

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

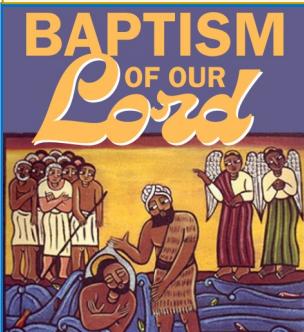
PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 11 JANUARY 2026 YEAR A

We live in very unsettling times, with respect for International law, the sovereignty of nations, and the UN charter of universal human rights, as well as the European Union institutions, which have helped to maintain a fragile peace in Europe since the end of the Second World War, being called into question, if not undermined by some. Those of us who have grown up in peacetime perhaps run the risk of presuming that such peace will always prevail, whereas in fact it always needs to be safeguarded. This involves ensuring that the fundamental human rights of all are safeguarded, not just our own. In times of uncertainty, the rock that Christians hold on to is our faith in Jesus Christ. This weekend, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, which marks the end of our Christmas season. More importantly, it signals the beginning of his public ministry of preaching, healing and calling disciples. Christ continues to call disciples, and the sacraments of initiation into the Christian community (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) mark our formal response to that call. This Sunday we welcome many of those who were baptised into our parish community during the past year, and their families, at the 11.00am Mass. Today's feast reminds us all that it's not that we were baptised sometime in the past, as that we are baptised. Our baptism is not simply a passport to the other sacraments; it is the beginning of our Christian journey and a call to mission. All ministry in the Church finds its fundamental source in Baptism, where we are anointed for service to God's people and called to work for the bringing about of God's kingdom: a kingdom of love and truth, of peace and justice. As we pray this weekend with and for those who have begun their Christian journey through baptism, may we renew our commitment to Christ and to the possibilities and implications of our own baptism!

Fr. Richard

A Grow in Love Mass in preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion takes place this Saturday at 6.00pm and Sunday at 5.00pm.



This Sunday, **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**, we welcome families of those who were baptised in our church in the past year at the 11.00am Mass. Refreshments will be provided by our hospitality team after the Mass.

How about reading one Gospel in 2026?

Are you looking for a challenge in 2026? How about deepening your relationship with Jesus by studying one Gospel from beginning to end? The Gospel readings at Mass for 2026 will be taken from the Gospel of Matthew. The Brackenstown Bible study group will commence a study of St. Matthew's Gospel on Monday 19th January and you are invited to take part.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE IN 2026?

How about reading the Gospel of Matthew?



Matthew: The King and His Kingdom shows how Jesus fulfils God's promises to Israel and establishes his kingdom on earth. Through references to the Old Testament promises of God to his people and the messages God sent them through the prophets, this Bible study provides the key to understanding the rest of the New Testament and Christ as the fulfilment of God's plan. The classes will be held in St Cronan's Pastoral Centre from 7.30 to 8.50 pm on Monday nights. There will be a 50 minute DVD presentation by biblical scholar Jeff Cavins followed by a Q & A and discussion. There is no charge, and all are welcome. To register please contact Louise in the parish office, tel. 01 8401188 or email: brackenstownparish@gmail.com



