



# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No. 2450

30 Nov – 7 Dec 2025

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 2:1-5. Ps 121. Rm13 11-14. Mt 24:37-44

Today we begin a new Church Year with Advent and our preparation for Christmas. Advent means “coming” or “arrival”. The Church encourages us to prepare for the coming of Christ by fostering an attitude of expectation. It is a time of great grace and renewal. The more seriously we live out the spirit of Advent by prayer, fasting and almsgiving the better prepared we will be to celebrate the birth of Christ. The second reading and the Gospel today highlight the need to be ready for Christ’s Second Coming. We are told to be vigilant, “to stay awake for we do not know the hour when the Son of Man will come”. This points to the hour of our own death. In the second reading St. Paul tells us how we can be ready to meet the Lord. We are to “live decently as people do in the daytime”, to be children of light. One of the enemies of alert living is busyness. When we are caught up in our own agenda, we become less sensitive to what is happening around us. Despite all the necessary preparations for Christmas, we must remember that it is Christ’s Birthday we are celebrating. He should be “Centre Stage”. Christ-like love is all we need to put Christ at the centre of our lives. So let us take Isaiah’s words to heart, “Come, Walk in the light of the Lord” during this Advent. *Holy Faith Sisters*

## Building Hope - Faith for the Future

Over the coming weeks the Parish Pastoral Council has a three-part reflection on “Why Sunday Matters”. An invitation to reflect on Sunday Mass (Part 1)

Sunday is central to Christian life as the day of resurrection, rest, and Eucharist. Gathering for Mass unites us in faith, offering a chance to encounter Christ, be spiritually nourished, and renew our commitment as disciples. Attending Sunday or Saturday vigil Mass is both a privilege and an opportunity to experience God’s love.

Reflecting on Mass through Synodality—Communion, Participation, and Mission—reminds us it is a communal event that strengthens our unity as the People of God. Questions are provided at the end for further reflection and prayer.

- How can you enrich your experience of Mass?
- How can young people engage more fully in Sunday celebrations?

Sunday Mass is a meaningful encounter with Christ, grounding our identity as Christians. Like the disciples meeting Jesus on the road to Emmaus, we encounter Him in the Eucharist and affirm our shared identity as the Body of Christ. The Sunday celebration fosters unity, solidarity, and collective worship, as highlighted by Pope Saint John Paul II.

This is an edited version of “Why Sunday Matters” that was for the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference. To see the full article, please use web link;

[Why Sunday Matters – an invitation to reflect on Sunday Mass | Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

### ANNIVERSARY / SPECIAL INTENTION MASSES

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Mike & Shirley Cogavin, Eamonn Smith, Derek McGonagle

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 6pm:** Evelyn Byrne (1<sup>st</sup> A) & decd mbrs of the Byrne & Lynch families, Thomas Lannon, Decd mbrs of the Crowley & McMahon families, Paul Carroll, Larry, Jo & Noel Doyle, Special Intention

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Michael Walsh, Ita Roberts, Finian Murray (br), Beth & Alec McKenna (rem), Seamus Sweetman (br)

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 11am:** Paul Workman (1<sup>st</sup> A), Thomas Flanagan, Paddy Murray & John Hughes, Eileen & Maureen Murphy, Karen McDonald Hodson, Nicky Cash

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 10am:** Mass Card Intentions

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec:** Margaret Farrell (BR)

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am:** Ellen, Tom, Maeve & Gretta Palmer & decd Mbrs of the Palmer family, Sinead Neeves Wilde, Margaret McEvoy

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 10am:** First Friday – Altar List

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Michael Duggan

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 6pm:** Claire & Barry Mason, Billy & Milly McElwee, William & Frances Tanner, Liam, Tony,

Nicky, Jos & Ollie Shiels (rem), Kaye Rooney, Mark Comey (rem), Ann Marjorem (rem)

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Martin Archbold, Bernard & Maryann Moles, Patsy & Thomas Hand, Eileen & Maureen Murphy (A) & decd mbrs of the family, Mollie Smyth

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> 11am:** Eileen ‘Elizabeth’ McIlwaine (MM), Susan Butler (1<sup>st</sup> A), Leo Bolton, Vera & Noel Morris, Des, Tom & Nell O’Leary, Marie & Michael Grimes

### FEASTDAYS

29<sup>th</sup> Nov- First Evening Prayer of Advent

30<sup>th</sup> Nov – First Sunday of Advent

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec – St. Francis Xavier

### OUR SYMPATHY

To the families of Philomena ‘Phyl’ McBrien, RIP, The Kybe and Fergus Cullen, RIP, Golf Links Rd who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

### CHRISTMAS MASS CARDS

Christmas Mass cards are on sale in the Parish Office. As in previous years proceeds from the sale of the cards will go to The Capuchin Homeless Day Centre, Dublin.

