

# CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN ✠ BRACKENSTOWN PARISH

## Parish Newsletter

28th January 2018 ✠ 4th Sunday Ordinary Time ✠ Year B



## Catholic Schools Week 29 Jan - 4 Feb

Catholic Schools Week celebrates the work that our Church Schools do in being places where the ethos of faith is lived every day. It celebrates the way in which our Schools live the call of Jesus to love God and to love our neighbour.

**Catholic Schools**  
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

*This year the theme of Catholic Schools Week focuses on the World Meeting of Families and how as a Catholic School we are a family in the bigger family of the network of Catholic Schools. The daily themes are:*

**Monday:** Our Family at Home  
**Tuesday:** Our School Family  
**Wednesday:** Grandparents - A Special Part of Our Family  
**Thursday:** Our Parish Family  
**Friday:** Our World Family

Each day during the week a year group from St. Cronan's Senior School will join us for Mass and on Friday the students from Colaiste Choilm will be with us. On Wednesday classes in St. Cronan's Junior School are inviting grandparents to be part of their school day and on Tuesday 30th January at 7pm in Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road, pupils from St. Cronan's Senior School will sing in the Laudate Festival. All are welcome to support our school by coming along to Ballymun Road on the night. During the week we ask you to pray for our Catholic Schools and the important role they play as a partner in teaching our faith and in forming young people to make a positive contribution to society.

## A FEW WORDS FROM FR. BIBIN

*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:9*

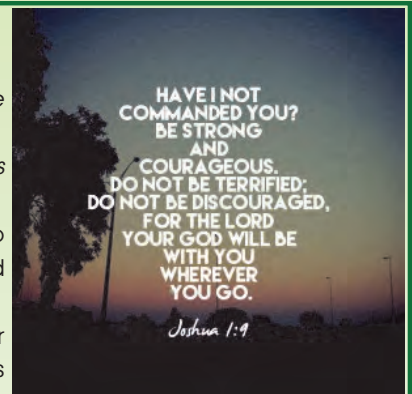
*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" Act 1:8*

Here I am O Lord to be your witness. Whenever I feel little difficulties in my life I used to read these two verses from the Bible - Joshua 1:9 and Acts of the Apostles 1:8. Indeed these words comfort me a lot.

By the special call from God, I am here in an unknown culture with an unknown people for a known God. I am very grateful before God because I have been experiencing this same comfort and love in various ways. I have reached here safely and then I had the welcoming face of Rev. Fr. Paul Thornton, the Parish Vicar. I have been experiencing his care and love from this moment, and I thank you very much for that. When I said goodbye to my parents and family members at the airport I burst into tears but I have remembered Matthew (19:29): "everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life."

I experience now the beauty of having and loving you as my parents, siblings and other members of my family. I Thank Jesus my Lord for giving me a wonderful, loving and caring people here in Brackenstown. All the more that we are one in Christ and one in faith, we are one in the mystical body of Christ.

Fr. Bibin.



### MASS INTENTIONS

**6:30pm:** Pdraig Keane (2nd A)  
**9:00am:** Altar List of the Dead  
**11:00am:** Sheila & Kevin Maguire and  
Alice Crothers (A)  
**12:30pm:** John Hughes (A)  
**5:30pm:** June O'Hare (A)

### PRAY FOR

Kathleen Kearns  
Betty Daly (25th A)  
Barbara McGuirk (A)  
Kevin Cahill (30th A)  
Bridget O'Neill (2nd A)

### 10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

**Mon:** Mary Edwards (nee Keane) (RD)  
**Tues:** James Walsh (RD)  
**Wed:** Bill Shackley (2nd A)  
**Thurs:** Denis Ryann (RD)  
**Pray for:** Margaret Glancy (A)  
**Fri:** Fr. Anselm Kelleghan (2nd A)  
**Sat:**

# Please take this Newsletter home



## Two Lives – One Love

In this section we are presented with the role of our Constitution in the care and protection of life. Again you are invited to read it as a source of information and also understanding what the Church teaches in the midst of all the other articles that are shared in the media.

