

CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN

BRACKENSTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
19TH MARCH 2023 YEAR A

Reflection

This fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare (Joy) Sunday - reminds us that we are midway through our Lenten journey towards Holy Week and Easter. It is intended to lift our spirits. St. Patrick's Day, Mother's Day, Irish success in Cheltenham this week, and hopes for a great finale to the Six Nations on Saturday add in their own way to the occasion for rejoicing. In just two weeks' time we will celebrate Palm Sunday, which marks the beginning of the holiest week in the Church's year, as we contemplate the mysteries of Christ's passion and death and reaffirm our faith that he is risen. Resurrection faith is not a given. Perhaps, as this Sunday's readings suggest, it is a matter of perspective: how we look at things. Do we see only the problems in the world and what we are struggling with, whether it concerns our health or issues in our work or home life, or do we take time to notice the beauty of life, the goodness in other people and to give thanks for our blessings and opportunities? As we prepare to enter this second half of Lent, the invitation is to allow Christ to journey daily with us, so that we begin to see ourselves and others as God sees us: with faith, hope and love.

Fr. Richard



Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, beginning next Friday 3rd March, (but excluding St. Patrick's Day) we will celebrate the Taizé Prayer Around the Cross in the Church at 8:15pm.

Brackenstown, Donabate, River Valley & Swords Cluster of Parishes

Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL
€25 per person

BUS ALMOST FULL 3 PLACES LEFT!

Remember to bring a Packed Lunch

BUS LEAVING St. Cronan's Church at 7:30am sharp

A preparation Mass for **First Communion** will take place this weekend, at 6.00pm on Saturday 18th March and at 12.30pm and 5.00pm on Sunday 19th March.



The next meeting of the **Partnership Pastoral Council** will take place at 7.30pm at St. Cronan's Pastoral Centre on Tuesday 21st March. The partnership embraces the parishes of Swords + Drynam, River Valley + Dublin Airport, Donabate + Balheary and Brackenstown.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION SUNDAY 19TH MARCH 2023

The Swords branch of the Society, based in St. Cronan's, Brackenstown, will be holding an annual church gate collection at all Sunday masses, including the Saturday vigil mass, this weekend, March 18th and 19th. March 19th is the feast day of St. Joseph. Your prayers, help and support would be very much appreciated.



ST JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

23 Merrion Square, Dublin 2

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY IS A LAY ORGANISATION WITH THE THREEFOLD AIM OF:

- FOSTERING VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE THROUGH PRAYER
- PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SEMINARIANS STUDYING FOR THE PRIESTHOOD
- HELPING THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN PERSONAL HOLINESS OF OUR MEMBERS

The parish **Easter card and timetable of Holy Week ceremonies**, and letter of acknowledgement to parishioners for their contributions in 2022, have been posted to contributors in the parish. We greatly appreciate your donations over the course of 2022, and to thank you for your ongoing support which is vital for the day-to-day running of our parish, the maintenance expenses and the support of the priests of the Diocese.

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

The Bible Timeline
- Understand the Entire Bible

There will be **no** Scripture Study next Monday, 20th March or Monday 27th March—classes are suspended for the moment. A restart date for classes will be published in the newsletter in the coming weeks.

Many thanks to all who collected their boxes of weekly envelopes for the coming year for both **Family Offering** and **First and Second Collections**. These collections go toward the running of the parish and also for the priests of the diocese. If you do not currently contribute using the weekly envelopes and would like to receive a box, contact the parish office any weekday morning.

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 2023
Service for The Seven Last Words of Jesus

- 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do' Luke 23:34
- 'Woman, behold your son...behold your mother' John 19:26-27
- 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise' Luke 23:43
- 'It is finished' John 19:30
- 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Mark 15:34
- 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit' Luke 23:46
- 'I thirst' John 19:28

Bethany Bereavement Support Group offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it
Please phone Terri - 8403243
Sunday 19th to Saturday 25th March
Please phone Sr. Mary from 6-9:30pm
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased
Theresa Fulham
Matty O'Gorman

Month's Minds
Betty Carey

Anniversaries
Alphonsus Snr, Alphonsus Jnr & Raymond Skelton
Paddy Harrington
Patrick Kelly
John Heaslip
Patrick Kenny
Delia Roache
Ronan McHugh

Planet Earth: What are we handing on?

