

Authority in word and action

In today's gospel Jesus goes into the synagogue on Saturday as was his custom. It is often in a place of worship that we are more open to hear God's word. He stands up and speaks, as seemed to be the custom of the time. People are deeply impressed by his words, because he spoke with **authority**. It is sometimes difficult to express exactly what authority is, but we know it when we see it. He spoke 'unlike the scribes'. The scribes, because they could read and write (at the time only about 10% could), held a certain status and power.

Then in came another man obviously distressed shouting "**What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God**" For us in modern times it sounds like a gang member shouting at a garda." We know your name and we know where you live". A garda might grow weak in the knees thinking of his wife and children, but Jesus has **authority** and orders the unclean spirit to leave the man, which it does, and the man is healed.

Jesus came to bring the reign of God and to destroy evil of every sort and today's gospel gives a dramatic example of his work. The fight between the reign of God and evil still goes on in the world at large and within each one of us. In what ways do I need to be healed of what is not god-like within me? In what ways can I be part of the healing process here on earth?

Lord Jesus, we ask you to continue to use your saving powers and to heal each one of us and also to show how to use the gifts you have given us to help other people.

Lydia Gillen (Bible Study Group)



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Liam Matthews, Loughshinny, who died recently. May he rest in peace.

Month's Mind: Sunday 4th Feb 11.00a.m. Richie Farrren.

First Anniversaries:

Tuesday 30th January 10.00a.m. - Matt McBride.

Thursday 1st Feb 10.00a.m. - Bernard Wilcox.

Sunday 4th Feb 11.00a.m. - Sue Maher.

Anniversaries & Intentions:

Tuesday 30th January 10.00a.m. - Mary Lambe, Christina Jones, May Kinsella, Holy Souls.

Wednesday 31st Jan 10.00a.m. - Jane Purcell.

Saturday 3rd Feb 6.00p.m. - Winifred & Patrick Russell, Jim Lennox, Kathleen Ruth, Gerard & Brendan Downes and all the members of the Downes family, Thomas Murphy, Eileen & Lily Grimley, Bishop Grimley, Malachy & Theresa Murray, Frank Mc Mahon, special intention.

Sunday 4th Feb 9.30a.m. - Bridget Worrall.

Feast Days

St. John Bosco, priest – 31st January, 2018.

St Brigid's Day – 1st February, 2018. Good wishes to our Holy Faith Sisters on their Patron's Day.

Friday 2nd February - Candlemas Day This is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord when we are invited to 'go out with lighted candles to meet the Lord' and acclaim him like Simeon, who recognised Christ as 'a light to reveal God to the nations'. Blessed candles will be available for purchase before and after the 10 o'clock Mass to celebrate this feast day.

Legion of Mary

Apologies for mistake in last week's bulletin. We meet on Thursday at 11.00am in Holy Faith convent, not Tuesday. You are welcome to come along as a guest, if you wish. For information contact Mary, 086 1034563 or 087 6741472.

Catholic Schools' Week 28th Jan – 4th Feb 2018

Sunday, 28th January marks the beginning of Catholic Schools Week 2018. During this week, we aim to celebrate the unique contribution that Catholic schools, both primary and post-primary, make to the mission of the Church in our local faith communities and throughout the wider Church. This year's theme is Catholic Schools: Families of Faith. We are reminded that we belong to a family of faith. A family centred on the person of Jesus Christ, called to gather together to pray and care for one another. At the 10 o'clock **Mass on Wednesday 31st January**, we will celebrate '**Grandparents' Day**'. The pupils from St. Patrick's JNS will sing at this Mass and all grandparents are invited to join us on this special occasion.

Laudate 2018.



Primary schools will participate in this 2nd Laudate Festival of Liturgical Music. This is a diocesan event when pupils from primary schools throughout the diocese are invited to gather to share in song some of the songs/hymns that we use during our parish celebrations. **To represent our parish in this event, on Tuesday next, 30th January, at 7pm in Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun, 50 children from 3rd and 4th classes in St. Patrick's SNS will participate.** Admission is free. All parishioners are invited to join in supporting our teachers and children.