Parish Website: [www.stpatricksskerries.ie](http://www.stpatricksskerries.ie) Email: [info@stpatricksskerries.ie](mailto: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](mailto:ppcstpatricksskerries@gmail.com) Bulletin Email: [skerriesbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:skerriesbulletin@gmail.com)

## **DATES TO NOTE**

**December 5<sup>th</sup> – First Friday**, Altar List,  
**Padre Pio Mass** - 7.30pm

The Hallelujah Christmas Concert is on the 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. Tickets are available from the parish office @ €20 per head, also available at [www.hallelujahchristmas.com](http://www.hallelujahchristmas.com)

## **CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2025**

Envelopes will be available for collection in the Parish Office after all Masses next weekend 6/7<sup>th</sup> December and after 10am Mass on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Your help in distributing the Christmas envelopes will be very much appreciated. Thank you.

## **CALENDAR 2026**

Copies of The Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of The Sacred Heart are available in the Parish Office

## **MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

This is a holy day of obligation. The only Mass for the holy day will be @10am.

## **SKERRIES COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Annual Christmas concerts are on Dec 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in Holmpatrick Church. Tickets €15 cash at door. A donation will be made to the Irish Kidney Assoc. Come along to support this worthy cause and have a lovely festive evening.

**USED POSTAGE STAMPS** can be left into Skerries Temporary Library. Please leave ¼” trim around the stamps. The Guide Dogs Association is most grateful for the stamps.

## **THE SEASON OF ADVENT – EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

During this season of Advent exposition of the blessed sacrament will take place in the church each Tuesday afternoon from 3 pm to 5 pm. This year each Tuesday will have a theme/intention. A list of these intentions will be displayed on notices in the glass area and the porches of the church. These days offer us an opportunity to spend some time in silent prayer/adoration as we prepare for Christmas.

## **PRIMARY SCHOOL SURVEY**

The current Dept. of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important as it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come. It is important that those who wish for a change in patronage to have their voice heard. It is equally important that those who wish for a Catholic Education for their children and for those who would wish for sacramental preparation within school would have their voice heard also. Please participate in this survey if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a Primary school

child. NB - If you have children attending more than one school please reply to the survey for each school. The survey link is on the Dep. of Education website.

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025**

Takes place on **Sat 13<sup>th</sup> and Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Dec** at all Masses. We try and live by the ethos of St. Vincent De Paul - Compassion, Service and Respect. We could not serve the people who request help without your support. We would ask that you do not let pride come in the way of asking for help if you need it. Confidentiality is utmost in our dealings with people so please feel comfortable to call us. Donations can be made to our Bank Account - Iban  
IE19AIBK93224809851094. Bic AIBKIE2D.  
Or can also be made through the Parish Office in the blue envelopes provided or to any conference member.  
Head Office Helpline No - 01 8848200

## **FINGAL OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

You are all welcome to enter, free for members and €40 for others by Tue 16 Dec. Small sections of 6 players who are close together in rating and strength make for 5 close games spread out over 11 weeks from 6 Jan - 10 Mar 2026. Ideal for players of any strength who may wish to gently get back into chess again. For more details see ICU event page and Details article. Non-members enter there while members enter on [skerrieschess.com](http://skerrieschess.com). We plan to arrange coaching in between rounds. If you want further details, please ring 086 3745410. Hoping some of you will play! Skerries Chess Club

## **SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB**

Under 21 Footballers will play St Pats, Donabate in Championship final on 6 Dec – venue TBC.  
Under 15 girls won final v Whitehall, Under 14 Camogie won final v St Maurs and Under 21 Camogie continued their Championship run by defeating Ballyboden, away. Finally, our Minor Hurlers won their League with an away win on Sunday morning. Congrats to all the winners!! Sat 29 Nov. Under 21 Hurling Championship Final v O'Tooles in Skerries at 2 pm.  
Sun 30 Nov. Under 21 Camogie semi final v Ballyboden in Skerries at 12.30. Sat 06 Dec. Under 21 Football Championship Final v St Patricks at 2 pm – venue to be confirmed. ZINGO 23 Nov. 7, 5, 1, 4, 2, 6, 3. No winners. Jackpot now €1,400. Draw on Sunday at 6 p.m Join Online or by Envelope. Entry is €2 per line or 3 lines for €5. See [www.skerriesharps.com](http://www.skerriesharps.com)  
Tickets for our Super Christmas Raffle go on sale online shortly. Cash prizes plus lots of vouchers for local shops. Draw in Clubhouse on Sat 20 Dec. Tickets €5 or book of 6 for €25. BINGO. Next Bingo is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. at 8 p.m with Jackpot of €650 and we have a Special Christmas Bingo on Monday 15 Dec.

*Parish Website: [www.stpatricksskerries.ie](http://www.stpatricksskerries.ie) Email: [info@stpatricksskerries.ie](mailto:info@stpatricksskerries.ie) Ph (01)8106771, RCN 20016166  
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