### The Right to Life as a Fundamental Personal Right

Article 40 of the Constitution has the heading “Personal Rights” and is situated in a section entitled “Fundamental Rights”. In this way, long before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was promulgated by the United Nations, the Irish people recognised the fundamental nature of rights such as the right to life, the right to liberty, the right to the privacy of one’s home and the right to freedom of speech.

Fundamental human rights are different from civil rights. While civil rights are the rights given by law to citizens in a particular society, fundamental human rights belong to every person simply because he or she is a person. Fundamental human rights are not “given” by society and they cannot be taken away by society. Fundamental rights are “acknowledged” in constitutions and charters and “vindicated” in the application of the law. They are what the United Nations refers to as the “equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family”. [1] Article 40.3.3, sometimes referred to as the Eighth Amendment, reads: “the State acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and, with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother, guarantees in its laws to respect, and, as far as practicable, by its laws to defend and vindicate that right”. [2] The deletion or amendment of Article 40.3.3, would serve no purpose other than to withdraw the right to life from some categories of unborn children. To do so would radically change the principle, for all unborn children and indeed for all of us, that the right to life is a fundamental human right. During the current debate some have argued that abortion itself is a human right. We see this view as being inconsistent with an integral understanding of human rights. We would point out that the European Convention on Human Rights requires that “everyone’s right to life shall be protected by the law”. [3] The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as meaning “every human being below the age of eighteen years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier”. No distinction is made between born and unborn children. [4]

We invite the attention of the Assembly Members to a number of aspects of Article 40.3.3, which we believe to be significant: In this Article, the State does not concede the right to life to the unborn, but acknowledges that right as a fundamental right, which belongs to the unborn by virtue of his or her being a person. A person is an individual member of the human family, to use the description given in the Preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 40.3.3 describes the right to life of the unborn as “equal” to the right to life of the mother. It quite rightly does not place the right to life of the unborn above that of the mother. Article 40.3.3 does not guarantee, in all circumstances, to be able to defend and vindicate the right to life of the unborn, any more than it can in the case of people who are born and living in our towns and villages. The State does, however, guarantee to respect the right to life of the unborn in its laws, just as it does in the case of other persons. The right to life is unique, of course, because, in the absence of that right, no other civil or natural right can be exercised, either now or in the future.

## Welcome and Farewell

As we welcome Fr. Bibin to the Swords Grouping we are very happy that he is with us and is getting used to the weather and to our liturgical celebrations. It is also a time of saying goodbye as Fr. Peter McCarron retires. He has been off due to ill health these past few long months. The update is that he is making very good progress but on the advice and insistence of his medical team, Fr. Peter is to retire from Ministry and therefore he will not be returning to either minister or live in Drynam. Fr. Peter had previously served in Rivervalley for many years. He brought a gentle presence to his ministry and was extremely kind and thoughtful to those whom he worked with. Needless to say it is very sad and naturally we wish him all the best and all our prayers.

While Fr. Peter was only here in Brackenstown occasionally, as we lose a full time Priest in one of our Parishes it effects all the Parishes. We are lucky that Fr. Bibin has arrived and we will soon be returning to our responsibility for the 8:00am Mass in Swords and our Chaplaincy in Tara Winthrop Private Clinic. As we move forward, the three Parishes together will look at how we provide the best service in the Grouping which will at times mean changes and a greater co-operation in how we offer our schedules.

Fr. Paul

## World Day of Prayer for the Sick

For the 26th World Day of Prayer for the Sick, Pope Francis focuses our attention on Mary our Mother. To the “Mother of tender love,” he writes, “we wish to entrust all those who are ill in body and soul, that she may sustain them in hope. We ask her also to help us to be welcoming to our sick brothers and sisters.” In the Archdiocese this day of prayer will be marked with a conference on Saturday 10th February entitled “**Creating a Dementia Friendly Parish**” (venue details to follow) and a celebration of the Eucharist during which the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered in St. Agnes’ Church, Crumlin on Sunday 11th February 2018 at 3pm. All are welcome.



