##### **Story of the week- The Visit**

##### **Ruth went to her mailbox, and there was only one letter. She picked it up and looked at it before opening it, but then she looked at the letter again.**

There was no stamp, no postmark, only her name and address. She read the letter:  
Dear Ruth: I'm going to be in your neighbourhood Saturday afternoon, and I'd like to stop by for a visit. Love Always,  
God  
  
Her hands were shaking as she placed the letter on the table. "Why would the Lord want to visit me? I'm nobody special. I don't have anything to offer." With that thought, Ruth remembered her empty kitchen cabinets. "Oh my goodness, I really don't have anything to offer. I'll have to run down to the store and buy something for dinner." She reached for her purse and counted out its contents. Five dollars and forty cents. "Well! I can get some bread and cold cuts, at least." She threw on her coat and hurried out the door.

A loaf of French bread, a half-pound of sliced turkey, and a carton of milk...leaving Ruth with grand total twelve cents to last her until Monday. Nonetheless, she felt good as she headed home, her meagre offerings tucked under her arm. "Hey lady, can you help us, lady?" Ruth had been so absorbed in her dinner plans; she hadn't even noticed two figures huddled in the alleyway. A man and a woman, both dressed in little more than rags.

"Look lady, I ain't got a job, ya know, and my wife and I have been living out here on the street, and, well, now it's getting cold, and we're getting kinda hungry and, well, if you could help us, lady, we'd really appreciate it." Ruth looked at them both. They were dirty, they smelled bad, and frankly, she was certain that they could get some kind of work if they really wanted to.

"Sir, I'd like to help you, but I'm a poor woman myself. All I have is a few cold cuts and some bread, and I'm having an important guest for dinner tonight, and I was planning on serving that to Him." "Yeah, well, okay lady, I understand. Thanks anyway." The man put his arm around the woman's shoulders, turned, and headed back into the alley. As she watched them leave, Ruth felt a familiar twinge in her heart. "Sir, wait!" The couple stopped and turned as she ran down the alley after them. "Look, why don't you take this food. I'll figure out something else to serve my guest."

She handed the man her grocery bag. "Thank you lady. Thank you very much!" "Yes, thank you!" It was the man's wife, and Ruth could see now that she was shivering. "You know, I've got another coat at home. Here, why don't you take this one." Ruth unbuttoned her jacket and slipped it over the woman's shoulders. Then smiling, she turned and walked back to the street...without her coat and with nothing to serve her guest. Ruth was chilled by the time she reached her front door and worried too. The Lord was coming to visit, and she didn't have anything to offer Him.

She fumbled through her purse for the door key. But as she did, she noticed another envelope in her mailbox. “That’s odd. The mailman doesn't usually come twice in one day." She took the envelope out of the box and opened it.  
Dear Ruth: A cartoon of a heart in a chest

Description automatically generatedIt was so good to see you again. Thank you for the lovely meal.And thank you, too, for the beautiful coat.

Love Always,  
God  
  
  
The air was still cold, but even without her coat, Ruth no longer noticed.

**Mission Sunday Today!**

The share collection is being replaced today for world-wide mission Sunday and envelopes can be collected at the back of the church for donations.

**A Huge Thank you to** all who donated, attended or just wished us well for our auction. We thank each and everyone one of you for the support.

## **Prayer of the week**

## **Two Peoples, One Land**

Two peoples, one land,  
Three faiths, one root,  
One earth, one mother,  
One sky, one beginning, one future, one destiny,  
One broken heart, One God.  
We pray to You: Grant us a vision of unity.  
May we see the many in the one and the one in the many.  
May you, Life of All the Worlds, Source of All Amazing Differences help us to see clearly.  
Guide us gently and firmly toward each other, toward peace.  
  
