

CHOICES

From the brand of bread we buy to the philosophy of life we adopt, we have choices. Modern commerce is based on choices – a mind-boggling array! The stuff of dashing, daily living. Grounded, meaningful living is also based on choices. How important is choice? This main theme of today's Scripture passages emphasises personal responsibility.

Many of the Jews in Turkey chose to accept what they heard from Paul and Barnabas in the local synagogue. When word got around, 'the Great and the Good' turned up the following Saturday. Closed minds were a handicap that day. Did they listen and hear? Unlikely - and they chose to reject.

In St John's vision of Heaven from Revelations, choice is implied. "People of every nation, race, tribe and language" are united in their choice of godly, difficult ways.

Jesus in the Gospel refers to the sheep that belong to him *listening to his voice*. This is very important. He describes himself as "the good shepherd". The tiny extract comes from a series of stories which illustrate personal choice to accept or reject, worth looking up in Ch.10.

The Shepherd also chooses his work. It is a self-sacrificing, uncomfortable job but one which he considers worthwhile. It calls for generosity and a concern for the greater good. Without a shepherd, any flock is lost. There are never enough good shepherds; let us pray for more!

How do we choose to live? How well do we know what choices we have? How attentively do we listen, not just to the Scriptures and sermons on Sundays but to people whose lives strike us for all the right reasons? Are we prepared for the effort involved in following up what may be a difficult way? For us, who call ourselves Christians, these are relevant questions.

"Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness".

Skerries Church Choir

OUR SYMPATHY



Is extended to the family of Una McCormack who died recently. May she Rest in Peace.

MONTHS MIND

Sunday 12 May at 9.30am - Frances McDonough

ANNIVERSARIES & INTENTIONS REMEMBERED

- ✠ **Sat 11 May** 6pm: Mass for those taking exams
John & Lucy Burke
Madeline & Reginald Johnson
- ✠ **Sun 12 May** 9.30am: Joseph Bradley,
Fran & Charlie Grimes, Michael Garrett
- ✠ **Sun 12 May** 11am: Jimmy & Peter Lambe, Jack
& Kathleen Toner, Willie Beggs, Helen Dunne,
Margaret McDonnell
- ✠ **Mon 13 May** 10am: Pioneer total abstinence
association of the Sacred Heart
- ✠ **Tue 14 May** 10am: The Holy Souls, Paul
O'Keefe, Special Intention
- ✠ **Wed 15 May** 10am: Patrick Fitzgerald
- ✠ **Fri 17 May** 10am: Dick Kavanagh (25 years)

FEAST DAY

Mon 13 May - Our Lady of Fatima

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE A DIOCESAN PRIEST?

The National Vocations Office is running an overnight "Come and See" discernment retreat for men aged 18 years and over, who would like to explore the life of a diocesan priest. The weekend will be held in the national seminary in Maynooth on 18th & 19th May. Advance booking is essential. For further information please contact Deacon Eric Cooney by email: eric.cooney@vocations.ie or go to: <https://vocations.ie/2018/10/10/is-god-calling-you-to-be-a-diocesan-priest/>

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O Jesus, send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy apostles and saintly priests, heroic missionaries and dedicated sisters and brothers.

Enkindle in the hearts of men and women the spark of a vocation.

Grant that Christian families may desire to give your Church, helpers in the work of tomorrow.

St Joseph - pray for us. Amen

PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART

Monthly committee meeting will take place this Monday 13th May 2019 after 10am Mass in 42 Strand Street opposite the church.

PARISH BOOK CLUB



During the month of May we are reading **Let Nothing Trouble You** by **Eugene McCaffrey**. The book is a reflection on the life and work of St.

Teresa of Avila and looks at Teresa: the woman, the guide and the storyteller. We will meet on **Thursday May 23rd** at **7.30pm** in **42 Strand Street** for a chat about the book. All are welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the children from Scoil Réalt na Mara who received their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 11th** and to the children from Educate Together & Holmpatrick Schools who will receive their First Holy Communion on **Sunday 12th**.

