



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 50:5-9; Ps 114: 1-6,8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35.

Who do you say I am?

In the Gospel Jesus is heading for Jerusalem where he will die. Some of his followers were quite close to him, yet they didn't understand who Jesus really was. They didn't grasp that being a disciple meant much more than they expected. Their hopes were for a leader, a Messiah, who would lead them into new freedom and new life. The fact that this would involve suffering for Jesus and his death – this was too much for some.

Jesus asks his disciples a direct question, 'Who do you say I am?' If Jesus asked me the same question today, how would I reply? I could say that he was a gifted preacher and talker. He was a compassionate healer and a good listener. But is this all there is to Jesus? Is there not so much more? Isn't there so much more to a person that the impression I get from hearing them or observing their actions. If I am to know who a person is I have to speak of them from a personal relationship I have with them. I suppose I have to know them in my heart.

Peter answered Jesus saying, 'You are the Christ. He found it hard to accept that Jesus would die and in doing so become their saviour. This also meant that a disciple had to take up their cross if they were to follow him. This is not the same as 'we all have our cross to carry' but a bit more. It is not just acceptance or tolerance but making a free choice that involves desire and resolve. We ask the Lord for an openness to desire to be his disciples and resolve to act that out in our lives. Peter believed Jesus was a person more than what they had met - that he was the Son of God, that in him the Word of God truly became flesh. For him this was a profound act of faith. My response to the question 'Who do you say I am?' can only come from an act of faith I make from my heart that allows me to say 'You are the Christ – the one I believe to be at the centre of my heart and my life.

Fr. Melvyn

Anniversary / Special Intention Masses

- ❖ **Saturday 14th 10.00am** Gillian Cantwell (MM), Patrick and Catherine Fitzgerald, Jonathon Flanagan.
- ❖ **6.00pm** Clare McGloughlin (1st A), Joe Scully, Andy Scully, Tim Counihan, Joan Smyth, Kenneth Jones.
- ❖ **Sunday 15th 9.30am** Treasa, Brian and Robbie Cowley, Jack McGuinness, Elinora Ryan.
- ❖ **11.00am** Elizabeth Nevin, Tony Grimes, Bill Hayes, Niall Dungan, Noeline O'Connor, Nellie and J.J. Gilsenan.
- ❖ **Monday 16th 10.00am** Mass card Intentions
- ❖ **Tuesday 17th 10.00am** Eily Croke, Teresa Lamont, Kathleen Lamont, Jennie Reynolds (A + BR), William and Bridget McDonough, Sean Barry Kane, Special Intention.
- ❖ **Wednesday 18th 10.00am** Dorothy Murray, Monica O'Farrell.
- ❖ **Saturday 21st 6.00pm** Tom Burke, Peter and Joy McPartlin, Matthew Smyth, Tony Twomey.
- ❖ **Sunday 22nd 9.30am** Seamus (Seamy) Russell (1st A), Peggy Ferguson (rem)

- ❖ **11.00am** Eddie Breslin (1st A), Patrick and John Lyons, Cissie Lally.

Congratulations and best wishes to Pearce



Carty Heffernan and Jade Ernest who were recently married in our parish.



We Welcome Thomas Everard, Kai O'Flaherty, Luke Conroy and Theo Westby who were baptised into our parish family.

Crosscare Annual Appeal

This weekend the Annual Crosscare Appeal for Homeless Prevention Services replaces the second, Share, collection at all Masses. Crosscare seeks your support to prevent more people from losing their homes as the housing and accommodation crisis continues. As well as providing residential homeless services, Crosscare is working with families and individuals who are at risk of losing their existing accommodation. Please support. Thank You.

Feast Days

14 Sept – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross,
20 Sept – St Andrew Kim Tae-gōn,
21 Sept – St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist.

St Bernadette – Relic Pilgrimage

In September and October, the relics of St Bernadette will visit three churches in Dublin: Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road, September 25-26; Mary Immaculate, Inchicore, October 23-24; and Adam & Eve's, Merchants Quay, October 25-26. For more information, visit www.stbernadette.ie

Children's Choir:



Registration and first rehearsal for the new term of the Children's Choir will take place on Friday 20th September at 4.30 p.m. in the church. Boys and girls from second class to sixth class are welcome. Further details at 087 9657290.

We're on Facebook!

Check out our new Facebook page. Only starting - you can find us at 'St. Patrick's Church Skerries' Enjoy and hope you keep liking us.

Legion of Mary Annual pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Sunday 29 Sept. 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.

30 Years Ago in the Parish

- Fr. Leo Quinlan celebrated his first Mass as Parish Priest of St. Patrick's and was welcomed by representatives of Parish Organisations.
- Well done to the boys and girls of Réalt na Mara NS who won the overall trophy in the Country Markets Arts and Crafts competition and to Colm Durkan and Suzanne Scollan whose short stories were selected for publication in the Den TV competition.
- Congratulations to the ten ladies from Mourn View on their success in the Leaving Cert English exam.
- Skerries Town Twinning was offering a 12 week placement in France for those interested in a career in catering/hotel work.

Fingal Poetry Festival this weekend, bringing poetry and music to venues around Skerries. Many free events. Get your tickets at the door or www.fingalpoetryfestival.com.

Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 18 September at 7:15pm in the Hilton Hotel, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Please contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888888 for any queries.

Skerries Ladies Bowls



The Summer League came to an end this week with Div. 2 playing their last match away in Crumlin - beaten by just 6 shots. Owing to on-going work on the Clubhouse, the Pink Morning in aid of St. Francis Hospice in Raheny has been postponed until Monday 23rd - wear something pink and bring a plate. Next ladies meeting will take place on Monday 30th after morning bowls. The Annual Match for the Reddin Trophy between Aer Lingus and Skerries will be played during week of 23rd - date to be confirmed next week.

Skerries Harps GAA Club



Senior footballers played a draw with St. Vincents, Minor hurlers and Junior footballers both won. Junior camogie won v Ballyboden, away; all championship games.

Sunday 15th: Adult hurlers v St Peregrines, home at 11.00am in Junior Ch'ship; Minor B football v Erin go Bragh, home at 11.00am (Townparks) and Minor A v Whitehall, home at 12.30. Under 16 camogie v Scoil Ui Conail, home at 4.30pm (Townparks).

Sat. 21st: Senior football ch'ship v St Sylvesters, in St Margarets at 5.30pm.

Juvenile Academy on Saturday mornings at 9.45am suitable for boys and girls aged over 4 years. Places are limited. Register at www.skerriesharps.com/academy.

Zingo for 8 September: 7, 6, 2, 3, 1, 5, 4. No winners. Jackpot now €4,250 and Dividend €1,000. Entry only €2 or 3 for €5. Draw every Sunday at 6.00pm with free In-House draw for all present.

Bingo will run fortnightly – next session on Monday 16 Sept at 8.00pm

Members are asked to support Skerries Tidy Towns Big Beach Clean-up on Fri 20 Sept at 3.00pm. Meet on South Strand, opposite Gerry's Supermarket.