

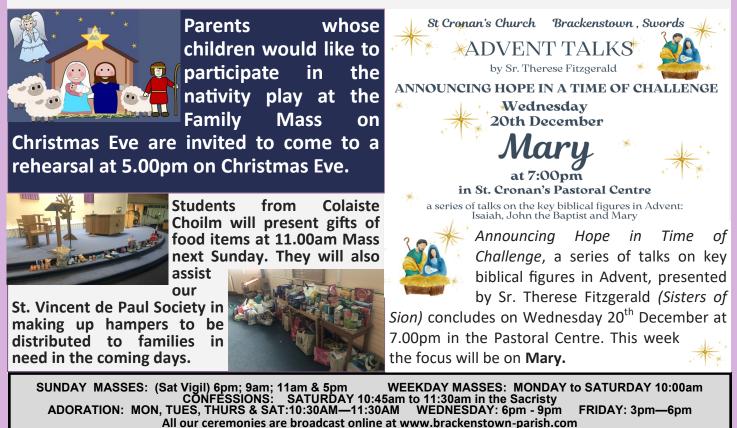


With the lighting of the third candle on the Advent wreath this Sunday, we move into the second half of our Advent season. The pink candle represents joy on this third (Gaudete) Sunday of Advent. If the first half of Advent anticipates Christ's future coming in glory, the second half focuses on Jesus' coming in history with his birth at Bethlehem. The real invitation of Advent, as John the Baptist reminds us in this Sunday's Gospel, is to 'prepare a way' in the wilderness of the busy days ahead for Christ to come

anew into our lives. Let us try to create some space each day for a few moments of quiet reflection and prayer, so that the mystery of God's love for us revealed in Christ may touch us anew. If you are near the church, pop in for a moment and enjoy the silence or light a candle for someone you care about. Parishioners and visitors to the church will find a basket of gold and silver coloured stars under the Christmas tree. On the back of each star you are invited to write a message or prayer for hope or peace for an individual or for a particular group of people. Alternatively, you can write a promise of something you intend to do in the coming weeks to spread hope in your family or community. In this way our Christmas tree, can become a symbol of hope and light.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Fr. Richard



The Parish Christmas Card, Timetable of Services & Envelope are available for collection on the tables at the entrances to the church. As the cards are no longer being delivered to every home in the parish, we invite parishioners to take one for themselves and for any neighbour who may be glad to get one.



Parishioners and visitors to the church are invited to write a message or prayer for hope or peace on the back of one of the gold and silver stars in the basket at the foot of the Christmas tree. Alternatively, you can write a promise of something you intend to do in the coming weeks to spread hope in your family or community. You can then place the star on the Christmas tree. In this way, as Advent progresses, our Christmas tree becomes a symbol of hope and light.



The Bible Timeline

Legion of Mary

Scripture study classes have finished for Christmas and will resume in January

There is a new Parish Child Safeguarding Policy, a copy of which is on our website. Hard copies are also available for parishioners upon request.



Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 20th December at 7:15pm in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide

Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Please contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888 for any gueries.



Religious Goods & Literature Suitable Gifts for Families during these Changing Times

Books including Blessed Carlo Acutis 5 steps to being a saint, The Order of Mass Congregational Cards, Church art calendars,

Nativity sets, Candles, Statues, Christmas tree decorations, Children's books, Bibles etc. all available in main porch after Saturday evening & amp; Sunday morning Masses.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Liam McDonnell Leo Levins

Mary & Peter Mulkearns & Dcsd Kathleen, Valerie, Jack, James & John English & Dcsd Members of

10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

Mon	Dcsd Members of Stones & McGonigle Families
Tues	John & Kathleen O'Connor (A) Kathleen, Marie & Aisling Skelton (A) Tom Stacey (A)
Wed	Kathleen, Patrick & Hugh P. O'Reilly & Dcsd Family Members O'Reilly & Lee Families
Thur	Gerry Macken (A)
Fri	Noel Hoey (A)
Sat	Special Intention

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it Sr. Mary - 8404323 Sunday 17th to Thursday 21st December Please phone from 6-9.30pm

"Blessed are those who mourn. for they shall be comforted"

> 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