



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No. 2449

23rd-30th November, 2025

OPTIMISM- A STILL SMALL VOICE.

Samuel 5:1-3. Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:35-43.



When was the last time you heard an optimistic opinion expressed? It is often said that Truth is the greatest casualty of this media-driven age. What about Optimism? Surely it has all but sunk without trace? The Feast of Christ the King, which we celebrate today, was first observed in 1925, instituted to counteract the desperate pessimism of the early 20th century. World War I, in which millions died, and the crowned heads of Europe lay strewn about everywhere, was unprecedented devastation. On top of that came the Wall Street Crash, followed by the sinister rise of Communism, Socialism and Fascism. Optimism was in very short supply. People were lost. So was God; where could he be found? In the First Book of Kings, from the story of Elijah, God is depicted as 'a still, small voice'. Listen!

Today's Scripture passages summarise the qualities of Kingship. It is a sacred calling: the King is anointed (Samuel) It is an empowering calling (Paul) and it is a vulnerable calling (Luke). This passage from Luke poses the question for us. Where would I have been in that scene – part of the baying mob or 'a still small voice' of loyalty? As a Christian, I acknowledge Christ the King as the foundation of my optimism. Have I the courage to use my 'still, small voice' to spread that messageloyally but sensitively? God dwells in me. This early 21st century, like the early 20th century, needs to re-focus - and smile!

Our Holy Communion hymn has its roots in the ancient Maronite Christian Rite of Lebanon. It describes the fragile Communion Bread as the very essence of the all-powerful Christ, the King:

"You I carry, O Lord, in the cup of my hand. I adore you, my God, who rest upon my lips.
You whom the World could not hold in its limits, you whom heavens and earth proclaim
Joyously singing, You, my Lord, I receive in my heart".

Skerries Church Choir.

ANNIVERSARY / SPECIAL INTENTION MASSES

Sat. 22nd 10am: James Larkin (br decd), Denis & Irene Martin, Donal O'Donoghue, Sadie Garrett, Fiona Gleeson (RD), Luke & Mary McRedmonde, Frank Rafter

6 pm: Louise Bracken, Joe & Collette May, Joseph May, Noelle & Ann Lacey, Dr. John & Mary B Keane (all remembered), Maureen Delaney, Mary Woodcock

Sun. 23rd 9.30am: Rita Clinton, Mary Smyth, James & Julia Christie, Michael Reburn, Rody & Padraig Rogan

11am: William Power, Maura Guiden Moran, George Pratt, Alicia Fabre, Stacie Bailey

Mon. 24th 10am: Mass Card Intentions

Wed. 26th 10am: Ursula Gorman

Fri. 28th 10am: Chrissie McGealy

Sat. 29th 10am: Mike & Shirley Cogavin, Eamonn Smith, Derek McGonagle

6pm: Evelyn Byrne (1st A) & decd mbrs of the Byrne & Lynch families, Thomas Lannon, decd mbrs of the McMahon & Crowley families, Paul Carroll, Larry, Jo & Noel Doyle, Special Intention

Sun. 30th 9.30am: Michael Walsh, Ita Roberts

11am: Paul Workman (1st A), Thomas Flanagan, Paddy Murray & John Hughes, Eileen & Maureen Murphy, Karen McDonald Hodson

Feast Days: 22nd: St. Cecilia, 23rd Christ the King, 24th: St. Andrew Dung-Lac, St. Colman, 25th: St. Catherine, St. Clement, St. Colman, 27th: St. Fergal, 29th: First Evening Prayer of Advent

OUR SYMPATHY



is expressed to the family and friends of Aidan Giles, Selskar Ave., who has died recently in our Parish. May he rest in Peace.

WE WELCOME

Pippa Garrett, Crew Cauldwell, James Casey, James McCormack Halpin, Emilia Sacco, Sani and Mason Morgan, Shilloh Mofiyinfoluwa Ogoalawa, Cleo-Tracy Hoey and Zoe-Sinéad Hoey, all of whom were baptised into our Parish family recently

Bridge Mass



This Sunday 23rd, we will celebrate our 1st Bridge Mass at 11 am. The Bridge Programme is our parish programme for those children intending to celebrate 1st Penance & 1st Holy Communion.

These children & their parents/guardians are especially asked to attend and participate at all these Masses throughout the year.

November Altar List



During this month of November, we remember our deceased loved ones. Altar List of the Dead envelopes are still available throughout the church for those who wish to avail of them. Each 1st Friday of the month during the year, the 10 o'clock morning Mass is offered for all whose names are on the Altar List.

Primary Schools Survey – Important notice !



The current Dept. of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important in that it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout the Republic of Ireland. **It is important** that those who wish for a change in patronage would 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. For these reasons and to ensure that an accurate picture emerges, **please participate in this survey** if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a Primary school child.

NB - this survey is school specific - i.e. if you have children attending more than one school - please reply to the survey for **EACH** one for **each school**.

To complete the survey go to the Department of Education and Science website and click on the survey link. You will be asked to give your eircode to gain access and then you will be asked from the menu to give the school name. This will be in a drop down menu for you to choose from.

Our New Cathedral



Pope Leo XIV has designated St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral as the Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Dublin. The announcement took place on the Feast of St. Laurence O'Toole our diocesan patron saint, on Friday 14th November. This is an historic event in that the Archdiocese of Dublin has been without a Catholic Cathedral since the Reformation in the 16th century.


A welcome sight !

It was good to see new trainee altar servers at Mass last weekend. Maybe you know a boy or girl, who has celebrated 1st Communion who would like to train? Application forms are available now from the Parish Office.

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.

Musical Events

 The Hallelujah Christmas Concert takes place this year in our Church on 18th December, at 7 p.m. Tickets now available at the Parish Office at €20.

Balbriggan Parish is hosting a concert of Hope, Praise & Christmas Promise, with James Kilbane and special guest Sharon Gaynor to raise funds for Ss Peter & Paul's Church Restoration programme this evening, Sunday 23rd November at 7pm. Tickets available at the door €20. A raffle will be held on the night of the concert. Doors open at 6.30pm

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Under 21 Hurlers won championship's semi-final by 3 points and will play O'Tooles in final. Under 12 B Football team finished top of their league, defeating Ballyboden in final match.

Sat 22 Nov. Under 21 Football Championship semi-final v Erins Isle, in Finglas at 2.15 p.m and Under 15 girls Football final v Whitehall, away at 1.

Sun 23 Nov. Under 21 Camogie Championship v Ballyboden, away at 12.30

ZINGO 16 Nov. Result. 4, 3, 1, 7, 5, 6, 2. No winners. Jackpot now €1,300. Draw on Sunday at 6. p.m with Free In-house draw. Join Online or on the night by Envelope. See www.skerriesharps.com

BINGO. Next Bingo is on Monday 1st Dec. at 8 p.m. with Jackpot of €650 and we have a Special Christmas Bingo on Mon. 15 December. Ho! Ho! Ho!

AGM will be held on Thursday 27 Nov in Clubhouse at 8 p.m. All members are urged to attend. New members are very welcome to join - players and non-players, male and female.

Our Christmas Charity Golf in aid of St. V de P will be held on Monday 29 Dec in Skerries GC.

Skerries Ladies Bowls

Week 8 of our Monday morning competition takes place tomorrow, sign in before 10.30 a.m. Wrap up well ! For those who wish to stay indoors, but still keep active, Indoor bowls takes place each Wednesday from 1.30 p.m.