



## *Mass of the Baptism of the Lord*

Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7 Psalm 28:1-4, 9-10 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17



This feast day, the Baptism of the Lord, focusses our attention on baptism, its significance for Jesus and his disciples and thus for ourselves. The baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan was a public event, rich in symbolism; we can reflect on the humility of Christ, the purifying power of water and the fresh start or new beginning offered by the sacrament.

The importance of baptism is at the core of the Gospel passage from Matthew. John, the disciple, is already baptising and hesitates, in humility, to baptise Jesus: *it is I who need baptism from you*. But Christ made man, just as us, is baptised and thus begins His public life. Our opening prayer reminds us that we are *children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit*.

We are reminded also today that the good news of peace and the gift of eternal life are there for all. In the second reading Peter recognises that God does not have favourites; *anybody - who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him*.

Following his baptism in the Jordan Jesus, we are told, went about doing good. Today's feast day is an opportunity to reflect on a personal interpretation of our baptism and its relevance in our lives.

### *Church Readers*

#### **ANNIVERSARY / SPECIAL INTENTION MASSES**

- ✦ **Sat 10<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Mandy O'Connor
- ✦ **Sat 10<sup>th</sup> 6pm:** Tony Walls (MM), Eddie & John Dunne & family, Treasa & Brian Cowley & family, Tom & Nuala Tolan, Richard Shanley, Frank McDonagh Jnr
- ✦ **Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Jim Slattery, Muriel St. John, Special Intention, Annie Barrett, Paddy & Bridget Keating, Vincent & Margaret Coughlan
- ✦ **Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 11am:** Tom, Belle & Michael McCourt, Edward 'Eddo' Ahearne, Bobby, Martha & Mary Ahearne, James 'Jim' Tierney & family, Thomas, Eleanor & Eileen O'Leary (Rem), Frank, Mary & David O'Leary
- ✦ **Mon 12<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ **Tues 13<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Patrick Hogan (MM), Marie, Paddy & John Hughes, Jack McGuinness (BR)
- ✦ **Wed 14<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Paddy Saunders (MM), Mick 'Michael' & Betty Moles, Bernard Moles
- ✦ **Fri 16<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Catherine Cruise (1<sup>st</sup> A)
- ✦ **Sat 17<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Kathleen Glackin (1<sup>st</sup> A), Phyllis Ayton, Niall Butterly, Noel McDonough, Dan Dowling

- ✦ **Sat 17<sup>th</sup> 6pm:** Kevin Kelly (1<sup>st</sup> A), Anne Boylan (1<sup>st</sup> A), Rita & Hugh O'Boyle, Harry Grimes, Joan Talbot, John Galvin, Lisa & Philip Dunne
- ✦ **Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 11am:** Christine Baines (MM) John Flanagan, Jack & Mary Leonard, Kevin & Madeleine Sheerin, Mary & Patrick O'Neill

#### **OUR SYMPATHY**



To the families of **Joe Williams**, Greenlawns, and **Kathleen Walsh**, Rush Road, who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

#### **FEASTDAYS**

- Sun 11<sup>th</sup>:** Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup>:** Feast of St. Ita
- Sat 17<sup>th</sup>:** Feast of St. Anthony

#### **BRIDGE MASS**

Today's Mass at **11am** is a **Bridge Mass**. Children celebrating First Penance and First Holy Communion this year, and their parents/guardians, are welcome to attend and participate.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

All parishioners are invited to an important meeting hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council on **Wednesday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm in the School Hall, St Patrick's Senior National School.**

This gathering will focus on the future direction of our parish and how we can enhance our welcome, hospitality, and communication. Your insights and experiences as members of our parish community are invaluable. Together, we can work towards creating a warm and welcoming environment for all generations. Please confirm your attendance by **Mon, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>** to [ppcstpatricksskerries@gmail.com](mailto:ppcstpatricksskerries@gmail.com)

### SKERRIES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January **8pm**, Skerries Bowling Club. A talk by Michael Traynor, author of *Petticoat Pilots*, outlining the biographies & achievements of Ireland's early female aviators of a century ago.

### USED POSTAGE STAMPS

As Skerries Temporary Library is currently closed and we await the opening of the renovated and extended Carnegie Library, Fr. Melvyn has kindly given permission for a Box for Used Postage Stamps to be placed at the back of the church for a few weeks. The Guide Dogs Association appreciates all stamps donated.

### SKERRIES LADIES BOWLS



Due to the freezing weather, the Springtime Monday morning competition didn't get going last week. Hopefully it will start tomorrow, Monday 12<sup>th</sup>. €2 per session, sign in before 10.30am. There will be a Ladies Meeting after bowling tomorrow, 12<sup>th</sup>. Well done to all who organised the annual Party, last Tuesday night, which was a great success.

### HILLS CRICKET CLUB TEA DANCE

Tea dance will take place this Sunday **11th** at the Cricket club **3.30-6pm**. Lovely refreshments, bar and dancing. Open to all.

### SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dubs All Ireland winner Paul Curran as the manager of our Senior football team, competing in Division 1 this season. Congrats to Tim Deering and Ciaran Murphy who debuted with the Dublin and Offaly football teams respectively; also to Greg, Ethan and Eoghan on the DCU Sigerson Cup winning start.

Join the GAA Healthy Clubs Steps Challenge sponsored by Irish Life – see our Facebook page.

ZINGO Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. 4, 3, 5, 7, 1, 6, 2. Jackpot now €2,000. Draw on Sunday in Club at 6pm. Entry is only €2 or 3 for €5. Join online at [www.skerriesharps.com/zingo](http://www.skerriesharps.com/zingo) and select auto renewal.

BINGO – on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 8pm sharp with Jackpot of €750. Doors open at 7.30pm. GALA Presentation Night on Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Jan. in Bracken Court Hotel. Tickets €50.

We extend our sympathies to the Williams family on the passing of Joe, RIP. With others, Joe Williams was instrumental in reviving the game of Hurling in Skerries Harps in the 1990s.

### SKERRIES LIBRARY

While we await the opening of the newly refurbished Carnegie Library, online services will continue at [Fingal.ie/libraries](http://Fingal.ie/libraries). The Mobile Library will be on the South Strand, on next Wed. the 14<sup>th</sup> Jan. from 2-4pm

### THANK YOU

It's that time of year again when we at the Skerries Bulletin team would like to say thank you to a number of people who contribute to bringing the weekly newsletter to you. Firstly to Fr. Melvyn for his continued support, to Claireanne and Eithne in the office, to the panel of parishioners who provide the weekly commentary on the Readings each week and to our other local contributors who supply us with news. To you, our readers, we wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful New Year. Ann, Annette, Geraldine, Kathleen, Máire, Nora.

**Pioneer Association Calendars are available in the Parish Office - €5**