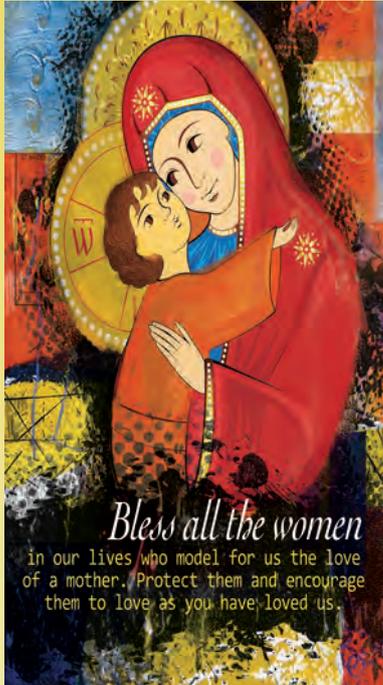


CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN BRACKENSTOWN PARISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

8th May 2016 — Year C

May, the Month of our Mother Mary



In his message for World Day of Prayer for the Sick, Pope Francis shared a very thought provoking reflection on Mary. It is set in the story of the Wedding Feast Illness, above all grave illness, always places human existence in crisis and brings with it questions that dig deep. Our first response may at times be one of rebellion: Why has this happened to me? We can feel desperate, thinking that all is lost, that things no longer have meaning...

In these situations, faith in God is on the one hand tested, yet at the same time can reveal all of its positive resources. Not because faith makes illness, pain, or the questions which they raise, disappear, but because it offers a key by which we can discover the deepest meaning of what we are experiencing; a key that helps us to see how illness can be the way to draw nearer to Jesus who walks at our side, weighed down by the Cross. And this key is given to us by Mary, our Mother, who has known this way at first hand.

At the wedding feast of Cana, Mary is the thoughtful woman who sees a serious problem for the spouses: the wine, the symbol of the joy of the feast, has run out. Mary recognizes the difficulty, in some way makes it her own, and acts swiftly and discreetly. She does not simply look on, much less spend time in finding fault, but rather, she turns to Jesus and presents him with the concrete problem:

“They have no wine” (Jn 2:3). And when Jesus tells her that it is not yet the time for him to reveal himself (cf. v. 4), she says to the servants: “Do whatever he tells you” (v. 5). Jesus then performs the miracle, turning water into wine, a wine that immediately appears to be the best of the whole celebration. What teaching can we draw from this mystery of the wedding feast of Cana for the World Day of the Sick?

The wedding feast of Cana is an image of the Church: at the centre there is Jesus who in his mercy performs a sign; around him are the disciples, the first fruits of the new community; and beside Jesus and the disciples is Mary, the provident and prayerful Mother. Mary partakes of the joy of ordinary people and helps it to increase; she intercedes with her Son on behalf of the spouses and all the invited guests. Nor does Jesus refuse the request of his Mother. How much hope there is in that event for all of us! We have a Mother with benevolent and watchful eyes, like her Son; a heart that is maternal and full of mercy, like him; hands that want to help, like the hands of Jesus who broke bread for those who were hungry, touched the sick and healed them. All this fills us with trust and opens our hearts to the grace and mercy of Christ. Mary’s intercession makes us experience the consolation for which the apostle Paul blesses God: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all encouragement, who encourages us in our affliction, so that we may be able to encourage those who are in any affliction with the encouragement with which we ourselves are encouraged by God. For as Christ’s sufferings overflow to us, so through Christ does our encouragement also overflow” (2 Cor 1:3-5). Mary is the “comforted” Mother who comforts her children.

