



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2155

29 March to 5 April 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Ezekiel 37:12-14. Psalm 129. Romans 8: 8-11. John 11:1-49.

The Gospel of John puts in front of us a scene of unprecedented sorrow. Jesus gets a message from Lazarus's sisters telling him of the death of his friend. Mary and her sister Martha, united with all the Jews, converge on Jesus with a certainty that he would respond to their sorrow. Martha did know that Lazarus would rise again at the resurrection, on the last day. It was their faith, even when compounded with Lazarus's death, that gave rise to the extraordinary miracle, worked by Christ.



Now is the time for us also to put our faith in prayer and trust in the Holy Spirit to give us the miracle of overcoming the Coronavirus pandemic. It was with the faith of Martha, Mary and their friends that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. It was the faith of Martha who had come to believe that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God and if they believe they will see the glory of God. Jesus calls 'Lazarus come out'

The Prophet Ezekiel talks about the restoration as an act of God through the spirit. The meaning of the reading is the resurrection of the people to new life and finally present in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

St Paul states that through Christ the whole person of the believer is saved, raised up and redeemed. (*Catholic Culture .org*)

Psalm 129:

*If you, O Lord should mark our guilt
Lord, who would survive
But with you is found happiness
For this we revere you.*

Lectio Divina



Our sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Raymond O'Driscoll, Joseph Shiels and Richard Fulham (Dowling) who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Anniversary and Special Intentions:

Saturday 28th March 10am: Rosemary Malone (A).

Saturday 28th March 6pm Vigil Mass: Patrick Manson (1st A), Breeda Fitzgerald (A), Tom and Peter O'Rourke (A), Sean Farrell (A), Richard Bissett (A), Brian O'Loughlin (A), Thomas and Bridget Ferguson (A), Bert and Lil McGee (A).

Sunday 29th March 11.00am: Tom O'Reilly (A), Jenny Hyland (A).

Tuesday 31st March 10am: May Walshe and James. C. Walshe (A), Maurice McAuley (A).

Wednesday 1st April 10am Abby and Michael Conlon (A).

Friday 3rd April First Friday.

Saturday 4th April 10am Bernadette Marrey (A).

Saturday 4th April 6pm Vigil Mass: Barbara McGarry (A), Jack and Lelia McNally (A), Hilda McMahan (A), James and John Nolan (A), Jim, Rita and Matt Boylan (A), Hannah McCauley (A), Henry McCauley (A), Catherine and James Grehan (A).

First Friday: 3rd April 2020

Church collections - as there are no Masses, the weekly collection baskets have been empty. If you would like to put your usual donation into an envelope and drop it into either of the parish houses, Fr. James on Strand Street or Fr. Melvyn at Cuan Phadraig on the South Strand, your contribution will be gratefully received. Envelopes and intentions may also be left in to either of the priest's houses.

Parish Radio 87.5 FM

Parishioners may tune in to Sunday and daily Mass on the above radio channel at the usual times.

Saturday 10am and Vigil Mass **6.00pm**

Sunday 9.30am and **11am**

Monday to Friday 10am.

Reception of Holy Communion at home has been suspended for the present.

If you can't tune in to the Parish radio frequency for daily Mass, *RTE News Now* has daily Mass every weekday at 10.30am.

The Church is open for private prayer each weekday [Monday – Saturday] from 11am until evening closing. For urgent calls Fr. Melvyn 01 8491250; Fr. James 01 8106468.

Parish mobile number – for out of normal hours emergencies only - 085 2320479.

Parish Website: www.skerriesparish.ie Email: info@stpatricksskerries.ie Ph (01)8106771

Bulletin Email: skerriesbulletin@hotmail.com

Parish Book Club: As you know the parish book club has gone into hibernation for the time being. With time on our hands, this is a good opportunity to return to some of the books we have already read. **The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen** is an appropriate book to read again now that we are in the season of Lent. In these difficult times our need to repent and return to the Lord has never been greater. Another book of great comfort at this time is **Let Nothing Trouble You by Eugene McCaffrey OCD**. This short book is a beautiful reflection on the spirituality of St. Teresa of Avila - her life and prayer. In her own words: *Let nothing disturb you, All things pass away, God alone suffices*. Finally, looking ahead to what will be a very different Holy Week and Easter for us all, a good companion to guide us is **Pope Benedict XVI** and his book **Jesus of Nazareth Holy Week: From the entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection**. Time then to look back and look ahead to the joy of Easter and the great hope we all share.



Daffodil Day is cancelled but you can still help. Text CANCER to 50300 to donate €4 or make a donation of your choice on-line at cancer.ie

Library Service

You can join the library online and get eBooks, audiobooks, online magazines and newspapers for free straight away, or even take language and other courses. <https://www.librariesireland.ie/news/online-services-during-coronavirus>

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Self-Isolation Skerries Volunteer Group

If you are self isolating or home alone & unable to go to the shops or chemists the above group is here to help you. It is a group of local Skerries residents, working with the Skerries Community Association and Age Friendly Skerries. They can help you with shopping service/collection & prescription collection.

Please text or call: **085 8128509**
083 0105946

Phone lines are open from 8am to 8pm

HSE Helpline

Call save: 1850 24 1850

Phone: 041 6850300

Mon - Fri 8am – 8pm. Sat and Sun 10am – 5pm.

Website: hse.ie

Skerries Ladies Bowls

We hope you are all keeping well and fit. As you can imagine all competitions, leagues and championships have been cancelled for the coming season. Hopefully we will all get through this and be back together in the future.

30 Years Ago in our Parish

- 6th class children and their parents were making their final preparations for Confirmation.
- A spate of vandalism had hit all the Tidy Towns flower tubs. Everyone asked to be vigilant.
- Holmpatrick Parish had carried out a renewal of Christian Stewardship among its parishioners.
- Skerries ICA monthly competition was for the Best Dressed Egg!
- Congratulations to Harry Gavin, Hugh Marry and M. Hogan who had won the cup in the IBL triples championships.
- Home Celtic FC were holding a special EGM to discuss the question of amalgamation.
- Rush Dramatic Society was staging Hugh Leonard's "Da".

Skerries Harps GAA Club



The Zingo draw was held behind closed doors last Sunday – video of the draw on our website.

We had no winners – numbers were 6,2,7,1,4,3,5. Jackpot (match 7) on Sun 29 March is €2,800 and Dividend (match 4) is €250. Play online via link on website www.skerriesharps.ie

This was the only club activity during the week.

Membership may still be paid online via link on the website. Fees must be paid by 31 March per GAA rule to entitle you to vote at club AGM or to participate in the club draw for All Ireland tickets. However fees are acceptable at any stage!

Our Easter Camps are cancelled, as are the Féile competitions. Our Juvenile Solo Run and Primary Schools Tourney are also postponed. Hopefully the 4 Summer Camps, scheduled to run between 20 July and 14 August, will go ahead.

We urge our members to follow HSE guidelines and to Stay Safe. Our Juvenile players may wish to follow the link to the 3 exercise videos which our GPO Louise has put up on our website.

There are also some exercises posted by Ciaran Kilkenny and Croke Park to keep you occupied.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Raymond O'Driscoll, RIP, who played for the Harps in 1930's. Raymond was 105 years of age.

Did you know – in 2010 Skerries Harps played in Senior League Div 2 with Conor Deegan, from Co. Down, as manager. Bryan Cullen was a year away from that famous trip to Skerries with SAM. Now in 2020 they play in Div.1 with Terry McGinnis, Co Derry, as manager.