

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

9TH MARCH 2025

YEAR C



As we hear in this Sunday's gospel, immediately following his baptism, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where he undergoes a significant period of prayer, fasting and discernment. It is an essential inner preparation for his public ministry of proclaiming the kingdom or reign of God, which he commences on his return to Galilee. Our annual season of Lent mirrors that time which Jesus spends in the desert. For us too, as individuals and as a community of faith, it is an invitation to a deeper discernment about what it means

to be a Christian in today's society. At a time when the values of a material world scream for our buy in, when the world seems increasingly unstable, and when nations are increasing expenditure on defence systems, often at the expense of aid to developing countries, what does following Jesus ask of us? What does witnessing to Christ's kingdom of truth, justice, peace and reconciliation look like? So before we decide what we are giving up or taking on for Lent, perhaps we might listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah in the first reading for Mass for the first Friday in Lent:

*'Is not this the sort of fast that pleases me
to break unjust fetters and undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke,
to share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor?
Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over'*

Fr Richard

LIVING LENT

Prayer & Reflection on the Sunday Readings for Lent
Join us on Monday's

10th March
24th March
31st March
7th April
14th April

7:00pm to 7:45pm

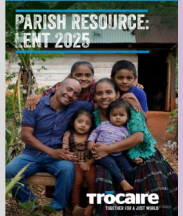
ST CRONAN'S CHURCH
BRACKENSTOWN PARISH

Liturgical note: During the 40 days of Lent, the Gloria at Mass is neither recited nor sung, and the Gospel Acclamation is *'Praise and honour to you, Lord, Jesus Christ'*.

A reflective reading of one of the Sunday readings will take place each Monday during Lent from 7.00-7.30pm in the church, beginning on Monday 10th March. All are welcome.

The monthly preparation Mass for **First Holy Communion** will take place this Saturday 8th March at 6.00pm and Sunday 9th March at 5.00pm

Trocaire is an agency of the Irish Bishops' Conference particularly concerned with justice and development overseas. **Trocaire Lenten campaign packs** (which include the Lenten donation box) will be available on tables around the church from this weekend. This year's campaign, entitled **Stronger Together**, focuses on communities affected by the effects of climate change in Guatemala and other parts of the world. The annual Lenten campaign is Trocaire's biggest fundraiser. Trocaire boxes can be left into the sacristy towards the end of Lent.



Last Saturday there was a very productive gathering of the Parish Pastoral Councils of the four parishes in our partnership (*Donabate, River Valley, Swords and Brackenstown*) to explore how we might work more effectively in embracing the diocesan programme of pastoral renewal, *Building Hope*. Using the recently published *Building Hope Planning Resource* document, we began the process of setting objectives for the development of Christian communities which are **faith-filled, welcoming and inclusive**, characterised by **servant leadership** and **co-responsibility**, and with a deep concern for **social justice**. In the coming weeks, we plan as a partnership to present the *Building Hope* programme of renewal to our wider parishes.

SUNDAY MASSES: (Sat Vigil) 6pm; 9am; 11am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES: MONDAY to SATURDAY 10:00am

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 10:45am to 11:30am in the Sacristy

ADORATION: MON, TUES, THURS & SAT: 10:30AM—11:30AM WEDNESDAY: 6pm - 9pm FRIDAY: 3pm—6pm

All our ceremonies are broadcast online at www.brackenstown-parish.com

The **Rite of Election** for two of our parishioners, Yu Tong Wang and Yu Xin Wang, who are hoping to be received into the church through the sacraments of Christian Initiation at Easter, will take place at the Pro-Cathedral this Sunday 9th March at 3.00pm. Please keep them in your prayers as they take this important step.

The third of our *Confirmation Connect* preparation meetings for Confirmation candidates and their parents will take place in the church on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th March from 7.00-8.00pm.

St. Cronan's Parish is offering **The Bible and the Church Fathers** over 12 weeks in St. Cronan's Pastoral Centre each Monday from 7.30 to 8.30pm. (Please note that the course will not take place on Monday 17th March.)

The celebration of **First Reconciliation** will take place for the children in St. Cronan's JNS on Thursday 13th March at 7.00pm (*Ms. Gabbett and Ms. Quinn's*) and 8.00pm (*Mrs. Mather, Ms. Shovlin and Ms. Ennis/Ms. Conaty's classes*).

