



# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2223

18-25 July 2021

## “BEHIND THE SCENES”.

Now and again it is quite useful to have a look behind the scenes. We never know what we'll discover! Behind Jeremiah's doom and gloom, for which he is well known – and valued – lies optimism. No matter how dreadful a situation, God's providence will always save it: "...but the remnant of my flock I myself will gather....and will bring them back to their pastures". (Jeremiah 23:1-6) A more obscure message can be made out behind the scenes in St Paul's letter. Two groups, separated by hostility and barriers (here Jews and Gentiles) means trouble and strife. It is something with which we are only too familiar in many areas of life. Through Christ, however, comes "peace to those who were far away ('them') and peace to those who are near at hand ('us)". (Ephesians 2:13-18).

The Gospel describes how Jesus and his apostles are sought out at every turn. They cannot get away from the crowds, not even to get something to eat. You'd have to feel sorry for them. What was it like behind the scenes? Tiredness can cause the most awful, unintended behaviour, blame, cruel words etc. and remember the ad. – "You're not yourself when you're hungry"! Again it is Jesus who saves the day. "You must rest a while" he tells them, (not "**we** must rest a while"). A little later in the story, he sees the pressing, demanding crowds again on the shore. "He took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd" We can only imagine what that was like behind the scenes. Why were they there? (Mark 6:30-34)

This brings us neatly to the Psalm, the best known and loved, perhaps, of all psalms. A tranquil, sunny picture of green pastures, quiet streams, easy paths, banquets. But is this it? When do we turn to this psalm? Not surely on warm, calm days but on cold, troubled days when we are lost in grief or astray with worry. This is what lies behind the scenes of Psalm 23. The wonderful 2<sup>nd</sup> verse sums up the whole "hidden treasure" of today's Scripture readings. It says **everything**.

**He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.**

**If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear.**

**You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give me comfort.**

Isn't it nice to think that Jesus and his apostles may well have turned to this psalm in their exhausted state? May we, like them, constantly rediscover God's unwavering, care for us.

**Skerries Church Choir.**

**TASK FORCE: BUILDING HOPE – PUBLIC CONSULTATION:** Archbishop Farrell has set up a Task Force under the title of *Building Hope*. The Task Force aims to stimulate engagement with the whole diocesan family and shape an inclusive approach to a pastoral strategy appropriate to our times. It is intended to support parish communities to undertake a radical renewal, looking to the future with creativity, enabling the Archdiocese of Dublin to act now, so as to give effective witness and service in the years ahead. You are invited to take part in this consultation. There is a video, a prayer and a form on the [www.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.dublindiocese.ie) website. Please watch the video from the Archbishop and join with your family to pray and to discuss the future of the Church together. It is hoped that you might nominate one member of your family to return to the website and fill out the form.

**NB: The consultation form will remain online until the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

**PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS:** Archbishop Farrell is asking for people and priests to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life on a regular basis. As you are well aware, the need is great, so let's answer God's call and "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest".

**Congratulations** to all the young people from our Parish who have been receiving their First Holy Communion during the past week. Thank you to their teachers and parents who have supported them during these times. We trust you all had a lovely time on your special day!

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)

## ANNIVERSARIES/MASS INTENTIONS

- ✦ Sat. 17<sup>th</sup>: 10am: Rena & Sam Condrut (BR)
- ✦ Sat. 17<sup>th</sup>: 6pm: Peter & Rose O'Connor, Joe Grimes.
- ✦ Sun. 18<sup>th</sup>: 9.30am: Sarah Ruigrok
- ✦ Sun. 18<sup>th</sup>: 11am: Annie Russell, Peter & Annie Russell, Mary Murphy, Dave Noel Fenton (1<sup>st</sup> A), Fiona Downey, Carmel Caden
- ✦ Tues. 20<sup>th</sup>: 10am: Frank & Molly Ryan
- ✦ Weds. 21<sup>st</sup>: 10am: Sr Maire O'Nolan
- ✦ Thurs. 22<sup>nd</sup>: 10am: Claire Nolan
- ✦ Fri. 23<sup>rd</sup>: 10am: Sean & Bella Alcock, James Doorty
- ✦ Sat. 24<sup>th</sup>: 6pm: Aileen O'Connor, Jim Hyland, Christopher (Christy) Carey
- ✦ Sun. 25<sup>th</sup>: 11am: Breda Kennedy, Peggy Coleman, Paddy Coleman, Teresa Donaghy, Peggy McGirl, Tommy O'Brien

## FEASTDAYS

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>: St Apollinairs  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>: St Lawrence of Brindisi  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>: St Mary Magdalene  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>: St Bridget of Sweden  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>: St Sharbel Makhlu; St Declan

## NEW VOCATIONS TEAM FOR THE

**PRIESTHOOD IN DUBLIN:** Archbishop Dermot Farrell has appointed a New Team for Vocations to the Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Dublin. Fr. Séamus McEntee is now the new Director of Vocation to the Priesthood with Fr. Bill O'Shaughnessy as the new Assistant Vocations Director. Let us pray that God will continue to call enthusiastic men to the priesthood for our Archdiocese. If you know of anyone who thinks they might have a vocation to be a priest or is interested in finding out more about being a priest for the Archdiocese of Dublin, please ask them to contact **either Fr. Séamus or Fr. Bill on the Vocations Team at: [vocations@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:vocations@dublindiocese.ie) or check out: [Vocations | Archdiocese of Dublin \(dublindiocese.ie\)](http://Vocations | Archdiocese of Dublin (dublindiocese.ie))**

## Blessing of the Graves 2021

As with last year, it was not possible to hold the usual public gathering for the Blessing of the Parish Graveyards this year. So, Father Melvyn and Father James blessed each grave individually recently. You can view this event on the Parish webcam - it is a beautifully made film of the event, and in this way you can unite yourself with the ceremony.



## Wedding Bells – Congratulations to Lindsay O'Connor and Fergal

Fitzpatrick who were recently married in our Parish. We wish them every happiness!

## MA IN THEOLOGY AND WORLD RELIGIONS

- **DCU:** Taught by staff with internationally distinguished records in research and teaching, DCU welcomes students from varied religious and secular backgrounds. This master's degree is available both full-time and part-time. It attracts many students with years of involvement in religious and faith communities as well as those working in education and social work. It also attracts undergraduates from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. **The closing date for EU applications is 15 August 2021.** DCU's School of Theology, Philosophy, and Music is hosting a live webinar on Thursday, 22nd July 2021 at 4.00 pm on the MA in Theology and World Religions programme with Dr Joseph Rivera. To register for this webinar: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

## SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

A super week of Cul Camp activity thanks to our GPO Louise and her team of young coaches. Multi Sport camp starts on Mon 19 July, Junior camp on 3 August and Cul Camp 2 on 9 August..

Well done to our 3 reps on the Dublin Minor team on their win over Offaly. They meet Kildare in the semi-final. Adam Fearon was in action with Dublin U20's v Meath in Navan on Thursday. Senior footballers defeated St Brigids in Div. 1, Inters drew and Juniors also won.

On Sunday Senior Camogie are home at 10.30am. On Wednesday Senior football v Rush, away at 7.30 and home to Portmarnock on Saturday at 6.30. See [www.skerriesharps.ie](http://www.skerriesharps.ie)

Zingo for Sunday 11 July 5-2-6-4-3-7-1 No winner. Jackpot is now €7,300. Entry envelopes available at the draw in the Marquee at 6.30 pm on Sunday or enter online.

Annual Golf Classic is on Fri 30 July in Skerries GC. Details from Paul 0851740474

