

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

5TH JANUARY 2025

YEAR C

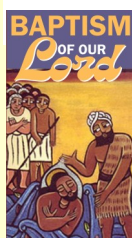
In our seasonal contemplation of the mystery of Incarnation, the Word of God taking flesh in Jesus Christ, we have celebrated the simplicity of Jesus' birth into an ordinary family and reflected on the life of the Holy Family at Nazareth, which St Charles de Foucauld referred to as Jesus' 'hidden life'. Our Christmas season continues with the feast of the Epiphany, which celebrates the Gospel being received by the gentiles (non-Jews), and concludes with the Baptism of Our Lord next Sunday, marking the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.



As we transition to a new calendar year, we also begin a year of Jubilee for the Church, whose theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. In his homily on Christmas Eve, as he opened the Holy Door of St Peter's in Rome to mark the beginning of the jubilee year, Pope Francis proclaimed, 'Sisters and brothers, the jubilee commits us to the transformation of our world, so that this year may truly become a time of jubilation. A jubilee for our mother Earth, disfigured by profiteering; a time of jubilee for the poorer countries burdened beneath unfair debts; a time of jubilee for all those who are in bondage to forms of slavery old and new. All of us have received the task of bringing hope wherever hope has been lost, lives broken, promises not kept, dreams shattered and hearts overwhelmed by adversity.' (Pope Francis' Homily on opening of Holy Door, Christmas Eve 2024)

New Year offers us the opportunity to make and try to sustain resolutions of one kind or another. Often their aim is to help us improve our physical fitness and health or to achieve better work/life balance. But for believers, a question might be: what will help me get closer to God, to be more in tune with God's dream for me and for the world? Fr. Gary Caster in his book, *Prayer Everywhere: the Spiritual Life Made Simple* offers the following thought: 'Without prayer, we run the risk of forgetting who we have become, and slowly we begin to feel as if God is distant and uninterested. Prayer also prevents us from hiding from God, for through it, we place ourselves before the only one that can perfect us and transform our lives. Every prayer, whether spoken or not, alone or with others, is truly an opportunity to say to Lord, "Fill me with your life. Change me into the person you know me to be.'

Fr Richard



We welcome those families who have had a child baptised in our church during the past year to the 11.00am Mass next Sunday 12th January, **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**

A sincere word of thanks to all who have helped with the preparation of the church for our Christmas liturgies, and for those who participated. Special thanks to those who created our new crib and those who decorated the church, and to our music ministry who led us in our liturgies.



Our monthly **Family Mass** takes place next Saturday 11th January at 6.00pm

Monday 6th January, **Feast of the Epiphany**, is a holy day. Mass will be celebrated at 10am and again at 7.30pm.

Our monthly **Taizé Prayer Around the Cross** takes place next Friday 10th January at 7.30pm.

As we begin a new year, it is an opportune time to gather in a spirit of prayer and contemplation, aided by the beautiful Taizé chants and the soft candlelit atmosphere. All are welcome.



On Friday 10th January

Join us as we celebrate Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

in St. Cronan's Church at 7:30pm
ALL WELCOME
www.brackenstown-parish.com

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



Schools reopen this Monday 6th January. **Religion classes** for those preparing for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion resume this **Tuesday 7th January** from 3.00-4.00pm in the parish centre.

The monthly meeting of the **Parish Pastoral Council** takes place on Wednesday 8th January at 7.30pm in the parish centre.

Many thanks to those who have already returned **Christmas Offerings**. There are still envelopes available at the back of the church for those who would like to contribute. Christmas Offerings form part of the annual remuneration of the priests of the parish and of the diocese.

Any items of non-perishable food left at the altar steps between Christmas and Epiphany (6th Jan) will be distributed equally to SVP and to Alice Leahy Trust.

Anam Cara - supporting parents after bereavement, are hosting their first **Online Bereavement Information Evening** of 2025 on **Tuesday 7th of January 2025**. This online talk is for bereaved parents only. **Time: 7pm - 8:30pm. Guest Speaker: Níamh Finucane**. Parents can register using the below link: [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

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.



JOIN US FOR OUR SWORDS MEMORY CAFÉ

A FREE MONTHLY CAFÉ HELD ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH IN FINGALLIAN'S GAA CLUB BETWEEN 10.30AM - 12.30PM

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA, THEIR CARERS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY INTERESTED IN FOSTERING A DEMENTIA INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY IN SWORDS.

CONTACT SINEAD - 086 846 3273



Swords Memory Café – for people living with dementia, their carers, family members and those interested in fostering a dementia inclusive community in Swords – hold a free Café on the third Thursday of each month in Fingallian's GAA club between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Silent Christian Meditation in Brackenstown Parish Centre every Monday at 11am (St Joseph's Room).

For more information contact Marian Burke 0879703640. The fruits/ benefits of Meditation: **Peace, love, joy, patience, understanding, kindness, goodness, freedom and self-control. Galatians:5:22**

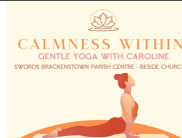
6 week Beginner's Yoga Class starting on Monday 27th January from 9:30am—10:45am

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.



Christmas Gifts - Suitable gifts for recreating the Home of Nazareth

Nativity sets, Christmas cards, Liturgical calendars, statues, ornaments, children's colouring books, bibles and lots more available at Repository on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.

Rosary Statue

We invite you to host the Rosary statue for a week in your home this year. It was recently blessed in our Church on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. When prayed well, the Rosary allows us to see the face of Christ in others and recreates something of the atmosphere of the household in Nazareth. [Rosarium Virginis Mariae on the Most Holy Rosary \(October 16, 2002\) | John Paul II \(vatican.va\)](#). For more information, please speak to any member of the Legion of Mary after Mass at weekends.



Legion of Mary

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Bridget Nugent
William Craig
Colm Brosnan
Patricia Coombes

Anniversaries

Sally Piper (1A)
David Kelly (1A)
Joe Murray (15A)
John & Annie Conroy
Josie Noone
Catherine Mallin

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon	Mary Redmond (RD)
Tues	Lawrence (33A), Tom & Seamus Mongan & Dcsd Family Members
Wed	Declan McCarthy (3A) Holy Souls
Thur	Michael Hoare (13A)
Fri	Special Intention
Sat	Michael Hogan (RD)

Grief Support Group

weekly meetings every Wednesday 7pm to 8pm.

We hope to offer a listening ear to anyone who is dealing with or living with grief.

Contact email:

haveasipswords@gmail.com

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

Fr. Richard Sheehy

087 2412459

richarddesheehy@gmail.com

PARISH CHAPLAIN

Fr. Joseph Hao P.C.

01 8401188

brackenstownparish@gmail.com

PERMANENT DEACON

Declan Colgan

01 8401188

brackenstownparish@gmail.com

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