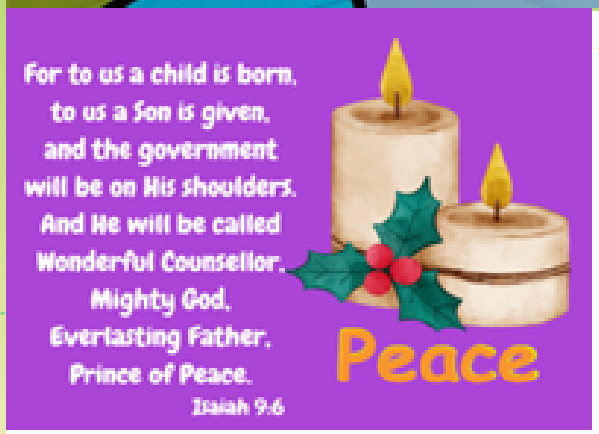
ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

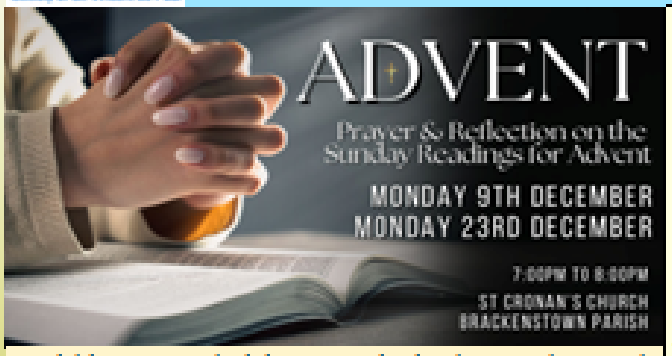
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8TH DECEMBER 2024 YEAR C



As we begin the second week of Advent, we notice Christmas trees appearing in people's houses, lights and inflatable Santa's decorating the neighbourhood. Christmas cards are arriving through the letter box, and the shopping trolley is overflowing! For most people, the weeks leading up to Christmas are extremely busy with long lists of tasks to be ticked off. School children are preparing for Christmas concerts with nativity themes and creating their own cards or decorations, and cutting out stars for our Christmas tree! Precisely in the midst of this hectic activity, Advent invites us into a quieter space of reflection and prayer, where we can pause and ask ourselves what or whom are we preparing for? When you step out of the street and into the church, the semi darkness, and the smell and colours of the Advent wreath draw us in and help us find our own inner silence where God can reach us. The symbols of our ancestors in faith on the Jesse tree and the lighting of another candle on the Advent wreath reminds us that we are invited to prepare a way for Christ to come anew into our lives and into our world. When parents are bringing their children to visit the crib in the church or putting up their own crib at home, it's an ideal opportunity to chat with their children about the story of Christ's birth. As a witness to our hope in Christ, children and adults are invited to write on the back of one of the coloured stars which will be placed on the Christmas tree either a prayer for hope or the promise of an action that we are going to undertake as a sign of hope. Maranatha, Come Lord, Jesus!

Fr Richard

The annual indoor collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Society takes place at all Masses this weekend and replaces the usual Share collection



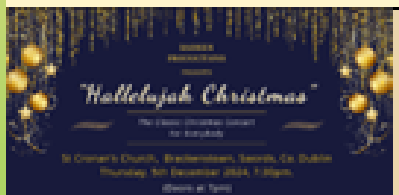
Parishioners and visitors are invited to gather each Monday evening during Advent at 7.00pm in the church to participate in a reflective reading of one of the scripture readings for the Sundays of Advent. The session will last no more than 45 minutes. This may be of particular assistance to ministers of the Word.

The Order of Malta are organising a **Christmas Party for Senior Citizens** on Sunday 8th December from 2-5pm in the parish centre



As the 8th December this year falls on a Sunday, the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** will be celebrated on **Monday 9th December with Mass at 10.00am**

A preparation Mass for **First Communion** will take place **this Saturday 7th December at 6.00pm and Sunday 8th December at 5.00pm,** Second Sunday of Advent.



A **Hallelujah Christmas Concert** will take place in the church on **Thursday 5th December at 7.30pm.** Tickets may be purchased at the parish office any weekday morning or online: www.HallelujahChristmas.com. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door of the church on the night.

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

A meeting of the **Finance Committee** will take place on Monday 9th December at 7.30pm in the parish centre.

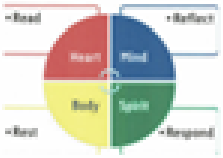
Our next monthly **Family Mass** will take place at 6.00pm next Saturday 14th December, third Sunday of Advent. During the Mass, we will have the first part of a Nativity Play. The second part will be during our Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Any parents, who would like their child to be involved in the Nativity Play, are invited to talk to Andrea after 6.00pm Mass next Saturday, 30th November. The second rehearsal will take place on **Wednesday 11th December at 3:30pm** in the Church.

An Advent **Service of Reconciliation** for our partnership of parishes will take place at St. Patrick's Church, Donabate at 7.30pm on Monday 16th December and at St. Finian's Church, River Valley at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th Dec. There will be the opportunity for individual confession at each of the services.

Copies of the annual **Financial Report for 2023** are now available on the tables at the entrances to the church. The parish clergy and the Finance committee would like to take this opportunity to thank parishioners and visitors for your generous donations over the past year.

The **Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa** have asked us to thank parishioners for your most generous response to the collection they held in the church in October. The amount donated was a staggering €3727. They also wanted to thank the parish for the warm welcome they received and the interest in their missionary work.

DUBLIN AIRPORT CHURCH
An Evening of Christmas Music
Lambay Singers, Jacinta Scully & Guests
SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER At 5:00PM
Tickets €15 available in the Sacristy
or on the door



LECTIO DIVINA
St Finian's Church, River Valley
Tuesday's at 10:30am—11:30am

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 Mediation: ***Peace, love, joy, patience, understanding, kindness, goodness, freedom and self-control.*** *Galations:5:22*

Gentle Yoga with Caroline on Monday's at 9:30am—10:45am - Fee €75 for 6 weeks
A 6 week beginner's class starting in St Cronan's Parish Centre (beside Church). Arrive 9:15am, wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat.
Chair Yoga with Caroline on Monday's at 11:15am—12:15am - Pay per class €14
Contact Caroline for more information and to register on 0876913028. 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.



Legion of Mary

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.**

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Month's Mind
Martin McKee

Anniversaries
Leo Levins (1A)
Liam McDonnell (1A)
Brian Lally (2A)
Lillie & Larry Wolohan (A)
Eamon & Maureen Lawless (A)

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon	Bridget Darcy (A)
Tues	Fr Roy Drummey (A)
Wed	Liam McDonnell (1A)
Thur	Noel Murray (RD)
Fri	Liam Nolan (A)
Sat	Paddy & Margaret McKittrick (A)

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 Bridon 086 6006397
"I ask you Lord to be kind to them now, who were always kind to me here"

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

CO 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
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