The **church volunteer cleaning group** will meet next Saturday 15th March at 12noon to clean the church. The group welcomes new volunteers, even if you can only assist now and again.

Trip to the Movies! The powerful new faith film, [BONHOEFFER](#), is showing at Movies@Swords. BONHOEFFER is a gripping historical drama based on the life of German anti-Nazi resistance leader and hero of the faith, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Take a group along this weekend to convince cinemas that there's an audience for films like this which tell meaningful and powerful stories and portray the power of the gospel in creative ways.

Many thanks for your generous support of the collection for **St. Vincent de Paul** last weekend. Your continued support for this great organisation which discreetly supports so many families and individuals is greatly appreciated.

The monthly **Taize Prayer**, which was postponed, will now take place at 7.30pm on **Thursday 20th March**. Please note that from now on the monthly Taize Prayer has switched from Friday to Thursday evening.

The annual diocesan **Pilgrimage to Knock** will take place on Saturday 26th April (Easter Saturday). It is hoped once again to organise a bus from the partnership of parishes to travel to Knock. Note the date, and watch this space for more details!

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on **Wednesday 19th March at 7.30pm** in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

6 week Beginner's Yoga Class starting on Monday 27th January from 9:30am—10:45am
And starting on Wednesday 29th January from 7pm—8:15pm

6 week Chair Yoga Class starting on Monday 27th January from 11:15am—12:15pm in St Cronan's Parish Centre (beside Church). 6 Week Course €75 or pay per class €14 Contact Caroline for more information on 087 6913028. All walk-ins welcome.

Partnership Working Together: St Colmcille's Parish— Lenten Discussions

For Lent this year we will be reading '*Calling a Wounded Earth Home*'. We will start on Tuesday 11th March and each Tuesday until April 8th at 2.00pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Road. Also, an additional session on Tuesday night April 8th at 7.00pm for those unable to attend in the afternoon. Contact Colette at the Parish Office 01 8407277 or parishoffice@stcolmcilleschurch.ie

Pray—Reflect—Share

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament, The Rosary, Hymns, reflection on Sunday's Gospel and a sharing about Servant of God, Frank Duff. **Tuesday 11th March at 8:00pm** in The Nunnery, Parish Pastoral Centre Please invite a friend. All most welcome.

Alive Newspaper

Could you help us distribute *Alive* newspaper in Park View area this year? If interested, please contact members of the Legion at Repository on Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings.

SACRED HEART ART CONTEST

In Association with Radio Maria Ireland, for children aged 4-12 years and 13-18 years. Let your creativity be seen through drawing, painting and artwork of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Free Registration at promoter@radiomaria.ie or call 01 4123456 for more information. Deadline for submissions is 13th May.



Legion of Mary

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Helen Murphy

Month's Mind

Patrick Lyons

Ronnie Prouse

Patricia Lynch (MM & 65BR)

Anniversaries

John (1A) & Mary Ryan

Rosaleen Cox (3A)

Michael Emery (3A)

Ben Galligan

Tom McArdle & Dcsd Family Members

Ambrose Dunne

Alice Farrell

Philomena Murphy

Marie Gavin

Flora Moran (BR)

Judith Giltinane (BR)

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon Mary & Andrew Byrne (A)

Tues Pat Lyons (RD)

Wed Amelia & John Galvin (A)
Patricia Byrne (RD)

Thur Leo Fernando (R)

Fri Ambrose Dunne (A)

Sat Special Intention

Traveller Outreach Addiction Service: This is a free and confidential drug and alcohol treatment service providing addiction support to the Traveller Community and their families in North Dublin. Opening hours: 9.00am-5.00pm. To speak to a member of the team, contact: 01/6991077. For more information contact: travellersupport@coolminetc.ie.

Prayer Resources for the Jubilee Year can be found at

<https://dublindiocese.ie/jubilee2025/>

The January edition of *Mission & Ministry Matters* is available by clicking here

Bethany Bereavement Support Group offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it

Please phone Terri on 8403243, or Brid on 086 6006397

"I ask you Lord to be kind to them now, who were always kind to me here"

CO PARISH PRIEST
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PERMANENT DEACON
Declan Colgan
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PARISH SECRETARY
Louise Donnelly
Mon to Fri. 9:30am - 1:00pm
01 8401188
brackenstownparish@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:30am - 1:00pm

Registered Charity Number
20016166