



# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2208

4 to 11 April 2021

## Easter Blessings

We have come through a year that will never be forgotten by any of us for a variety of reasons. Thankfully, we are seeing signs of new hope and the beginnings of a start of a return to 'normal' life. We are now in the most important season in our faith. Easter spells new hope and new life. Children have returned to school and vaccines have arrived. All giving us a glimpse of a new direction for us all. We are still asked to keep one another safe and healthy.



At this time last year I can remember reflecting "Who would have thought we would find ourselves where we are?" I find myself once again, a year on, sharing the same sentiment. In this season of Easter we share the strength of the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead. A Spirit that opens us to the presence of life around us - the spring weather, a new brightness and flowers blooming. We might even find our own spirits raised as well – long may it continue for us all! These are signs of new hope emerging around us and within us. The season of Easter is charged with new life and new hope and may we all share in that blessing this year.

*Fr. Melvyn*

## Christ is risen!



Christ is risen! He has burst open the gates of hell and let the dead go free; he has renewed the earth through the members of his Church now born again in baptism, and has made it blossom afresh with people brought back to life.

His Holy Spirit has unlocked the doors of heaven, which stand wide open to receive those who rise up from the earth. Because of Christ's resurrection the thief ascends to paradise, the bodies of the blessed enter the holy city, and the dead are restored to the company of the living.

There is an upward movement in the whole of creation, each element raising itself to something higher. We see hell restoring its victims to the upper regions, earth sending its buried dead to heaven, and heaven presenting the new arrivals to the Lord. In one and the same movement, our Saviour's passion raises people from the depths, lifts them up from the earth, and sets them in the heights.

This celestial day is perpetually bright and shining with brilliant light; clouds can never darken its skies. This is why John the evangelist says: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to overpower it.*

Christ is risen! His rising brings life to the dead, forgiveness to sinners, and glory to the saints. David the prophet summons all creation to join in celebrating the Easter festival: *Rejoice and be glad, he cries, on this day which the Lord has made.*

And so, each of us ought surely to rejoice on this holy day.

*From a sermon by Saint Maximus of Turin*

### Easter Holy Water

It is a custom, after Easter Sunday Masses, that people look for Easter Holy Water to take home with them. This year, to help with this, we will make bottles of Easter Holy Water available to you in the church. During the week after Easter Sunday these bottles will be left on a table in front of the altar for you to pick up – ONE PER FAMILY. To keep all healthy and safe please ensure to sanitise your hands on entering and on leaving the church.

### Our Sympathy is extended to the families of Shealagh



Douglas, South Strand, and Colm Flanagan, Kelly's Bay Strand, who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

**Fest Days:** 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Holy Saturday.  
Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Day of The Lord's Resurrection.

*Morning Masses during the coming Easter Week, 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April (incl. Saturday), will be at 11.00am*

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

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### Anniversaries remembered and Intentions

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> 8.00pm:** Michael Ferguson, Bartle and Stephen Butterly, Joe Brennan, Bernadette Marrey.

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Mary Ingram, Abby and Michael Conlon, James McGirl, Maureen Quinn, Special Intention, Thanksgiving Mass.

**11.00am:** Hugh Marry (1<sup>st</sup> A), Gabrielle Pratt (1<sup>st</sup> A), Catherine and Peter McMahon, Cormac O'Reilly, Seán Darcy, Special Intention.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** Mass Card Intentions.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** Sonny Rooney (1<sup>st</sup> A), Joseph and Elizabeth Seaver, The Gaskin family (Special Intention), Gerard and Bernard Connor.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** Barbara McGarry.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** Paddy Murray.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** James Fanning and family, Colm and Elizabeth O'Nuallain.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** May Goundry (1st A) and deceased members of the Rooney Family, Tommy Dixon.

**6.00pm:** Brendan O'Connor, Dermot Mulholland, James and John Nolan, May Smyth.

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Joseph Beggs (1<sup>st</sup> A)

**11.00am:** Fr. Michael O'Donovan P.P. (1<sup>st</sup> A) former P.P. of Caheragh, West Cork. Joe Clinton, Richard and Margaret Dunne.

