



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2353

14th-21st January, 2024

Samuel 3:-10. 19

Psalms 39.

1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20.

John 1:35-42

Time to Live out our Belief

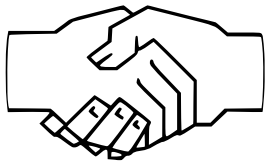
We have celebrated Christmas, we have celebrated the faithfulness of God who has kept his promise to send a saviour. Now is the time to live out our faith.

Samuel was a child living in the temple under the care of Eli and so when he hears his name called at night he first assumed it was Eli calling. When he realised it was God, he said, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." God speaks to us so often through the words of others. Are we open to hearing and recognising God's voice?

Last Sunday in the Parish Bulletin we were encouraged to look up the homily given by our bishop Dermot Farrell in Ballyroan on January 1st. dublindiocese.ie/world-day-of-peace-2024/ Here are a few lines from his long homily.

"As in the story of Christmas, the weak and vulnerable are still treated ruthlessly, and displaced in order to make room for those in power, or to assuage the fears of their neighbours."

"Conflicts survive on the caricature of our opponents. We make our sisters and brothers- often people we've never encountered- different to ourselves. It is this tendency- and it is in us all- that we must work to address. Here is one of the deepest roots of the fear that can prove so corrosive in our societies, a fear we've seen erupt destructively in recent days. It is not enough to condemn incidents like the fire in Ringsend; we have a responsibility to understand and urgently address the roots of this unwarranted fear, and the harm it unleashes."



We can feel overwhelmed and helpless by all that is happening. But one small thing we can all do is this - when we see people in our streets who are obviously from far away, we can smile and greet them as we would our long-time neighbours.

Lydia Gillen (Bible Study Group)

ANNIVERSARY / SPECIAL INTENTION MASSES

- ✦ Sat. 13th 6pm: Marie & Paddy Hughes, Sean O'Brien, Michael Phelan, John Galvin, Richard Shanley, Tommy Ryan, Tom Tolan, Tommy Costello
- ✦ Sun. 14th 9.30am: Peadar Clerkin, James (Jim) Tierney (rem) & the Tierney family, Sean O'Brien
11am: Tom, Belle & Michael McCourt, John Flanagan, Theresa Quinn, Jack & Mary Leonard, Leo Jones
- ✦ Mon. 15th 10am: Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ Tues. 16th 10am: Carmel Nealon, the Brennan Family (rem)
- ✦ Wed. 17th 10am: Eileen Duff, Noel McDonough
- ✦ Fri. 19th 10am: Rose Harrison, Richard & John Harrison
- ✦ Sat. 20th 10am: Kathleen Harford, Elizabeth Kenneally, Liam Matthews, Wiliam & Hannah Flynn

- 6pm : Lisa & Philip Dunne, Margaret Branagan, Brendan Branagan, Harry Grimes, David & Rita O'Sullivan, John & Eithne Everard, Fran & Mary Carabini, Hugh O'Boyle
- ✦ Sun. 21st 9.30am: Margaret & James Clerkin
11am Tony Collins (month's mind), Annie Power

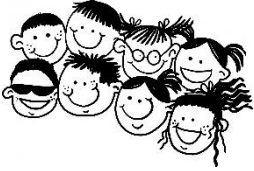
OUR SYMPATHY

To the family of Gerry Halpin, late of Harbour Road, Skerries and Mountrath, Co. Laois, where his death took place. May he Rest in Peace. Gerry was laid to rest in Holmpatrick this week.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This year the week of prayer for Christian Unity takes place from 18th - 25th January. The theme is **'You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself'** (Lk 10:27). This was chosen by the Catholic and Protestant Churches in Burkina Faso, as they reflect on what it means to love one's neighbour in the midst of a security crisis.





Catholic Schools Week

We celebrate Catholic Schools Week this year from 21st - 28th January. This year's theme is '**Catholic**

Schools as Communities of Service'. Christian service puts faith into action and we are invited in our school communities and our parish to reflect on the ways we practically live our faith.

Confirmation Ritual 2024



The '**Rituals Programme'** is our parish preparation programme to help our girls/boys in 6th class to prepare for the celebration of the sacrament of

Confirmation. Along with following the '**Grow in Love'** programme in school, these rituals help to reflect upon certain central themes and to situate them in a parish context. It is therefore required of all those who intend to receive this sacrament to be enrolled with the parish and to participate along with their parents in these ritual ceremonies. The first one will take place this **Wednesday 17th January @ 7.30 pm in the Church**. The other two rituals will take place on 21st February and 13th March 2024 @ 7.30pm in the Church. Looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday night. Fr. Melvyn

Feast Days

15th : St. Ita, 16th: St. Fursa; 17th: St. Anthony

Welcome

To all our 2nd Class pupils from the Parish schools who are attending their Bridge Mass this weekend as part of their preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion later on this year.

Thank You !

Fr. Melvyn would like to thank you most sincerely for the New Year greetings and good wishes he has received. He greatly appreciates your thanks and prayers for his work in the Parish

Skerries Community Choir



After their successful Christmas Choir nights in Holmpatrick Church, the Community Choir will resume next Thursday night in Skerries Rugby Club. Singing in a choir is now recognised as one of the best activities for encouraging well-being, so why not give it a try ? New members always welcome.

30 YEARS AGO IN THE PARISH

Provisional bookings for the Parish Paris-Nevers-Lourdes were being taken
Skerries Athletic Club honoured Pascal O'Shea for 20 years service to the club
Bookings for the Marian Society's pantomime "Treasure Island" were being taken
Skerries Town Twinning Association was planning for the official twinning ceremony in August next and all sports, cultural, business groups were being asked to support this initiative

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Great to see 4 of our young players on the Dublin O'Byrne Cup team that defeated Offaly last week - Ethan Dunne, Killian McGinnis, Eoin Wilde & Eoghan O'Connor Flanagan.

The Christmas fundraisers were a huge success in particular, the Christmas Golf outing. which was won by Derek Fagan. Between the Golf, the St. Stephen's Day matches & the voluntary collection at the match against Raheny, a total of €3,500 was raised for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Thanks to all who supported our 2024 Féile Fundraiser by purchasing a Tag for the Tree collection. All trees now collected for recycling. The Juvenile Academy returns on Saturday 27 Jan - open to boys & girls aged 4+. Details and the registration link are available at

www.skerriesharps.com/academy

Zingo for 7 Jan. 6, 7, 2, 3, 5, 1. 4 No winners - Jackpot now €5,800. Draw on Sunday at 6 p.m

Skerries Ladies Bowls

Due to flooding of the rinks, the start of the Ladies Spring competition was deferred until tomorrow, Monday 15th. Hopefully better luck this week. Sign in at 10.30, €2 contribution. Happy New Year to all our members.

SKERRIES ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB

Active Retirement Club resumes on Monday 15th at 1.45. Hills Cricket Club tea dance is today Sunday 14th at 3.30-6. Refreshments served. All welcome.

A reminderwe greatly appreciate your contributions to the Bulletin, but we hope you can understand that we cannot accept anonymous messages. Please give us a contact name, although this will not be used in publication. Items can be left in the Parish Office, Wed. 9.30 – 1, or emailed to skerriesbulletin@gmail.com by Wednesday 5 p.m..

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