



Skerries Parish Bulletin

No . 2354

21st-28th January, 2024

“LORD, MAKE ME KNOW YOUR WAYS.” PS 24:4-9



In all the readings for today a sense of urgency is communicated. Jonah is to be directed by the word of the Lord: “Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.” St Paul in his letter to the Corinthians reminds his listeners; “Brothers, this is what I mean: our time is growing short” ...” I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.” In the gospel of Mark, the invitation to some of Jesus’ disciples is: “The time has come and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.”

This Sunday is designated as SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD. What is the word of God saying to us in the readings for today? It is unlikely that any of us will be heading for Nineveh. Our great city may be right at our doorstep, not Dublin, but in our home, our workplace, our local community. Are we bearers of good news in these settings?

Hopefully, our time will not be too short and that, when we leave, our world may be a better place by virtue of our being here. St. Paul is promoting radical detachment. Our world tends to promote the opposite and to entice us to be defined by what we have, rather by who we are. Where do you stand?

In the gospel of Mark, we are invited to create God’s Kingdom in the here and now. Let us pray for unity and peace with justice for all humanity as we celebrate this week of PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY. Our school children will be celebrating CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK. Let us encourage them in their search for meaning in their lives.

Holy Faith Sisters

Anniversary / Special Intention Masses

Sat. 20th: 10am Kathleen Harford, Elizabeth Kenneally, Liam Matthews, William & Hannah Flynn, Special Intention

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), Desmond Lumsden, (month’s mind), Annie Power, Molly Rooney, Kitty Tyndall

Mon. 22nd 10am Mass Card Intentions

Tues. 23rd: 10am Richard & Sinéad Ruigrok, Cora & Mick Stokes (rem), Letitia McEvoy

Fri. 26th: 10am, Angela Kraemer (rec. decd)

Sat. 27th: 10am, Tom & Rose Sheridan and decd mbrs of the Sheridan family, Special Intention, Pauline Hanlon

6pm Patrick, Elizabeth & Helen Clarke , Robert McMahan & Alice Farrell (rem) and all decd members of the McMahan family, Kevin, Frances & Anne McDonough, Eileen & Ted Williams, Frank & Ann Rogan, Laurence & Sheila McNally, Betty & Peter Boylan

Sun. 28th: 9.30am, Angela Lynch, Gaye McGirl, Patrick & Winnifred Russell

11am: Phyllis Dardis (MM), Vincent Peters (1st anniv), Denis McKeown, Mary Nugent (rem)

Our Sympathy is offered



To the family of Pat (Patricia) Reilly, late of Hillside (and Skerries Sports Shop), whose death has occurred this week. May she Rest in Peace.

Feast Days:

20th: St Fabian, St. Sebastian,

24th: St. Francis de Sales,

25th: The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle,

26th: St Timothy & Titus



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - THANK YOU

The members of St Vincent De Paul conference would once again like to “Thank You” the

people of Skerries for your unbelievable response to our Christmas Appeal. As we have always said, we could not do what we do without the support you give us, and we are extremely grateful. Times are tough for people and demands on our funds increase all the time. Thankfully, because of your generosity we can continue to help those who find themselves in financial difficulty. All our dealings are **confidential**, so please do not be afraid to contact us. Thank you to Fr Melvin and his office team for your support in our collections. St. Vincent De Paul Helpline No - **01 8848200**

Parish Website: www.stpatricksskerries.ie Email: info@stpatricksskerries.ie Ph (01)81 06771, RCN 20016166

Fr Melvyn 01 8491250; Parish Mobile No - for out of normal hours, emergencies only - 089 2053460

Bulletin Email: skerriesbulletin@gmail.com

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

continues this week until 25th. The theme is: You shall love the Lord your God ...and your neighbour as yourself (Luke 10:27), chosen this year by the Catholic and Protestant Churches in Burkina Faso.



This reflects on what it means to love one's neighbour in the midst of a security crisis. A point for us all to consider seriously and pray about in the current times in Ireland. Do we truly "love our neighbour" as ourselves when it comes to welcoming strangers to our country?

Catholic Schools Week



We celebrate Catholic Schools Week this year from 21st – 28th. 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

It was good to see our 6th class pupils, who attended the first of the three rituals in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation this coming year. The Service of Light will take place on 6th March at 7 p.m.. The next two rituals will take place on 21st February and 13th March mark the calendar !

Family Carers

Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie.

Skerries Ladies Bowls

Well done to the 16 hardy ladies who braved the ice last Monday. the Spring competition will start on Monday 22nd. There will be a Ladies Meeting on Monday 22nd at 12.15 to discuss the draft competition rules for 2024 season. A copy has been sent to all email addresses. **Please read them** before the meeting, so a good discussion can take place. Indoor bowls has resumed on Thursday afternoons at 2.30. All welcome, men and ladies. A fine way to keep fit in warm surroundings.

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Skerries Harps Juvenile Academy is back on Saturday 27 Jan at 10 a.m. Term runs until 23 March . Open to Boys & Girls born 2017 – 2020. For registration see www.skerriesharps.com/academy The Juvenile Indoor Hurling/Camogie program runs in Gormanston each Sunday morning.

Clubhouse Bar & Function Room is available to members/non-members/local groups for your function, meeting, birthday party etc.. Ideal location in the centre of the town, modern bar and function room, friendly professional bar staff. Email bookings.harps@gmail.com

Membership fees are now due for renewal, ahead of return to training/play. Reminder that in order to be covered by the GAA player injury fund, players must be registered as 2024 members. See

www.skerriesharps.com/membership

Sunday 8 Feb – Table Quiz organised by the Ladies football team who will participate in COMÓRTAS PEIL PÁIDI Ó SÉ in Kerry.on Feb 23rd.

Zingo for 14 Jan. 3, 2, 1, 7, 6, 5. 4 No winners - Jackpot now €5,900. Draw on Sunday at 6 p.m.

Would anyone have ?

Needed by parishioner preparing a paper for Skerries Historical Society a photograph of the old schoolhouse at Holmpatrick, and the old schoolhouses of St. Patrick's Boys and St. Patrick's Girls, before they were taken over by the Community Centre. If you could help, please contact 087-9347765. Photos will be photocopied and returned immediately.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Gerard (Gerry) Halpin

It is with great appreciation that we, the Halpin family, would like to thank all those who supported us in our recent bereavement. Thank you to Father Melvyn for taking the time to liaise with us, and for the celebration of the funeral mass. Thanks to all those who attended the funeral mass, both in person and virtually, and thanks to the carers, neighbours and friends for all their kindness and help. Special thanks to the Kirwan family in Mountrath who were such a blessing to us during the last couple of years, and a final thanks to Lannons Funeral Directors for their professional service.