



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2254

20th – 27th February 2022

DIGGING DEEP

Samuel 26:2 7-9,12-13, 22-23. Ps: 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. Corinthians 15: 45-49. Luke 6:27-38.

Anyone who watches 'News and Sport' on Sunday nights will know that it is "Digging Deep Night of the Week". Every sportsperson interviewed after a victory will describe in breathless gasps how they and /or their team had to 'dig deep' to win. Well, Sunday morning this week has got in first with the "Digging Deep" message! Of all passages in Scripture, none call for more 'deep digging' than today's. Generosity of spirit does not come naturally to human beings. Which of us can resist the urge to get our own back when we have been truly wronged? To argue against the culture of revenge, so widespread these days, is difficult and at times, even questionable. But if we take today's Scripture passages seriously, quite a different attitude is demanded of us. As followers of Christ, we must not only reject revenge, but actually leave ourselves vulnerable to further injury. This is incredible in human terms. Some would see it as repulsive. Let us not forget, however, our own need for generosity of spirit!

The three main Scripture passages convey the challenge in small steps; David's generosity towards his enemy, fast asleep and vulnerable at his feet; St Paul spelling out the difference between pre-Christian and Christian, i.e. the soul and the spirit; then the full-on description from St Luke's gospel of what this most enormous challenge entails. How difficult it is to follow those steps! Love our enemies? Impossible! - No, it's not, but it takes more than just a human effort. Look at St Paul again: "The first man, Adam, became a living soul but the last man, Adam, has become a living spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that the one with the spirit". The key is "Spirit".... "Come, Holy Spirit"! The challenge is a lifelong one.

It is Spring! Earthly "Digging Deep" is under way. Spiritually it is "Digging Deep" time too. Like the Sunday night sports heroes, we must train relentlessly, tough though it be. Let us face the challenge, however, with determination and gratitude for God's generosity of spirit to us, and then do our level best to nurture such generosity in ourselves. This is today's Divine Message.

"The Lord is compassion and Love, slow to anger and rich in mercy He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults".

Skerries Church Choir

MASS INTENTIONS

- ✦ **Sat 19th 10am:** Zoe Fanning
- ✦ **6pm:** Hughie Hammond MM, Eva McGinty, Colin Mooney, Paul Wilde, Fergus (Fergie) O'Connor, Joan & Max Watts
- ✦ **Sun 20th 9.30am:** Vincent Woodlock 1st Anniv, James & Margaret Clerkin, Gerry Mansfield, Anne O'Sullivan and deceased members of O'Sullivan family, Frances Chambers
- ✦ **11am:** Mary Leonard MM, Carol Russell, Denis Keogh, Richard Lambe and deceased members of Lambe family, Cora & Mick Cannon, Judy Hassett, Ann Joye
- ✦ **Mon 21st 10am:** Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ **Tues 22nd 10am:** John JJ Reid, Janice Downing
- ✦ **Wed 23rd 10am:** Eilish Healy & deceased members of Healy & McGilly families
- ✦ **Sat 26th 10am:** Special Intentions, Holy Souls

- ✦ **6pm:** Gloria McCormack MM, Michael Buckley, Rita Beggs McAllister, Declan O'Halloran
- ✦ **Sun 27th 9.30am:** Rena Potter, John Beggs
- ✦ **11am:** Fr Michael Flanagan, Helen Branagan

OUR SYMPATHY

To the families of Mary Gilbride, Greenlawns, Bernadette Ullrich (née Cullen), Strand Street, Christopher (Noel) McDermott, South Strand who died recently. May they Rest in Peace. We also extend our sympathy and prayers to Máire Ni Odhrain (Principal Scoil Réalt na Mara) on the death of her mother Margaret Horan.

MANY THANKS

I would like to say a sincere "Thank You" to all our parishioners for your financial support of the parish. Also, I would like to express my gratitude for the prayers and support you have extended to me personally. Together we can continue to bring the Good News to life for one another in our community. *Fr Melvyn*

WE WELCOME

Oliver John Faherty, Finan Artur Laird & Daisy-Mai Scuffil, recently baptised into our parish family.