SUNDAY MASSES: (Sat Vigil) 6pm; 9am; 11am & 5pm

CONFESIONS: SATURDAY 10:45am to 11:30am in the Sacristy

ADORATION: MON, TUES, THURS & SAT: 10:30AM—11:30AM

WEEKDAY MASSES: MONDAY to SATURDAY 10:00am

WEDNESDAY: 6pm - 9pm

FRIDAY: 3pm—6pm

All our ceremonies are broadcast online at www.brackenstown-parish.com

<p>Sacramental classes for children attending non-Catholic schools continue on Tuesdays in the parish centre.</p>	<p>A preparation Mass for Confirmation will take place next Saturday 17 January at 6.00pm and Sunday 18th January at 5.00pm.</p>	<p>SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS</p>
<p>A meeting of the Partnership Pastoral Council takes place on Tuesday 13th January at 7.30pm in River Valley Church. The Partnership encompasses the parishes of River Valley, Swords & Drynam, Donabate and Brackenstown.</p>		<p>Recently Deceased Seamus Pentony William (Liam) Kenny Mary (Maxie) Fitzgerald Waldemar Olszewski Jo Morris Sr Noel Bernadette Galvin Kenneth Gallagher</p>
<p>Our Parish Pastoral Council will have a morning of reflection this Saturday 10th January from 10.30am-12.30pm to plan a response to the recent feedback we received from parishioners on priorities for the Building Hope initiative. We welcome a number of new members who have recently joined the PPC.</p>		<p>Month's Mind Nicholas (Fred) Devine</p>
<p>The first of a series of retreats for Confirmation candidates takes place in the parish centre this Saturday from 10.00am-2.30pm. Other Confirmation retreats for students from Scoil Chroináin and Gaelscoil Bhrian Boroimhe will take place over the next four Wednesdays in the parish centre.</p>		<p>Anniversaries Johnny Crosbie (1A) Derek Dalton (3A) Michael Hoare (14A) John Gallagher (45A) V Delaney</p>
<p> Catholic Schools Week runs from 18th - 25th January, and the theme this year is: <i>Normal Lives, called to Holiness.</i> Catholic Schools United in Faith and Community</p>	<p>A preparation Mass for Confirmation will take place next Saturday 17 January at 6.00pm and Sunday 18th January at 5.00pm.</p>	<p>Ann, Tom & Philomena O'Leary Lyndsey Byrne John McNally John & Annie Conroy Josie Noone</p>
<p>The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs this year from 18th-25th January. The theme "THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT, JUST AS YOU WERE CALLED TO THE ONE HOPE OF YOUR CALLING" (Ephesians 4:4) has been prepared by the Armenian churches and finalised by the Vatican Dicastery for promoting Christian Unity together with the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches.</p>		<p>James & Madelaine Higgins Peter Harford Noel Flynn 2 Special Intentions</p>
<p>Crosscare, the Diocesan Social Care Agency, has written a letter thanking parishioners for your very generous response to their annual collection last September, which amounted to €1245, an increase on the previous year.</p>		<p>10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK</p>
<p>Our Taizé Prayer will take place on Thursday 15th January, the second Thursday of the month at 7:30pm. All are welcome!</p>		<p>Mon John & Mary Ryan (A) & Dcsd 7:30pm Family Members Michael Hanrahan (BR)</p>
<p>The Holy Cross Group, a missionary group from Bethlehem will visit the parish on the weekend of 7th/8th February to sell olive wood crafts to support Christians in the Holy Land.</p>		<p>Tues James Kirwin (43A) John Reilly (40A) Martin Lawrence (5A)</p>
<p>Many thanks to parishioners and visitors who have returned Christmas Offerings which form part of the annual remuneration of the priests of the parish and of the diocese. We are very grateful for your generous support at this time and throughout the year.</p>		<p>Wed John Kissane (A)</p>
<p>Many thanks to those who left gifts of non-perishable food items or toiletries at the Christmas tree. These were delivered this week to Alice Leahy's organisation for the homeless, Trust.</p>		<p>Thur Richard & Eva Kearns (A)</p>
<p>Registration is now open for the second intake of the Diocesan Certificate in Young Adult Ministry – #YML. Running over six Saturdays, the aim of this Diocesan Certificate is to build up the capacity of Youth Ministry and Youth Ministry Leadership throughout the Archdiocese of Dublin. It is a highly practical course where participants are given new experiences and key resources, including gaining vital skills to put into practice in their local context, while also being grounded in key church documents such as Christus Vivit. For more information contact Natalie at natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie ASAP. Registration is open at: https://forms.office.com/e/Et8sXCxNtc</p>		<p>Fri Julie Pendergast (RD)</p>
<p>Calmness Within—Gentle Yoga with Caroline starting back on Tuesday 6th January in St Cronan's Parish Centre. Class starts at 9:30am—10:45am. Chair Yoga will follow at 11:15am. Also on Thursday 8th January starting at 7pm. Wear comfortable clothing. Contact Caroline for more information and to register on 0876913028.</p>		<p>Sat Daniel (BR), Nathan & Mary Sinead Maughan</p>
<p>Religious Goods - Suitable for families Christmas Nativity sets, Christmas items, Christmas cards, Advent Calendars, Baptism gifts/items, Statues, ornaments, children's colouring books and lots more available at Repository on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.</p>		<p>PARISH PRIEST Fr. Richard Sheehy 087 2412459 richardesheehy@gmail.com</p>
<p>PARISH CHAPLAIN Fr. Joseph Hao P.C. 01 8401188</p>		<p>PERMANENT DEACON Declan Colgan 01 8401188</p>
<p>PARISH SECRETARY Louise Donnelly</p>		<p>Mon to Fri. 9:30am - 1:00pm 01 8401188</p>
<p>PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:30am - 1:00pm</p>		<p>brackenstownparish@gmail.com</p>
<p>Registered Charity Number 20016166</p>		<p> Legion of Mary</p>