

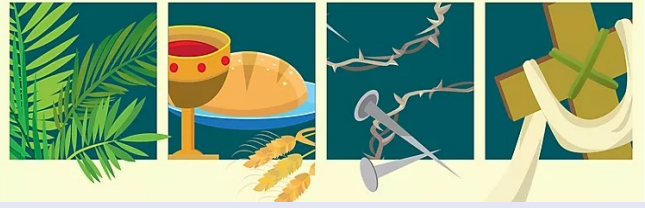
# CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN ✠ BRACKENSTOWN PARISH

5th April 2020 *PALM SUNDAY* Year A

**Dear Friends,**

We are entering into the strangest Holy Week that we have ever experienced. This week which is the high point of our Christian faith shows us God's love for each one of us. In the movement through the different events we go from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem to the trial, cruel torture, death of Jesus to the glory of the resurrection. In last Sunday's gospel one line that stood out was "this sickness will not end in death but in God's glory". At the moment we are going through our own Holy Week journey. We are in isolation, restricted in what we can do, listening to the news and each report causes us anxiety. We hear of death tolls in other countries that are extraordinary and we fear that such a plight could also be ours. As we read and listen to the texts for Holy Week, this is the place that we are in. What we hear will touch us in a very different way. We can see the vulnerability of Jesus as he prays in the garden but we also see the strength that he has, trusting that the Father will not abandon him. Maybe that is our prayer for this week, that in this time of trial we can discover in a renewed way that God is with us, that God has not abandoned us. The joy of the Resurrection will come and we will join together and sing Alleluia! How will we celebrate Holy Week and Easter?

## Holy Week 2020



**The following is the schedule in St. Cronan's Church which will be broadcast on [www.brackenstown-parish.com](http://www.brackenstown-parish.com)**

<b>Monday – Wednesday:</b>	<b>Rosary and Night Prayer at 8:30pm</b>
<b>Spy Wednesday:</b>	<b>7:30pm Holy Hour</b>
<b>Holy Thursday:</b>	<b>10:00am Morning Reflection</b> <b>7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> <b>8:30pm Watch and Pray</b>
<b>Good Friday:</b>	<b>10:00am Morning Prayer and Stations of the Cross</b> <b>3:00pm The Passion of Our Lord and Veneration of the Cross</b> <b>7:30pm Taizé Prayer Around the Cross</b>
<b>Holy Saturday:</b>	<b>10:00am Morning Prayer</b> <b>9:00pm Easter Vigil</b>
<b>Easter Sunday:</b>	<b>9:00am and 11:00am Mass</b>

### Some Suggestions for Holy Week:

<b>Palm Sunday:</b>	Use the Palm Cross in your pack and stick it to your front door. If you don't have the Palm Cross, cut a branch from a tree in your garden and put it on the front door.
<b>Holy Thursday:</b>	The great gesture and teaching of Jesus is to wash the disciples feet. Make a point of doing an Act of Random Kindness today.
<b>Good Friday:</b>	When it comes to the veneration of the cross, use the Palm Cross from your Easter Pack. If you don't have this, then use any cross in your house or make one from paper or wood.
<b>Holy Saturday:</b>	This is a day of waiting. Take a quiet moment to become aware of what it is to wait in hope. The hope that is very real to us is the end of the coronavirus.
<b>Easter Sunday:</b>	At 12:00noon the Church Bells will ring. Go outside and ring a bell or hit a saucepan to wish all around a Happy Easter. Make a point of ringing family to check in with them and wish them a Happy Easter. Decorate your front window with something colourful and encourage any children in the house to take part in our Easter Competition. Send in the picture of the decoration of your house so that we can post on Facebook and share the joy with others. During the Easter Vigil, water will be blessed and will be available to collect from the Church. It will be in little bottles and we ask that you take one per household.

**We have prepared a pack with all the readings, prayers and palm crosses. If you didn't get a chance to pick one up please text Fr. Paul your name and address to 087 7404729.**

It is important to find a way to celebrate Easter, even in these uncertain times. The message of new life and hope are desperately needed at this time, so do your part to remind people that God is with us in this, and God will bring us through.

