



## UNLIKELY SOURCES.

The Scripture passages today are full of surprises. A rock is not where we would normally expect to find water (Exodus); a trip to the shops doesn't usually involve a life-changing encounter with a stranger (John); having all our "moral debts" written off is not what we expect (Paul).

In the Old Testament extract, Moses listened to the Lord's response to his prayer and, unlikely though it seemed, he followed instructions. Water resulted. Similarly in the Gospel story, the Samaritan woman, doing the equivalent of our daily shop, was simply going for water as she always did. What followed was amazing. She too listened to another unlikely story but look at the result! Barriers were crossed by Jesus and the woman, prejudice set aside. They were open-minded.

The symbol of water as life-giving is central here. Our focus in Lent is on deepening our spiritual life. If, like Moses and the Samaritan woman, we listen with open hearts and minds, then 'the water of life' will come our way too. God is to be found in the negative just as in the positive. Be open to shocks – and examine them all! The Psalmist writes "Harden not your hearts". Our Communion song this morning, "Listen", reflects this:

"Listen, let your heart keep seeking, listen to his constant speaking, Listen to the Spirit calling you;  
Listen to his inspiration, listen to his invitation, Listen to the Spirit calling you ....  
.....He's in the noise of the city, in the singing of the birds;  
And in the night-time the stillness helps you listen to his word...."

*Skerries Church Choir.*

### Mass Intentions

- ✦ **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm:** Eddie Coleman (1<sup>st</sup> A), Cyril Delaney (1<sup>st</sup> A), Jimmy Dillon, Leo and Kathleen Tolan, John Lannon, May Llewellyn.
- ✦ **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Margaret Noonan (rem), Noeline Hess (rem).
- ✦ **11.00am:** Michael Kennedy (MM), Michael and Meta Rice, Jean Rice, Mary Rice.
- ✦ **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Mass Card Intentions, Don McBrien and the McBrien family.
- ✦ **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Francis Ryan.
- ✦ **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Joey and May Sherwin.
- ✦ **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 11.00am:** Leo Heffernan, Deceased members of the McDonnell family, Patrick (Paddy) O'Brien.
- ✦ **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm:** Richard and Mary Maguire, Mary Burke, Mary McDonagh, Helen Ward.
- ✦ **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Esther Kelly (rem) Mother's day.
- ✦ **11.00am:** Rory Ward, Shelagh Douglas, Terry O'Reilly.

**Dates to Note:** Masses for St Patrick's Day:  
**Vigil Mass 6.00pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Masses at 9.30am and 11.00am.**



**Our Sympathy** is extended to the family of Geraldine Mooney, Swords and Skerries, who died recently. May she Rest in Peace.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** every Tuesday during Lent from 3 to 5.00pm.

**Easter Mass cards** available in the Parish Office.

### Feast Days

11<sup>th</sup> March – St Aengus,  
17<sup>th</sup> March – St Patrick

### St Vincent de Paul

The Monthly Collection for the local St Vincent De Paul Conference will take place on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March. As ever, your contribution is always welcome and very much appreciated.

**Congratulations** to the girls/boys in 6th class who celebrated their Service of Light on Wednesday night last as part of their preparation for their Confirmation. Also, as part of that preparation a reminder to come to the **3rd and final Ritual on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the church.** Looking forward to seeing you all there.

## St Francis Hospice Coffee Morning



Thank you to everyone who helped make our recent coffee morning in Skerries Harps such a great

success. Many thanks to all those who attended, donated and helped in any way. We raised €3,400 on the day.

## Skerries Ladies Bowls



Bowling competition continues each Monday morning - sign in before 10.30am. A reminder that the Club will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this

year. A celebration Dinner will be held in Skerries Golf Club on 30<sup>th</sup> June. Deposits of €10 to Mary Attley. The Club would be particularly delighted to welcome former members back for this event.

## CyberSeniors, Training on Smartphone/Tablets for aged 55+

Would you like to get more use from your Smartphone or Tablet? If so, please join our free CyberSeniors Training delivered by Age and Opportunity. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 11.00am- 1:15pm in Skerries Harps GAA Clubhouse.

**To Register:** Please call Fiona at Age and Opportunity on (01) 8057798 or email: [fiona.holohan@ageandopportunity.ie](mailto:fiona.holohan@ageandopportunity.ie)

## 30 Years Ago in the Parish

- The Parish was preparing to celebrate the feast of St. Patrick, patron saint of our Parish
- Parishioners were asked to say a special prayer for all the children preparing for Confirmation and First Holy Communion whose pictures were now pinned up in the Church
- Scoil Réalt na Mara was holding a talk for parents on "Your Growing Child" to be given by Dr. Vincent Moloney
- RNLI reminded everybody of their annual fund raising St. Patrick's Day Cycle Rally.
- "Big Maggie" was being staged by the Marian Musical & Dramatic Society
- Skerries Athletic Club congratulated Phillip Dunne, Louise Prendergast, Grainne Ryan, Elaine Halpin, Pamela Farrell, Deirdre O'Halloran and Saidhbh Dillon on their recent success in the National Indoor Championships
- Skerries Harps invited all to an evening of "Ceol agus Craic" in the Clubhouse on St. Patrick's evening.



**We wish everyone a happy and safe St. Patrick's Day!**

## Fancy a short break in France?



Skerries Twinning is organising a 4/5 day break in our twin area of Guichen 29<sup>th</sup> June- 3<sup>rd</sup> July this year. Lots of activities planned (including boules) and interesting visits. Accommodation and meals with host families - all you need is to get there. No need to speak French, someone will help you out! Give it some thought and get back to us for more information – please email [skerriestwinning@gmail.com](mailto:skerriestwinning@gmail.com)

## Skerries Community Association

We are delighted that Fingal County Council's *She Leads, Women's Leader Programme* has recognised and celebrated **Maeve McGann, Skerries Tidy Towns**, among 45 Fingal women whose photos and stories showcase leadership in community action and serves to inspire others to take an active role in their communities.

Congratulations to Maeve!

The exhibition will be on display in Fingal CoCo offices, Swords and Fingal libraries from a date in March to May 2023.

## Skerries Harps GAA Club



Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Mar: Senior Camogie v Erins Isle, home, at 10.30; Inter Hurling v Lucan, home at 12.00.

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Mar: Intermediate Football v Newcastle, home at 7 pm in Div.4

In addition we played 15 Juvenile games on Saturday and 9 on Sunday.

Congrats to our five club players who helped Dublin Under 20's progress to the final v Galway. Juvenile Academy on Saturdays at 10 am; Club Shop open during Academy and Thursday at 7.30pm. GA4Ma's team meet Mondays at 8.00pm and Dads&Lads on Fridays. All Stars on Fridays at 4.30pm,

The Club executive reminds all our members, players, coaches and parents to familiarise themselves with the current Code of Behaviour, available by following the link on our website for Coaching and Mentor Resources.

Easter Camp for U13/U14/U15 Boys/Girls. Tues 4<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> April.

Junior Camp for age 5-12 yrs . Tues 11<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> April. No charge for Camps. To register, see <https://skerriesharps.clubzap.com/categories/camp/products>

Zingo result for 5 Mar. 5, 7, 6, 3, 2, 1, 4. No winners. Jackpot now €1,400.

See [www.skerriesharps.ie](http://www.skerriesharps.ie) and our Facebook page for latest Club news.