



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No.2192

13th- 20th December, 2020



Third Sunday of Advent – Laetare Sunday

First reading: Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11; Psalm Lk1:46-50, 53-54, Response Is. 61:10,
Second reading, Paul to the Thessalonians, 5:16-24. Gospel John 1:6-8. 19-28.

“My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour”.

Advent means the coming. The time to celebrate the birth of Christ is very near. Today’s readings are filled with joy. The Psalm brings to mind a time when we all learned the beautiful and joyful Magnificat.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

In the first reading, Isaiah the Prophet speaks of “the Spirit of the Lord” and “the Lord has anointed me”. Reflect for a moment on this gift, as we are sent to help his people, especially the poor, those who are broken-hearted, those who suffer injustice and oppression. It is worth reading Chapter 61 in full to see all that the Lord has promised us by anointing us with the Spirit so that we shall have salvation.

Again in the second reading, St. Paul tells us to be happy and pray constantly and always thank God. Also to guard this spirit and do what is good and avoid every form of evil.

Church Readers

Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day



Just to remind you, that although we have been given special permission, where possible and safe, to attend in person at Mass, our Christmas celebrations will be different. Our parish church is limited to accommodating 50 people. Recent

guidelines from the Archbishop and the Government repeat that the health & safety of all the community is paramount. Taking all of this into consideration the **Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be available only via webcam and parish radio.** In this way, we will all be safe and nobody will be disappointed not to find a spot in Church. You are encouraged to make your Christmas Mass at any of the Masses over the twelve days of Christmas.

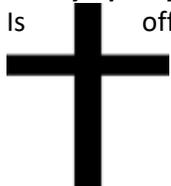
Giving Sunday – This weekend

Many families face impossible choices this year. If you would like to donate to our local St. Vincent de Paul group envelopes are available on the tables at the entrance and exits of the Church.



These can be returned to the Parish Office or either of the Parish houses.

Our Sympathy



Is offered to the family of Agnes Greene, Man-o-War, whose death occurred this past week. May she rest in peace.

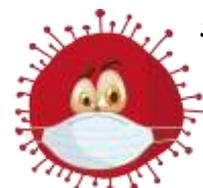
CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE ENVELOPES

Because of the changes to weekend Masses, due to COVID, it is not possible to arrange collection and distribution of the Christmas envelopes as in previous years. This year envelopes will be available for collection in the glass area of the church on Thursday 17th December and Friday 18th December between 3pm and 5pm. As in previous years we will be very grateful for your help. Thank you

PRAYING TOGETHER IN THE PRESENCE OF JESUS AT ADVENT: Join us each Wednesday evening of Advent in the Church (50 worshippers) or on webcam for some prayer time together during the season of Advent. We continue this **Wednesday evening December 16th Sat 7.30pm** with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament together with prayer, reflection and music as we prepare for the birth of Christ.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 19th from 11am to 4pm TO FACILITATE BAPTISMS.

The Youth 2000 Christmas E-Retreat will take place from the 18th - 20th of December. Registration is now free on www.youth2000.ie



Stay Safe: Wear your masks in all indoor settings. This is an act of kindness to your neighbours

JOHN THE BAPTIST from BIRTH to BEHEADING: The National Gallery in London and King's College have collaborated in putting together a series of ten short videos on the life of St. John the Baptist. There are over 120 images of John the Baptist in the National Gallery and during each short video art historian Jennifer Sliwak and theologian Ben Quash explore the life of John the Baptist from birth to beheading using images on display in the Gallery. To watch the series - visit:

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/research/about-research/art-and-religion/saint-john-the-baptist>

Christmas Cards



Don't forget, Christmas Mass Cards are available in the Parish Office. As in previous years, all profits go to Brother Kevin, Capuchin Homeless Day Centre.

Acknowledgements:

SWEETMAN: The family of the late **Seamus Sweetman**, Piercetown, wish to sincerely thank all those who showed such kindness and support during Seamus' illness and passing. A special word of appreciation to Fr James, Fr Melvyn and Fr Gareth, all at Seaholm Surgery, Oakes' pharmacy, Comfort Keepers and St Francis' Hospice for their help, prayers and exceptional care during this difficult time. Thank you to neighbours and wide circle of friends for their compassion, to Skerries Bowling Club for their guard of honour and to Lannon's Funeral Directors for their empathy and professionalism. The Holy Sacrifice of Mass will be offered for your intentions.

