



# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No. 2199

31<sup>st</sup> January – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## TRUTH MATTERS

The current RTE ad for journalism says, in two words, what this week's Scripture is all about. Truth is central to all the passages. Our individual responsibility regarding truth features too.

That we need truth and yearn for it is clearly put in the passage from Deuteronomy. The Jews implore God for the truth, for a Prophet. "The Twitter Machine" of the past four years from across the Atlantic has in no small way emphasised just how desperately we long for truth. Wandering in a desert goes on. (Deuteronomy 18 vv 15-20)

Funnily enough, when we are presented with truth in an obvious, bald way, as in St Paul's letter, we often react with a knee-jerk outrage. Yet we have a responsibility to think about this sort of message and put it into context. If we don't like what we hear – and we know "the truth hurts" at times – loud, strident protest commonly leads us astray. Our understanding is far from perfect, let us remember! (Corinthians 7 vv 32-35)

Then there is the story in St Mark's Gospel. It is perhaps a surprise to see the reaction of Jesus to the disruptive man in the synagogue. Jesus brooks no interference from him, refuses to communicate at all and, we are told, banishes "the unclean spirit" from him. There are times when we too best refrain from useless argument and banish similar "unclean spirits" from us. They're everywhere and we know it. (Mark 1 vv 21-28)

Another point in this story is that as human beings, just as we know "unclean spirits", we instinctively recognize people who "speak with authority". We don't instinctively accept them... I wonder why?

The second verse of today's beautiful Psalm (94) mirrors the refrain of a more modern hymn:  
God is Good.... God is TRUTH...God is Beauty...Praise Him!

Yes, "Truth Matters". Journalists as Prophets - maybe there's something in that!

*Skerries Church Choir*

## MASS INTENTIONS

- ✦ **Sat 30<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Una Cavanagh (1<sup>st</sup> A), Matt McBride
- ✦ **Sat 30<sup>th</sup> 6pm:** Liam McKenna
- ✦ **Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 9.30am:** Jim Lennox
- ✦ **11am:** Vincent & Eileen Boyle, Sean Kelly (BR), Theresa & Malachy Murray, Eileen Murray, Bishop Nicholas Grimley, Lily Grimley
- ✦ **Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 10am:** Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ **Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 10am:** Catherine Ruth, Louie Toal
- ✦ **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 10am:** First Friday
- ✦ **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm:** Padre Pio Mass
- ✦ **Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 10am:** Peter Kelly
- ✦ **Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 6pm:** Tom & Rose Sheridan, James Coleman, Esther Casey
- ✦ **Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 9.30am:** Jim Slattery (MM), Anne Lennox, Judy Hassett, Ann Joye, Joe McNally, Joe O'Connor (MM)
- ✦ **Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 11am:** Frances Chambers (1<sup>st</sup> A), Maura & Pat Ellis, Michael McBride, Teresa Holcroft, Andrew & Elizabeth Kettle & deceased members of the Kettle family.



## OUR SYMPATHY

To the families of Patrick Costello, The Tanager, Barnageeragh Cove, Renee Bradley, Selskar Rise, Mairead Duffy, Thomas Hand St, Christina Davey, St. Patrick's Close, Colm (Collie) Halpin, Shenick Ave, Pauline Hanlon, Martine Court and Hugh O'Boyle, Shenick Ave. who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

## FEASTDAYS

- 30<sup>th</sup> Jan - St Aidan, Bl. Margaret Ball and Bl. Francis Taylor
- 1<sup>st</sup> Feb - St. Brigid,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - The Presentation of Our Lord
- 5<sup>th</sup> Feb – St. Agatha
- 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Ss Paul Miki & Companions
- 7<sup>th</sup> Feb - St. Mel

## DATES TO NOTE

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February – St Brigid's Day



We send our best wishes to the Sisters in the Holy Faith community on the feast of their Patron – St. Brigid.

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – The Presentation of the Lord – Candlemas Day

Candles will be blessed at Mass and will be available for purchase in the Parish Office afterwards.

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Feast of St. Blaise

Those participating in Mass via webcam/radio may have their throats blessed during the celebration.

