

Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2386

1 to 8 September 2024

“RELIGIOUS”.

What is it about this word that is an immediate turn-off? If we hear that someone is “very religious”, do we not tend to give them a wide berth? Why?

The Scripture passages today are hard-hitting and uncomfortable. They are all about being ‘religious’ - but without the label! Instantly recognizable aspects of proper religion are Rules and Rituals. Less recognizable aspects are Respect, Honesty and Decency. Getting these two the wrong way round is nothing new.

In the passage from **Deuteronomy**, emphasizing the importance of respect for the Law of God, Moses also warns “you must add nothing to what I command you and take nothing from it”. **The Psalm** spells out the Law with clarity. In **the Epistle** passage, St. James puts it in a nutshell: “You must *do* what the word tells you and not just listen to it *and deceive yourselves*”. Beware! **The Gospel** of Mark draws everything together when Jesus shines a fierce spotlight on the hypocrisy of the Pharisees; they put Rules and Rituals at the centre of everything, seduced by the power it gave them but enslaving good people. God was misused as a weapon of enforcement. Isaiah had foretold it: “This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me” - a sinister killer of the truth which can ensnare us all.

It would, of course, be easy to jump in at this point and criticize Institutions - the institutional Church, the institutional State, institutional Charities – all those people “in the front line”. Yet how well we ourselves conduct our Christian, civic and charitable lives has a bearing on what goes on at the top. “The Power of One” is not to be underestimated! The power of God is not to be underestimated either!

Look again at the accusation of Jesus in the Gospel: “You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human tradition”. Do I do that? Think! Yes, people in the front line have great power and influence, and holding on to both motivates like nothing else. But let us work on ourselves first. That should keep us busy! And let us pray for insight, kindness, patience and humility – no label there!

We’re back singing this morning:

“Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought in the day and the night;
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light”.

Skerries Church Choir.

Anniversary / Special Intention Masses

- ✦ **Saturday 31st August 10.00am:** Pauline Roche, Agnes and Jack Roche, Molly Malone (rem), Michael and Margaret White, Luke and Bridie Clogher, Anne Delaney, Arthur Farrell (BR).
- ✦ **6.00pm:** Pauline McBride (MM), Mary and James (Jimmy) Manning, Mairead Donnelly, the Fitzpatrick Family, the Brady Family, Thomas and Mary Butler.
- ✦ **Sunday 1st September 9.30am:** Colm Keogh (MM), Deirdre O’Brien (MM), JohnJoe and Annie McGuinness, Derek Earley, Michael Clancy.
- ✦ **11.00am:** Nora and Tommy Keogh, Larry and Annie Roche, Ellen and Kitty Keogh, Margaret Cully, Nicky and Mary Cash, Tommie (Tom) and Margaret Farrell, Margaret Keogh.
- ✦ **Monday 2nd 10.00am:** Mass Card Intentions
- ✦ **Tuesday 3rd 10.00am:** Alf Coleman
- ✦ **Wednesday 4th 10.00am:** Jennifer Peters, Caroline Heyenga, nee Fagan.

- ✦ **Friday 6th 10.00am:** First Friday – Altar List
- ✦ **Saturday 7th 10.00am:** Charles and MaryAnne McMorrow.
- ✦ **6.00pm:** Berna Dennis (MM), Mary and Robert Kelly, Florence Clinton.
- ✦ **Sunday 8th 9.30am:** Angela Sheils, Special Intention.
- ✦ **11.00am:** Maureen Hughes (1st A), Michael O’Rourke, Packie Markey, Joe and Nancy Harford, Mary Rogan, Christopher Everard.

Feast Days

- 31st Aug – St. Aidan,
- 3rd Sept – St. Gregory the Great,
- 4th Sept – St Mac Nissi

We Welcome Emily Mulvany, Dara Glynn, Reyna Tutum Power, Sadie Delaney and Aiylah Lavelle who were recently baptised into our parish family.



Men's Rosary

Beginning on 14th September at 3.00pm, there will be a Men's Rosary in the Church. It will then be held on the second Saturday of every month. More information will be available on the day.

Notices: Saint John Vianney Catholic Church, Ardlea Rd. Dublin 5, presents *An Autumn Concert* featuring the singing priest, Fr. Marino Nguakam, on this Sunday, 1st Sept., at 3.00pm.

