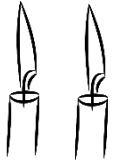


Skerries Parish Bulletin

No. 2140

8th-15th December, 2019

Prepare the Way !



John the Baptist tells us to prepare a way for the Lord. We must be repentant and produce the appropriate fruit. If not, like the tree we will be cut down and thrown on the fire. These are harsh words from John, but the people listened, confessed their sins and were baptised.

Our Loving God is always merciful and understanding of our fragility.

The prophet Isaiah tells us God does not judge by appearance, he judges us by our good works and the care we give to those who are in need. When we ask for God's help we can be sure he will help us. He is waiting for our call

"Come to my aid O Lord, Make haste to help me"

St Paul tells us everything written in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope, perseverance the mercy of our loving Jesus and of our giving glory to God our Father

Help us to know Lord that you. are always near and that you hear our prayer

"In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails" Psalm 7

Lectio Divina

Happy Birthday! With

This weekend, we are celebrating the their first mass on 8th December 1979. that girls of the parish could



Voice and Heart !

40th birthday of the Children's Choir, who sang at The choir was formed by Fr. Des Hogan (R.I.P.) so participate in the mass (boys had the option of

joining the altar boys). We have many fond and happy memories of those early days with Fr. Hogan, including the annual "mystery tour". Fr. Hogan and the choir would head off for the day along with Fr. Larkin and the altar boys, usually ending up in Wicklow, arriving back exhausted, having had a fantastic day out.

Many changes have taken place over the years. The wine uniform is gone ! (has anybody still got one ?)The choir is now made up of both boys and girls from first class up and we also have girls as altar servers .We have had many talented musicians play with us over the years including a music group formed by Fr. Pat Littleton and the Friel Family. and violinist Ronan Loughman which added greatly to the choir. Highlights include participating in the televised mass in R.T.E. , the radio mass and singing in Trinity College chapel.

We thank all the choir leaders both past and present, the many children of the parish who have given their commitment to the choir over the years and all the priests who have given us support and encouragement. We hope to have many more years of children's music and song in our church

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION RITUAL: Our next Confirmation preparation ritual will take place in the church, on **Wednesday December 11th at 7.30pm.** Please keep the young people and their families in your prayers at this time.



Our Sympathy

is offered to the families and friends of Ray Fay, Eamon Smith, Philip Dunne, Ailish Guinan and Cyril McGloughlin, all of whom died in our Parish this past week and John D'Sousa (London) May they rest in peace.



Come along and enjoy !

the Emmanuel and Children's Choir in a Carol Service, this Sunday 8th at 4 p.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BRIDGE MASS: Our next Bridge Mass for families preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will take place on **Sunday 15th December at the 11am Family Mass.** Looking forward to seeing you all.



St. Vincent de Paul – Christmas Appeal

The Annual Appeal for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul takes place at all Masses this weekend. It will replace the normal Share Collection. Open your hearts (and your purses !!) to enable the Society to carry out its wonderful work for those who have less at this time of year !

Feast of the Immaculate Conception – will be celebrated on Mon.9th, Masses at 10 and 7.30p.m.

Anniversaries & special Masses

Sat. 7th, 6p.m.: Claire & Barry Mason, Tony & Liam Shields, Anne Marjoram, Rose Connor, Gerry Cunneen

Sun. 8th, 9.30: Andrew Woods, Patrick & Sarah Dunne, Mary Dolores Dunne, Johnny Brady

11 a.m., Christine O'Brien (Month's Mind), Martin Archbold, Pat Hynes, Bridget & Michael and decd. members of the O'Reilly family, Roderic Neary

Tues. 10th, 10 a.m., Christopher Jenkinson, Gerard O'Neill (1st Anniv.), Walter & Kitty Howlett

Wed. 11th, 10 a.m., Betty Graham, Molly & John Byrne
Fri. 13th; **10 a.m.,** Oliver Donnelly

Sat. 14th: 10 a.m., Callum Rice, Fanchea Rice (Month's Mind), Dick O'Connell, Marion Boylan

