

# ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2ND MARCH 2025

YEAR C

The season of Lent, which begins on Wednesday is an invitation to renewal at both personal and parish level: to hear anew the Good News of the Gospel for our lives. We are living through very unsettling times, and it is easy to get anxious or despondent about what is going on in our world. Lent invites us to be witnesses to hope, a hope founded on the faithfulness of God made manifest in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. God is with us in all the struggles of life and points us towards the path of light, justice and reconciliation. The theme of this Jubilee year in the Church which began on Christmas Eve last is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. May this season of Lent help us to deepen our relationship with Christ and our commitment to one another, so that God's kingdom may grow. As Pope Francis' health remains critical, we keep him foremost in our prayers at this time, along with the medical team responsible for his care.

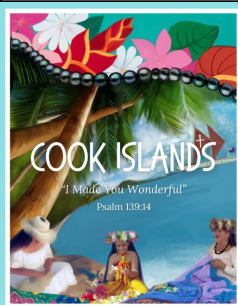
## PARISH RESOURCE: LENT 2025



Trocaire Boxes will be available at the back of the Church this weekend

Trocaire is an agency of the Irish Bishops' Conference particularly concerned with justice and development overseas. **Trocaire Lenten campaign packs** (which include the Lenten donation box) will be available on tables around the church from this weekend. This year's campaign, entitled **Stronger Together**, focuses on communities affected by the effects of climate change in Guatemala and other parts of the world. The annual Lenten campaign is Trocaire's biggest fundraiser. Trocaire boxes can be left into the sacristy towards the end of Lent. **Fr Richard**

This **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March**, the Parish Pastoral Councils of the four parishes in our partnership (*Donabate, River Valley, Swords and Brackenstown*) are spending a half day in our Pastoral Centre, exploring how we as a partnership might work more closely together in realising some of the *Building Hope* objectives for the development of Christian communities which are **faith-filled, welcoming and inclusive**, characterised by **servant leadership** and **co-responsibility**, and with a concern for **social justice**.



A Prayer Service to mark **World Day of Prayer** will take place at 7.30pm on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March** in **St Cronan's Church** with refreshments in the **Parish Centre afterwards**. The monthly Taizé Prayer has been postponed

The **Family Mass** takes place this **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March** at 6.00pm

Following the greatly appreciated sessions in Advent, a reflective reading of one of the Sunday readings will take place each Monday during Lent from 7.00-7.30pm in the church, beginning on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March. All are welcome.

The monthly preparation Mass for **First Holy Communion** will take place next **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March** at 6.00pm and **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March** at 5.00pm

Many thanks to our **church volunteer cleaning group** for the great cleaning of the church carried out last weekend. The group meets at 12 noon on Saturday every second or third week and always welcomes new volunteers, even if you can only assist occasionally. The next cleaning will take place on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March** at 12noon. New volunteers always welcome, even if you can only come once in a while.

**Ash Wednesday**, 5<sup>th</sup> March, marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Mass with distribution of ashes will take place at 10.00am and at 7.30pm. Ashes will *not* be left in the church during the day, but those who visit the church between 1.00pm and 2.00pm can attend a short service and receive ashes.

The monthly outdoor collection for **St. Vincent de Paul** will take place after all Masses this weekend. Your generous support for this great organisation which discreetly supports so many families and individuals is greatly appreciated.

