

THE THING THAT MATTERS



Big events tend to take on a life of their own, find their own level in a surprising way. Last weekend's visit of the Pope seems a case in point. Here for the World Meeting of Families, the visit was dominated by an outpouring of hurt by people who had suffered in a huge variety of ways because the essential element of Family – Love – was robbed from their lives. Rather than overshadow the visit, however, this expression of negative emotion seemed to give it wider and deeper significance, allowing it to become an integral part of the whole broad family life of Ireland and beyond. In one sincere, open-minded and good man, we

witnessed the simplicity and strength that is described in the Scripture passages today. Its simplicity makes it all the more rock-solid.

Moses, referring to the Ten Commandments, tells the people "You must add nothing to what I command you and take nothing from it..." The Psalm lists the requirements for a proper life, plain and simple. St James is even briefer about it. "Pure religion" is the essence of simplicity. Jesus slates those who dress up religious practice, obscuring its essence, confusing others and deceiving themselves. There are lessons for all of us here, from the Vatican Curia to the ordinary Joe Soap, you and me. How painfully aware of this is Pope Francis!

In his easy and informal address at Croke Park last Saturday evening, he emphasised three words that have the power to redeem the most dire situations. Whether in a private family or in the public Family of Mankind, "Please", "Thanks" and "Sorry" matter more than anything. This is the basis of Love in action; it's not always easy but it is all that matters. Didn't Jesus himself say as much? "Love God; Love your neighbour as yourself – on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Love is the thing that matters.

Skerries Church Choir

ANNIVERSARIES REMEMBERED

- ✦ Tues 4th 10am: Caroline Hyenga
- ✦ Wed 5th 10am: Charles & Maryann McMorrow, Special Intention
- ✦ Thurs 6th 10am: Ursula Rooney
- ✦ Sat 8th 6pm: Joe Scully, Andrew Scully, Joe Stapleton, Tim Counihan, Bert McGee, Bernadette O'Toole
- ✦ Sun 9th 9.30am: James Flynn, Joe & Nancy Harford, Leo Bolton (Snr), Matt Bolton
- ✦ Sun 9th 11am: Bill Smaul, Bridget & Richard Lambe, John Hughes, Michael O'Rourke, Bill Hayes

MONTH'S MIND MASS

Sunday 9th September 11am: Jenny Memery

OUR SYMPATHY

To the families of Walter Higgins and Oran Tully who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

WE WELCOME

Conor Burke who was recently baptised into our parish family.

FEAST DAYS

Tues 4th: St Mac Nissi
Sat 8th: The Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary

ST PADRE PIO MASS

Wednesday 5th at 7pm.

FIRST FRIDAY on 7th September.

HOLMPATRICK PARISH CHURCH

is celebrating 150 years since its consecration. To mark this occasion there will be a flower festival in the church today Sunday 2nd. The church will be open from 12 to 5 to enable the community to come and enjoy the beautiful flower displays. You are all welcome to come and join in our celebrations.

Fr James and Fr Melvyn extend congratulations to Holmpatrick Parish on this wonderful occasion.

SCOIL REALT NA MARA

School reopens on Monday 3rd September. All pupils will go home at 12 noon.

SKERRIES CITIZENS INFORMATION CENTRE

13 New Street Skerries (Opp new Coast Inn)

Please note that we can now supply you with the new Application form for Illness Benefit (IB1). You must first go to your doctor and obtain your medical certificate. We can also help to fill it in if necessary. Phone 0761077500.

ANNUAL NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE

The Catholic Grandparents Association's Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday 9th September in Knock Shrine at 2.30pm. Everybody welcome to honour and thank grandparents for all they have done for us down through the ages. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo, Apostolic Nuncio. Special guest Dana will sing 'Our Lady of Knock'.

