

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10TH DECEMBER 2023

YEAR B

This Sunday we light the second candle on the Advent wreath. Traditionally the first candle represents 'hope', and the second candle 'peace'. These themes are particularly pertinent at the present moment. Parishioners and visitors to the church will also find a basket of gold and silver coloured stars, which will be placed on the Christmas tree, which hopefully will also be erected for this Sunday. The stars will serve as a reminder of the star which guided the magi to the stable in Bethlehem. On the back of each star, parishioners are invited to write a message or prayer for hope or peace for an individual or for a particular group of people. Alternatively, we can write a promise of something we intend to do in the coming weeks to spread hope in our family, community or place of work. In this way our Christmas tree, at a time of darkness and suffering for many, can become a symbol of hope and light. *Maranatha, come Lord Jesus!*



Fr. Richard



The students from Colaiste Choilm will present gifts of food items at 11.00am Mass next Sunday. They will also assist our St. Vincent de Paul Society in making up hampers to be distributed to families in

need in the coming days. Many thanks to the children in St. Cronan's Junior and Senior National schools for presenting lots of food items at the altar during the past week.



St Cronan's Church Brackenstown, Swords

ADVENT TALKS

by Sr. Therese Fitzgerald

Wednesday's at 7:00pm



ANNOUNCING HOPE IN A TIME OF CHALLENGE

13th December
John the Baptist

a series of talks on the key biblical figures in Advent: Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary, will be presented by Sr. Therese Fitzgerald (Sisters of Zion)

20th December
Mary

Wednesday's 13th and 20th December
from 7.00-8.00pm
in St. Cronan's Parish Pastoral Centre

Fr. Michael O Shea, would like to thank parishioners for your very generous response to his appeal for the hospital in Tanga, Tanzania last weekend. The appeal raised over €3,000 towards the cost of paying for an x-ray machine.



Carol Service

THURSDAY
14th December 2023
at 7:30 pm

Join us for an evening of Carols and readings by our Senior Choir, Young Adult Choir and Children's Choir and afterward in the Parish Centre for mulled wine & mince pies

An Advent Carol Service will take place on Thursday 14th December, involving participation of the Senior, Young Adult and Children's Choirs. A short Nativity Play will form part of the

service. Parents whose children would like to participate in the nativity play in the Carol Service and/or Christmas Eve are invited to speak with Andrea after the 6pm Mass this Saturday or after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday, or to contact the parish office during the week.



As it's the second Sunday of the month, the Hospitality Team are providing tea/coffee and mince pies after 11.00am Mass this Sunday in the parish centre. Please join us! All proceeds go to St Francis Hospice.



Children and their families preparing for First Communion will join us for the celebration of Mass this Saturday at 6.00pm and Sunday at 5.00pm.

The Parish Christmas Card, timetable of services and envelope are available for collection on the tables at the entrances to the church. Feel free to take one, as well as for any neighbours who may be interested. All our Christmas services will be broadcast on the parish webcam.



Scripture Study continues each Monday at 7:30pm in the Pastoral Centre

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 St Vincent De Paul Annual Appeal takes place on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December in the church. The Conference of St Cronan would like to thank the parishioners for their constant and generous support for the St Vincent de Paul throughout the year.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ANNUAL APPEAL
 Society of St. Vincent de Paul
YOUR YES CAN LAST A LIFETIME



We provide assistance to people throughout the local area and when our members visit people, it is your kind donations which allow us to provide relief and comfort.

With the increased cost of living, energy and food bills we are finding that a lot of people working full time are under financial pressure as they don't qualify for all the extra government supports. This Christmas period we will spend in excess of €23,000 providing food and fuel to many families in our community.

As the need in our community grows so is the need for new volunteers to join our conference. We meet forth-nightly in the parish center and visit people as the need arises. Maybe you have thought about volunteering, are working part time or retired, or indeed know someone who might be interested, everyone is welcome and full training will be given. Any amount of time you can give to help us support people in our community is welcomed. Information is available online at the SVP website or you can contact the local conference on 085 8458134.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your very continued support and wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Tom Howard
 Niall Boles
 Kathleen Molloy
 Patricia Carroll

Anniversaries

Brian Lally (1A)
 Margaret (1A) & Paddy McKittrick
 Anne McCorkell (2A)
 Gustavo Cafolla
 Gemma O'Toole
 Ferghail Cummins & Dcsd Members of Cummins & Kehoe Families

10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

- Mon** Kilbane family, relatives & friends of the late Martha Kilbane
- Tues** Special Intention
- Wed** Liam Nolan (A)
 Kathleen, John & Michael O'Regan (A)
 Stephen O'Gorman (A)
- Thur** Noel O'Toole (BR)
- Fri** Mai Logan (A)
- Sat** Tom & Bridget Mongan and Laurence & Anne Maughan & Dcsd Family Members

We congratulate the families of the children who will be welcomed into the community of faith through the sacrament of Baptism this Saturday



On behalf of Pope Francis, and the missionaries who make our world a better place,

THANK YOU

for your incredible kindness.

Brackenstown Parish

donated €1,255.00

towards the Mission Sunday collection.

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

Please refrain from putting Rosary Beads on the Statue of Our Lady in the Grotto as it is discolouring the paintwork with rust. Many thanks.



Anam Cara North Dublin is holding a **Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 20th December at 7:15pm** in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin. 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. Contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

The annual **Statement of Receipts and Payments for 2022** is now available for parishioners on the tables at the entrances to the church. Please feel free to take a copy.

The Church of St Francis Xavier (Gardiner Street Parish) would like to invite you to join us for **Talks on the Mystics**. This is a series of seven talks by Fr Brendan Comerford SJ on seven different Christian mystics on Saturday mornings from November 4 to December 16, 10am to 12.15pm, in the John Sullivan Room. No registration needed. Simply come and be inspired by the lives of St Catherine of Siena, Julian of Norwich, St Teresa of Avila, St John of the Cross, St Pierre Favre, St Edith Stein and Pope St John XXIII. Listen to Fr Brendan introducing the Talks on the Mystics: <https://youtu.be/vwMxxuZ0Gck/>.



Legion of Mary

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

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

Bethany Bereavement Support Group offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it
Please Phone Kay - 086 2209297
Sunday 10th December to Saturday 16th December
"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
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PERMANENT DEACON
 Declan Colgan
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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