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February – First Friday

Padre Pio Mass 7.30

## PIONEER ASSOCIATION 2021 CALENDARS

Are available in the parish office @ €2.50.

Parish Website: [www.stpatricksskerries.ie](http://www.stpatricksskerries.ie) Email: [info@stpatricksskerries.ie](mailto:info@stpatricksskerries.ie) Ph (01)8106771

Fr Melvyn 01 8491250; Fr James 01 8106468 Parish Mobile No - for out of normal hours, emergencies only - 085 2320479

Bulletin Email: [skerriesbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:skerriesbulletin@gmail.com)

## ACCORD ANNUAL COLLECTION

Accord Dublin's Annual Collection will take place on the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February. We realise that it will be much more difficult for parishes to support us this year – although the demand for services is greater than ever. Parishioners can donate in the following ways:

**Online** at [www.accorddublin.ie](http://www.accorddublin.ie) where you will find a DONATE button.

**By post** to Accord Dublin, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3.

**By bank transfer** to ACCORD Dublin Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG, Bank of Ireland, 88 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2. IBAN: IE27 BOFI 9001 1357 0742 03; BIC:BOFIE2D.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SKERRIES - THANK YOU



In the beginning of December, we made a profound Appeal to the People of Skerries for donations to our Society coming up to the Christmas period. As advised in our Appeal our funds had been heavily depleted due to the numerous requests for help during the previous 8 months of Covid 19. We could not have envisaged the unprecedented response from you the People of Skerries. We are humbled by your amazing generosity and are extremely grateful for your donations. We continue to do our work on a day-to-day basis because of you. Again, thank you and may you and your families Stay Safe.

## 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). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open **seven days a week, 8am to 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024**. Calls to the ALONE National Support Line cost no more than a local call to a landline. Calls from Vodafone or landline bundles, PAYG bundles, and mobile contracts are free.

## AWARE – SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS



If you, or those with whom you work, wish to connect with people in relation to mental well being, please consider using the Phone-In and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail. These services provide support, coping skills and information – and most importantly help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. For more group information <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie)

## IRISH HOSPICE FOUNDATION – LIVING WITH LOSS

We are now accepting bookings for the 2021 series of Workshops on Loss and Bereavement, which will be delivered, online via Zoom from January - June. Details and booking process can be found on the following link:

<https://hospicefoundation.ie/education-training/bereavement-training/workshops/> Please note bookings and payment for the workshops can only be made by using the following link to Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.ie/o/irish-hospice-foundation-31883804183>

## 30 YEARS AGO IN THE PARISH

- First confessions for our primary school children were held this weekend
- Registration for our Parish primary schools for September 1991 was taking place
- Good wishes were sent to the Holy Faith Sisters for the feast of their patron St. Brigid
- Crann Phadraig monthly paper and cardboard collection was scheduled for this weekend
- Skerries Tidy Towns group was looking for volunteers to paint the flower tubs around the town
- A newly formed Barbershop group was looking for male singers.

## SKERRIES TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Are seeking a volunteer to act as Public Relations Officer to help promote Club activities and report on current events.

Good publicity as always is very beneficial to circulate information to our members using the Parish bulletin and Social Media outlets, so all enquiries welcome.

Please contact: Owen O'Brien, Tel: 087 2584398  
Email: [owen.obrien1@gmail.com](mailto:owen.obrien1@gmail.com)

## SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB



Thanks to all who have joined us for the GAA Healthy Clubs 'Every Step Counts Challenge'. This is open for everyone (over 18) in the community to get involved.

The challenge is for the club to total 4000 km over 7 weeks. We had clocked up 1,390 km by 20 January. The challenge concludes on Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Download the 'Mylife by Irish Life' app and Register to take part – then just join at Social > Challenges > Leinster GAA Every Steps Counts > Skerries Harps Gaa Club.

Please adhere to COVID-19 & latest public health guidelines when participating in this challenge.

Skerries Harps Online Shop is open 24/7 - Sale on now at our online store until January 31<sup>st</sup> with 15% off. Loads of great offers in there for anyone looking for club gear. See link on website.

Our sympathies to the family of Theresa Quinn, RIP on her recent passing.

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