



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2209

11th - 18th April 2021

The Benefits of the Doubt

"Ask as many questions as you like. If you don't ask questions, we presume you're not interested". How many of us have heard this from teachers and instructors? We ask questions because we either don't understand or we doubt. It's probably true to say that informing is a lot easier than convincing.

The **first Reading** from Acts this Sunday describes an idyllic period in the Church's development. Things couldn't be better; all is generosity, mutual regard and success.

The **Psalm** overflows with praise of God and thanksgiving for all His gifts, not least that of life. The **second Reading** from St John's letter is an intense, almost mystical passage about "the victory over the world – our faith". It takes considerable focus and not a little inspiration to grasp. Faith is in abundant supply in these three passages.

And then we have the **Gospel** with Thomas' brief moment in the spotlight. What kind of man was he? St. John is the only evangelist who mentions him by name. We know he was a twin; less well known is that his full name was Judas Thomas. He obviously thought for himself. He was the one who piped up, when Jesus told the apostles that they must follow Him, "We do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" (**John 14:4-5**) Was he an educated man, a lawyer, maybe...all those questions! Records show that he headed East after the Resurrection, landing in India with the message of Jesus. That took some courage and maybe wealth. It also took total, burning conviction. Among the most moving words in Scripture must surely be Thomas' response to Jesus in that locked room, "My Lord and my God" - the purest possible statement of faith and submission. It's a beautiful story of love given and love returned.

So for us, it's "ask as many questions as you like". Scripture and scholars inform; Jesus convinces. Our part is to keep an open mind, to be willing to receive the truth, whatever it costs. 'The Benefits of the Doubt' far outweigh the struggles.

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone". **Psalm 117**

Skerries Church Choir

WEEKLY PINK PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR 2021/22

The weekly Pink Planned Giving Envelopes for 2021/22 are now available for collection. The Planned Giving collection provides a very important and necessary financial support for the parish. This year envelopes can now be collected in the glass area of the church on:

Thursday 15th April between 2.30 - 4.30pm

Friday 16th April between 2.30 - 4.30pm

Please contact us if you are unable to collect your envelopes during the above times.

A very sincere THANK YOU to all who financially support the parish by the weekly Pink Planned Giving Envelope collection, standing orders, and other donations including anonymous donations. The parish does not benefit from the 1st and 2nd collections, or the Christmas and Easter Dues collections.

If you would like to join the weekly Pink Planned Giving Envelope collection or would like to know more about how you can support the parish, please contact us via the parish office leaving your name and phone number and we will contact you. You may also leave your details in one of the priest's houses. **THANK YOU**

MASS INTENTIONS

- ✦ **Sat 10th 11am:** May Goundry (1st A) & deceased members of the Rooney family, Tommy Dixon, Nellie O'Brien
- ✦ **Sat 10th 6pm:** Brendan O'Connor, Dermot Mulholland, James & John Nolan, May Smyth, Bridie Sheils
- ✦ **Sun 11th 9.30am:** Joseph Beggs (1st A)
- ✦ **Sun 11th 11am:** Gerry Derham (MM), Fr Michael O'Donovan PP (1st A) former PP of Caheragh, West Cork, Joe Clinton, Richard & Margaret Dunne, Eileen, William & Frank Nugent, Bridie Rothwell (SI), Mary Nugent (SI)
- ✦ **Mon 12th 10am:** Mass Card Intentions

- ✦ **Tues 13th 10am:** O'Leary family (SI), McNulty family (SI)
- ✦ **Sun 18th 9.30am:** Bree Grimes, Tom & Lily Doyle, Carmel & Nicky McConville, Joe Coleman, Stevie Ryan, Mary McGirl
- ✦ **Sun 18th 11am:** Terry O'Reilly (MM), Mary Burke (MM), Tom McDonnell & deceased members of the McDonnell family, Rona & Eugene Ivory, Willie & Kitty Beggs, Helen Dunne.

FEAST DAY

13th April – St Martin 1

Parish Website: www.stpatricksskerries.ie Email: 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

BACK TO SCHOOL

Welcome back to School - to all pupils of our Parish schools and Skerries Community College.

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.

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. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, **8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.**

30 YEARS AGO IN THE PARISH

- Canon Shanahan and Fr. Littleton thanked the many people who had helped in so many ways, throughout the Easter Week ceremonies
- If you wanted to go to Lourdes with the Parish Pilgrimage you needed to confirm before 12th April
- St. Vincent de Paul Society thanked the Black Raven staff for the proceeds of their Table Quiz in aid of Maria House
- Community Games Rugby and Table Tennis Trials were taking place
- The Marian Society was taking part in the Cream of the County competition and their production of "Spring Fever" was due to open at the end of April
- Skerries Historical Society's next presentation was by Joe Murray "Postcards of Skerries, a townscape of long ago"
- Skerries Athletic Club was bringing a group of young athletes for trials for the Dublin team to visit Liverpool on 19th April.

AWARE – SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS

If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your 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 information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB



Juvenile Academy hopes to resume outdoor activities in early May. Games Promotion Officer Louise is currently working with Dublin GAA to finalise details and will be in touch with parents when these are finalised. Thanks to Allcare Pharmacy for their support.

Zingo results for Sunday 4th April 1-2-5-6-7-4-3, no winners. Next Sundays Jackpot is **€5,900** and Dividend is **€650**. Thanks to all who play Zingo every week. See link on www.skerriesharps.ie

Skerries Harps provide a Defibrillator in the car park, accessible to the community. It has now 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 Program and created a fundraising page to replace our own on-site AED. To do this, we need your help to reach our goal of **€2,150**. Every euro we raise will help us get closer to acquiring a new AED to replace the old one.

To make a donation:

contactsecretary.skerriesharps.dublin@gaa.ie

or donate via link at:

<https://savealife.communityheartprogram.com/gaa/page/skerries-harps-dublin>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The O'Boyle family, Shenick Avenue, deeply appreciate the many expressions of sympathy received at the loss of Hugh. To all who called, sent Mass and Sympathy cards and left messages, we want you to know that these have been a great source of comfort to all of us and we are truly grateful.

The Holy sacrifice of the mass has been offered for your intentions.

Parish Website: www.stpatricksskerries.ie Email: 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