Congratulations also to the children of St Michael's House who recently received the Sacraments.

SKERRIES ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Mon 13th 2pm - Club with exercises.

Balance of monies for Kilkenny in sealed envelope please. **Tues 14th** 2pm - Bowls

Mon 27th Kilkenny trip 4 nights.

AFFORDABLE LIVE-IN HOMECARE

Affordable Live-in Homecare provide live in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom today on 087 9916791 www.alhomecare.com.

THANK YOU - ALZHEIMER'S TEA MORNING - DOWNSIDE

Very many thanks from Annette to all who donated or supported in any way the Tea Morning for the Alzheimer's Society. **€1,003.80** was raised so thank you to one and all!

🎵 SKERRIES TRADITIONAL MUSIC WEEKEND 🎵

The annual Skerries Trad Music festival takes place from **Fri 17th - Sun 19th May**. Music for players, singers & listeners in 6 local venues with some well-known musicians. Start times range between 2pm & 9pm. The recital in Skerries Mills at Noon on Sunday will include a centenary tribute to Seamus Ennis. All details online at skerriestradiationmusic.com.

SKERRIES FORÓIGE YOUTH CLUB

The above club are holding a bake sale fundraiser this **Sunday 12th May** in the Little Theatre from 11.30am to 1.30pm. Everything from tasty brownies and cakes to homemade doggy biscuits. Please support the youth of Skerries, thanks.

🎵 SKERRIES COMMUNITY CHOIR 🎵

Present their annual Summer Concert on **Friday 24th May** in Holmpatrick Church, Skerries with special guest artists. Tickets **€10** available from The Book Shop, Skerries and at the door.

SKERRIES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Skerries Historical Society presents a talk on "The People who made Skerries Library" by Oona Roycroft in the Bowling Club, Tennis Court Lane on **Tuesday, 14 May 2019 at 8.15pm**. All are welcome.

SKERRIES COMMUNITY GAMES

Skerries Community Games Athletics Trials this **Sunday 12th May** at the Community Centre pitch. Field Events start at **1pm** and Track Events start at **2.30pm**. Events for Boys and Girls Under 8 to Under 16. Late entries accepted at the tent in advance of events.

SKERRIES TIDY TOWNS

Skerries Tidy Towns has a number of flower planters which are presently situated at the entrance to The Kybe estate. If anyone is interested in taking one or more of these please contact Maeve 087 9946638.

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Sun 12th Senior Football Div.1 v Oliver Plunketts/ER, home at 10.30am. **Tues 14th** Senior Camogie v St Judes home at 7.30 pm. **Thurs 16th** Weekly Juvenile and Adult Games meetings at 9.00 and 9.30pm. **Sat 18th** Live Music with BrandeD in club. No cover charge. Our two Under 14 football teams put on a brave show in Féile but were unsuccessful. Annual Primary Schools Tournament continues on Monday nights with first games at 6.15pm. Finals are scheduled for June Bank Holiday Monday.

Sat 1st June. ELVIS Extravaganza. Limited number of tickets only €20 at the Bar. www.skerriesharps.ie

SKERRIES LADIES BOWLS

Congratulations to our Div. 4 team, who opened their season with a great win against Sportslink in the LBLI league and well done also to the Div.1 team, who had a very good win against Crumlin Ladies (last year's winners) on a very wet and windy day.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE OF DUBLIN

Separated, divorced, widowed - Are you coping? This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences. Next Residential Weekend Programme will be: **17th - 19th May 2019** at Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght D24. Contact: 086 0877379 bedublin@gmail.com www.beginningexperience.ie

REMEMBER US SPECIAL NEEDS GROUP

You are invited to a Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Unit 5, Balbriggan Retail Park on **22nd May** to discuss setting up a Parent & Toddler Support Group. If interested in attending, please contact Nora or Anne on 086 0457003.