



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No. 2461

22nd Feb – 1st March, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7 Psalm 50:3-6,12-14,17 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11



*Keeping
a Holy Lent*

In the opening prayer of our liturgy, we are reminded that Lent is a yearly observance, and we see and sense this new season as the colour purple, signifying waiting, humility and preparation is adopted and the Gloria is omitted during Mass. While our individual observance of this forty-day period depends on our circumstances, each year Lent can be an opportunity to reflect on how we live our lives; what we might do better and what we might change.

Our readings take us from the Book of Genesis and the temptation in the Garden of Eden to the passage from Matthew's Gospel and the temptation of Christ during his Lent, the forty days and forty nights he fasted in the desert. The passage from St Paul's Letter to the Romans, which comes between the first reading and the Gospel, reassures us that Christ's mission on earth, his Lent and his death were accomplished to offer a righteous way of life to those, like us, who believe and like Christ, obey. We have however our part to play.

We are reminded in the Prayer after Communion of the need to nourish our faith through participation in the Eucharist. In a similar way, our participation in Lent can nourish our humility, our sense of waiting and preparation not only for the feast of Easter but for how we might live our lives differently.

Church Readers

Anniversary / Special Intention Masses

Sat. 21st 10am: Cora & Mick Cannon, Gerry Mansfield, Anthony Morley

6pm: Declan O'Halloran, Elizabeth & Aidan Francis, Ben Gaughran, Mary Marron (br), Helen Branagan, Christine Bowen (rec. dcd.) Brendan O'Hanlon

Sun. 22nd 9.30 am: Vincent Woodlock
Anne O'Sullivan & decd mbrs of the O'Sullivan family, Bobby (A) & Martha Aherne (rem), Mary & Edward 'Eddo' Aherne (rem), Henry Clarke (rem), Derek Reilly (rem) Baby Daisy Mai McDonnell (si)

11am: Fr. Michael Flanagan, Richard Lambe, Janice Downing, Denis Keogh, Christopher Radley, Susan Woods & decd mbrs of the Woods family, Paddy Sexton (br)

Mon. 23rd 10am: Mass Card Intentions

Tues. 24th 10am: Eilish Healy & decd mbrs of the Healy family, Jean Crowley

Fri. 27th 10am: Eva McGinty, Sr. Triona McGinty (br)

Sat. 28th 6pm: Rita Beggs McAllister, Michael Buckley, Joe & Carmel Boylan, Rena Potter, Des Talbot, Chrissie & Mary Branagan

Sun. 1st 9.30am: Michael Woodlock (1st A), John & Marion Beggs, Ben Gaughran, Terry McDonald, Sheila O'Loughlin

11am : Betty Murphy, Maura McNally, Anne Smullen, Jeff Long, James McNally, Anthony Broderick (A) & the Broderick & Farrell families

Our sympathy is extended to

the family and friends of Gerry Harper, Ballygossin Pk, whose death occurred during the week. May he rest in Peace.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



We are asked to mark the season of Lent in some way, so as to prepare for the great celebration of Easter. With this in mind, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Church on Tuesdays during Lent, from 3 – 5 p.m. starting on Tuesday 24th

Many thanks to all who donated so generously to the collection for Accord last weekend

Trocaire Boxes

Boxes are available in the Church for those who wish to support this annual cause. This year the focus is on the women of Rwanda who often carry the burden of caring for their family. 70% of women are involved in agricultural work. Floods and failing crops are recurrent problems in this African country.



We welcome

The girls and boys of our local schools preparing for First Communion this year, who will celebrate their First Penance this week. On Tuesday 24th at 7 p.m. pupils from St. Patrick's Jun. School and on Wednesday 25th at 7 p.m. pupils from Réalt na Mara, ETNS and Milverton.

Lenten Pledge

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart will be taking names for the short-term pledge for Lent after all Masses this weekend.

Danger !!!! – message from Tidy Towns



On a recent beach litter pick on the South Strand, one of our volunteers came across what she subsequently found to be **Hemlock Water Dropwort**. It's been also seen on Barnageeragh, Loughshinny & Balbriggan beaches. This is a **toxic plant** and should not be handled. If ingested by a child or dog, please seek immediate medical or veterinary attention. FCC wish to be notified of any sightings of this plant, and please give an approximate Eircode to aid location. Obviously, it gets washed in and out with the tides. FCC email address is balswooparea@fingal.ie

30 Years ago in the Parish

Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent after evening Mass

Mass was celebrated each morning of Lent in Holy Faith/de la Salle College at 8.30 a.m.

Soup and Bread roll served each Friday of Lent in the Methodist Church, donations to Trocaire Women's World Day of Prayer took place in the Methodist Church

Congratulations to Skerries relay athletes who won Boys Gold and Girls Silver in the recent Indoor Championships

Well done to John Smith and Joe Howard of Fingal Training Centre who won gold medals in the recent Leinster Special Olympics

Thank You !

from the Organising Committee of the Coffee Morning held recently in Skerries Harps in aid of St. Francis Hospice. Thanks to your generosity and that €3791 was raised. Daffodil Day takes place on 20th March. If anyone would like to volunteer an hour of their time, please contact 087- 4185121

Skerries Community College's Transition Year



Transition Year students will take to the stage with this year's musical, "All Shook Up", running from **March 3rd–5th, 2026**.

Featuring the music of Elvis Presley, the show is a large-scale student production involving performance, choreography and backstage work, and has become a highlight of the school calendar. **Tickets are now on sale at:**

www.gr8events.ie/all-shook-up-skerries-community-college or scan the QR code to book!

Skerries Ladies Bowls

24 ladies braved the cold last Monday for our fun competition. This competition continues each Monday at 10.30 a.m. In-house competitions continue and members are involved in the Winter leagues, though the continuing wet weather has led to the postponement of several fixtures

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Adult games resume this weekend – weather permitting. (Check Social Media page)

Sun 22 Feb – Div.1 Football League v St Jude's in Skerries at 10.30 a.m.

Div.6 League v Castleknock in Skerries at 12.15; Div.9 League v St Margaret's, away at 3 p.m.

Minor Hurling v N. Fionnbarra at Newbridge House at 10.30 a.m.

Juvenile Academy on Saturday mornings at 9.45 a.m. for boys and girls with Football, Hurling, Camogie. Club Shop open for playing gear & leisurewear – Tea/Coffee. Newly decorated Function Room now taking bookings for Functions/Parties/Quiz Nights/ Meetings/Fundraisers etc. etc. Details from bookings.harps@gmail.com

ZINGO Sun 15th Feb: 18, 21, 22, 26. No winners.

Jackpot now €2,600. Play Online or via the envelopes in the clubhouse. Draw every Sunday at 6:30 pm See www.skerriesharps.ie/zingo
Next BINGO in Clubhouse on Mon 23 Feb. at 8 p.m. Jackpot is €900 and doors open at 7.30 p.m.

Have you a few minutes ?



In this continuing cold wet weather, many of our older parishioners are not getting out. If you have a few minutes to spare, why not drop in to see how they are doing ? They may welcome a chat, even if it's to give out about the rain!