Journeying towards Easter 2018



Exploring the Gospel of John, Chapters 18, 19, 20. A six week course given by Fr. Kieran O'Mahony, O.S.A, in Lusk Parish Centre (beside the church) on Tuesdays 10.am. to 12 noon (with tea break).

Dates: February 6, 13, 20, 27 March 6,13. There is no charge.

(Mass at 9.00a.m. in Lusk and a cuppa immediately). Info at 087 2476869

Parish Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Our annual pilgrimage will take place from 6th – 13th June, 2018 and we will staying in Marina's Pansion (hotel) as normal. 7 nights, pilgrimage package €689pps. For more information ring: 0872517345

B.E. – Beginning Experience

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through death, separation or divorce. Few people can cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn. A team who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you. Next Coping Programme will commence on Wednesday 7th February, for 7 Wednesday evenings, at 7.15pm in White Friars Community Centre, Aungier St., Dublin 2 (no need to book). For further information phone 086 0877379, email bedublin@gmail.com or visit www.beginningexperience.ie

Skerries Active Retirement

Mon 29th Info talk, mini quiz and exercises.

Tues 30th Bowls.

Final reg fees and names for Marine Hotel on Thursday 8th Feb.

30 Years ago in our Parish

- Newly baptised were Katherine Ryan, Lisa Halpin and Paul McGuire
- The Parish welcomed the appointment of Monsignor Desmond Connell as the new Archbishop of Dublin
- Gerard O'Reilly of Holy Faith/de la Salle College had won a Bank of Ireland competition, winning a racing bike presented to him by none other than Stephen Roche
- Skerries Choral Society had been invited to participate in the First Aer Rianta Arts Festival, singing in the Departures' Hall.
- Skerries Athletic Club was looking for host families for a group of Danish visiting athletes.

Skerries Ladies Bowls - the competition for the Ladies Trophy started last Monday 22nd, but will continue each Monday for ten weeks. Not too late to become involved as it is cumulative scores which will count. So wrap up well and come on down!



Skerries Harps GAA Club



Congrats to Féile Team and captain Eoin Wilde on winning the Fingal Independent Young Sportstars of the Year Award for 2017. Well Done Lads!

Commiserations to Community College hurling team who lost out in the Dublin final.

Win a VIP Dublin GAA Matchday Experience in Croke Park for a Juvenile team with AIB. Pick up the Free Entry form in the Club or at the local branch of AIB bank.

All welcome to join in the Get Ireland Walking group as part of Operation Transformation. Meet at the Clubhouse at 7pm on Monday and Thursday each week. Zingo Result: 2, 5, 1, 4 3 7 6. Jackpot is now €7,800 – draw on Sunday at 6 pm.

Juvenile Academy each Saturday at 10 am – football only. Club Shop also open. Gormanston Indoor Hurling/Camogie on Sundays. Contact Louise 085 1465673.

Membership Fees for 2018 are now due - to be paid by 31st March per GAA Rule. Fees can be paid online or to Registrar Mark Grimes via forms in Clubhouse.

For all details of club activities, contact Joanne, club PRO 086 4058523 or see club website www.skerriesharps.ie

Skerries Town Football Club – New Academy for girls.

New GIRLS only Academy will be running every Sunday morning 10am - 11am at Skerries Community Centre for all 4 - 12 year old girls of any ability. Fee €3 per player. There will be a one-off registration fee of €10 to be paid by all players at their first session.

If interested please text – Parent's/Guardian's name and the name and age of the player to either Ben Guildea 086 2142962 or Pat Mc Dermott 087 6970403.

This is a fun and friendly environment for all girls to learn the fundamentals of football and teamwork.

Acknowledgement: David F. Ryan

The Ryan family would like to thank everyone who sympathised with them and supported them in their recent sad bereavement. It has been wonderful to hear so many great stories about David. No doubt he is telling some himself now.