

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

1 MARCH 2026

YEAR A



Novena of Grace

Friday 6th March: 10:00am and 7:30pm

What is faith? - Denis Robinson

Saturday 7th March: 10:00am and 6:00pm

Faith in young people - Fr. Cyril Odia

Sunday 8th March: 11:00am

God of Surprises - Sean Goan

Monday 9th March: 7:30pm

Faith and Migration - Ursula Mullen, Crosscare

Tuesday 10th March: 10:00am and 7:30pm

Faith and the Travelling Community - Geraldine McDonnell

Wednesday 11th March: 10:00am and 7:30pm

Care for Creation - Jane Mellett

Thursday 12th March: 10:00am and 7:30pm

Contemplation: our gift to the world - Fr. Jim Caffrey

Friday 13th March: 10:00am and 7:30pm

Faith and loss - Bryan Nolan

Saturday 14th March: 6:00pm

Faith and Addiction - Conor Hickey, Director Crosscare

Sunday 15th March: 11:00am

Outsiders - Alice Leahy, Trust

Our **Novena of Grace** will begin next Friday 6th March and continue through to Sunday 15th March. As well as the regular Mass at 10.00am, there will be an extra weekday Mass (Mon-Fri) at 7.30pm, at which a guest speaker will lead a reflection. There will also be a speaker at the Saturday 6.00pm Mass and Sunday 11.00am Mass each weekend. The topics to be addressed include: What is faith?, contemplation, addiction, the experience of migrants and of those considered outsiders, faith and the experience of loss, faith in young people and care for creation. A Petitions Box will be at the foot of the altar from this weekend, in which parishioners and visitors can leave their prayer intentions. A selection of these will be read out anonymously at Mass each day during the Novena. Please see the full programme below and encourage friends, neighbours and family members to participate in as much of the Novena as they can.

As mentioned last week, although we will be celebrating no further Baptisms until Easter, we are moving deeper into the sacramental season with the celebration of First Reconciliation (Confession) and also of the Ceremony of Light for those preparing for Confirmation taking place in all our partnership parishes in the coming week. Please pray for all the young people involved, as well as for their families, teachers and our parish sacramental teams. The unsolicited feedback from one parent following a parish preparation meeting this week highlights the value of parish led sacramental preparation: 'I left feeling connected and even with a desire to explore faith more, having not particularly wanted to go tonight. Everyone was so friendly, and the facilitators are key to the experience.' Our parish sacramental teams for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and funeral ministry always welcome new volunteers.

Fr. Richard

During the weekdays of Lent the partnership of parishes are putting on an **extra Mass at 8.00am** in St. Colmcille's church. The Mass will be celebrated by different priests from the partnership of parishes each day.

New envelope boxes for the coming year are available for collection on the finance table at the back of the church. We appreciate it if parishioners, as well as collecting their own box, might deliver a box to a neighbour who is housebound. As well as Family Offering envelopes, parishioners can now take a box of envelopes to contribute to the weekly Mass collections.



A **Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi**, which includes 2 nights in Assisi and 3 nights in Rome from 14-19th September, is open to parishioners and friends from the parishes of Swords, River Valley, Donabate

and Brackenstown. The cost of €1,495 per person sharing includes return flights to Rome with Aer Lingus, half board accommodation in Rome and Assisi, air conditioned coach throughout the pilgrimage and assistance of a Marian Pilgrimages representative. For more details, look out for the posters and flyers. To reserve a place, parishioners are asked to book directly with Marian pilgrimages with a non-refundable deposit of €400 per person by **Tuesday 31st March**. You are advised to first **contact the parish office to get the link** to book for the pilgrimage directly online.

A **Grow in Love** Mass in preparation for the sacraments of **First Reconciliation and First Communion** will take place this Saturday 28th February at 6.00pm and Sunday 1st March at 5.00pm.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation



GAELSCOIL BHRIAN BOROIMHE

AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 2ND MARCH



SWORDS EDUCATE TOGETHER; THORNLEIGH EDUCATE TOGETHER AND BROADMEADOWS COMMUNITY NATIONAL SCHOOL AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 3RD MARCH



ST. CRONAN'S JUNIOR N.S. AT 7.00PM AND 7.45PM ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH

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

Can you help us to reduce postage costs?

On 3rd of February the cost of a standard stamp increased to €1.85. This has led us to ask you if you can help us to reduce our postage overheads? The posting of the annual letters of thanks and acknowledgement for contributions received is a considerable expense for the parish. Do you have an email address? If so, you might consider giving us permission to send your annual acknowledgement letter by email rather than by post. You can do this by emailing brackenstownparish@gmail.com. Please say that you are giving permission for your letter of acknowledgement to be sent by email and give your name, address, and email address.

Another possibility is to visit the parish website at brackenstown-parish.com and then tick the box to receive your acknowledgement letter by email.

We are of course aware that not everyone uses email or perhaps just prefers to receive a letter by post. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes to the running costs of the parish and to the support of our priests. Your generosity is very much appreciated.
The Parish Finance Committee

A meeting of the **Parish Finance Committee** will take place on Monday 2nd March at 9.00pm in the parish centre.