**Parish Book Club:** During the month of April and the



Easter season we will be reading **Hope to Die: the Christian meaning of Death and the**

**Resurrection of the Body by Scott Hahn.** As Catholics, we believe in the resurrection of the body. We profess it in our creed. We honour the dead in our Liturgy through the Rite of Christian burial. We do all of this, and more, because when Jesus Christ took on flesh for the salvation of our souls, he also bestowed great dignity on our bodies. In **Hope to Die**, Scott Hahn explores the significance of death and burial from a Catholic perspective. The promise of the bodily resurrection brings into focus the need for the dignified care of our bodies at the hour of death. Unpacking both Scripture and Catholic teaching, **Hope to Die** reminds us that we are destined for glorification on the last day.

**The Easter Story For Children:** The NUA Easter Series from Scripture Union is a free 3-part video series that provides a fresh perspective on Easter and why it matters for us today. Aimed at 9-14 year olds, this entertaining journey, with Sarah Campbell, Darren Bourke and Mark Murray, highlights the meaning of the incredible events of Easter. Alongside the videos is a downloadable resource pack with quizzes and reflection activities formatted for home learning. For more information or to register visit [nuafilmseries.org](http://nuafilmseries.org)

**Teen Hope Connected** is a weekly Youth Group. It takes place every **Wednesday 6-7pm** via Zoom. Join us for fun, exploring faith and life with other teens through small group discussions, top class games and prayer. If you are interested please email: [kirsten.mahon@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:kirsten.mahon@dublindiocese.ie)

**Ecumenical Bible Week 2021** is an exciting and successful venture which is now in its eight year and will run from **Pentecost Sunday (23<sup>rd</sup> May) to Trinity Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> May) 2021.** Ecumenical Bible Week (EBW) is led by the Archdiocese of Dublin and the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough in collaboration with many other Christian traditions ranging from the Evangelical Alliance to Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians and support from the National Bible Society and Scripture Union. The overall theme this year is "Unlocking Faith Today: Responding to New Realities". This year EBW will have an opening and closing prayer event organised by Holy Trinity Rathmines on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May and St Finian's Lutheran Church on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday respectively. To register visit [www.bibleweek.ie](http://www.bibleweek.ie)

### Skerries Community College



The Parents' Association, staff and the students of the college are fundraising to improve the outdoor sports facilities by attempting to run or walk 9665 km (the distance the Olympic torch is travelling from Athens to Tokyo). If you would like to contribute to their efforts, there is a gofundme page: <https://gofund.me/698635b6>

### 30 Years Ago in the Parish

- Thirty years ago it was also Easter Sunday and Canon Shanahan and Fr. Littleton sent Easter greetings to all parishioners
- St Vincent de Paul society thanked everybody for their donations to the Sunshine House holiday fund
- Plans were underway for this year's Parish Pilgrimage to San Giovanni
- Skerries Tidy Town group was starting its annual door-to-door collection for funds to improve our environment
- Crann Phadraig - Trees for Skerries - was planning its monthly waste paper/cardboard collection
- A training group for the Women's Mini-Marathon was being organised.

### Skerries Harps GAA Club



Our Online Juvenile Academy finishes up this weekend. The good news is that we hope to resume outdoor activities in early May. Games Promotion Officer Louise will be in touch with parents when details are finalised. Zingo results for Sunday 28 March were 4-1-2-3-6-5-7, no winners. Jackpot next week is €5,800. Thanks to all who play Zingo every week: your support is greatly appreciated. Since 2007 Skerries Harps have provided a Defibrillator in our car park, accessible to the community. Unfortunately, it has come to the end of its useful working life and needs to be replaced. The safety of the Skerries community is one of our main priorities, which is why we have joined the GAA's Community Heart Programme and created a fundraising page to replace our own on-site AED. To do this, we need your help to reach our goal of €2150. Every euro we raise will help us get closer to acquiring a new AED. Please make a donation today. We offer our condolences to the family of the late Joe Murray, RIP.

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