## Take The First Step to Overseas Volunteering with Viatores Christi!

*We wish to offer our utmost gratitude for publicising our Mission Month notice in October. We are beyond delighted with the response that we received - ordinary people who saw the notice on the Mass bulletin responded and now we have a woman preparing for an IT role in Haiti, a retired couple planning to go to Uganda, a young man training to work at a special needs project and another hoping to go to Rwanda.*

Viatores Christi volunteers have been working alongside our Irish Missionaries overseas since 1960 and have seen first hand the change and growth in many areas overseas, brought about by the ongoing presence, work and solidarity of Irish missionaries. We are actively encouraging those who are available to do so, to consider volunteering on overseas Missions:

**Viatores Christi runs Overseas Volunteer training weekend courses in Dublin - if you are interested in becoming an overseas volunteer or just want to learn more about social justice at home or away, this course is for you. Call us today - Viatores Christi +353-1-8689986 or email [apply@viatoreschristi.com](mailto:apply@viatoreschristi.com) for more info. We thank you for your ongoing support.**

## Brackenstown Bible Study 2018

During 2018 we will study Matthew: The King and His Kingdom, a Catholic Bible Study that brings the history of Christ to life through St. Matthew’s Gospel. There will be 14 classes in Spring 2018 and 10 classes in Autumn 2018. The class size will be limited to 50 people, 38 people have already booked.

To register for the study call Louise at 01-8401188 or via email [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com)

**Course Duration:** Classes commence Monday 22 /01/18

**Course Cost:** €20.00 covers cost of the DVDs & study book

**Course Time:** Monday evenings from 7:30pm to 9:00pm

**Venue:** St Cronan’s Parish Pastoral Centre

## PARISH DIARY

DATE	EVENT
JANUARY 2018	
27th	DTIM Mass @ 6:30pm
28th	DTIM Mass @ 12:30pm
5th FEB	Seirbhís an tSolais - GSBB @ 7:30pm
13th	St. Joseph's Young Priests Society
12th	Service of Light - St. Cronan's SS @ 7:30pm
13th	Aifreann an Chóineartaithe - GSBB @ 11am
THE PARISH DIARY IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE	



**JOURNEYING TOWARDS EASTER 2018**  
**EXPLORING THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**  
**CHAPTERS 18, 19 & 20**



**LUSK PARISH CENTRE**  
 Tuesdays 10.00-12.00  
 Feb 6, 13, 20, 27, Mar 6, 13  
 (no charge)

**All Welcome!**  
 Kieran J. O'Mahony, OSA  
 www.tarsus.ie

**UCD VOLUNTEERS OVERSEAS**

UCD Volunteers Overseas would like to say a huge thank you to Fr. Paul and all of the parishioners of Brackenstown for their support and generosity last weekend. Together we were able to raise a massive €1,349.75 for the UCD Volunteers Overseas Project in Nicaragua. I know from first hand experience that all of this money will be invaluable in the changes that it can make and I am looking forward to sharing this experience with you all in the future.

Kind Regards, Matthew Rose-Nel.

**B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE**

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you.

Next Coping Programme will commence on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 for 7 Wednesday evenings, at 7.15pm in White Friars Community Centre, Aungier St., Dublin 2 (No need to book) For further information phone 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com. www.beginningexperience.ie

**Advance Notice**  
**Brackenstown Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**

We are planning a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land approx. dates are 26th Oct – 3rd Nov 2019  
 Agent will be MAP Travel

**Booking will open in JUNE 2018 through the Parish Office**

**CHRISTMAS DUES** The Christmas Dues together with the First Collection at Mass and the Easter Dues goes to support myself and the sick and retired Priests of the Diocese. We really appreciate your generosity to this collection. There is a financial benefit to the Parish as your Dues contributions can be included in your Family Offering for the Tax Reclaim Scheme. Thank you again for your generosity and for all your support.

Fr. Paul

**Meditation in the Christian Tradition**  
 Taking place in the Emmaus Retreat Centre

Saturday 3rd February, 10am to 4pm €60, including 3 course lunch. Book online at Emmaus or Contact Marion Burke 087 9703640



**2018 BRACKENSTOWN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE**  
 Accompanied by a Spiritual Director  
**22nd - 27th September 2018**

Hotel Padoue - €739 per person sharing including airport taxes & free insurance  
 Deposit €200 per person - Single Room Supplement €180  
 All cheques made payable to Pilgrimages abroad  
 Further details from Susan Keane Ph:8407100 or 085 8471539



**Holy Baptism**

**The next Parent Meeting is Thursday 1st February**  
 Next dates for Baptisms:  
 Sat 10th February @ 12:30pm (full)  
 Sun 25th February @ 1:45pm

Please note one Month's Notice to be given & a copy of baby's Birth Cert is required when booking a Baptism.

**PARISH INFORMATION**

**Mass Times:**  
 Weekday Mass:  
 Holyday Mass:  
 Confession:

Fr. Paul Thornton, Adm,  
 Fr. Bibin Jacob Mukkadackal C.S.T., C.C.  
 Peter Siney, Pastoral Worker  
 Louise Donnelly, Secretary

Sunday: (Sat. Vigil) 6:30pm, 9:00am, 11:00am, 12:30pm & 5:30pm  
 Monday to Saturday 10:00am  
 Vigil 7:30pm; 10:00am  
 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 – 089 4238775 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com  
 089 4614226 – peter.siney@dublindiocese.ie  
 01 8401188 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com  
 Mon to Fri. 9.30am – 1.00pm

**View our Parish Webcam via the Parish Website**

**brackenstownparish** **@cronanparish** **brackenstown-parish.com** **01 8401188**

**CONFIRMATION**

**Confirmation** gifts & cards, children's books, Bibles as well as **Church Art Calendars** and other religious items etc. available in main porch after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

**EASY EVANGELISATION!**

**Could you give 20-30 minutes per month** to help spread the Good News? **Helpers needed to deliver the free Catholic Paper "Alive!"** in a number of areas of the parish.... Information from Legion of Mary members in main porch after weekend Masses or leave you name and phone number with Louise in the parish office.

**ROSARY**

Honour the Mother of God & begin the New Year with the Rosary. Let us help you get started by having the Rosary Statue in your home. Just leave your contact details with a member of Legion of Mary in main porch after Saturday evening or Sunday morning Masses and suitable arrangements will be made for you.

**EUCHARISTIC 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 on 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.

**'LIKE' Legion of Mary Brackenstown Swords**

**FAMILY OFFERING**

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

**December Standing Order €3,308**  
**Outdoor Collection €668.38**  
**Annals/Half Yearly €400.00**

**BINGO**

**Every Sunday in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm**  
**Doors open at 7:30pm - Everyone welcome!**

**Praying with God's Word**

Below are the readings for this Sunday and next Sunday:

**4th Sunday Ordinary Time: First Reading** Deuteronomy (Deut) 18:15-20; **2nd Reading** 1st Corinthians (1 Cor) 7:32-35; **Gospel** Mark (Mk) 1:21-28

**5th Sunday Ordinary Time: First Reading** Job (Job) 7:1-4, 10; 6-7; **2nd Reading** 1st Corinthians (1 Cor) 9:16-19, 22-23; **Gospel** Mark (Mk) 1:29-39

**HOLY BIBLE**

**CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS**

**27/28 January CASA**

**3/4 February St. Vincent de Paul Monthly Collection**

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**DEPRESSION FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE RETREAT**  
 Join Fr. Jim Noonan ODC & Fodhla McGrane on the 13th October at the Emmaus Centre, Swords. The weekend will bring your peace and comfort through music, praying The Divine Office, daily mass and the sacrament of reconciliation.

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 Please do not hesitate to call us should you need our advice or expertise.  
 All enquiries to: Mary McCormack (Managing Director)  
 Tel. No: 00353-1-8079631  
 Email Address: mccormackm@tara-winthrop.com  
**Tara Winthrop**

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