MASS INTENTIONS

- 6:30pm** Seamus & Tom Mongan (A)
9:00am Altar List of the Dead
11:00am Mary Carroll (23rd A)
12:30pm John Ryan & Ann Reilly (A)
5:30pm Hinda Duff (Rem)

PRAY FOR

Christina, Thomas & Tommy Stacey (A)
Jimmy Cooke (A)
Nikki Murphy (A)
Colette Murphy (A)

MASSES NEXT WEEK

- Mon:** Pdraig Fitzgerald (RD)
Tues: James Greene (A)
Wed: Hilda Slevin (A)
Pray for: Josephine Slevin (4th A)
Thurs: Parish Intentions
Pray for: Joan Hunt (2nd A)
Fri: Robert McCourt (A)
Sat: Phil McCauley (A)

Please take this Newsletter home with you

SOME PHOTOS OF THE PARISH GARDEN



We are delighted that Virgoe McEnry Landscaping completed the garden at the back of the Pastoral Centre. It adds so much to the beauty and atmosphere of the Pastoral Centre. It is hoped that it will become a place where people will relax in the summer sun! and also use it as a place of reflection.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

"Do You Really Trust Mary As Your Mother?" is the title of the Patrician Meeting on **Thursday next 12th May at 8:00pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre.** How did Mary become our mother? *This discussion is open to everyone.* Spiritual Director will speak on the subject.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Mon: 10.30 am – 11.30 am
Wed: 6.00 pm – 11.00 pm
Fri: 10.30 am – 5.45pm
Sat: 10.30am – 11.30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place the last Sunday of every month from 4pm—5pm. Can you stay one hour with me? We encourage new people to come and join us.

THE MONTH OF MAY

If you would like to pray the rosary and **have the rosary statue in your home for a week,** or to get more information, **please contact a member of Legion of Mary in main porch after Sunday morning Masses.**

MSZE SWIETA

Msze Swieta w Jezyku Polskim dzisiaj, Niedziele 8 Maja, o godz 18:45. (Spowiedz 18:15 – 18:40).

FAMILY OFFERING

We thank all those parishioners who support the running of the parish through the Parish Family Offering fund.

March Standing Order €3,500
Outdoor Collection €729.34
Annals/Half Yearly €450.00

PARISH PASTORAL CENTRE FUNDRAISING

Weekly totals:

Buy-A-Brick Appeal € 20,188
Pastoral Centre Donations; €26,586
Parish Centre Appeal Total €47,504.28

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer books, rosary beads, medals, cards etc. for 1st Holy Communion available from Legion of Mary in main porch after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS

The following groups would like to thank the parishioners of St. Cronan's Church for their generous contributions on recently held Church Gate Collections in April:

SVP The Sunshine Fund — €1,294.00
Coolmine Therapeutic Centre — €642.53

These collections go a long way toward funding these charities.



Krakow
WYD
 2016

With less than 90 days to go to World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow preparations for the Dublin Diocese Pilgrims are in full swing. Pilgrims of all age groups from across the Archdiocese are gathering on a regular basis to take part in the 'Pastoral Preparation Programme'. This programme allows pilgrims to meet each other and to receive some input in advance of the main event in Krakow. World Youth Day begins long before the days with Pope Francis and continues long after. We have recruited over 40 pilgrims who will serve as 'Pilgrim Leaders' while we are over there. Our wish, hope and desire is that the Spirit of World Youth Day will enrich the whole of the Archdiocese both before we go and on our return.



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This will be a life changing experience for many of the 3,000,000+ young people who will gather in Krakow in late July. Thank you for your support to date for our Brackenstown Pilgrims and please keep us all in your prayers.

Child Safeguarding and Protection in our Parish

We welcome two new Safeguarding Representatives to our Parish. Having recently completed their training Mary-Liz Donaghue and Nicola Gregan will take over from Celine Lee and Bernadette Wright over the next few weeks. A third Safeguarding Representative will complete their training soon.

I take this opportunity to thank Celine and Bernadette for their work as our Safeguarding Representatives. They made sure that the children involved in various Parish activities and those entrusted with their care followed the procedures they are obliged to follow. In the five years since they took on this role they have not been contacted by any Parishioner or Parent with concerns for their child's safety in our Parish. This is good news, however it does not make us relax in ensuring that the highest standards are maintained.

