



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2457

25th Jan – 1st February 2026

BACK TO THE DRAWING- BOARD

Isaiah 8:23-9:3; Psalm 26:1-4. 13-14. Corinthians 1:10-13; 17. Matthew 4:12-23

“The Word” or Sacred Scripture traditionally takes second place to the Eucharist in Catholic worship. This makes for a lop-sided attitude to Christian living. More, it allows for dogma, tradition and misleading practices to dominate our view of God and worship. 500 years ago, the same imbalance led to Luther’s Reformation. He restored the Word to prime position in worship, where it remains to this day. In many Christian Churches, the Eucharist celebrated infrequently; The Word is what matters. It underpins everything. On this last day of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity, let us think about that! What difference might it make? Does it make any difference? How do our fellow-Christians live? What can we learn from them?

In 2019 Pope Frances established “Sunday of the Word”; this year it falls today. In 2020 he set up “The Synodal Pathway” as the means and mechanism of “unlocking the treasures contained in the Word of God”. The core element of both is attention to the Holy Spirit – listening, waiting, being open, trusting, searching, wondering, and praying. In many ways, the Church in its practices has wandered far away from the essential message of the Gospel. This is a widespread and justified criticism. We need to get back to the drawing-board and re-set our priorities. Without the help of the Spirit, impossible; with the involvement of the Spirit, guaranteed. We must all participate and we can start by listening. Pope Leo continues this drive for renewal.

Light is prominent in today’s Readings. Twice the famous passage, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light” occurs. The Psalm reminds us “The Lord is my Light and my Help”. As we hear in the Gospel passage of Jesus setting out on his public life, leading by example and preaching, let us do our best to imitate Him. The words of our Communion hymn marry The Word and The Light in a prayer:

Longing for Peace, our world is troubled; longing for Hope, many despair.
our Word alone has power to save us, make us your living voice.
Christ be our Light, shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness;
Christ be our Light, shine in your Church gathered today.

Skerries Church Choir


ANNIVERSARY / SPECIAL INTENTION MASSES

- ✦ **Sat 24th 10am:** Kathleen Glackin (1st A), Phyllis Ayton, Cathal Murray, Anne Conlan, William & Hannah Flynn, Liam Matthews
- ✦ **Sat 24th 6pm:** Lily Mangan (1st A) Laurence & Sheila McNally Betty & Peter Boylan, Tommy Ryan Margaret & Brenda Branagan Sarah Kavanagh (RD)
- ✦ **Sun 25th 9.30am:** Elizabeth Fanning & Family, Dorothy Crowley, Winnifred & Patrick Russell, James ‘Tray’ & Dermot Manson, Angela & Sean Lynch, Seamus Dawson
- ✦ **Sun 25th 11am:** Lily Mangan (1st A), Gavan O’Kelly (1st A), Bernard Corr, Denis McKeown, Ellen O’Connell, Joan McDonnell, Vincent & Eileen Boyle, Tom & Dolores Ferguson
- ✦ **Mon 26th 10am:** Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ **Tue 27th 10am:** Joe McDonnell (BR),

Frances Duff

- ✦ **Wed 28th 10am:** Mary Nugent (BR), Vincent Peters, Seamus Moorhouse (BR), Ann Farrell
- ✦ **Fri 30th 10am:** Angela Dixon, Fr. Robert Curley
- ✦ **Sat 31st 6pm:** Peter Keane (1st A), Phyllis Carr, Eileen & Ted Williams, Frank & Anne Rogan, John & Eithne Everard
- ✦ **Sun 1st Feb 9.30am:** Gaye McGirl
- ✦ **Sun 1st Feb 11am:** Breda Ferguson (1st A), Ronnie Fay, Sean Rogan, Molly Gough.

OUR SYMPATHY

 To the family of Elizabeth ‘Lill’ Hughes, Sherlock Park, Isobel ‘Bella’ Fanning, Shenick Road, Margaret ‘Rita’ Somerville, Strand Street, Josephine ‘Josie’ McKenna, Rush NH/St. Patrick’s Close, Una Sweeney, Nazareth House NH/Kelly’s Bay Rock. May they Rest in Peace.