6p.m., Bernie Morris, George Tolan, Ronnie O'Loughlen, Olga Reynolds, Desmond Reynolds, Margaret McNally, Binnie Lannon, Nancy Caulfield

Sun. 15th: 9.30: Peg Conliss, John & Maureen Martin, Fr. Jim Martin, Joseph Branagan, Vera Leonard, James & Anna Jones, Ger Campion (recently deceased)

11 a.m., Maureen Delemere, Mary Rochford, Colm Dennis, Margaret McAuley, Rena McGrath, Rosie & Gerry Moore, Emily and dec. members of the Crowley family, Nelly and members of Cannon family

LECTIO DIVINA FOR ADVENT: Lectio Divina offers a prayerful way of preparing for each Sunday of Advent by praying in a gentle way with the readings for each Sunday of Advent. We will meet on **Wednesday December 11th at 4pm in 42 Strand Street** where we will spend some time reflecting on the readings for the **3rd Sunday of Advent. All are welcome.**

Parish Book Club

During the month of December we will be reading **"Metaphors for Change"** by Margaret MacCurtain, O.P.. The book is a series of essays on State and Society, 2019. We will meet on Thurs. 9th January at 7.30 p.m. in 42 Strand Street for a chat about the book. All welcome !

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Next meeting takes place on Wed. 11th at 42 Strand St. at 7.30. Our role is to pray for vocations to the priesthood and raise funds for their education and support. New members always welcome

Eucharistic Adoration

Many thanks to all who came last Tuesday to our revitalised Eucharistic Adoration and spent some time with Jesus. Our next Eucharistic Adoration day is next Tuesday 10th December after 10am Mass until 5.30pm.

Christmas Cards available in the Parish Office, proceeds to Brother Kevin's Capuchin Day Centre

Christmas Mass Timetable



Envelopes with Mass times available this weekend in the Parish Office. If you can help with their distribution we would be most grateful. Many thanks to those who helped in their preparation and packing.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Calendars for 2020 will be on sale after all Masses this weekend at €2.50 each. Committee meeting will take place on Monday 9th December after 10am Mass in 42 Strand Street, opposite church.

Skerries Methodist Church

Bible reading/short talk/prayer -all in 30 minutes. Tuesdays 10th & 17th at 1.10 p.m.. All welcome

Skerries Historical Society are having their Christmas Miscellany on Tues., 10th December, in the Bowling Club at 8.15 pm. A night of song, music and readings. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. Bring a friend !

Skerries Active Retirement

Sun 8th Dec 3.30-6 Christmas Tea Dance Cricket Club Skerries ; Mon 9th Dec 2 p.m. Christmas Bingo; Tues 10th 1.45 Bowl; Names for party on 12th

Forthcoming Musical events



Wednesday Night Singers

will meet on Wed. 11th at 8.30 p.m. in Ollies. Looking forward to seeing you

Skerries Community Choir: Annual Christmas concert takes place on Thurs 12th/Fri 13th in Holmpatrick Church. Tickets:€10 – well-loved Christmas carols and songs, with guest soloists

Candlelight: an Evening of Christmas Classics in Skerries Mills, with Catrina Scully and local pianist Catriona Grimes, Fri. 13th. Tickets at the Reception Desk in the Mills.

Skerries Sea Sharps: present an Evening of Christmas Choral Music, on Thurs. 19th, 7.30 in St. Patrick's Church. Tickets:€10, Skerries Bookshop. A donation from the proceeds to Skerries Autism Friendly Town.

Balbriggan and district Horticultural Society

Gardening talk - Christmas Flower Arranging by Margaret Curtis. Thurs 12th, 8.30 pm in the Scouts Den, Balbriggan. Adm: €5. Plants and seeds and gardening magazine swap.

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Our final fixture of 2019 brought a win for the Minor Camogie team in the Shield Final v Ballinteer. Congrats to Peter and the girls.

A busy day last Saturday – Santa visiting the Juvenile Academy in the morning, the Juvenile Awards in the evening and our Mentors Appreciation do that night! Christmas Draw, Sun. 22nd, hamper, cash prizes, €5.

