile.

<https://catholiceducation.ie/catholic-schools-week-2025-alive-in-christ/>



Tá súil againn go bhfuil sibh ag baint taitnimh as stór Laudate 2025 agus táimid ag súil go mór leis an gceiliúradh le linn Sheachtain na Scoileanna Caitliceacha 2024.

Is iad seo a leanas na hionaid agus na dátaí do Laudate 2025:

Ballymun Road

'Laudate Festival' 28 Eanáir at 7.00-8.15 p.m.

Cleachtadh ar an Deardaoin 16 Eanáir at 12.00-1.30 p.m.

Church of St. Thérèse, Mount Merrion

Laudate Festival' ar an gCéadaoin 29 Eanáir at 7.00-8.15 p.m.

Cleachtadh ar an Máirt 14 Eanáir at 12.00 - 1.30 p.m.

Lean ort ag cur Féile Laudate 2025 chun cinn i do phobal áitiúil – tá an ceiliúradh gan ticéad agus tá cead isteach saor in aisce do chách.

Is bealach iontach é páirt a ghlacadh i Laudate chun ár Scoileanna Caitliceacha agus ár gcreideamh a cheiliúradh.





Launch of the Jubilee Year 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope”

Last May, Pope Francis announced the theme for the Jubilee 2025 as

(Spes non Confundit – Hope Does Not Disappoint).

**Everyone is invited to participate
in this special year of faith.**

THE JUBILEE LOGO

The cross of Christ is the hope that cannot ever be abandoned because we are always in need of it, especially in the most difficult moments.

The Cross, in the shape of a sail, is transformed into an anchor that imposes itself over the waves in motion. A universal symbol of Hope.

The figures represent humanity from the four corners of the World. They are embracing each other to illustrate the solidarity between the peoples, as the first holds onto the cross.

The rough sea is a reminder of the difficulties of the pilgrimage of life. Often, personal events as well as those of the world, press on us more intensely, demanding a greater hope.

The logo shows how the way of the pilgrimage is not an individual effort, but rather collective, with the impression of a growing dynamism that tends more and more to the cross.

Launch of the Jubilee Year 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope”

Homily of Archbishop Dermot Farrell

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral

Sunday, December 29, 2024

"Jesus then went down with Mary and Joseph, and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority, and *his mother stored up all these things in her heart.*" (Luke 2:51)

Last May, when Pope Francis issued his letter to announce the Jubilee Year, the opening of which we celebrate today, he expressed *his* hope that "the Jubilee... would be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God." And he continued, "May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation." (*Spes Non Confundit* §25)

The Holy Father has constantly put before us his vision of the Church, *and of the world*, as a people on a pilgrimage through time. Be it in his ongoing meditations on the 'journey of the Wise Men to Bethlehem,' or in his addresses at the World Youth Days, "the image of 'pilgrimage' has been a constant theme, as, for him, it "describes well our human condition; like pilgrims, we find ourselves facing great questions that have no simple or immediate answers, but challenge us to continue the journey, to rise above ourselves and to press beyond the here and now." ("Address to the Catholic University of Portugal," Lisbon, 3rd August 2023). His sense of the Church as a pilgrim people, and of all of us in the world as in a pilgrimage through time, is born of his profound conviction about the vibrant aliveness of the People of God, and of the dynamic character of "the world and all its inhabitants," as it says in the psalm (see Psalm 24:1). The living God creates a world that is brimming with life, and ever-changing. While there is a stillness deep down things, a profound silence to be discovered and encountered, that discovery must happen in a movement of openness and welcome. Unless we go out to meet the world, most of the world God's offers us will be lost to us, and we to the world.

It is in this spirit that the engaging motto of this Jubilee Year, "Pilgrims of Hope," might best be heard. The Church is people on a journey outwards; especially in this time of apparent decline, when the temptation might be to close ranks, and turn to the security of what we appear to have always known. In a world overflowing with "ideas," it is vital to flesh out, what is at the heart of this motto. We might find one key in Pope Francis's hope for this Jubilee: that it may it be a "a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require in the Church and in society ... " (*Spes Non Confundit* §25)

Hope and trust go hand in hand. Hope is not some feeling that all will be well; rather hope is the conviction of how things truly are, and how they truly will be. Hope is not the result of some type of analysis, a prognosis out of the circumstances in which we find ourselves. No! Hope is beyond logic: it is born out of a relationship. Hope is the expression of a reality that we have experienced.

