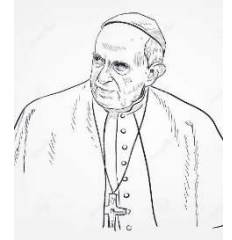




DEATH OF POPE FRANCIS [1936-2025]

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” (2 Tim 4:7)



We all share the sadness on hearing the news of Pope Francis’ death on Easter Monday last.

Known as ‘The People’s Pope,’ he died as he lived his life, - among the people. The evening before his death, he travelled around St. Peter’s Square in the popemobile, sharing his presence and blessing with those gathered there.

His life has been a radical dedication to the gospel. He lived the “joy of the gospel.” The Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium – the Joy of the Gospel (2013)* became the programme of his papal ministry. For Pope Francis, witnessing the acceptance, healing and hope of Christ is what the Church is really about. He put those on the periphery at the centre of his ministry. He inaugurated the *Jubilee of Hope*, with the theme ‘Pilgrims of Hope.’ He lived this in his acceptance of people as they are, and in his constant outward movement to meet the other in their own place.

Throughout his pontificate, with great humility, he modelled and preached God’s good news of justice, mercy and forgiveness. He sought to open the ears and the hearts of the world to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

“We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.” (Laudato Si 2015, para. 139)

At the end of his audiences and addresses he always assured those present of his prayers and asked them to pray for him. We thank God for the gift he was and is for us all. Let us do the one thing he asked for himself, let us pray for him. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. May Pope Francis rest in the peace of Christ.

Fr. Melvyn

ANNIVERSARY / SPECIAL INTENTION MASSES

- ✦ **Sat 26th 6pm:** Noirín De Barra (MM), Eileen O’Neill, Larry Carr, Louise Casey, Paurick (Jack) Guildea, James (Jim) Manson,
- ✦ **Sun 27th 9.30am:** Margaret Leonard (1st A), Larry & Dolores Casey, Seán Casey, Richard & Anne Keane, Gerard Keane, Carmel Lawlor
- ✦ **Sun 27th 11am:** Eric O’Toole, Brendan O’Brien, Tommy Power, Ronnie Donnelly, James Fardey, Owen Smullen
- ✦ **Mon 28th 10am:** Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ **Tues 29th 10am:** Gerry Fitzgerald, Betty Grimes, Bertie & Elizabeth Martin
- ✦ **Wed 30th 10am:** Kathleen Harford, Special Intention
- ✦ **Fri 2nd May 10am:** First Friday - Altar List

- ✦ **Fri 2nd May 7.30pm:** Padre Pio Mass
- ✦ **Sat 3rd 10am:** Joseph Kelly, Kathleen & John Mackle, Hyacinth Maguire, Willie Mooney, Mary Mooney
- ✦ **Sat 3rd 6pm:** Marie Phelan (1st A), Emily Grimes, Elizabeth Oakes, Jackie & David Gilsenan, Kathleen & Leo Tolan
- ✦ **Sun 4th 9.30am:** Walter Ruigrok, Mairéad Gormley (Rem), David & Margaret Noonan (Rem), James & Margaret Clerkin (Rem), Noeline Hess (Rem)
- ✦ **Sun 4th 11am:** Breda Kelly (1st A), Bobby Beggs, Marie & Paddy Richardson (BR), Oliver & Anne Moore (BR)

NEW WEEKLY PINK ENVELOPES 2025/26

The weekly **Pink Planned Giving** envelopes for 2025/26 are now available for collection. The Planned Giving Collection provides a very important and necessary financial support for the parish. Envelopes can be collected in the Parish Office on: **Fri 2nd May** from **3 - 4.30pm**, **Sat 3rd May** after **10am Mass**, and after **10am** weekday Mass, commencing **5th May**.

Please contact us if you are unable to collect your envelopes during the above times.

A very sincere **THANK YOU** to all who financially support the parish through the weekly Pink Planned Giving envelope collection, standing orders and other donations, including anonymous donations. The parish does not benefit from the 1st and 2nd collections at the Sunday Masses, or from the Christmas or Easter Dues collections. If you would like to join the **Weekly Pink Planned Giving** collection, or know more about how you can support the parish, please contact us via the parish office, leaving your name and phone number and we will contact you.

Further clarification on parish funding is available in the church porch.

FEASTDAYS

29th April: St. Catherine of Siena,

2nd May: St. Athanasius, **3rd May:** St. Philip & St. James, Apostles

DATES TO NOTE

2nd May 10am: First Friday, Altar List. **7.30pm:** Padre Pio Mass

AWARE – SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUP

If you, or those with whom you work, wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, consider using Aware's phone-in and Zoom support and self-care groups, support line or support mail. For more information, visit www.aware.ie

CONCERT AT ST ANDREW'S

A date for your diary. **Songs of Inspiration and Hope** with **Celine Byrne at St Andrew's, Westland Row**. Feel welcome to attend our celebration for the Jubilee Year of Hope. Sunday May 11th from 6.30pm to 8pm.

Lost: Large Red Purse between Supervalu & End of Church St. Phone: 0861755031

30 YEARS AGO IN THE PARISH

- £340 was raised at the Good Friday Soup Kitchen and thanks were extended to all who helped
- Parish Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine was dated for 24th June and bookings could be made now
- Thanks were sent to the Fingal Workshop who had taken care of the Lenten Garden on the altar
- Active Retirement group was planning a trip to Arus an Uachtaráin
- A celebration Concert was being organised to mark the winning of the Veronica Dunne Bursary by Orla Boylan
- Congratulations to Nicola Burton, Clare Dungan, Sara Jane Watson, Sean Brennan, Ross Keeling and Stephen O'Reilly on winning the U14 Division 1 Junior Cup
- Congrats also to the U11 Rugby team who won the Terenure Blitz

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Well done to Hannah McGinnis and Dublin ladies on Championship win over Meath, to Finn McGinnis, captain of Dublin Minor footballers, on win over Louth and to Paddy Kelly and Cillian Emmett, with the Dublin Under 20 side, that qualified for Leinster semi-final.

Fixtures: Sat 26th Apr: Senior football league v Parnells in Skerries at 6.15pm

Sun 27th Apr: Both Inter and Junior footballers play away at 11am

Wed 30th Apr: Adult Ladies v St Sylvesters, home at 7.15pm

See www.skerriesharps.ie/fixtures-results

Zingo 20th Apr: 2, 5, 7, 1, 3, 4, 6. Dividend €250 shared by Bert Mulhall and Hugh McCrory.

Jackpot now €2,300. Draw each Sunday evening.

Annual Primary Schools Football League starts Mon 5th May and runs each Monday, with finals on Mon 2nd June - for boys and girls in 3rd to 6th class - 6 local National schools competing.

Next BINGO night is on Mon 28th Apr at 8pm, with Jackpot of €750 – doors open 7.30pm.

