

3rd Sunday of Advent



13th December 2015

MASS INTENTIONS

6:30pm Dcsd Members of Donnelly Family
9:00am Altar List of the Dead
11:00am Michael Rothwell Jnr. (A)
12:30pm Bridget D'Arcy (A)
5:30pm Tom & Ita McArdle (A)

PRAY FOR

Bp. Dermot Mahony (RD)
Stephen O'Gorman (3rd A)
Liam Nolan (A)
Jeremiah (Jerry) O'Rourke (A)
Betty & Paddy Warren (A)
Mary Xavier (RD)

MASSES NEXT WEEK 10.00 AM

Mon: George & Kathleen Kerr (A)
Tues: William & Josie Jackson (A)
Wed: Bernie Kerr (A)
Thurs: Margaret Doyle & Dcsd Family Members
Fri: Maurice Ferris, Dick Maguire, Maurice Conway, Josie Shields, Howard, Kerr & Molloy Dcsd Family Members
Sat: Paddy Barrett (MM)

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 each Sunday of Advent from 4 - 5 pm.

POLISH MASS

Msze Swieta w Jeryku Polskim dzisiaj, Niedziele 13 Grudzier o godz 18:45. (Spowiedz 18:15 – 18:40).

PARISH PASTORAL CENTRE FUND

The following are weekly totals:
Buy-A-Brick Appeal € 20,258.28
Pastoral Centre Donations; €25,776
Parish Centre Appeal Total €46,034.28
Many thanks to all who have kindly contributed.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

Booking is now open for this Pilgrimage. Booking forms are available from the Parish Office either by calling in or by email. Deposits of €150.00 need to be paid by 30th January 2016. Cheques made payable to St. Cronan's Church. Please note total cost is €795. The dates are the 26th September to the 1st October 2016. Full details on the Notice Board and on the Parish Website.

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP

You are welcome to join us on Monday evening, 7.30-8.30 pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre for our final Scripture Study of 2015. We will be reviewing James, 1 & 2 Peter and Jude. Congratulations to all those who studied the complete New Testament during the course of the year. The Parish has exciting plans for Scripture Study in 2016, including an 8 week introductory course starting in Lent. We hope that you will consider taking part.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Nativity sets, Christmas cards, Christmas colouring books, activity books, Advent Calendars etc. available from Legion of Mary in Main Porch after Saturday eve and Sunday morning Masses.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The course / programme will run over the four weeks of Advent on 2 Tuesday evenings & 2 Monday evenings from 7 - 8.30pm with hospitality after.

Week 3 (Mon 14 December) : St Clare: Gazing at God

Week 4 (Mon 21 December): Francis at Greccio: The story of the first crib.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SPECIAL COLLECTION

This Sunday the Special Collection is for St. Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal. Please be as generous as you can.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION

The Coolmine Therapeutic Community would like to thank the parishioners of Brackenstown for their generosity in the recent Church Gate Collection – the amount raised was €944.11 and goes toward the work they do helping many in their recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. It is very much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the parish office. The offering is €5 and the intentions are offered at all Masses this Christmas. We have 3 designs available.

BAPTISMS

The next dates for Baptisms are in **JANUARY**. Please check our website for details. The next Preparation Meeting is **7TH JANUARY 2016**
If you would like to be a part of the Baptism Ministry here in St. Cronan's, please contact the Parish Office.

PRAYER

Personal or family prayer is very beneficial. Did you ever pray the rosary? Would you like to find out about ways in which it can help you? Perhaps you might like to make a start during Advent. Contact members of Legion of Mary in main porch after Saturday eve and Sunday morning Masses.

RIVERVALLEY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Christmas Craft fair in Rivervalley Community Centre Swords on Sunday 13th Dec 11-5pm.
Christmas gifts-Food stalls-Handmade Jewellery and much more also a visit from Santa.
Come along for a fun day.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

We are taking on new Altar Servers between the ages of 8 and 12. If your child is interested please bring them to the Church this Thursday at 2:50 to 3:30pm.

YOUTH 2000 – CHRISTMAS RETREAT

Youth 2000 invites all young adults between ages of 16-35 to a Catholic weekend retreat taking place from 18th-20th December 2015 at Newbridge College, Co. Kildare This will be an exciting weekend attracting over 600 young people from all over the country.

