

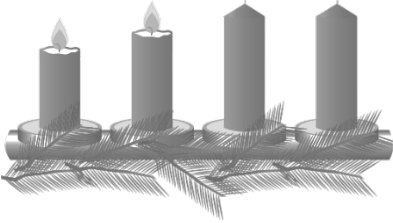
# Skerries Parish Bulletin

No 2400

8 to 15 December 2024

## Joyful preparation for the coming of Christ Jesus our Saviour

We are in December again, but sometimes we are so busy looking forward to Christmas that we do not enter into the joy of the Advent liturgy.



Baruch, writing to the people of Jerusalem to give them hope during a time of tribulation, ends his letter with a call to "Put on the robe of righteous," "flatten the hills and fill up valleys on the road," which was normal preparation for the coming of dignitaries. How do we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ? Which hills in us need flattening, and which potholes could do with filling?

Luke, with his usual meticulous care, gives us exact dates that John the Baptist began his preaching, recalling the words of the older prophets "Prepare the way for the Lord... every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill laid low" and proclaiming with joy "all mankind shall see the salvation of God." God's eternal Love embraces every single human being. That is the Good News.

Paul starts his letter to the Philippians "Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News." Can you remember someone whose words went deep into your heart and gave you life, and do you pray for them with joy and thanks?

And finally, let kindness in all its forms be our guiding light this Advent.

*Lydia Gillen (Bible study group)*

### Anniversary / Special Intention Masses

- ✦ **Sat 7<sup>th</sup> 10am:** Billy and Milly McElwee, Georgia Farrell (Rem), Vera and Noel Morris, Joseph Lalor, Special Intention, Rosie and Gerry Hoare and the Nolan and Crowley families.
- ✦ **Sat 7<sup>th</sup> 6pm:** Ollie Shiels (1<sup>st</sup> A), Liam, Tony, Nicky and Jos Shiels, Barry and Claire Mason, Agatha Green, Teresa Gaffney, Anne Marjorem, Michael Duggan, William and Frances Tanner.
- ✦ **Sun 8<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Martin Archbold, Michael and Eileen Redden, Eileen and Maureen Murphy and deceased members of the Murphy family, John and Maureen Martin, Fr. Jim Martin, Stephanie Ryan, Johnny Brady.
- ✦ **Sun 8<sup>th</sup> 11am:** Leo Bolton (1<sup>st</sup> A), Grace and Michael Lyons, Colm Dennis, Pat Hynes, Michael and Bridget O'Reilly and the O'Reilly family, Marie and Michael Grimes, O'Connor family (Rem)
- ✦ **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Mass Card intentions.
- Holy Day of Obligation.**
- ✦ **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Harry Gavin, CJ Crowley, Lily McMahan, Deceased members of the Jenkinson family, Special intention.
- ✦ **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Ian Lokko (MM), Con McMahan, Mary and John Byrne, Jules Wall (RD) and Brian Wall (RD), Christina Murtagh, Betty Graham.

- ✦ **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Joseph Branagan, Vera Leonard.
- ✦ **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> 10.00am:** Margaret Horan, Bert and Hughie Horan (Rem), Anne Kelly (Rem), Thomas Jones, John Connelly.
- ✦ **6.00pm:** Dessie and Maureen Delemere, Bernie Morris, Katherine and Patrick Flaherty, Sabina Lannon, Terry Murphy, Mark Comey (Rem).
- ✦ **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 9.30am:** Basil and Frances Emerson, Margaret Ryan, John and Moira Kelly and deceased family members.
- ✦ **11.00am:** Margaret McAuley, Rena McGrath, Mary Rochford, Tom McDonald, Bernie, Liz and Fanchea Rice, Bernadette (Bernie) O'Connor.

**Our Sympathy** is extended to the families and friends of Paul Workman, Downside Park and Margaret (Peig) Kelly, Kelly's Bay, who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.



**Feast of The Immaculate Conception** this year will be celebrated on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December instead of the usual date, 8<sup>th</sup> December. This is a Holy Day of Obligation – the only Mass for the Holy Day will be celebrated at 10.00am.

## The Season of Advent – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

We continue during the season of Advent with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament here in the church on Tuesday afternoons from 3.00 to 5.00pm. This is an opportunity to spend some time in silent prayer/adoration in preparation for Christmas.

### Feast Days

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>** Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>** St. Lucy.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>** St. John of the Cross.

### Christmas Timetable 2024

Envelopes with the timetable for Christmas celebrations are available this weekend after all 3 Masses. We would be most grateful for your help with the distribution of the envelopes.

### St Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Appeal


The second collection this weekend, instead of Share, will be taken up to support the Annual St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

**Christmas Mass Cards** are now available from the Parish Office - all proceeds go the Capuchin Centre for the Homeless in Dublin.

### Men's Rosary

The next Men's Rosary will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm in the Church. It is held every second Saturday of the month. All age groups welcome.

### Christmas Carol Concert

 With Skerries Sea Sharps – **this Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00pm** in St Patrick's Church. Conducted by Naoise Whearity, accompanied by Donal Dignam. Tickets €10 available from choir members or at the door. Our chosen charity for this concert is Gaza Paediatric Care Initiative.

### Hills Cricket Club

Christmas afternoon Tea Dance this Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec at 3.30pm with Martin Byrne. All welcome. Ho Ho Ho.

**Skerries Historical Society** will hold its December talk on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> at 8.15pm. Bill Kee will give a short presentation on paintings from the Society's Archive - followed by festive refreshments. All welcome. Non-members €5.

### Skerries Forget Me Not Café

invites you all to come join us on this Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, from 11.00am to 1.00pm in Skerries Harps GAA Clubhouse. The café is free of charge and open to people living with dementia, their families, carers and friends. Come for tea and biscuits, a chat, to meet others on a similar journey and to learn more about dementia services in the area. If you require more info about our café please phone 0831192972 or email us at [skerriesforgetmenotcafe@gmail.com](mailto:skerriesforgetmenotcafe@gmail.com)

**Irish Blood Transfusion Service** will be at Skerries Community Centre, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 3.45 – 8.00pm. Check your eligibility at [giveblood.ie](http://giveblood.ie). Give Blood – Save Lives!

### Skerries Bowling Club

Important EGM for all members: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm in the Club. Final morning of Ladies Autumn competition on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>, with Christmas party and prizegiving on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Hallelujah Christmas Concert



A concert for all the family - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm. Tickets available in the Parish office and online from Eventbrite.

### Skerries Harps GAA Club

Hard luck to our U21 Hurlers who lost out to a strong Cuala side in the first U21 Hurling Championship final for the club last Saturday. A great home support for this historic day, well done to the team and mentors for reaching the final in the 2nd year of entry to this competition. Well done to all our Juvenile teams on a great 2024 season recognised at our Annual Presentation event on Sat 30/11 - see report / pics on our website. Juvenile Academy will return in January for our 2025 Spring Term, watch this space for more info. Zingo result for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 4176532. No winner. Jackpot now €5,500. Draw every Sunday 6.00pm. Bingo Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Dec at 8.00pm in the Clubhouse (Jackpot €1,150) Tickets available via club website for Our Big Christmas Draw which takes place Sunday, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7.00pm in our Clubhouse. Annual Féile Fundraiser – Christmas Tree Collection Tags now available at usual outlets & online at [www.skerriesharps.ie](http://www.skerriesharps.ie)

**Lost:**  
Lady's small black wallet on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec at morning Mass. Please phone 086 8237718.