- Rabbi Sheila Weinberg

A logo of a tree with colorful hearts

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**Parish Lotto** Some good news, everyone who has a ticket in our fundraiser lotto on Thursday 26th October will also automatically have a chance to win one of the great prizes below in a bonus national Halloween Draw by the service provider *‘Our Fundraiser’* which includes all organisations with a *‘Fundraiser lotto’.*

* **A €1,000 Kildare Village voucher. *If you’re not in you cant win!!!***
* **A Dyson Supersonic Hair Dryer**
* **A €250 Smyth’s Toys voucher**

A graphic of a star and text

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**Facebook,** we have finally got

over one hundred followers

on Facebook. If you haven’t

followed us yet, please do!

Just search Enniskerry parish

and this cover photo will be your guide.

A sun shining through trees

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A close up of a paper

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Friday 29th September with a trip to the Botanic Gardens to see the 'Sculpture in Context'

A collection of watercolor drawings

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**PARISH LINK**

**21st Oct/22nd Oct**

**Welcome to our celebration of the Eucharist this weekend!**

A white bird sitting on a flower

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**We Remember…….**

**This weekend’s intentions –21st/22nd Oct.** St.

Mary’s 6pm: Joe McNamara (Rec Dec’d)  
St Patrick’s 10am: Paul Kennedy (Months Mind) St. Mochonog’s 10am: Marcella Madge Draper (A) JohnMoore (A) Paddy Whack Byrne (A), Margaret & Tom Redden (A)

Nex**t week’s intentions 28th/29th October.**St. Patrick’s 10am: Lily Kavanagh (Birthday Remembrance) St Mochonog’s 10am: Garrett & May King (A)  
Patrick & Margaret Molly – Deceased Birthday Remembrance  
St. Mary’s 11am **–** Eamonn Gibney (A)  
Johnny Gallagher (1st A) & his wife Margaret.

**Reflection for Sunday 22 October 2023**

As we head into the fourth week of the Universal Synod in Rome, the readings today remind us to affirm the faith we have been given, and to remember that it is from this faith, that we receive the love and hope that we need to be Christians in the world today. It’s a world that is often very challenging to us and even sometimes proves unwelcoming to any person of faith. ****

A life-giving community of faith is described very beautifully by Paul in his first letter to the Thessalonians. Paul expresses his satisfaction that faith, hope and love are at work in this community. He places its members among those called and chosen by God. He affirms them in their faith as he notes that the Gospel has not been received by them as mere words, but has made a strong and real impact on their lives through the power of the Holy Spirit and through their own firm conviction. As a result, their faith is alive, demonstrated through loving actions. They are an inspiration to Christians elsewhere because of their perseverance and hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are also reminded in the first reading from the prophet Isaiah that God has called each one of us by name. God calls each one of us, because God loves each one of us equally, and each one of us is called to play a unique part in God’s plan for humanity and all his creation. The Thessalonian community reflects the experience of Catholic communities around the world today, who are living out their faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with love and hope.

The questions that are being addressed in the Synod are an expression of the richness of the process from which they were drawn. That process, which we were all invited to be part of, gathered the rich and varied experiences of each of faith communities around the world. And the Document synthesising the insights from around the world tells us that “the questions bear the imprint of the particular names and faces of those who took part, and they bear witness to the faith experience of the People of God and thus reveal the reality of a transcendent experience.’’ From this point of view, they indicate a horizon towards which we are invited to travel with confidence, deepening the synodal practice of the Church

The synodal journey that we are all on has shown individuals, parishes and dioceses that their experience is needed in the Church. We all have a part to play in finding the best way forward in carrying out God’s plan for the Church in the world today. Yes, there are challenges; yes, we know there are even conflicting views within the Church itself, but the power of the Spirit is there, just as it was for the people of Thessalonica in the early Church. The Synod invites us to travel towards that horizon of the future with confidence by deepening the synodal practice of the Church. In this we are led by the power of the Spirit and by the firm conviction of the People of God.

Pope Francis often encourages us not to be afraid of the Holy Spirit. In fact, he tells us that with the Holy Spirit, faith is life, the love of the Lord conquers us, and hope is reborn. We pray for these gifts of faith, hope and love for our Church as we continue the synodal journey next week.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.** A healing service will take place on

Monday evening the 20th of November for the parish of Enniskerry.

Please pass the word to anyone you know who would be comforted by attending.

A black and white drawing of a person's hand

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