*Fr. Paul & Fr. Bibin*

#### ALL WEEKEND MASSES WILL BE OFFERED FOR INTENTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN BOOKED

Bridie Rooney (A)  
James & Kathleen Smith (A)  
Jim Maguire (A)  
Peter Curran (1A)

#### PRAY FOR

Tom Hennessy (RD)  
John McGroddy (RD)  
Martin Hamilton (RD)  
Henry, Patricia & Baby Lily Garland (A)  
Mary Archibald (A)  
Catherine McNally (BR)

#### 10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

**Mon:** Special Intention  
Ben Galligan (RD)  
**Tues:** Pray for: Michael McSweeney (A)  
**Wed:** Marian Movement for Priests  
**Thur:** Holy Thursday  
**Fri:** Good Friday  
**Sat:** Special Intention

## Easter Art Competition

Decorate your front window or front door using the pictures available on the competition pack in the family section on the parish website.

Then send in a picture of your window with the following information:

Name of the child or children who did the picture

The age(s) of the child or children

The house address

There are three age categories: 4-7; 8-10 and 11-13

Prizes in each category: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Large Easter Egg;

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Medium Easter Egg and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Small Easter Egg

Closing date for entries: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April



Prayer by text 

“Hosanna to the Son of David.  
Blessed is He who comes in  
the name of the Lord”

## VOLUNTEERS

We have a group of volunteers in the parish who are assisting parishioners who need an extra helping hand at this time. This could be with grocery shopping, pharmacy or similar tasks. If you would like some support, please contact Fr. Paul at 0877404029 or by private message on Facebook.

## Easter Flower Appeal

I'm looking to get some Easter lilies to decorate the Church for Easter Sunday. If you have some growing in your garden maybe you would be willing to give us some. I will call and collect them. I need them by Wednesday so they can be arranged. Call me (Fr. Paul) on 0877404729.



## Easter Flower Appeal for Children

I am looking for coloured in flowers for the Easter Garden in the Church.

There is a colouring sheet in the family section on the Parish website [www.brackenstownparish.com](http://www.brackenstownparish.com).

Colour in the flower and send it to me at [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com).

*Make sure to use lots of colour!*



## READINGS FOR PALM SUNDAY

1st Reading: Is 50:4-7

PSALM: Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

2nd Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Gospel: Mt 26:14—27:66

*Praying with  
God's Word*

## Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## Easter Dues

Easter Dues Envelopes are available at the back of the Church and can be returned by placing in one of the White Boxes at the back of the Church.

Easter Dues can now also be donated using the Parish online payments facility. Simply go to the Parish website. [www.brackenstown-parish.com](http://www.brackenstown-parish.com) and then click on the “Donate” button at the top of the page. Then select “Easter Dues Once Off Payment” and enter the amount of your donation. You will need to have both your credit card/debit card and your mobile phone to hand. Your mobile phone is needed because a confirmation pin number will be texted to it. Please also consider using the online payment facility to set up a regular contribution to the first and second collections. These collections are the primary sources of financial support for our priests and for Share. As you are aware we do not currently have the opportunity to support these collections in the traditional way, yet our priests and Share are still depending on your support. You may also use the online facility to support the Parish Family offering and/or make a donation towards the new church furniture. For more detailed instructions or further information regarding the purpose of different collections please refer to the Parish website. Click on “Our Parish” at the top of the page and then click on “Finances”

Thank you for your support, it is very much appreciated. Wishing you all a very happy & holy Easter.

*Paddy O'Byrne, Parish Finance Committee*

If you are unable to connect with us via the webcam the following is the Easter schedule for RTE:

Palm Sunday: 11:00am RTÉ One TV / RTÉ Radio 1 Extra / LW252 / Digital Radio platforms

Holy Thursday: 4:40pm RTÉ One TV and RTÉ Radio 1 Extra / LW252 / Digital Radio platforms.  
The Mass will air on radio at the later time of 19.00

Good Friday: 3:00pm RTÉ One TV & RTÉ Radio 1Extra/LW252

Holy Saturday: 10:00pm RTÉ Two & RTÉ Radio 1 Extra/LW252

Easter Sunday: 10:00am RTÉ One & RTÉ Radio 1 Extra and 11:00 Pope Francis Urbi et Orbi


## Catholic Papers & Magazines

Are available as usual in the new bookrack at the back of the Church. All other items can be obtained by contacting a member of Legion of Mary or emailing the Parish Office.



‘LIKE’ Legion of Mary Brackenstown Swords

View our Parish Webcam via the Parish Website [www.brackenstown-parish.com](http://www.brackenstown-parish.com)

 [brackenstownparish](https://www.facebook.com/brackenstownparish)

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