FEASTDAYS

24th Jan – St. Francis de Sales
26th Jan – St. Timothy & Titus
28th Jan – St. Thomas Aquinas
30th Jan – St. Aidan
31st Jan – St. John Bosco
1st Feb – St. Brigid

BRIDGE MASS

The next Bridge Mass will take place on Sunday **1st February at 11am**. All children who are preparing for First Penance and First Holy Communion, along with the families are encouraged to attend this mass.

LAUDATE FESTIVAL OF SONG 2026

♪♪ As part of Catholic Schools Week, the Laudate Festival of Song will take place next **Tuesday 27th January** in the Church of Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road at **7.00 p.m.** Over 80 children from the choirs of St. Patrick's Junior and Senior schools will take part in this uplifting evening of music, song and reflection. All families, friends and parishioners are invited to attend and support our young singers. This event is ticketless and admission is free.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB

The Club is now open for 2026. Membership due please. 1.45 - 2pm in the Little Theatre every Mon except Bank Holidays. New members welcome.

PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART

The last few Pioneer 2026 CALENDARS for sale price €5 at the rear of church after all Masses this weekend.

COFFEE MORNING



St. Francis Hospice coffee morning will be on **Friday 6th February** 10.30 - 12.00 in Skerries Harps.

AGE ACTION IRELAND – DIGITAL TRAINING

Whether you are a complete beginner or would like to brush up on your computer skills, come and join Age Action's **free** Getting Started Computer Course in Skerries Library. Getting Started provides you with five weeks x 10 hrs free individual tuition. Enrolment necessary – please call Age Action on: 01:475 6989 or email gettingstarted@ageaction.ie

SKERRIES LADIES BOWLS

Due to the bad weather last Monday there was no ladies competition. Hopefully next Monday will be better. Meanwhile Indoor Bowls continues each Wednesday in the Clubhouse from 1.30p.m.

SKERRIES NEW LIBRARY

The newly refurbished Carnegie Free Library at Skerries will **re-open to the public on the 29th of January at 11am**.

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB



Our weekly Club Lottery – ZINGO – continues to attract new members. Choose your 4 lucky numbers from 1 – 28 to win the Jackpot! Match 3 numbers for a €100 prize! Entry is only €2. Numbers drawn on Sun last 18 Jan. were 1, 2, 15, 24. Match 3 winners Joe Morley who nets €100. **Jackpot on 25 Jan is €2,200**. Zingo can be played Online or via the envelopes in the clubhouse and you can now sign up to Zingo via your membership renewal! The draw is every Sunday at 6.30pm in the clubhouse and we also hold a lucky dip In-house draw. See www.skerriesharps.ie/zingo

Adult games resume for our 3 Football teams on weekend **22 Feb** with Hurling starting **1st March**.

Eyes Down for BINGO every fortnight with next session on **Mon 26 Jan** at 8 p.m.

Gormanston Indoor Hurling/Camogie continues on Sunday mornings for Juvenile boys and girls.

Membership Fees for 2026 are now due – players must be paid up before games re-commence.

Fees can be renewed online via our website.

GALA Presentation Night on **Fri 30 January** in Bracken Court Hotel is Sold Out.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

The Temporary Library has closed since January 5th to allow the contents to be transferred to the new extension.

Thanks to Fr. Melvyn, a box for Used Postage Stamps will be placed at the back of the Church for a few weeks. The Guide Dogs Association appreciate all the stamps - many thanks.

Parish Website: www.stpatricksskerries.ie Email: info@stpatricksskerries.ie Ph (01)8106771, RCN 20016166;

Fr Melvyn 01 9629662; Parish Mobile No - for out of normal hours, **emergencies** only - 089 2053460;

Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstpatricksskerries@gmail.com; Bulletin Email: skerriesbulletin@gmail.com