



ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL, LETTERKENNY  
25TH MARCH 2022



**LITURGY OF REPENTANCE  
&  
ACT OF CONSECRATION  
OF RUSSIA AND THE UKRAINE  
TO THE  
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

## Opening Hymn

*Response: Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi  
(Give heed, O Lord, and have mercy, because we have sinned against Thee).*

To Thee, highest King,  
Redeemer of all,  
do we lift up our eyes  
in weeping:  
Hear, O Christ,  
the prayers of your servants.

Right hand of the Father,  
corner-stone,  
way of salvation,  
gate of heaven,  
wash away  
our stains of sin.

We beseech Thee, God,  
in Thy great majesty:  
Hear our groans  
with Thy holy ears:  
calmly forgive  
our crimes.

To Thee we confess  
our sins admitted  
with a contrite heart  
We reveal the things hidden:  
By Thy kindness,  
O Redeemer, overlook them

May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: “Behold your son” (Jn 19:26). In this way he entrusted each of us to you. To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: “Behold, your Mother” (v. 27). Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history. At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ. The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. The “Fiat” that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace. We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God’s mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Our Lady of the “Fiat”, on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God. May you, our “living fountain of hope”, water the dryness of our hearts. In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion. You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen.

**Final Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity. By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart. We are your beloved children. In every age you make yourself known to us, calling us to conversion. At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort. Say to us once more: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times. In you we place our trust. We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid. That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs. To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3). Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity has faded. We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace. We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness. How greatly we need your maternal help!

Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer. Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war. Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation. Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world. Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness. Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons. Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love. Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity. Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land.

## **Introduction**

*Bishop:* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All: Amen.*

*Bishop:* Grace and peace to you from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ who has given his life for our sins.

*All: Blessed be the Lord forever.*

*Bishop:* Brothers and sisters, God calls us once more to conversion: Let us pray to obtain once more the grace of new life in Christ the Lord.

*All recollect themselves in a time of silent prayer.*

*Bishop:*

All powerful and merciful God who have gathered us together in the name of your Son,

to give grace and mercy to us in due season,

open our eyes that we might perceive the evil that has been done and touch our hearts that we might convert ourselves to you.

May your love rebuild in unity what our faults have broken asunder; and may your power heal our wounds and give us strength to our weakness.

May your Spirit renew the whole of our lives and give back to us the power of your charity,

that the image of your Son might shine forth within us and that all people may see in the face of the Church the glory of him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All: Amen.*

## **Liturgy of the Word**

### **Examination of Conscience**

*Bishop:* Trusting in the mercy of God our Father, let us acknowledge our sins.

*All: I confess to almighty God...*

*Bishop:* May almighty God have mercy...  
*All: Amen.*

*Bishop:* Let us confidently call upon Jesus Christ who has won victory over sin and death, that he reconcile us with God and with the Church whom we have wounded by our sins.

*Response: A Thiarna, déan trocáire.*

1. Lord, sent by the Father to bring good news to the poor, and to heal our broken hearts, have mercy upon us. R/.
2. Lord, who came to call and to save sinners, have mercy on us. R/.
3. Lord, who welcomed the sinner who anointed your feet with ointment and forgave her many sins on account of her great love, have mercy on us. R/.
4. Lord, who deigned to be with publicans and sinners, have mercy on us. R/.
5. Christ, Good Shepherd, who carried the lost sheep upon your shoulders, have mercy on us. R/.
6. Lord, who did not condemn the woman caught in adultery but restored her to peace, have mercy on us. R/.
7. Lord, who called Zacchaeus, the publican, to conversion and new life, have mercy on us. R/.
8. Lord, who promised paradise to the repentant thief, have mercy on us. R/.
9. Lord, who live and reign at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us, have mercy on us. R/.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Bishop:* Aitheanta an tslánaithe dár dtreorú agus briathar Dé dárdeagasc, tá sé de mhisneach againn a rá:

**Ár nAthair atá ar neamh,  
go naofar d'ainm,  
go dtaga do ríocht,  
go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh,  
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.**

**Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu,  
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha,  
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin,  
agus ná lig sinn i gcathú,  
ach saor sinn ó olc.**

### **Concluding Prayer**

O Lord, who limit our weakness,  
Grant us to welcome with joy the fruits of the redemption,  
And may we show them by the renewal of our lives.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All: Amen.*



### **ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. As our Mother, you love us and know us: no concern of our hearts is hidden from you. Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence! You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations. We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young. We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns. We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons. We stopped being our neighbour's keepers and stewards of our common home. We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters. We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves. Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!