

Third Sunday of Lent



8th March 2015

MASS INTENTIONS

- 6:30pm** Dcsd members of Kehoe & Cummins Families
9.00am Altar List of the Dead
11.00am Alice Farrell (A)
12.30pm Jane Gillen (B'day Rem)
5.30pm Dcsd members of Hanrahan Family

PRAY FOR

- Elizabeth (Betty) Carolan (RD)
Ambrose Dunne (A)
Maureen Walker (22nd A)
Maria Masnica (RD)

MASSES NEXT WEEK 7:30am & 10.00 AM

- Mon:** Margaret Kearns (A)
Tues: Grace Greene (A)
Wed: Rose Duffy (A)
Thurs: Special Intention
Pray for: Matthew Duffy (A)
Fri: Julia, James, Fr. Oliver Kelleghan, Mai Logan & Dcsd Family Members
Sat: John & Margaret Murtagh (A)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

- Times of Adoration are:
Mon: 10.30 am – 11.30 am
Wed: 6.00 pm – 11.00 pm
Fri: 10.30am – 5.45 pm
Sat: 10.30am – 11.30am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on each Sunday of Lent from 4 - 5 pm.

POLISH MASS

Msze Swieta w Jeryku Polskim dzisiaj, Niedziele 8 Marzec o godz 18:45. (Spowiedz 18:15 – 18:40).

LENTEN BIBLE CHALLENGE

A group of about 25 meet each week to study the New Testament, you are very welcome to join us. We will be meeting this week on Monday 09/03/15, at 7.30-8.30 pm in the Parish Meeting Room for a review & discussion on chapters 24 to 28 of Matthew's Gospel. These chapters explain the Crucifixion & Resurrection of Jesus. The reading plan for next week is Mark, chapters 1-6. The weekly reading guide is available on Monday night, copies are also available on the rack in the church porch.

BAPTISMS

There will be no Baptisms during Lent. The next dates for Baptisms are in May. Please check our website for details.

If you would like to be a part of the Baptism Ministry here in St. Cronan's, please contact any of the Priests in the Parish, a member of the Baptism Team or the Parish Office.

FAMILY OFFERING

We thank all those parishioners who support the running of the parish through the Parish Family Offering fund. The January standing order figure is €3,475.00. The Weekly Outdoor collection for last week amounted to €834.80 and three annuals/half yearly contributions totaling €700. The Family Offering Envelope Collection is the ONLY one which supports the daily running costs of the Parish and the upkeep of the Church. Thank you for your commitment to this collection.

LITTLE STEPS DRAMA THERAPY

The Little Steps Drama Therapy group are holding:

**Cake Sale & Bric-a-Brac
TODAY Sunday 8th March
in B.A.S.E.**

After all Sunday morning Masses. We are trying to raise much needed funds. All welcome.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASSES

Our Masses in St. Cronan's for St. Parick's Day will be as follows:
7:30pm Vigil; 9:00am; 11:00am & 12:30pm.
No evening Mass will be available.

FAMILY MASS TEAM

Any children who would like to participate in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross drama and/or a short re-enactment of the Gospel on Easter Sunday, please give their names to the Family Mass team after 12.30 Mass or email the parish office at brackenstownparish@gmail.com.

THE ROSARY

The Rosary Statue was blessed for use in homes of the parish at the October Candlelight Procession. If you would like to pray the rosary and have the statue in your home for a week, or get more information, please contact a member of Legion of Mary in main porch after Sunday morning Masses.

PRAYER MEETING

Prayer Meeting on **Tuesday next, 10th March** from 8:00pm to 9:00pm in Sister's House, 29 Brackenstown Village (opposite school). This Prayer Group promotes devotion to Servant of God, Frank Duff, Founder of Legion of Mary. Everybody most welcome.

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir are looking for singers and musicians to aid them in their presentation of the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 8pm. If you are aged 12-18 and would like to get involved, please contact Sarah 086 0687650 or Andrea 086 805 9030.

FAITH IN THE FOG

An evening of theatre, music, story-telling and comedy, presented by Jeff Lucas, author of the best-selling book *Faith in the Fog*. Riasc Centre, Swords Wed 25th March 7.15 pm. Tickets 12 euro at the door or 10 euro in advance from Hilary at 087 837 or 1120 or 01 6268519.

SYNOD OF THE FAMILY

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has invited priests and parishioners to take part in a diocesan wide discussion process in advance of the Synod of the Family this year.

Archbishop Martin will attend the second session of the Synod, called by Pope Francis, in Rome this October on the theme "*The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and Contemporary World*". A discussion evening on this will be held on 18th March at 7:30pm in School Hall. All are welcome to attend.

PRO LIFE VIGIL

There will be a pro-life event outside the Dáil on Wednesday 11th March from 7-8pm, challenging media bias on the abortion issue. In one fortnight recently, 33 articles appeared in national newspapers pushing for more abortion, with just 1 pro-life article during the same period. Please attend this important event.

MALAHIDE BETHANY BEREAVEMENT

The Malahide Bethany Bereavement Group welcome all to a talk on Tuesday 10th March at 7:30pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre, Malahide:

"Bereavement and You"

The speaker is Anne Dempsey and the talk will look at exploring the personal nature of bereavement.

PARISH PASTORAL CENTRE FUND

The total raised for the Parish Pastoral Centre Fund Raising Appeal is to date €4,625.00. Many thanks to all who have kindly contributed.

PARISH RECEIPTS

The Annual Parish Receipts are ready to be distributed. If you can help in delivering these or wish to collect your own, please contact the parish office.

