

## COUNTY KILDARE CALLS FOR A PAUSE FOR PEACE ON SAINT BRIGID'S DAY, FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2023

Into Kildare, the Tourism Board for County Kildare and Solas Bhríde Spirituality Centre & Hermitages have jointly launched a global 'Pause for Peace' movement. Pause for Peace will see the residents of County Kildare (Ireland) calling on people all around the world to stop for a minute's silence at 12.00 noon (local time) on St Brigid's day, the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2023.



*The Lord Mayor of Kildare, Solas Bhríde and Into Kildare representatives with children from local schools in Kildare town at the Launch of Pause for Peace in Solas Bhríde on January 12<sup>th</sup>.*

Sr. Rita Minehan of Solas Bhríde said, "This movement for a Pause for Peace sets the scene for marking the new national holiday in honour of Saint Brigid on February 6<sup>th</sup>. It reflects a spiritual underpinning to the holiday and is consonant with the value of peace which Brigid stood for in her time."

She went on to say, "By pausing for peace, we send out a message that we actively oppose warfare and the proliferation of arms, which wreak havoc on human beings as well as on the natural world. This movement aims to awaken and build a spirit of global solidarity in our search for peace. It

would be a fitting tribute to Saint Brigid and to all our ancestors if it were marked with a Pause for Peace on her feast-day, February 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

We are delighted to have three ambassadors for Pause for Peace, they are Ewan Morris, Lily Tyrrell Kenny, Ben Ryan, senior students from Kildare Town Community School.



Already the news has started to spread around the world about the Pause for Peace campaign through the Irish diaspora living abroad, through Tourism Ireland and through the Solas Bhríde network who are located all over the world. New Zealand will be first to start the Pause for Peace movement when they will have a minute's silence for peace at 12.00 noon, their time on Saint Brigid's Day, 1<sup>st</sup> of February. From New Zealand to New York from Brisbane to Barcelona a minute's silence for peace will take place all around the globe and will form part of the rolling Pause for Peace movement. We invite you to participate in this call for a Pause for Peace.

2024 marks the 1500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of St. Brigid. In preparation, various activities and movements will take place in 2023. The Pause for Peace movement is one of

those special events which give recognition to the importance of St. Brigid from a cultural, religious, spiritual and historical point of view.

### **About St. Brigid**

Saint Brigid is one of the three Patron saints of Ireland along side St. Patrick and St. Colmcille/Columba. She established a double monastery for women and men in Kildare towards the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Saint Brigid was renowned as a peacemaker and showed extraordinary leadership in early Irish church and society.

One of the most popular stories associated with her is that of her giving away her father's precious jewelled sword to a poor person so that it could be bartered for food to feed his family. She was compassionate, a protector of the natural world and a formidable force for justice whose light shines every more brightly in our world today.

Pause for Peace will be at 12.00 noon (local time) on Saint Brigid's Day, 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2023. For more information see [www.solasbhride.ie](http://www.solasbhride.ie) or [www.intokildare.ie](http://www.intokildare.ie)

### **About Solas Bhride Centre & Hermitages Ltd**

Solas Bhride is a Christian Spirituality centre with a focus on Saint Brigid of Kildare. The vision of the centre is to unfold the legacy of Saint Brigid and its relevance for our world today. The centre welcomes pilgrims and visitors from all over the world – people of all faiths and none.

Website: [www.solasbhride.ie](http://www.solasbhride.ie)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/solasbhridecentre&hermitagesclg>

### **Into Kildare**

Into Kildare are the Tourism Board for County Kildare.

Website: [www.intokildare.ie](http://www.intokildare.ie)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/into.kildare/>