We were visited by Garry Kehoe the Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer and as new guidelines have been introduced in relation to Garda Vetting and new standards and procedures are being rolled out by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church, he has worked out an action plan that the Parish Pastoral Council with the Parish Representatives will put in place over the next few months.

OUR LINKS WITH ST. MEL'S CATHEDRAL



On **Sunday May 22nd** Dr John O'Keeffe will be coming to our church to hear the congregation at the 11.00 am Mass sing his recently composed Mass of St Mel for the restoration of the Cathedral of St. Mel after it was destroyed by fire.

Dr O'Keeffe's intention was to make this Mass setting fully congregation-friendly and our parish was asked to try it out in the early stages of its composition, starting with the Apostles' Creed. Dr O'Keeffe said that he would never have completed the Mass if it hadn't been for the successful execution of the pilot scheme here in Brackenstown. We would ask all regular attendees at the 11am Mass to make a special effort to be here on the 22nd so that we may lift our voices together in praise of God.

Dr O'Keeffe is one of the country's finest organists and he will accompany both choir and congregation on that day.

Celebrating First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Over the next three Saturdays we will celebrate these Sacraments in our Parish. It will mean that there will be some changes to the Saturday Schedule.

On the 14th May at 10:00am Gaelscoil Bhrian Boromhe and at 12:00noon Swords and Thornleigh ETNS.

On the 21st May St. Cronan's J.N.S. will be at 10:00am and 12:00noon.

On these days morning Mass will be at 8:45am. There will be no morning Confessions or Adoration.

On the 28th May Holywell, Swords and Thornleigh ETNS will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 11:00am.

Morning Mass will be at 9:30am there will be no morning confessions or Adoration.

If you are a minister of the Eucharist and have a child or grandchild celebrating Communion or Confirmation on these days, please contact Louise in the Parish Office as we will need Ministers on these days.

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers at these important moments in their lives and in the life of the Parish.

PARISH DIARY

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
MAY		
14th	First Holy Communion GSBB	10am
14th	First Holy Communion ETNS	12 noon
21st	First Holy Communion St. Cronan's SS	10am & 12 noon
28th	Confirmation ETNS	11:00am
29th	Corpus Christi	
JUNE		
5th	Blessing of Parish Pastoral Centre	12:30pm
11th	Pilgrimage Walk	TBC
18th	Br. Martin's Ordination	
19th	Br. Martin's First Mass - Mass of Thanksgiving in St. Cronan's	12:30pm
JULY		
25th — 31st	World Youth Day Krakow	

THE PARISH DIARY IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

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Monday 30th May at 7:30pm: Workshop & Forum
Tuesday 31st May at 7:30pm: Concert
 Free workshop collections of the Folk Choir's repertoire will be given to all participants. Workshop attendees sing with the choir the following evening!
Participants may make a free-will offering to the St. Vincent de Paul Society by way of a token of gratitude for the events.
For more information contact Geoff Burdell +085 759 0303
 or email houseofbrigid@gmail.com

KNOCK **PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE**
Thursday 19th May 2016
Cost: €35 per person including meals
Bus leaves JC's at 7:50am & Star Pub at 8:00am
To book, please phone: Fr. Keegan 01 8401 514

PARISH INFORMATION

Mass Times: Sunday: 6:30pm (Sat. Vigil); 9:00am, 11:00am, 12:30pm & 5:30pm
Weekday Mass: Monday to Saturday 10:00am
Holiday Mass: Vigil 7:30pm; 10:00am
Confession: Saturday 10:30am to 11:00am and 6:00pm to 6:20pm
 After 10:00am Mass on the Thursday before the First Friday
 01 8401661 – 087 7404729 – pauljthornton@gmail.com
 01 8408926 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com
martbennett@gmail.com
 089 4614226 – peter.siney@dublindiocese.ie
 01 8401188 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com
 Mon to Fri. 9.30am – 1.00pm

CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS

7/8 May
 VDP Monthly Collection
14/15 May
 Crosscare Youth Collection



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Email Address: mccormackm@tara-winthrop.com

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