**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](http://www.brackenstown-parish.com)

<p>A meeting of some 5<sup>th</sup> year students from both Colaiste Choilm and Loreto Swords, will take place in the parish centre on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2.30pm. Teresa Menendez, diocesan youth evangelisation coordinator, will present the story of Taize (the ecumenical community of monks in a village in Burgundy) with the aid of a video. The hope is that following this the students will get involved in helping to organise our monthly Taize Prayer.</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS</b></p> <p><b>Recently Deceased</b> Angela Galvin</p> <p><b>Month's Mind</b> John Hamill Maria Quill</p> <p><b>Anniversaries</b> Margaret Martyn (1A) Aileen Devine (2A) Terry Culbert (4A) Damien Byrne (11A) Enda Rogers (21A) Noel Lumley Kevin Harford Margaret O'Brien Delia O'Donohue Robert Donovan Eamonn Madden Snr.</p>												
<p><b>Bible Study Course on the Bible and the Church Fathers.</b> 2025 marks the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. St. Cronan's Parish is offering <b>The Bible and the Church Fathers</b> over 12 weeks in St. Cronan's Pastoral Centre each Monday from 7.30 to 8.30pm. All are welcome.</p>													
<p>The celebration of <b>First Reconciliation</b> will take place for the children in Gaelscoil Bhrian Boroimhe on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm and for the children from Swords and Thornleigh Educate Together on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.</p>													
<p>The <b>Rite of Election</b> for two of our parishioners, who are hoping to be received into the church through the sacraments of Christian Initiation at Easter, will take place at the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March (First Sunday in Lent) at 3.00pm.</p>													
<p>The new <b>Family Offering Parish Weekly Envelopes 2025</b> boxes will be available to be collected at the back of the Church after all Masses this weekend 22nd/23rd February. Your support for the Family Offering is greatly appreciated. The Parish depends on the voluntary contributions of parishioners for the running and development of the Parish. The new envelope boxes for the <b>Sunday collections at Mass</b> will also be available for collection. If you don't already use these envelopes for your Sunday Mass donations, please consider doing so. By donating to the Mass collections using these envelopes rather than directly into the baskets, your donation could be worth up to 45% more to the parish, at no extra cost to you! For example, if you pay income tax and your total annual combined donation (including Family Offering, First and Second collections and Christmas/Easter Offerings) is €250 or more per year, we can claim a refund from Revenue on the tax that you have already paid. This refund is available through the CHY Charitable Donation Scheme for approved charities. Last year the Parish received a CHY income tax refund of €44,960, which was of immense help to the parish finances. You can request a box of envelope or a standing order form for the Family Offering to support the running of the Parish by contacting the Parish office: Tel 840 1188, or email brackenstownparish@gmail.com. Thank you to all who support the Parish so generously!</p>	<p><b>10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK</b></p> <table> <tr> <td><b>Mon</b></td><td>Cyril &amp; Ann Gallagher (25A) Margaret O'Brien (A)</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Tues</b></td><td>Michael O'Brien (RD) Angela Duffy (RD)</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Wed</b></td><td>Marianne Movement for Priests Robert Donovan (A)</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Thur</b></td><td>Margaret O'Brien (A)</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Fri</b></td><td>Delia O'Donohue (A)</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Sat</b></td><td>Carol &amp; Joseph McKenna (RD)</td></tr> </table>	<b>Mon</b>	Cyril & Ann Gallagher (25A) Margaret O'Brien (A)	<b>Tues</b>	Michael O'Brien (RD) Angela Duffy (RD)	<b>Wed</b>	Marianne Movement for Priests Robert Donovan (A)	<b>Thur</b>	Margaret O'Brien (A)	<b>Fri</b>	Delia O'Donohue (A)	<b>Sat</b>	Carol & Joseph McKenna (RD)
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<p><b>'Shout' March 5th &amp; 6th in Fingal Community College at 7:15p.m each night</b> In a world full of words, how can Dana be herself when she can't speak? Dana has selective mutism, but that doesn't stem her vivid imagination. Because it's not just the noise you make that makes you who you are. <a href="https://www.gr8events.ie/sales/index.php?event=1897">https://www.gr8events.ie/sales/index.php?event=1897</a></p>	<p><b>Swords Memory Cafe</b> – for people living with dementia, their carers, family members and those interested in fostering a dementia inclusive community in Swords – hold a free Cafe on the third Thursday of each month in Fingallian's GAA club between 10.30am and 12.30pm.</p>												
<p>The annual diocesan <b>Pilgrimage to Knock</b> will take place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Saturday). It is hoped once again to organise a bus from the partnership of parishes to travel to Knock. Note the date, and watch this space for more details!</p>	<p><b>Traveller Outreach Addiction Service:</b> This is a free and confidential drug and alcohol treatment service providing addiction support to the Traveller Community and their families in North Dublin. Opening hours: 9.00am-5.00pm. To speak to a member of the team, contact: 01/6991077. For more information contact: <a href="mailto:travellersupport@coolminetc.ie">travellersupport@coolminetc.ie</a>.</p>												
<p><b>Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage:</b> We are delighted to announce our plans to have a group representing the Diocese at the <b>Jubilee of Youth gathering in Rome during the summer</b>. If you can't make it, there's also an option for a 'Rome @ Home'! Fill in your details to express interest in being part of the group or mark your option for 'Rome @ Home'. Email: <a href="mailto:natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie">natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie</a> Register Interest: <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/9fGvLqIL7t">https://forms.office.com/e/9fGvLqIL7t</a></p>	<p><b>Bethany Bereavement Support Group</b> offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it <b>Please phone Terri on 8403243, or Brid on 086 6006397</b> "I ask you Lord to be kind to them now, who were always kind to me here"</p>												
<p><b>Prayer Resources for the Jubilee Year can be found at</b> <a href="https://dublindiocese.ie/jubilee2025/">https://dublindiocese.ie/jubilee2025/</a> The January edition of <i>Mission &amp; Ministry Matters</i> <b>is available by clicking here</b></p>	<p><b>CO PARISH PRIEST</b> Fr. