

REFLECTION AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

SUMMER 2024



MAY: THE MONTH OF MARY

•In the month of May, we celebrate Mary in a special way.

MAKING A MAY ALTAR

- •In this video, Spring is welcomed into the studio of artist Wyllie O Hagan in the making of a May Altar.
- •https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdycM WIHLOA
- •An Irish childhood ritual is remembered and re-enacted in the placing of objects an image of The Madonna and Child together with freshly picked Spring flowers to welcome the Month of May.
- •The staff and pupils of Loreto Primary School, Grange Road celebrates the *Crowning* of *Mary* with a special prayer service.

Queen of the May

https://www.youtube.com /watch?v=TvSEXXkBoX8

Pentecost Sunday

- May 19, 2024
- Pentecost is celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter. It marks the blessing of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ, as referenced in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1-31).
- Image: The Descent of The Holy Spirit on The Apostles and Mary at Pentecost - Painting Elizabeth Wang from https://fineartamerica.com/art/descent+of+the+holy+spirit





Pentecost Sunday -Readings for the Mass

- Acts 2:1-11,
- 1 Corinthians 12:3-7-12 13,
- John 20:19-23

These readings explore the themes of

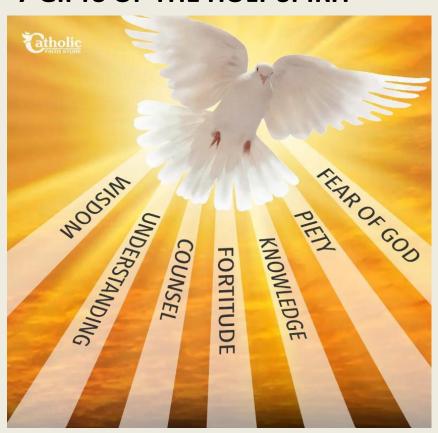
- The Holy Spirit
- The Fruits of the Spirit
- Evangelization
- Reconciliation



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8yOAxWyfvA
We listen to the music of Veni Sancte Spiritus.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

7 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



CONFIRMATION

We pray for all our pupils who have celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation this year.





We pray for all our pupils who have celebrated the sacrament of First Holy Communion this year.



We love you Lord Jesus.
Stay with us we pray.
Help us to be more like
you each day
Your love for us,
our love for you,
we celebrate today.
Fill our hearts
with peace and joy.
Be with us Lord
we pray.



Laudato Si' Week will take place from May 19-26. This year is dedicated to inspiring "a personal and cultural transformation in the midst of our ecological and climate crises". To this end, a Celebration Guide has been launched along with a Social Media Kit with materials available for organizations and communities.





This year's theme is

"Seeds of Hope",

inspired by the

Season of Creation 2024 symbol,

"the first fruits of hope".

The theme is accompanied by a guiding quote from Laudate Deum:

"There are no lasting changes without cultural changes ... and there are no cultural changes without personal changes" (LD 70).



Seeds of Hope May 19-26, 2024

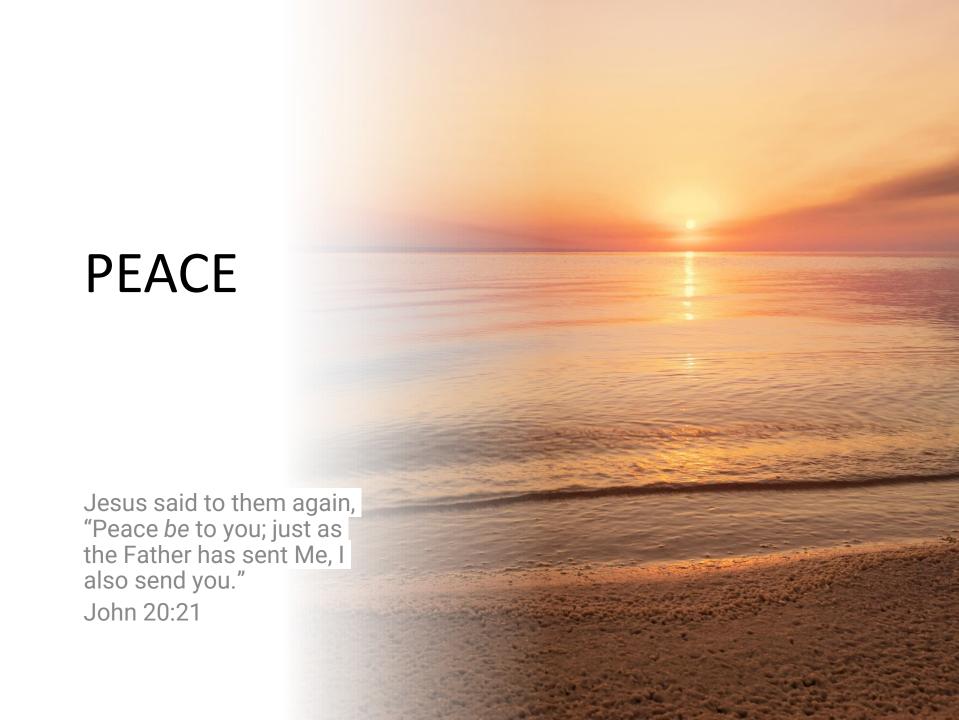
• See https://laudatosiweek.org/

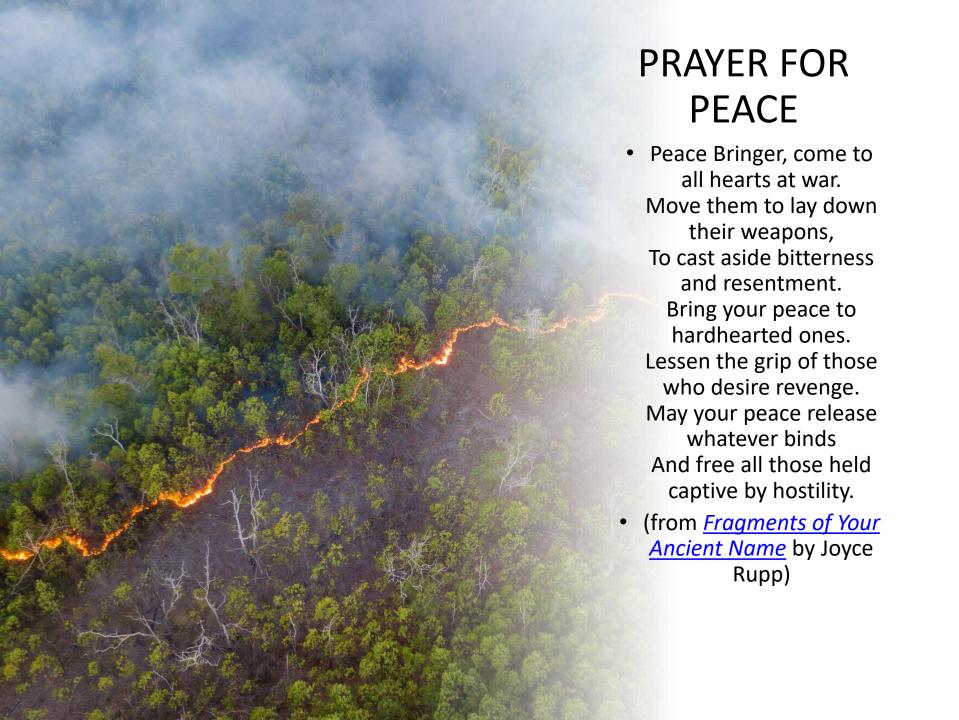


John Rutter: For the beauty of the earth

 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTOfSKXk Ra0

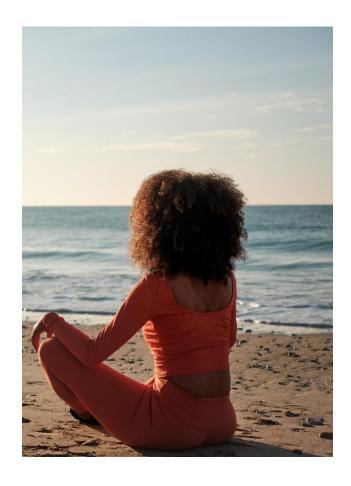






DEEP PEACE OF CHRIST TO OUR WORLD

- Deep peace of the running wave to you Deep peace of the flowing air to you Deep peace of the quiet earth to you Deep peace of the shining stars to you Deep peace of the gentle night to you
- Moon and stars pour their healing light on you
 Deep peace of Christ,
 Of Christ, the light of the world to you
 Deep peace of Christ to you.
- (A Gaelic Blessing)





A Student's Prayer

Lord, I know you are with me and love me.
 Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.
 Help me to focus on my books and notes,
 keep me from all distractions so that I will make the best use

of this time that is available to me.

Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying,

and help me to remember it when the time comes. Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study and for the many gifts and talents you have given me. Help me always to use them in such a way that they honour you and do justice to myself. Amen



Prayer Before Exams

 Lord you are my friend and you are with me today and always.

You have blessed my life with many gifts and talents.

As the exams approach I feel nervous so I pray for your peace.

Calm my mind so that I can think clearly and write down what I know.

Help me to remember what I have learned and to do my best.

Lord your loving presence surrounds me.

Help me to trust that you will guide me.

Amen. (Salesians)



A REFLECTION AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

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Step One: Become aware of God's presence.

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you review the year with faith, hope and love...

in a wholesome way...
not judging ...
all is well and will be well

• • •





Step Three: Pay attention to your emotions.

Think over the year again and notice your emotional reactions.

What memories speak most loudly to you?

What events, conversations, relationships, or activities bring up the most emotion now, as you remember them?

Ask God to help you stay with these emotions. What can you learn about yourself or about your situation from these feelings?



Step Four: Choose one feature of the year and pray about it.

While you are reflecting on your memories and emotions, let one feature come to mind. It may be a single event, or maybe it's a pattern of your own behavior that has come to mind as you reviewed the year.

Stay with the one thing that has come to you with the most power and pray from those thoughts and emotions.





Step Five:
Look towards
the Summer
...with faith,
hope,
love,
joy and
gratitude...





We now take time to pray for those in our school community who have lost loved ones during the year.

The Clouds' Veil

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3hsBG

wQjBw

Loving God,

we remember in prayer all in our Loreto family

who have died.

Today we remember especially those who have died recently.

In the silence of our hearts, we pray for them with love and gratitude.

We pray for comfort and healing for their families and friends and for all who mourn.

Prayer for those who mourn

Bless those who mourn, eternal God, with the comfort of your love that they may face each new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given.

May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.

Amen.

Vienna Cobb Anderson, from Prayers of Our Hearts



You can shed tears that they have gone, or you can smile because they have lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that they will come back, or you can open your eyes and see all they have left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see them, or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday, or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember only that they have gone, or you can cherish their memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back.

Or you can do what they would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.



The timeless NOW of Eternity by Sr Eileen Randles IBVM

- Death is
 Not an end
 But a continuing
 A changing
 For new-venue living
- A going
 And a coming
 With God
 To God
 All faith fulfilling



The timeless NOW of Eternity (contd)

- No longer
 Wavering
 Wondering
 But secure
 At peace.
- Happily gone on ahead Rejoining Awaiting Horizon-scanning In the timeless NOW of Eternity

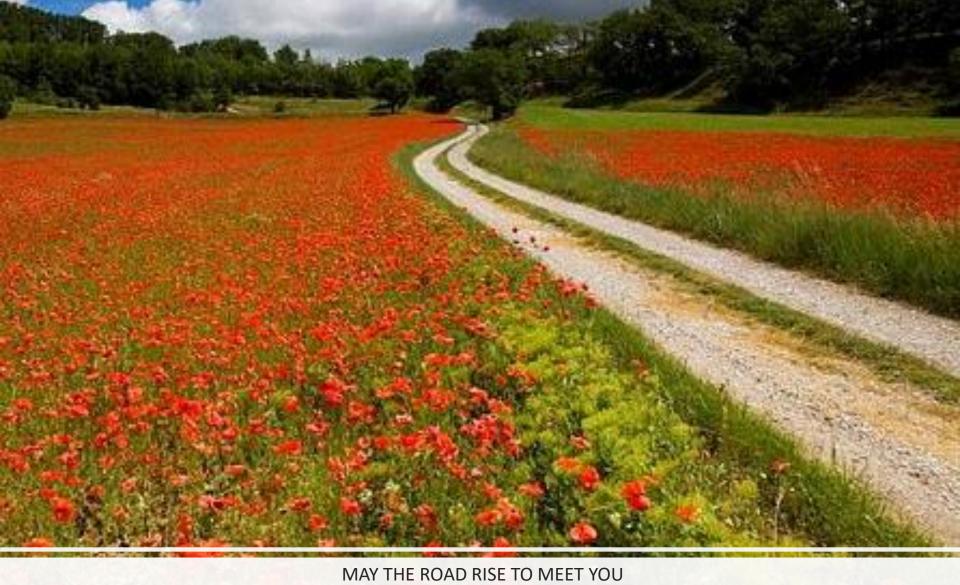


At The End Of The Year John O'Donohue

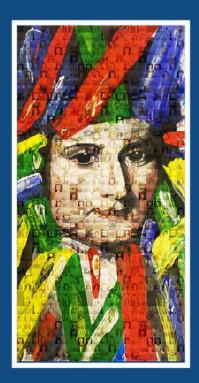
As this year draws to its end,
We give thanks for the gifts it brought
And how they became inlaid within
Where neither time nor tide can touch them.
The days when the veil lifted
And the soul could see delight;
When a quiver caressed the heart.

Days when beloved faces shone brighter
With light from beyond themselves;
And from the granite of some secret sorrow
A stream of buried tears loosened.
We bless this year for all we learned,
For all we loved and lost
And for the quiet way it brought us
Nearer to our invisible destination.



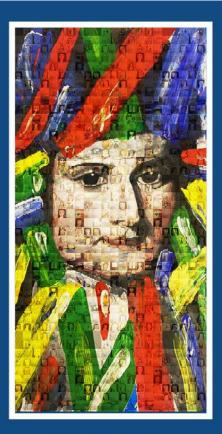


MAY THE ROAD RISE TO MEET YOU https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tn9hLK2nmPM



Molfaidh mé cineáltas agus trócaire Dé go deo.

I will sing forever of God's goodness and mercy.
The mercies of the Lord I will sing forever.



Have always at hand an amusing book and open it when you are getting dull.

Bíodh grá agaibh dá chéile agus muinín agaibh as a chéile.

Judge one another kindly, loving and trusting each other loyally in thought and deed.

Cuimhnigh i gcónaí, go gcúiteofar gach gar faoi chéad.

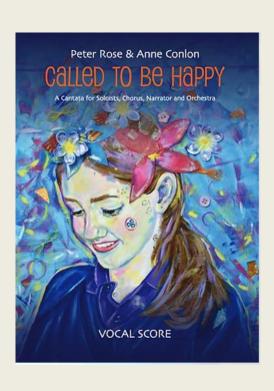
To remember that the kindness I extend will be repaid a hundredfold.

Frances Teresa Ball



Loreto World Anthem https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLHQiCXfbNl

CALLED TO BE HAPPY



'Be Yourself' from Called to be Happy - a new cantata written in honour of Mary Ward, commissioned by the Maria Ward Schule, Mainz, Germany in celebration of their 300th Anniversary and composed by Peter Rose and Anne Conlon.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6t0hJC1-hGw

BE YOURSELF

Be yourself, what you really are,

In all you say, in all you do.

The Lord needs labourers to do his work

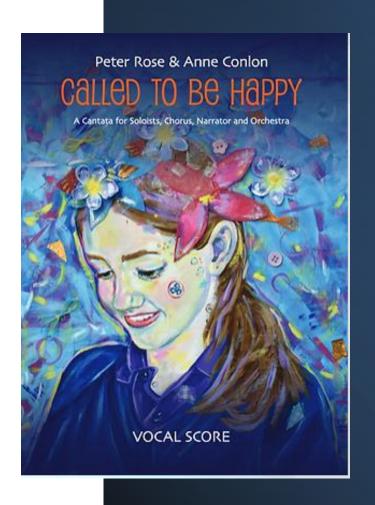
So use the talents which he gave to you.

Don't hide those talents in clamour and noise

Or drown them in black despair,

But seek them out and use them well,

For these gifts from God are yours to share.



BE YOURSELF

Be yourself, what you really are, In all you say, in all you do.

The Lord needs labourers to do his work

So use the talents which he gave to you.

If the world you see seems tattered and torn

And you fear tomorrow may never come,

Don't clutter your life with things of no worth,

Don't cower away, helpless and dumb.

