



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2496

25 October to 1 November 2026

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Readings: Exodus 22:20-26, Psalms 18:2-3,3-4,47,51, 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10, Matthew 22:34-40.

The Greatest Commandment

A scribe, an expert in the religious law of Moses, asks Jesus which commandment is the most important. Jesus answers by citing the opening phrases of the Shema, a text from Deuteronomy 6:4b-5, recited morning and evening by observant Jews, then and now.

"You shall love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"

The scribe had asked for one commandment. Jesus goes on to lay alongside it a second, taken this time from Leviticus 19: 18

"You shall love your neighbour as yourself".

Jesus does not reduce both commandments to a single 'first' or 'greatest' commandment. Though inextricably bound together they remain 'first' and 'second'. This signals that God is worthy of love and worship in an absolute sense. Love of God is always a response to the God who has first loved us and whose continuing gestures of love we are daily urged to recognise. Loving one's neighbour is not being asked to put the interests of the neighbour before oneself, but simply to put them on an equal level. What do I really want from another person? Understanding, tolerance, respect, loyalty, compassion? And then to make sure that my actions in their regard enact rather than neglect these qualities.

Jesus summarizes the entire Jewish law into two core principles of love. Jesus distilled the hundreds of rules in the Old Testament down to this single unified framework; relationship with God and relationship with others, Love of God, Love of neighbour.

"I love you, Lord my strength" Psalm 18.

Bible Study Group

Anniversary / Special Intention Masses

✦ **Saturday 24th 6.00pm:** Charles Cooper, Bella and Michael Murphy, Tony McDermott, Gerry Nichol (BR), John Tatton, Garry Westby.

✦ **Sunday 25th 9.30am:** Brian McEvoy, Bernard Corr (BR). Patsy and Willie Horrigan.

✦ **11.00am:** John Halpin (MM), Peter and Hilda McMahon, Jane Dardis, Kathleen Keeley, Michael Daly, Ailish Ward (BR).

✦ **Monday 26th 11.00am:** Mass Card Intentions.

✦ **Tuesday 27th 10.00am:** Joe Galway Connolly, Jo, Larry and Noel Doyle, Kit & Lizzy McCann, Special Intention.

✦ **Friday 30th 10.00am:** Patricia 'Patty' McGrath, Margo McAuley.

✦ **Saturday 31st 10.00am:** Anna Walsh, Mary Nugent, Jimmy McCann

✦ **6.00pm:** Gerard Byrne (MM), Lily Beggs, Sean O'Lachtnain, Dec'd members of the Quinn family, Pat Walsh, Veronica Burrows, Gerald 'Gerry' Griffin.

✦ **Sunday 1st November 9.30am:** Benefactors' Intentions, Anna McDonald, Catherine Maypothor, Lex and Anne Woody.

✦ **11.00am:** Michael Halligan (1st A), Dermot Peakin, Marie Richardson, Ultan Ryan, Marion Keating, David Davin-Power.

Reminder: Bank Holiday Monday 26th Oct – Mass at 11.00am.

November Altar List

As we approach the month of November when we remember our deceased loved ones - Altar List of the Dead envelopes are available in the church. Every 1st Friday of the month we offer 10 o'clock Mass for these, our deceased loved ones.

All Saints 1st November

Next Sunday is 1st November the Feast of All Saints - a Holy Day of Obligation. All three Masses of the weekend will be celebrated to mark the holy day.

Our Sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Alma McKenna, Main St. Rush, Terence (Terry) Toal, Swords and Churchfield Close, and Jo Joyce, Milverton, who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.



Feast Days

27th Oct – St Otteran,
28th Oct – Ss. Simon & Jude, Apostles,
29th Oct – St. Colman,
31st Oct – Bl. Dominic Collins, First Evening Prayer of All Saints

Enrolment - Holy Communion and Confirmation 2027

A reminder to all parents/guardians of children intending to celebrate the sacraments of 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation this year - you need to enrol your child online using the Enrolment Form on the Parish Website. N.B. you will need to attach a scanned copy or photo of the child's **baptism certificate** to the form to submit it.

30 Years Ago in the Parish

- Newly baptised were Laura-Kate McCarthy, Eva Reddin, Dylan Reilly, Stephen Coleman, Ciara Woodlock, Eve Kehoe, Sean Drumm and Niamh McKeown.
- Ann Thurston, theologian and author, was speaking at the Women's Forum on the theme "A Woman's Place in the Church".
- It was Mission Sunday and the Share collection was going to support Irish Missionaries working abroad.
- Young Pioneers were invited to the Library to view a video on the life of Matt Talbot.
- Jim Comberton, chairperson of Coolmine House Recovery programme would be speaking to parents of Holy Faith/de la Salle College pupils.
- Marian Musical & Dramatic Society was organising a workshop on stage lighting given by David Snook.

The Skerries Community Games Chess

Finals will again be run by Skerries Chess Club (in the Bridge Club) on 6 evenings from 3 Nov to 8 Dec 2026. All young people with an address in the Skerries CG area (K34) and who will be under 16 on 31 July 2027 are eligible to enter. Contact John at 086 374 5410 for more information or check www.skerrieschess.com/tournament/index



Skerries Library

There is a range of classes/events being held at our local library. Why not visit it for more details. The following is just a sample of what's on:

- Memories and Melodies** – a Dementia and Alzheimer friendly musical meet-up starts on Wednesday 28th October at 11.00am and on the last Wednesday of the month thereafter.
- Understanding AI: Risks, Realities & Why Literacy Matters;** Wednesday, October 28th at 6.30pm. Contact the Library to book your place.
- Movie Matinee** with Age Friendly Skerries on the last Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm. (Booking required).
- Chess Club** for 8 to 12 year olds started on Tuesday 20th and continues every second Tuesday at 3.00pm.
Contact skerrieslibrary.library@fingal.ie or phone (01) 8905671 to reserve your place.

Skerries Harps GAA Club



Congrats to Under 13 hurlers on winning the league. Under 13 Camogie won semi-final v Kilmacud, under 15 Camogie won semi-final v Faughs, Minor Hurlers won quarter-final v N. Barrog, Minor girls won semi-final v St Pats. Sun 25th Oct Under 8 girls make their debut with a game v Ballymun on Kelly's Bay pitch at 11.00am - for girls born 2018. New members/players welcome and parents particularly welcome.
Mon. 26th Oct. Minor football ch'ship semi-final v Whitehall in Skerries at 11.00am.
Juvenile Academy continues every Saturday morning at 9.45 to 11.00am for boys and girls.
ZINGO Sunday 18th Oct result: 12, 13, 14, 26.
Match 3 - €100 won by Gerry Connolly. Next Draw on Sunday at 6.00pm. with Jackpot €6,100. Play Online – 3 for a Fiver!
Congrats to Skerries Theatre Group (Marian Society) who celebrate their 80th Birthday this weekend with a Gala Night in the clubhouse. Our major fundraiser – "Trial or Denial" – is on Saturday 7th November at City North Hotel. It's a fun night built around a "prove your innocence" game show set in a courtroom with audience participation. Tickets are now available on our website. For more information on where the funds are going, see our club website www.skerriesharps.ie.

Lost: Black Rosary Beads. If found, please leave in to the parish office.