STANDBYME'S WALK OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

Our Goldies (Senior Citizens) would like to invite families, friends and especially our younger generations to walk with us on Saturday 8th September 10.50am at Floraville back to Floraville. (20 mins Max). Cost €10 per person to participate in walk. Children free. Fundraiser for Standbyme. We would like to invite all of you to join us on our Walk of Hope. As we the senior members of the Skerries community would like to offer ourselves to other members of the community especially to our younger generations as a symbol of hope to stand firm through the tough, tough times and to always, always keep going even through the darkest of moments. Please join us to spread the flame of hope in a better future for all of us. Onwards and upwards together. See you there 10.50am Floraville. Back to Ollie's Restaurant afterwards for lunch, another €10. (1 main course including tea or coffee). Please contact Anne for any more details on 0831563595.

MACRA NA FEIRME

is a voluntary organisation for young people between the ages of 17 and 35. The organisation consists of activities including agriculture, sports, travel, public speaking and performing arts. North County Macra's next monthly meeting will take place on Friday 7th September at 8:30pm in Kettles Hotel, Swords.

New members very welcome - for more info call Emma 0861704927.

SKERRIES LADIES BOWLS

As the league season comes to an end, well done to all our lady members who played over the past three months. Although we did not feature among the league winners, an enjoyable and competitive season was had by all who took part. A reminder that the next meeting of ladies will take place on Monday next, 3rd September at the earlier time of 10.30 a.m.. Lady Captain's Day is Wednesday, 5th.

MILLHILL LADIES BADMINTON CLUB

Tuesdays 8pm-10pm Skerries Community Centre Starting September 4th with 2 free trial nights. New members and beginners welcome. Get some exercise and make new friends. For more information Tel 087 752 05 06.

MARITIME LADIES BADMINTON CLUB



Fun & Fitness – no better start to your week!
New season begins Monday 3rd September from 10am-12 noon at Skerries Community Centre. Come and join us on 3rd or any Monday morning – all fun-seeking ladies welcome.

SKERRIES HARPS GAA CLUB

Well done to our Under 11 Hurlers on winning the Dublin Camaint competition.

Sunday. Join us for the Dubs v Tyrone All Ireland final on TV which will be followed by our Zingo draw at 6 pm including the draw for Spot Prizes .

Juvenile Academy for boys and girls will resume on Sat 15 Sept with Registration on Sat 8 Sept from 9 to 11 am. Further details from Louise 085 1465673.

Weekly Adult and Juvenile games meetings have resumed on Thursdays at 9 pm.

Zingo 3, 2, 4, 1, 5, 6, 7. Jackpot now €1,300. Entry €2 or 3 for €5.

Dublin play Cork in Ladies All Ireland final on Sun 16 Sept with our own Lyndsey Davey pulling the strings for the Dubs. We will be organising Tickets and Transport for anyone interested in going to Croke Park and helping to break last years record attendance. Text names to Chris at 087 9725519 before Sunday 9th September.

SKERRIES RNLI FLAG DAY

Volunteers needed for the Skerries RNLI Flag Day in Skerries, Rush and Lusk on Saturday 15th September 2018. If you have an hour or two to spare your help would really be appreciated. Please contact either Mary Boylan [Skerries] at 085-858 4900 or Jan Doyle [Rush] at 086-829 4785.

NAUL GARDENING AND FLOWER SHOW

Saturday 8th 3-6pm & Sunday 9th September 12-5pm. Presentation of cups and trophies by Helen Dillon on Sunday at 5pm.

BALBRIGGAN & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Annual Flower Show is on Sunday 2nd September. Exhibits can be staged Saturday evening 7-10 pm or 8.30-11.30 am on Sunday morning. Open to the public 2.30-5pm in Balbriggan Community College, Drogheda Street, Balbriggan. Admission €3 More information Tel 087 7520506.

BALBRIGGAN\NORTH COUNTY DUBLIN BRANCH OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND



Annual church gate collection outside all masses at Skerries church on Sat 8th /Sun 9th Sept. All involved are volunteers and all monies go to the training of more guide dogs for blind people and more assistance dogs for families who have a child with Autism. We need some additional volunteers in the area to help for 20 minutes before any mass so would be most grateful if you would contact us, on guidedogsbalbriggan@gmail.com or by ringing 0857663107. Thanks to An Garda and the parish team for your support in this matter.

ITEMS FOR BULLETIN

Please forward items for Bulletin to skerriesbulletin@hotmail.com by 4pm Wednesday or leave in parish office by 12.30pm on Wednesday.