

Parish Newsletter

Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of sacred Scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us.

- Pope Francis

Sunday of the Word of God 24 January 2021

www.catholicbishops.ie

The Sunday of the Word of God

The third Sunday of Ordinary Time is now **"The Sunday of the Word of God"** as established by Pope Francis.

'Through the proclaimed biblical readings in the liturgy, God speaks to his people and Christ himself proclaims his Gospel; Christ is the centre and fullness of all Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments. Listening to the Gospel, the high point of the Liturgy of the Word, is characterised by a special veneration, expressed not only by gestures and acclamations, but by the Book of the Gospels itself.'

Pope Francis wanted "a Sunday given over entirely to the Word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people" (*Misericordia e misera*, 7). It takes place during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, emphasising the important bond we have in Sacred Scripture with other Christian denominations and religious traditions.

Pope Francis invites us to find "ways to mark this Sunday with a certain Solemnity" (Aperuit illis 3).

Some ideas to think about:

- Take out your family bible and choose a passage to read
- Make some time each day to read the bible.
- Choose an Old Testament Book and One of the Gospels to read between now and the end of February.
- Think about joining a scripture group or Lectio Divina group.
- Make a list of your favourite stories or passages from the bible.
- Download a children's version of a Bible story and read it to your children or grandchildren.
- Download a colouring picture of a Bible story for your children or grandchildren.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary Woman of Listening

Mary, woman of listening,
open our ears;
grant us to know how to listen to the word of your Son Jesus
among the thousands of words of this world;
grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live, to every
person we encounter,
especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship. Mary,
woman of decision,
illuminate our mind and our heart,
so that we may obey, unhesitating, the word of your Son Jesus;
give us the courage to decide,
not to let ourselves be dragged along, letting others direct our
life. Mary, woman of action,
obtain that our hands and feet move "with haste" toward others,
to bring them the charity and love of your Son Jesus,
to bring the light of the Gospel to the world,
as you did.
Amen.



COVID19 RESTRICTIONS

All Masses are online only: Mon to Sat 10:00am; Sunday 6:30pm(Sat. vigil) 9am and 11am
Rosary and Night Prayer online 8:30pm Mon to Fri (from 4th January) Taizé Prayer Friday 7:30pm (from 11th Jan)
Confessions Saturdays 10:45am to 11:30 in Pastoral Centre. Church closes at 6:00pm.

First Holy Communion 2021

As you can see from the picture the Do This In Memory Sacred Space in the Church has been emptied to make way for a new group preparing to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

The year the Do This In Memory Programme will be done online. Masses will be celebrated in the Church and the children with their families will join us via webcam (www.brackenstown-parish.com). We will send home worksheets and pictures to be coloured and we will ask parents drop them into the Sacred Space or email them to us brackenstownparish@gmail.com. At the 6:30pm Mass on Saturday 23rd Rang Dean & Rang Roisin from GSBB and Ms. Shovlin and Ms. Hanratty's Class will be enrolled. At the 11:00am Mass on Sunday 24th Swords & Thornleigh ETNS with Mr. Bailey's, Ms. Kelly's, Ms. McSweeney and Ms. Rooney will be enrolled.

You have your Enrolment Certificate to colour in and sign. Send us a picture when you have it done.

To all our Parishioners please pray for our children who are getting ready to meet Jesus in Holy Communion. Choose a class from the list above and remember them over the months ahead.



Brackenstown Bible Study Group



Brackenstown Bible Study Group invite you to join us in our Lenten Scripture study. We will be reading St Paul's letters to the Galatians and the Ephesians. The study will commence on Monday 15th February. Our study of Galatians will take place over four weeks, followed by a three week study of Ephesians. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic the study will be home based. There will be an optional Zoom, on-line group discussion/questions and answers facility available from 7.30 to 8.30 pm each Monday night. The current difficult situation may be an opportunity for you to deepen your relationship with Christ through becoming more familiar with the Word of God. Both letters are relatively short, with only six chapters in each, so either would be ideal for the newcomer to Scripture Study. There is no charge to take part so why not give it a go? For more details please email Paddy at pobyrne50@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS DUES

The Christmas Dues together with the First Collection at Mass and the Easter Dues goes to support myself, Fr. Bibin and the sick & retired Priests of the Diocese. We sincerely appreciate your generosity to this collection.

There is a financial benefit to the Parish as your Dues contributions can be included in your Family Offering for the Tax Reclaim Scheme. You can donate online using the Donate button on the Parish website or drop your envelope into the white letterboxes in the Church. Thank you again for your generosity and for all your support at Christmas and throughout the year.

Fr. Paul & Fr. Bibin.

Due to Level 5 Restrictions, the Parish Office is dealing with all enquiries by email and online. Mass cards can be collected in the Sacristy after morning Masses at 10:30am but please email the names beforehand.



Church Art Calendars & Catholic Papers & Magazines

are available in the new bookrack at the back of the Church.

Candles of Hope, with **Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection from the Coronavirus** are available by emailing brackenstownparish@gmail.com

'LIKE' Legion of Mary Brackenstown Swords



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

David Carroll (12A)
Donny Murray (Rem)
Richard & Eva Kearns (A)
Martin Curran (2A)

PRAY FOR

Altar List of the Dead
Oliver Dignum (RD)
Rosemary Moran (RD)
Basil Husband (RD)
Noel Lambe (RD)
John Cawley (MM)
Bill Shackley (5A)
Billy Curtis (24A)
Carmel Kieran (27A)
Marie Lynch (30A)
Teresa McEntaggart (A)
Nick, Annie & Roy Savage (Rem)
Rina O'Loughlin 50A

10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

Mon: Special Intention
Tues: John Martin (Rem)
Pray for: Special Intention & Eugene Fitzsimons (A)
Wed: Bernard Oldham
Pray for: Special Intention
Thur: Ann Cowan (RD)
Fri: Kathleen & Christopher Troy (Rem)
Sat: Mai Logan (A)

CONTACT



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View our Parish Webcam via the Parish Website www.brackenstown-parish.com

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