This was brought home in a wonderful experience relayed by Father Henri Nouwen. In his later years, Nouwen had developed a particular friendship with a troupe of trapeze artists whom he had first encounter in a circus in his native Holland. For a time he even joined them on the road, filling notebooks with his detailed jottings on every aspect of their craft. He had been particularly fascinated by a remark from one of the 'flyers'—the seeming star of the trapeze act—who told him that, in fact, "the flyer does nothing and the catcher does everything." As the flyer explained, "when I fly to (the catcher) I have simply to stretch out my arms and hands and wait for him to catch me...A flyer must fly, and a catcher must catch, and the flyer must trust with outstretched arms, that the catcher will be there for him."



In the insight of these circus artists, Nouwen discovered an empowering and consoling wisdom. So often we measure our identity and success by how well we remain in control. But in the end the depth of our lives is to be discovered in our capacity to let go, to trust, to place ourselves in the hands of another. Hope and trust go hand in hand. All of this is rooted in a relationship: to let go, in the hope of being caught mid-air is the expression of the relationship that had been built up between these trapeze artists. To hold one's arms out in the confidence that one would be caught, flows from the relationship of trust that had been built up between these two brothers. It is no mere calculation; of course there is skill and practice involved, but is it much more than practice and skill. We let go, we give of ourselves in the confident hope that we will be caught.

In its own way, this mirrors the hope of Christ on the cross: even when his mission appears to have come to a halt, Jesus can still pray the words of the Psalm, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.” (Matt 27:46, citing Psalm 22:1) Hoping against hope, he can place his life in his Father’s hands: “Father, into your hands I commend my Spirit.” (Luke 23:46)

There are two dimensions to our Jubilee motto: there is the hope dimension, the dimension that, when we are at our limit—or even beyond it—expresses from our relationship with the Lord and with each other. True hope always involves a leap, a leap born of a deep, maybe unknown, trust. Hope is that which permits us to make that leap, to move beyond ourselves

There is also the ‘pilgrim dimension.’ Hope is not some quality that we receive all of a sudden. Hope comes to those who journey in hope. We put hope into practice. We live hope: it is the expression of a relationship between people who travel together. We travel with each other and we travel with God. Relationships, enduring relationships, take time. At Christmas, reflecting on challenges to peace and on the character of peace-making, I was very taken by an ‘image’ of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, author of *The Little Prince*. He spoke of “peace as a tree which grows a long time.” The same can be said of hope: “HOPE is a tree which grows a long time.” Hope will grow among us, when we journey with hope.

There is a line in the psalms which captures how we might approach this mystery: it says

A king is not saved by his army, nor a warrior preserved by his strength.

A vain hope for safety is the horse, despite its power it cannot save. (Ps 33:16–17)

In the end, even when we journey together, it is the Lord who is our hope. That said, we cannot ignore the suffering and misery of those around us. “Love does not snatch us from the pain of time, but takes the pain of that which passes upon itself. Hope makes us ready to bear the cross of the present” (J. Moltmann). As Pilgrims of Hope, we are all called upon to contribute to sowing seeds of hope everywhere, so that forgiveness allows us “to change the *future and to live different lives, free of anger, animosity and vindictiveness*” (*Hope does Not Disappoint*, 23)

During the Jubilee Year you are invited to journey the pilgrim path of the four churches in the inner city—Westland Row, City Quay, Sean McDermott Street, St Mary’s Pro-Cathedral—and St Kevin’s Church, Glendalough. Called “Pockets of Hope” the pilgrim route leads you through Pope Francis’s document “*Hope Does Not Disappoint*” from the opening lines in St Andrew’s Church to its conclusions in St Mary’s Pro-Cathedral, giving pilgrims time to ponder the richness of his witness to Hope.

It was in hope that Mary *stored all these things—all that had happened to her—in her heart*. (see Luke 2:51) My friends, may we make space in our hearts for the One who comes to save us. As we wait—in joyful hope—may we not wait passively but travel together to meet him. May the Spirit give us hearts shaped by hope, open for the world and all its inhabitants, AND open for our Lord. Could we risk a journey that would transform our lives, and our Church, that would bring us to a new place?

Mary, Mother of Hope, pray for us.

+Dermot Farrell
Archbishop of Dublin

Prayer for January



**Lord, as we begin a new calendar year,
we renew our commitment to offering our students
the best possible quality education.**

**Help us to lead the children to a greater awareness
of your presence in their lives.**

**Give us courage to take on the difficult challenges
and wisdom to make the right decisions along the way,
always listening to your Spirit
and discerning what is best for our students.**

**May Mary, your mother, help us
to lead the children closer to you.**

Amen.