What to expect? Good fun, excellent speakers, inspiring talks and workshops, prayer, fantastic live music, group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, a Healing Service, games, lots of time to chill out and meet new people.

The weekend is being organised by young people for young people. Parental consent is essential for all those under 18. All meals are provided for and accommodation is on site! Don't let money be an obstacle; just bring a donation and a sleeping bag. Newcomers very welcome! There will be free buses picking up from various areas throughout the country. Booking is essential. For more information on the event or to book your place, see www.youth2000.ie, Youth 2000 Ireland Facebook page or Tel: 00353 (0) 1 6753690.

CHRISTMAS CARDS & TIMETABLES

These are now being delivered to all of the houses in the Parish. If you are able to help on either Tuesday or Thursday morning to deliver to Applewood, please contact the Parish Office.

FAMILY MASS TEAM

The Family Mass Team would like to invite children to take part in the Nativity Play on Christmas Eve at 6pm with rehearsal at 5pm. Our first rehearsal will be on Sunday 13th December after 12:30pm Mass in the Church. Please contact a member of the team or phone Elaine 0872766631.

ADVENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

TRAVELLING CRIB

We have **SIXTEEN** families signed up so far! The crib will arrive in the first home on **Tuesday 1st December**. Follow the journey of the crib on the Advent Wall. We are **looking for families to host the crib on the nights of the 16th – 24th December**.

The crib arrives at a home around 6:00pm and remains there till that family give it to the next family at 6:00pm on their day. It is a great way to prepare for Christmas as a family, to read the story of Jesus birth, to light the candle and pray together and record your experience in the Crib Diary.

If you want to take the travelling crib for a night please take an purple form, fill in the details and put it in one of the white post boxes at the doors of the Church.

For more information please contact Peter our Pastoral Worker on 089 4614226

ADVENT-URERS

This Sunday the children at the Family Mass (12:30) will have their reflection on God's word in the Parish Centre. All children are more than welcome to join.

THE JESSE TREE

Star of David.: The six-pointed star is the emblem of the Royal House of David even to this day Christ who is born of the House of David, can truly claim this emblem as His own.

Jonah in the Whale: As Jonah remained in the whale three days, so Christ remained three days in the earth after His death.

Joy: This is Gaudete Sunday. A change from the sombre colour of violet to rose - a sign of great hope and joy at the coming of our Saviour at Christmas

Love: Jesus said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

ADVENT FAMILY CAROL SERVICE

TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 7:30PM

The music groups and Family Mass Group invite you to come and celebrate the Advent Season with them through songs, carols, drama, reflections. This is a family gathering to prepare for the birthday of Jesus. During the Service we invite you to join in singing some of the well loved Christmas Carols and join us afterwards for refreshments in the Pastoral Centre.

Third Sunday of Advent - 13th December 2015

Advent

ADVENT PRAYER INITIATIVE – BY TEXT

This weeks phrase for reflection:

“What must we do?”

If anyone has two tunics they must share with the one who has none.”

Take a moment to look back on the last week? What was the thought that stayed with you as you reflected on God's word? Has your preparation for Christmas changed having listened to the words of the Prophet Isaiah? What was the wilderness that you encountered during the week?

Our faith is a call to action. Often in the lead up to Christmas we can get caught up in all the presents we have to buy the cards we have to write, the decorations we have to put up.

But the call of Jesus is to live the mercy of God. In other words to be compassionate to our brothers and sisters.

This week as you reflect on God's words:

What: will you do to help those in need this Christmas?

How: will you share the message of God's love with others?

Can: putting into practice this message make a difference in the world?

Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him. The Father, “rich in mercy” (Eph 2:4), after having revealed his name to Moses as “a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness” (Ex 34:6), has never ceased to show, in various ways throughout history, his divine nature. In the “fullness of time” (Gal 4:4), when everything had been arranged according to his plan of salvation, he sent his only Son into the world, born of the Virgin Mary, to reveal his love for us in a definitive way. Whoever sees Jesus sees the Father (cf. Jn 14:9). Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God.