Part 1: Friday, March 24th
Workshop Beginning at 7 pm with Prayer at 8 pm

Part 2: Friday, March 31st
Screening of 'The Letter' at 7 pm

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, ARRAN QUAY, D07 KX66
REGISTER @ WWW.MISSIONMINISTRY.IE/ARISE OR EMAIL: YOUTH@DUBLINDIOCESE.IE

ARISE! LENT is a series of workshops for young adults on key areas of social justice and how we can get moving on areas that matter.

Join us in St Paul's, Arran Quay, for two evenings on Caring for our Common Home. Part 1 – Friday, March 24: workshop beginning at 7pm with prayer at 8pm. Part 2 – Friday, March 31: Screening of The Letter. Open to all interested in caring for the Earth & Laudato Si'. Register by emailing natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie. Evenings take place in St Paul's Church, Arran Quay, from 7pm each night. Details in poster and for more information, email natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie.

Register interest now at: <https://forms.office.com/e/rwJkixXMYj/>.

10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

Mon Eileen Clancy (A)

Tues Terry Barr (RD)
Pray for: 50th Wedding Anniversary
John & Kathleen Kelly (A)

Wed Decd Members of Kelly & Halton Families

Thur Tommy O'Keeffe (3A)

Fri Mary McKelvey (RD)

Sat Thanksgiving Mass for Healing

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. 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. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you. Next Coping with Life Alone Programme will take place on Saturday 1st April 2023 in Carmelite Community Centre, 56 Aungier St, Dublin 2. D02 T258. Next residential Programme will take place in Avila Carmelite Centre Donnybrook, Morehampton Road Dublin 4. For further information please phone Dublin Team 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com.

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PARISH SECRETARY
Louise Donnelly
Mon to Fri. 9:30am – 1:00pm
01 8401188
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:30am - 1:00pm

Registered Charity Number
20016166

We may be saying farewell to our current pastoral centre caretaker, Aaron, in the coming weeks as the CE scheme on which he is a participant and which normally runs for two years, is due to draw to a close in mid March. We would be sorry to lose, Aaron, but are hopeful that he may be able to extend his time with us until such time as a replacement on the scheme may be found. It is in this context that Donabate & Swords District CE Project is currently advertising for the position of Caretaker of Brackentown Parish Pastoral Centre. The position is for 19.5 hours per week, five days weekly. The position is based mainly at the Pastoral Centre adjacent to the parish church but includes other locations, such as St. Joseph's room and the church itself. The Community Employment (CE) programme is designed to help people to get back to work by offering part-time and temporary placements in jobs based within local communities. Interested applicants should apply to the CE project coordinator at f.iannitti@swordsceproject.com – 085 702 9001.

Invitation to Patrician Meeting

Feast of The Divine Mercy—How should we prepare for this feast in 2023? What is its significance? Who is The Divine Mercy? For whom is this feast? Why should we celebrate this feast? The next Patrician Meeting will focus on how we can revitalize our request for the grace of The Divine Mercy. Everybody most welcome especially newcomers and members of parish ministries on **Thursday 23rd March at 8:00pm in Parish Pastoral Centre.** Spiritual Director will attend.

Important Date for Legionaries and all Courageous Committed Pro-active Lay Faithful

Acies Celebration will take place on **Saturday 25th March** in St Anne's Church, Portmarnock at 3:00 pm. It is a moment for all to recommit to what Pope Francis calls "the Marian 'style' to the Church's work of evangelization". For information on the work of the Legion of Mary please ask any of our members. An excellent background resource is the Homily of Archbishop Dermot Farrell at the Mass for the Centenary of the Foundation of the Legion of Mary at <https://dublindiocese.ie/category/2021/>. Hope to see you there!

Annual Young Adult Conference at DCU All Hallows
Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th August 2023 Save the Date! Talks-Fellowship-Faith More info at www.legionofmary-deusetpatria.com