WESTBY: The Westby family would like to sincerely thank everyone who condoned with them on the sad passing of Garry ("Pops"), especially to all those who waited outside the church and to all who attended by Webcam. We would especially like to thank the Oncology team at St. Vincent's Hospital who looked after Dad so well over the years. A special word of thanks to Fr. Melvyn and Fr. James who have been incredible during this sad time. Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

Helping Hands and Listening Ears



COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

Alone manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The support line is open 7 days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Aware - Support & Self Care Groups

If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone In and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail, now and throughout the holiday season. All our services on www.aware.ie

Anniversary and Special Intention Masses

Sat. 12th 10 am: Hughie Horan (Month's Mind), Charles Clarke & deceased members of the Clarke family Margaret Horan, Bert Horan

6pm: Rosie & Gerry Hoare, Nelly Cannon & Cannon family, Emily Crowley & the Nolan Crowley family, Martha & Peter Phillips & deceased members of the Phillips family, Teresa Gaffney

Sun. 13th 9.30 am: Elizabeth Rice (1st A), Michael & Eileen Reddin, Joseph Branagan, John & Maureen Martin, Fr Jim Martin, Paul Emmerson, Bernie Rice

11 am: Terry Murphy (1st A) and all who sympathised with the family, Peg Conliss, Pat Hynes, Joe & Kathleen Tyndall, Oonagh Whittle, Thomas & Anna Jones, Flanagan family, Colm Dennis

Mon. 14th 10 a.m.: Mass Card Intentions

Tues. 15th 10am: Elizabeth Rice (1st A), Jimmy Fleming, Lily & Ned Farrell, Ronnie O'Loughlen

Wed. 16th 10am: Margaret McAuley, Patrick & Catherine Flaherty

Thurs. 17th 10am: Mully (Month's Mind), Dolores Doorty, Patrick & Martha Ruddy, William & Joan Ruigrok

Fri. 18th 10am: Esther Carmel McDonald, Margaret McNally, Alan O'Connor, James & Margaret Keelan

Sat. 19th 10am: Teresa & John McGee, Bernie O'Connor, Edith (Edie), Paddy & Mary McMahan, Walter & Kitty Howlett & family

6pm : Moira & Denis Dwyer, Bernie Morris, Mary Carabini, Binnie Lannon

Sun. 20th 9.30am: Richard & Una Murtagh, Flanagan family, Richard & May Branagan, Laurence Daly. Desmond McGil, Anne & Patrick Leonard,

11.00am: Jean Treleaven, Michael, Mary, Patrick & John Lyons, Catriona Harper, Swanee Martin, Paul Holland, Mary Rochford

Skerries Harps News

Still time to purchase your **Christmas Draw** tickets and support the club. Check out our Facebook page for all details Draw will take place on Dec 22 at 8pm via a live stream on Facebook. Tickets €5 available at www.SkerriesHarps.ie/Christmasdraw or contact Fergal on 0868986838, Niall on 0863015688 or Joanne on 0864058523. **Shop Opening Hours:** 7- 9pm on Thurs and 2-4pm on Sat.. **Online Shop** is open 24/7 Christmas. **Charity Golf Outing** on Mon. 28th of Dec. in Skerries G.C., tee time, from 9am to 12 (strictly golf only). As we will be unable to hold our charity matches on St Stephen's Day this will be our sole event in which to fundraise-all proceeds will go to the local branch of St Vincent De Paul Society. Please support and book your tee time with Paul Murray at 085-1740474. **Annual Christmas Tree Collection** running as a Club Fundraiser. Tree collection on Jan 9th, Tags only €5. **Daily Dip December - week 1** went swimmingly for the Skerries Harps G4M&O's! Swimmers/ walkers/runners took to the seas/ streets to raise funds for our local St Michael's House. Many thanks to those who have already donated.

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