

INTERCESSIONS FOR A NATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION

(RI)

**(INTERCESSIONS SUITABLE FOR THE IRISH NATIONAL DAY OF
COMMEMORATION ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF JULY.)**

Almighty God, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear the prayers of those who ask in faith...

We pray for your Church in all the world, for its unity and mission
for this diocese and for N. our bishop..

On this day we remember the continuing role of the church in building peace and embodying Christ's own ministry of reconciliation. We think of those whose discipleship brings them into places of conflict and risk, those who help to demolish walls of mistrust and prejudice and all who stand alongside victims of hatred and sectarianism.

We pray that the Church, so often inclined to compare itself to an army on the move, may remain at the forefront of a godly struggle for human rights, equality and justice in this society and in the world

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us

Father of all humankind, we ask your special blessing on the United Nations Organisation in the rich variety of its work:

In education and health, In the support of children, In the promotion of development and the combating of poverty, and particularly in keeping the light of peace shining in the trouble spots of the world.

We pray for our fellow countrymen and women engaged with the representatives of other nations in the work of international peace keeping. We think of the dangers they face and we support in prayer their families at home.

We pray for the Secretary – General and the Security Council whose members carry such responsibility

And we pray that the leaders of this and of all the nations may be given the courage and the discernment always to choose the good and refuse the evil, in accordance with your will

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us

We pray for this community, for all who display courage in upholding justice and in preserving peace amongst us, those who selflessly do their duty so that we may rest easily at night. We pray for the members of the Army and the Garda Siochana, that in all their work they may blend firmness with compassion and display the highest standards of integrity, loyalty and public service. We ask for a renewed spirit of Christian citizenship in to-day's society which so often bows unthinkingly at the shrines of comfort and individualism

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us

We pray for the sick, suffering and bereaved. We especially remember those among us who still bear the physical and psychological scars of past wars and all persons and organisations that offer them friendship and see to their practical needs.

We pray too for the reconciling of memories that have been left to us by past conflicts, recalling how each community will contain people whose relatives suffered for the freedom of this land, and others who feel the causes for which their forebears fought have failed to be cherished in the march of this nation's history. We ask that this day of general commemoration may be a time of mutual understanding and fresh appreciation of past valour and sacrificial courage, however displayed.

We stand in solidarity with all in God's world who long to share our experience of democracy and free speech, and pray that we ourselves may never become complacent about such blessings

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us

We bless your holy name for all your servants who have died in faith....

On this day we remember with gratitude and respect Irishmen and Irishwomen who lost their lives on the battlefields of history, at home and overseas. We recall especially the distinguished and often costly role our defence forces have played in the work of peace keeping with the United Nations.

Let us in silence remember before God all those who, motivated by selfless patriotism and the call of duty, brought honour upon our nation in their lives and in their deaths.

SILENCE

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Grant that we may share with them the joys of your eternal kingdom

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us