



THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL
Seanascal Shaorstát Éireann

Beannacht, Éire.

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

This Christmas is unlike any other, and for that, it requires reflection unlike any other. I am conscious of the conditions that have brought our community into existence this year—and with such bleakness bringing beauty, perhaps now is the time to find blessings in the suffering.

The greatest gift to humanity is community, a pairing of the primal urge to associate and the human skills for socialisation. As our communities are so strained, it is only right that we should consider how much we cherish them and how we must surely value them much more when they return.

I also wish to give thanks for the communities that have filled the void and shone light into the darkness for so many this year. Togetherness is a gift, and I am absolutely grateful to be together in Ireland with all of you.

May God bless us all this Christmas and in the New Year with the ability to see the value in what we have taken for granted, most notably each other.

Rath Dé ort,

His Excellency, Sir Connor_Novak CIOM GHS GCI
An Seanascal Shaorstát Éireann