A WORD OF THANKS

On behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council I would like to thank all of those who prepared and organized the Parish Retreat. To the speakers Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, Mr. Éanna Johnson, Fr. John Harris O.P., Fr. Tom O'Connor OS Cam, Mrs. Elma Walsh and the Priests from Raheny Friary and the local Parishes who were here on Friday Night.

To St. Cronan's Youth Choir, Senior Choir, St. Cronan's Senior School Choir, Cantor Paul Moreland and to the various musicians and singers for Taizé Prayer, all of whom led us in prayer during the week.

To the hospitality team who made all those who attended the blessing of Children, Babies and Expectant Parents and those who came to the Mass of Healing, so welcome here and to the Order of Malta for transport and the care of people on the day.

To Louise in the Parish Office who prepared so much of the retreat material, Christy who looked after the banner and getting the Church ready, the Sacristans for opening up early in the morning, Maura for preparing the flowers and Nuala for providing the Novena prayers.

To the Legion of Mary and those who distributed the leaflets and posters. To the Ministers of the Word and the Eucharist.

To my fellow members of the Pastoral Council for preparing the Church and looking after each night of the Retreat.

And finally to all of you who joined us in this week of prayer which is such an important part of the life of the Parish, thank you all.

Liam Campbell, Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council

LENT- WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' ? WEEK THREE

How did week two go? Give yourself a rating between 1 and 10. We are nearly at the halfway point of Lent and it can be at this time that the burden of what we give up can get too much. It can also be the time we have broken our commitment and might feel that it's not worth trying again...but it is. Lent is not about perfection, it is about creating space for God and doing something to show our relationship with God.

	Good deed	Prayer	Fast (Give up some...)
WEEK ONE			
WEEK TWO			

If you did something extra in prayer this week, like attend the Retreat, then maybe this week you could take on an extra good deed. Is there someone you have avoided because you or they have fallen out? You could try to find a solution or begin by making contact with them. Another thing you could do is check on the Trocaire Box. Has it been forgotten or hidden?

	Good deed	Prayer	Fast (Give up some...)
WEEK THREE			

See how you get on this week. *Put yourself in a state of mind where you say to yourself, 'Here is an opportunity for me to celebrate like never before, my own power, my own ability to get myself to do whatever is necessary.'* ~ **Dr. Martin Luther King** Lent is a spiritual journey about challenging our everyday attitudes and practices and trying to make them more Christ-like. Good luck!

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FAMILY – CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, SUPPORT

The phrase "March of many weathers" really applied to this week of our Parish Retreat. Despite the best efforts of the elements, the spirit of prayer and praise was not dampened or put off by the sleet showers, frosty mornings and windy evenings!

As Archbishop Martin said in his talk that this is an important time for families. There are many changes happening at great speed. The values, structures and supports that we take for granted are changing and disappearing. The long term commitment of Christian Marriage is being diluted. How can we present to people that the Sacrament of Marriage is not just a point of transition of a couple in love, but is the an essential building block in the structure of society for bringing life into the world, nurturing that life and passing on the values of faith.

We should celebrate good marriages but not use them as a criticism of families who face difficulties and marriages which don't work out.

Parishes must be the places where support is given to marriage and the family. The Synod last year was to listen to the reality of family life around the world and the Synod in October is to look at suggestions and plans from around the world develop pastoral support for those preparing for marriage, those living the vocation of Marriage and to give support to people and families in crisis.

The role of Grandparents has increasing significance today as they look after their grandchildren and are also key people in handing on the gift of faith. Éanna Johnson on Tuesday spoke of the joy of being a Grandparent but also the worry about their experience of faith both at home and school. But it is the small things like dropping into a church to light a candle with grandchildren, taking time to spend with them, saying a little prayer with them. One idea she struck a chord was different gifts to celebrate birthdays and first communion/confirmation. They will always give money at birthdays but not for the sacraments, that gift should be something of faith.

On Wednesday evening Fr. John Harris O.P., spoke of the joy and honour to be involved in youth ministry over the last ten years. There are big challenges for young people who are growing up in an environment where the values and ways of faith are criticized and questioned, yet there is a great hunger to believe. All of us are capable of sharing the love of Jesus with others, that is the key to any ministry of sharing the faith. Like Pope Francis, it is the joy of our faith that will attract people of all ages, and it is the joy of faith the society is missing.

Many people have used the services of St. Luke's Hospital in Rathgar and in their time there have met Fr. Tom O'Connor, the chaplain. On Thursday he celebrated the Sacrament of the Sick and brought a great sense of the healing power of Christ's compassion to the ceremony. He spoke from his heart of the need we have to find strength and support in our time of weakness and pain. That is there for us in Jesus. He is our companion, our strength and sure support.

On Thursday evening Elma Walsh spoke of the strength of her son Donal and a sixteen year old's battle with cancer that eventually claimed his life. As she said many a young person with the illness he faced would have stayed in bed and grown angry at the disease eating away at him. But not Donal, he wanted to use the energy he had to live his life, to be with his friends, to participate in the sports he loved, and to witness to the inner strength he got from faith. She spoke of his description of Kerry "as a place you can't look around without a mountain being in front of you. This cancer is my mountain, that God has asked me to climb." And towards the end of his life he said "a door will open, anyone can find their own door. It takes a lot of courage to ask. Take time and ask...I've climbed God's mountain."

Elma spoke of how Donal's faith gave him strength. Now as she speaks to groups of young people she tells of the many around him who began to pray again, or for the first time, of going to weekly Mass. Spirituality should not be hidden from young people, they need it and we should share this with them, not hide it away.

Our retreat finished on Friday night with Taizé prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In a week of receiving so much it was good to have the time to pray together, light our candle and place the burdens and worries, the joys and hopes of our families into the open arms of Jesus.