A meeting of the full **Pastoral Councils** of the **Partnership Parishes** of Swords and Drynam, River Valley, Donabate and Balheary, and Brackenstown, takes place in St. Cronan's parish centre this Saturday 28th February beginning with 10.00am Mass and concluding at 12.30pm.

A Mass in preparation for the sacrament of **Confirmation** will take place next Saturday 7th March at 6.00pm and Sunday 8th March at 5.00pm.

The **Ceremony of Light** in preparation for Confirmation for the 6th class students in **Gaelscoil Bhrian Boroimhe** will take place at **7.00pm on Thursday 5th March** in the church. The Ceremony of Light for the students from **Swords and Thornleigh Ed.** **Together will take place at 8.00pm on Thursday 5th March.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be celebrated on Friday 6th March at 7:30pm in St. Columba's Church of Ireland School, Church Road, Swords. The theme this year is "*I will give you rest: Come*" and is prepared by the Nigerian WDP Committee.

The Brackenstown Bible study group is doing a study of **St. Matthew's Gospel. Matthew: The King and His Kingdom** shows how Jesus fulfils God's promises to Israel and establishes his kingdom on earth. The sessions continue in St Cronan's Pastoral Centre from 7.30 to 8.50pm on Monday nights.

DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE on SATURDAY 25th APRIL 2026

Pickup 1: St Patrick's Church, Donabate at 7am; Pickup 2: St. Cronan's Catholic Church, Swords at 7:25am
Pickup 3: Fingal Co. Co. Offices, Swords Main Street 7:35am; Pickup 4: St. Finian's Church, River Valley, Swords 7:45am. Cost of Coach is €30.00 per person; Children under 16 Free. Please bring a Packed Lunch – Tea & Coffee available in St. John's Centre, Knock. Bus will stop for 15 minutes on the way down and back at Ballinalack Service Station. Please contact the Parish Office to book.

Trocaire is an arm of the Irish Episcopal Conference concerned with tackling poverty and promoting awareness of justice issues for developing countries. This year's Lenten campaign focuses on a young mother in rural Rwanda supporting three generations, highlighting themes of resilience, climate injustice, and dignity. **Trocaire packs**, including the annual **Lenten box**, are available around the church.

St Colmcille's Parish 2026 – Lenten Discussions

This Lent the Diocese is inviting Parishes to journey together through a set of reflective resources inspired by '*Baptised and Sent.*' Two discussion sessions **will be held in the Parochial House, Seatown Road: the first at 2pm and another at 7pm** Each session will be approximately 30-40 minutes duration. All materials will be provided.

East Coast Toastmasters meets in the Parish Centre on the **first Thursday of each month from 7:45pm to 9:45pm.** The aim of the club is to help members improve their public speaking and leadership skills in a fun, supportive and friendly environment. For further details, please contact the President of East Coast Toastmasters, Anne Marie Connor, on 087 9964054 or come along to our next meeting on March 5th at 7.45 pm.

Are you interested in serving your community?

Fingal Counselling Service (FCS) is looking to recruit a person to work as Chairperson for its voluntary Management Committee for a minimum of 2 years. Please send us a copy of your CV and a cover letter to fingalcounsellingrecruit@gmail.com on or before 27th February 2026. For full details please contact FCS on 01- 8902596 or email fingalcounsellingrecruit@gmail.com

The family of the late Brian Fagan would like to thank all their friends and families who supported them through their sad time.

RELIGIOUS GOODS—SUITABLE FOR FAMILIES

Communion Cards, Prayer Books, Beads, Medals and Rosettes. Also Baptism Cards and Candle, Motorist Prayers and Key Rings, Children's Books and lots more available at Repository on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.



Legion of Mary

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Vincent Donnelly
Cyril Daly
Sarah Smyth

Month's Mind

Patricia O'Dwyer
Margaret Hamilton

Anniversaries

Angela Galvin (1A)
John (2A) & Mary (12A) Ryan
Reggie Cheevers (3A)
Sean McKenna (5A)
Tony O'Neill (5A)
Paula Moloney (10A)
Tadhg Brosnan (29A)
Kevin Harford
Margaret O'Brien
Robert Donovan
Flora Moran (BR)
Health Intention

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

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| Mon | Richard & Eva Kearns (A) Margaret O'Brien (A) James Kissane (A) |
| Tues | Briege McGuinness (RD) |
| Wed | Phil Dunn (A) Marian Movement for Priests |
| Thur | Caroline Creane (RD) Robert Donovan (A) |
| Fri | Briege McGuinness (RD) John Cuddihy (A) |
| Sat | Briege McGuinness (MM) Special Intention |

BEGINNERS YOGA WITH CAROLINE

Mat Yoga: Tuesdays 9:30am-11am
Thursdays 7-8:15pm
Chair Yoga for
Arthritis and Mobility issues
Tuesdays 11:15am-12 noon
4 Week Block €50 or €14 per class
Contact Caroline 087 691 3028

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Richard Sheehy
087 2412459

richardesheehy@gmail.com

PARISH CHAPLAIN
Fr. Joseph Hao P.C.
01 8401188

brackenstownparish@gmail.com

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