Legion of Mary Annual pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Sunday 29th September 2024. Pick up points are: St Patrick's Church Skerries, 7.00am, and St Maur's Church car park, 7.15am. Contact Mary: 087 6741472 or Lorraine: 087 6203317.

Congratulations to all Leaving Certificate students who received offers of places in university/college this week. Remember, there are many roads which will lead you to your destiny. We hope all will find the right path to happiness and fulfilment.

30 Years Ago in the Parish

- A special Mass was planned to mark the end of Canon Shanahan's time as our Parish Priest.
- Legion of Mary was planning a trip to Knock Shrine.
- St. Vincent de Paul was looking for a volunteer to mind a terrier dog while its owner was in hospital.
- Back to school - St. Patrick's Senior and Junior schools, Milverton and Réalt na Mara schools were all reopening for the Autumn.
- Scoil Réalt na Mara welcomed new school principal Inion Uí Odhrain.
- Skerries Rugby Club was holding its Chariot Race Festival, with a barbecue.
- Skerries Strand Races winners were - Lambay Lodge Cup, E. Carroll and Moloney Cup, Gina Bradshaw.

Transport Service changes


There were two recent changes to our public transport service in Skerries.

There is an additional 33A bus at 4:00am from Skerries to Dublin Airport, Monday to Friday (it does NOT run at weekends). This is very convenient for people on early flights.

More significantly, a new train timetable was introduced from last Monday, 26th August. There is a complete change to the times of trains in both directions, and changes in which trains go to Connolly only. Note that trains to Pearse are now all extended to Grand Canal Dock. You need to check times on irishrail.ie.

Lost and Found: *A small dalmatian dog paw patrol toy wearing a fire marshall suit. If found please contact the parish office.*

Pride of Place Competition

 Congratulations to Sustainable Skerries who have been chosen by Fingal County Council as their nominee in the Climate Action and Biodiversity category of the 2024 all-island Pride of Place competition. Judging will take place around Skerries, including the Mills, on Monday 2nd September from 2.00 to 5.00pm.

Fingal Poetry Festival



Tickets for the Fingal Poetry Festival are already selling fast via our website www.fingalpoetryfestival.com, where you will also find more details about each event. There are many FREE events! Tickets will also be available at the door. To kick things off, everybody is invited to our FREE Festival Launch Party on September 6th in Skerries Mills at 8.00pm. There will be poetry, music and fun. Light refreshments served.

Skerries Chess Club reopens Tue 3 Sep at 7.00pm.



People of all ages are welcome to join or try out the club, from beginners to experienced players who might want to play on one of our three teams in the leagues. We meet in the Bridge Club from 7.00pm on, from September to June. Fees reduced until after Sep 10. See skerrieschess.com. It's your move!

Balbriggan & District Horticultural Society Annual Flower Show will take place in Sunshine House (opposite the Lark) on this Sunday 1st September. Open to the public from 2.30 to 5.30pm. Admission free.

Exhibits can be entered Saturday 7.00pm – 10.00pm and Sunday 8:30am - 11:30am. Raffle and plants for sale at the show - cash only. All welcome to exhibit and come and view the show.

Skerries Harps GAA Club



Juvenile games are back with a bang with over 30 teams playing in football, hurling and camogie this Saturday and Sunday. Adult fixtures for the week are: Sun. 1st Sept. Minor football ch'ship - 2 teams play away at 11.00am and Junior hurling ch'ship v Clan na Gael, at home at 11.00am; Tues. 3rd Junior camogie v Kilmacud, home at 6.45pm. Wed. 4th. Adult ladies v Templeogue home 7.00pm. Sun. 8th. Senior football ch'ship v St Vincents in Parnell Park at 4.15pm. JUVENILE ACADEMY AUTUMN TERM - The Academy returns on Saturday Sept 14th for a 12 week Term to Sat Dec 7th suitable for boys & girls aged over 4, from 9:45 – 11.00am. Coaching is provided in Football, Hurling, Camogie with a big emphasis on fundamental movement skills and increasing children's confidence & social skills. Register at www.skerriesharps.com/academy. Contact our GPO Katelyn @katelyn.obrien.gpo.dublin@gaa.ie for info! Zingo for 25th August: 6, 5, 2, 7, 4, 1, 3. No winners. Jackpot now €3,950, Dividend €1,000. Bingo Night on Monday 2nd September at 8.00pm with cash prizes. Our Social Golf outing Captain's Day is on Friday 6th September at Skerries GC.