

# CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN

## BRACKENSTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

4th Sunday of Advent  
19th December 2021 Year B

### A Christmas Message

It's hard to believe that we are still caught in the midst of this pandemic. In March last year we thought that this would last a couple of weeks, we could have never imagined another Christmas like this, but here we are and as they say life goes on.

In January we received our new Archbishop, Dermot Farrell, who began his ministry in the midst of all the public health restrictions and other things that are challenging the shape of who we are as a Church community. He set up a Task Force to listen to people throughout the Church and then look at ways that we can begin a journey of renewal. The first stage of putting this into action has been the call to prayer during the season of Advent to prepare us for the next steps in the new year. Even though there are many challenges that we have to face, we will face them with hope.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we open ourselves to the light that he brings into the world which guides us through tough times and decisions. It will be this light of hope that will help us to listen to one another, to work together and bring about the new ways that we need to take, so that the message of the gospel and the mission of the Church will grow and bring future generations to know the person of Christ.

We wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and every peace, joy and blessing for the new year.

*Fr. Paul, Fr. Bibin, Niamh and Deacon Declan*



#### Carrying Christ

Into the hillside country Mary went carrying Christ,  
And all along the road the Christ she carried  
Generously bestowed grace on those she met.  
She has not meant to tell she carried Christ.  
She was content to hide his love for her.  
But about her glowed such joy  
That into stony hearts love flowed,  
And even to the unborn John, Christ's grace was sent.  
Christ in the Sacrament of love each day,  
Dwells in my soul, a little space,  
And then I walk life's crowded highway,  
Jostling those who seldom think of God.  
To these I pray that I may carry Christ,  
For it may be some would not know of Christ  
Except through me.

*Ruth Mary Fox*



ImageVine



### Prayer for your crib at home

God of every nation and people,  
from the very beginning of creation  
you have shown us your love:  
when our need for a Saviour was great  
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
To our lives he brings joy and peace,  
justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;  
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,  
and raise our thoughts to him,  
who is God-with-us and Saviour of all,  
and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

#### Schedule for Next Week

Feast of the Holy Family  
(Sunday 26th) Masses  
9:00am; 11:00am & 5:00pm  
Monday 27th to Friday 31st  
Mass at 10:00am (Church  
closes at 4:00pm each day)

#### NEW YEARS EVE

Friday 31st December  
Evening Prayer and  
Blessing for New Year at  
6:00pm

#### NEW YEARS DAY

Mass at 11:00am Vigil  
for the Sunday 6:00pm  
Second Sunday of  
Christmas Masses  
9:00am, 11:00am and  
5:00pm

### CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

All Mass Intentions are for the names  
on the Christmas Bouquet Cards

#### 10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

- Ellen Canny & Dcsd Family Members
- Mon:** Agnes Broderick & Daniel & Alice Canny  
Cis Sweeney
- Tues:** Eileen, Pat & Michael Howard  
Thomas & Pat Lawless  
Katrina Harford
- Wed:** Maria Adams  
Eileen Adams  
Vincent Healy
- Thur:** Oliver McGrath
- Fri:** Eddie & Alice Farrell  
Willie Adams
- Sat:** Deceased Legionnaires

## Thank you

Throughout the year so many people have worked together so that we could be open and worship together keeping each other safe. They have shown a huge commitment to being here to steward and to clean the Church. This has given people great confidence to return to Mass and throughout the year it has been great to see people back again.

Through the year members of our music ministry have sung and played at our Sunday Masses, at Communion and Confirmations. It was great to have our choir back together for the Carol Service and for the Christmas Masses.

Maura has risen to the challenge posed by multiple Communion and Confirmation ceremonies as well as Easter and Christmas with such beautiful flowers.

In our preparations for Christmas the Parish Team offered a series of talks, Declan and his team prepared the crib, Ms. Crotty and Mr. Neary's classes cut out the Stars and Angels. St. Cronan's Junior and Senior Schools responded with extraordinary generosity to our Food Appeal for St. Vincent de Paul. As always our delivery team made sure the Christmas cards were delivered and our counting team made sure the collections were looked after. To Louise our Secretary who deals with so much, Christie and Aaron our caretakers, Niamh our Pastoral Worker who has done so much keeping in touch with the schools, and Fr. Bibin and Deacon Declan for their ministry. To all who do so much in their own quiet way, we thank you for the way in which we all work together.

Fr. Paul

### SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

#### Anniversaries

- Annie & John Conroy
- Nathan, Daniel  
& Mary Sinead Maughan
- Pat Tierney
- John Cawley
- Jim Reid
- P.K. Thomas

#### Christmas Dues

Please bring your Christmas Dues to the Church and place them in the Mass offering boxes on Sundays or in the brown boxes at the doors.  
Thank you for your support



#### PARISH PRIEST & ADMINISTRATOR

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#### PARISH SECRETARY

LOUISE DONNELLY  
TUES TO THURS 10:30AM - 1:00PM  
01 8401188  
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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 20016166

#### CALENDARS

Church Art Calendars, Candles, Children's Books, Statues, Holy Water Fonts and other religious goods available in Parish Centre after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

Also by emailing brackenstownparish@gmail.com Catholic Papers & Magazines are available in the new bookrack at the back of the Church.

#### THE ROSARY

Praying for a special intention? Praying for peace? The Rosary Statue was blessed for use in the homes of the Parish. If you would like to pray the Rosary and have the Rosary Statue in your home for a week, or get more information, please contact a member of Legion of Mary or email the Parish Office.

#### Tap & Donate

We thank those of you who have been using our Tap & Donate machine at the main door of the Church. €125 was received for the month of September. 60% goes to First Collection for priests and retired priests of the Diocese and 40% goes to the Share Collection.

If you use the white envelopes for the Mass collections so that we can record your offering, please continue to do this instead of using the Tap and Donate as this machine cannot record your details.



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