



# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2362

17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## PARALLEL LIVES.

We rarely find ourselves celebrating St Patrick on a Sunday in Lent. The exceptional occasion this year highlights interesting, thought-provoking features.

The Scripture passages for this 5<sup>th</sup> Lenten Sunday take us right through God's relationship with humanity. **Jeremiah** describes the move from a powerful, punishing, angry God to a "new covenant" with a forgiving, redeeming God. **The Psalmist** prays for "a pure heart" and "a spirit of fervour to sustain". **St Paul** emphasizes Christ's own submission to the will of the Father, his reliance on prayer and the daunting phrase "he learnt to obey through suffering". In **John's Gospel** the culmination of the life of Jesus resides in the phrase "For anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life". Whether we're talking about "nowadays" or centuries ago, this is an alien and alienating idea. Why would anyone subscribe to it? Even Jesus acknowledges "My soul is troubled. What shall I say?" Then "Father, glorify your name" is his answer; it's the only possible one. And the response from Heaven? "I have glorified it and will glorify it again". This is the key – and the last part involves us. Finally, the essence of all that we, as Christians, believe is defined in the sentence "When I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself". The triumph of Love is seen on the Cross. Death becomes Life; Loss becomes Gain.

If we align the life of St Patrick with that of Jesus, the parallels are clear – solitude, hardship, prayer, despair, uncertainty, and ultimately the selfless submission of self for the glory of God. Patrick read these same Scriptures in 432 AD as we do this morning. He made his choices. Are we making the same ones? There is no better way to honour our national saint. We owe him our identity as Irish, something precious, and important to preserve!

Our song this morning: "We are thankful we are Patrick's people, let us follow the path he chose"

Skerries Church Choir.

## Easter Timetable Envelopes

Envelopes will be available for collection in the parish office after all Masses this weekend 16/17<sup>th</sup> March and on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> after the 11am Mass and on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> after 10am Mass. Your help in distributing the Easter Envelopes will be very much appreciated. Thank You

### Anniversaries/Intentions

**Sat 16<sup>th</sup>** 10am: Kevin Earley (1<sup>st</sup> A), Joey & May Sherwin, Eithne Richard Gilsenan and Sandra Gilsenan (rem), Billy & Philomena Richard (rem), Edward & Maureen Arkins (rem), Special Intention.

6pm: Mary Burke, Leo & Kathleen Tolan, John Lannon, May Llewelyn, Mary McDonagh, Helen Ward.

**Sun 17<sup>th</sup>** 9.30am: Stella McAlister, Margaret Tully, Ann Smith, Patrick Murray (BR).

11am: Tony Walsh (1<sup>st</sup> A), Leo Heffernan, Oliver Moore, Kay & Eddie Coleman, Patrick O'Brien, Terry O'Reilly Snr

**Mon 18<sup>th</sup>**: 11am: Mass card intentions

**Tues 19<sup>th</sup>** 10am: Tom & Lily Doyle and deceased members of the Doyle family,

Pat & Lil O'Brien and deceased members of the O'Brien family, Bernice McDonnell.

**Weds 20<sup>th</sup>** 10am: Eddie Coleman (1<sup>st</sup> A), Rory Ward.

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup>** 10am: Brian Taylor, Deceased members of the Taylor, McKenna & McElligott families, Michael McKenna, Joe Murray.

**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>** 10am: Sarah & Margaret McGuinness, Frank & Maurice Walsh.

6pm: Jenny Hyland, Mary & Richard Maguire, Patsy & Willie Horrigan, Tom & Peter O'Rourke, Mike Flannery (BR), Christopher Grimes, Sean Farrell.

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup>** 9.30 Shelagh Douglas

11am: Eddie Coleman (1<sup>st</sup> A) and Kay Coleman (rem), Josephine Flanagan, James Hoey, Noel Russell, Ronan Browne, James McMahan, Teresa (Terry) Lalor.

## WE WELCOME



Donagh Charlie O'Connor, Oliver Grimes Kane and Cillian James Murphy, who were baptised into our parish family recently.

**Our sympathy** is extended to the family of James Byrne, Mourne Road, who died recently. May he Rest in Peace.

### Feast Days:

17<sup>th</sup> March – St Patrick; 18<sup>th</sup> St Cyril of Jerusalem; 19<sup>th</sup> – St Joseph; 21<sup>st</sup> – St Enda, 22<sup>nd</sup> – St Macartan

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Bank Holiday.

Mass at 11am.

**Easter Mass Cards** are available in the Parish Office – all proceeds from the cards will go to TROCAIRE to assist them in their work. First Communion and Confirmation Cards are also available in the Parish Office.



### **Skerries Ladies Bowls Club**

Well done to all lady members who took part in the Winter League. The club did very well in the three leagues - Div. B Vets came 3rd, Vets. Div. 1, came 2nd and in Div. 2, Skerries came 4th. Ladies mornings continue on Mondays. There will be an Easter bonnet morning on Monday 25th - get your best bonnet out!!

### **Skerries Twinning**

A Fun Table Quiz will be held on Thursday 4th in Skerries Harps at 8 p.m... Tables of 4, €40. You can check in on the night or book a table at [skerriestwinning@gmail.com](mailto:skerriestwinning@gmail.com). We are raising funds for the 30th celebrations of our twinning next August. Come along and enjoy a good night's fun.



**Skerries Daffodil Day** will be on Friday 22nd of March. We will be collecting around the town. Thanks for your continued support



## **Skerries Harps GAA Club**

Beannachtai La Feile Phadraig daoibh go leir.

Inter Hurlers played a draw with Clan na Gael, Minor A footballers won v Thomas Ashe and the Minor B team won v Na Fianna.

Look out for our Juvenile teams marching in St Patricks Day parade. Clubhouse open after the Parade for Ceol agus Craic with the kids doing the Crossbar Challenge on the pitch.

Thanks to our 4 Dubs – Greg, Adam, Killian and Etan – who paraded the Sam Maguire Cup on a two day visit to all the local schools recently. Registration is open for our Easter HURLING Camp; CAMOGIE blitz, 25 to 27 March, mornings. This is a FREE event for our players and early registration is required as places are limited.

Membership 2024 - Renew before 31 March to qualify for AGM voting and All Ireland ticket draw.

Sat 23 Mar. Elvis Spectacular in the Club – tickets only €25 Contact Pat directly on 087 2505479

Zingo for 10 Mar. 2, 5, 3, 7, 6, 1. 4. No winners. Jackpot now €1,200. Draw on Sunday at 6 p.m.

### **St Vincent de Paul**

Collection takes place at all Masses this weekend, Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Your support would be much appreciated.

### **Acknowledgement - Frances Duff**

The family of the late Frances Duff offer their sincere thanks to all who sympathised with them following her recent death. We greatly appreciate all the messages of support, mass cards and flowers. We offer special thanks to Fr. Melvyn for his support, to Karl Duff and his undertaking team, and to all who helped to make the funeral mass a wonderful celebration of Frances' life. We would also like to thank the staff of the Bon Secours Hospital and St. Francis' Hospice for their generous care and kindness to Frances in her final days.

**Very Happy St Patrick's Day to all our parishioners**