FEASTDAYS

22nd February – The Chair of St Peter, Apostle

23rd February – St Polycarp

SYNODAL PARISH GATHERING



You are warmly invited to attend St Patrick's Parish Skerries Synodal gathering on **Thursday 3rd March 2022** at 7.30pm. Our gathering will be an opportunity to share and listen to each other's experience of Church

and thus contribute to the 2023 Rome Synod, convened by Pope Francis. Our reflections on our experience of Church: our joys, sorrows, hopes and anxieties will be joined to the Dublin Diocese response to the Synod invitation, issued to all the baptised. The context is one of an ever-changing Church in and ever-changing world. Please indicate your interest in attending by email to:

info@stpatricksskerries.ie, (**in subject line: Synod**) by telephone: (01) 810 6771 or by calling in to the Parish Office.

LIAM LAWTON CONCERT

The concert with Liam Lawton will now go ahead. The date is **Sunday 13th March**. This concert is part of our 80th anniversary celebrations. It will also feature our local *Skerries Sea Sharps* choir. Doors open 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. Tickets are available at €25 from the Parish Office and Book Shop on Strand Street.

OCEAN BOOK CLUB

We send our sincere sympathy to the family of Mary Gilbride, long-time member and friend of ours. We will miss her company. May she rest in peace.

SKERRIES LADIES BOWLS

Monday morning competition continues with 30 ladies turning up last week. There is also a Wednesday afternoon roll-up, if you just want to hone your skills in a non-competitive way. Don't forget to sign up for your preferred Division for next season - Div. 1, Div. 3, Div. 4 or Sat. league.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Leonard (Mary) -The family of the late Mary Leonard wish to thank all those who supported them in their recent and sad bereavement. To the staff of Beaumont Hospital, the Pioneer Home Care team, Father Melvyn, St Maur's Parish Folk Group, those who sent mass cards and offered condolences and Mam's wonderful neighbours and friends: we say a very big thank you to all. Her Month's Mind Mass will be offered for all your intentions.

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Seniors started Division 1 league with a well merited draw, away to Clontarf.

Sun. 20 Feb: Seniors v St Brigids, away in AFL1, at 1030 am. Inters v Sylvesters, home at 1030 am; Juniors V St Pats home at 3 pm.

U19 Hurlers v Cr Ciaran, home at 11 am.

Sun 27 Feb: the new Under 19 football league starts with a home game v Na Fianna at 11 am. Juvenile Academy every Saturday at 10 am – Details from skerriesharpsacademy@gmail.com. Club Shop open during Acad for refreshments and club gear. Bar open at weekends for all the TV Sports and our Zingo Jackpot draw at 6.30 pm on Sunday. We are again taking bookings for our clubhouse for any events, celebrations or classes etc. Contact Pat on 087 250 5479 or email bookings.harps@gmail.com. Membership Fees are due - all players should have Membership and Injury scheme fees paid before training/playing. Cutoff date is 31 March per Club Constitution.

Zingo for 13 Feb. 1,4,3,2,5,7,6. No winners. Jackpot is €3,200.

Draw in club Bar on Sundays at 6.30 pm with in-house draw for Spot-Prizes. Thanks to all who regularly support Zingo.

See www.skerriesharps.ie. Congrats to Skerries Community College on winning the Dublin Senior football final and to Emma Parker on Purcell Cup final win with TU Dublin camogie team. Good Luck to James Casey and Eoin Wilde with DCU Freshers in final v UCC this week.

TIPS FOR CUTTING DOWN YOUR ELECTRICITY BILL

Despite the €200 bonus which will be coming to all, we could all possibly save some units, without harming our health or well-being.

- your electric kettle is a big user of electricity - only boil the amount of water you need each time
- try and fill your washing machine or dishwasher before use, rather than doing several small washes (one full load takes less electricity than two half loads)
- Use your oven economically, by baking more than one item at a time
- Although an obvious one, use LED bulbs and switch off unnecessary lights and heat in rooms which are not used
- Don't leave your electronic devices (computer/internet/mobile phone) on stand-by, in particular turn your TV off at the wall each night
- When charging your phone/tablet or laptop, turn off when 100% charged

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