

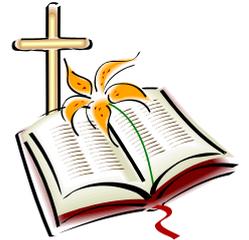
# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2218

13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## *The just will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar*

For the people of the Old Testament, the image of the Lebanon cedar, was highly significant. The Lebanon cedar was a majestic, durable, stately, long-branched tree, that usually grew to 50 feet but some grew to between 70 and 100 feet. In biblical times cedar wood was used by Solomon for the construction of the Temple and as it pointed high up into heaven was a symbol of immortality. No wonder then that the prophet Ezekiel uses the image of the 'noble cedar' to show the faithfulness of God who offers shade and protection to his people.



In Mark's Gospel, Jesus uses parables as a way of describing, through analogy, what the kingdom of God is like. And so, Jesus tells the people the parable of the mustard seed using language and analogy familiar to the culture of his time. What is interesting, is that in contrast to Ezekiel's majestic and noble cedar, the mustard seed is a far more common and humble plant. And yet, according to Jesus, the common and humble mustard plant, is comparable to the noble cedar, in that both provide shade and shelter for the birds of the air. In making such a comparison, Jesus joins the common and the ordinary with the majestic and noble. The parable suggests that the kingdom of God takes the ordinary everyday common lives that we live and transforms them into something grand and divinely life-giving.

Both Ezekiel and Mark were writing at a time of great crisis and challenge for the people of God. We can take heart and be encouraged by their great sense of hope. We can be encouraged by the faithfulness of God in times of crisis and rejection, the faithfulness of the noble cedar, the humble mustard seed. Let us take up the challenge, in word and deed, of continuing to work for the kingdom of God so that all may find shelter under its branches. And let us pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and renew us so that our own Christian lives may 'flourish like the palm tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar'. (Psalm 92:12).

*Fr. James*

### MASS INTENTIONS

- ✠ Sat 12<sup>th</sup> 6pm: Seamus Murphy, 1<sup>st</sup> A, Ray McAnally, Nicholas & Mary Shiels, Gerard McNamara recently deceased in Limerick, Frances, Kevin & Anne McDonough
- ✠ Sun 13<sup>th</sup> 9.30am: Deirdre O'Neill
- ✠ Sun 13<sup>th</sup> 11am: Mary Kinsella Month's Mind, Terry Ward, Mary Howard, William & Maureen Derham, Anne Sarsfield
- ✠ Mon 14<sup>th</sup> 10am: Mass Card Intentions
- ✠ Tues 15<sup>th</sup> 10am: Shirley Piper Archer
- ✠ Wed 16<sup>th</sup> 10am: Tommy Ruddy
- ✠ Sat 19<sup>th</sup> 10am: Baby Sean McDonagh Gaffney
- ✠ Sun 20<sup>th</sup> 9.30am: Tess & Noel Dempsey, James & Lily Coleman & deceased members of the Coleman family, Margaret Corry Month's Mind, Special Intention
- ✠ Sun 20<sup>th</sup> 11am: Margaret Grimes, James (Jimmy) Grimes, Joseph (Joe) Grimes, The McGee Family, Marianne Gibney, John Lally, Hyacinth Maguire, Willie & Mary Mooney

### OUR SYMPATHY

To the family of Joan Woodlock, Holmpatrick and Rush NH who died recently. May she Rest in Peace.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO



Alan Byrne & Carol Keane and to Luke Judge & Evelyn Garland who were married recently. We wish them every happiness.

### REMEMBERING

Former pupils of Holy Faith/de la Salle College will remember with affection Eileen Kelly, or Miss McGuinness, as she was known to many of them, who died recently. Eileen was a teacher of Irish and French and in latter years a member of the Religion team. Eileen always showed care and patience with her pupils. As a colleague, she is remembered as a good friend and support to many young teachers setting out on their careers.  
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dilis.

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## LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH: CARMELITE SUMMER SCHOOL

St John of the Cross is one of the greatest Christian mystics and a Doctor of the Church. His writings have proved invaluable for spiritual guidance but understanding them can present a challenge. This summer school aims to help participants read his writings as he intended. This will mean examining the criteria which he gives us for correctly interpreting his work. This summer school will greatly benefit you if you wish to read John with greater ease and relish, hearing John speak to you with his authentic voice. You will discover the criteria which John gives for correctly interpreting his work and draw insights from John's spiritual wisdom. Be nurtured by the word of God through lectio divina and join us this summer for this formative programme that promises to nurture the whole person – body, mind, soul and spirit. The Summer school will take place from 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July, 15:30-19:00 Presented by: Fr. Iain Matthew, OCD, Professor of Theology and Spirituality at the Pontifical Spirituality Institute, Teresianum, Rome and bestselling author of the spiritual classic *The Impact of God* (Hodder & Stoughton, 1995). To Register <https://www.oxcacs.org/product/summer-school-2021/>.

## 30 YEARS AGO IN THE PARISH

- Recently baptised were Dylan Jones, Stephen O'Neill, Sinead Cullen, Joanne Collins, Stephen Moles, James Reid, Keith Wilson, Nadine Ruigrok, and Orla Carron.
- The Parish was looking forward to the Ordination of David Boylan and street celebrations were being organised and cake bakers were being asked to help with this great occasion for the Parish
- Skerries 65 Club were looking forward to their trip to County Wicklow
- St Joseph's Young Priests Society was organising a pilgrimage to Knock next weekend
- Tidy Towns Committee was asking traders and households to put their hanging baskets and window boxes out now- also to pull unsightly weeds from garden walls and kerbsides
- Rough Magic theatre group was bringing their production of "Lady Windermere's Fan" to the Community Centre

## GOOD WISHES TO OUR STUDENTS

Continuing good wishes and prayers for all our Leaving Certificate students who have had such a difficult and disrupted two years.

## 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, now and throughout the holiday season. 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. For more information about the groups and all of our services see [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie).

## SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Good News – our Bar facility is open again – outdoor, with all the necessary health guidelines. At present it will open on Fri, Sat and Sun – opening times on website. Academy continues every Saturday at 10 am till 26 June. Shop open Saturdays from 10 to 11 am and on Thursdays from 8 to 9 pm. All-Stars out every Friday at 4.30 pm. Adult and Juvenile games are back with football this weekend and hurling next weekend. List of Fixtures now up on our website. Players should have Membership Fees paid before playing. Fees can be paid online See [www.skerriesharps.ie](http://www.skerriesharps.ie).

Zingo for Sunday 6 June 3-2-6-7-5-1-4. No winners. Jackpot is now €6,800 and Dividend is €250. Online entry €5 for 3 lines – see link on website. Thanks to all who support Zingo. Congrats to footballers Ronan Geoghegan, Greg McEaney and Eoghan O'Connor Flanagan, selected on Dublin Minor panel and to Adam Fearon and Eoin Wilde, selected on Dublin U20 panel.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Murphy Family, Shenick Park – On the occasion of Seamus's first anniversary the family would like to extend our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to family, friends, neighbours and all well wishers who supported us during Dad's passing – to anyone who came to sympathise, telephoned, sent flowers, letters, mass and sympathy cards and online messages of condolence. A heartfelt thanks to Fr James for his prayers and support. We will remember your kind words and funeral mass. Our thanks also to Joey Lannon, funeral director. Masses have been offered for your intentions.

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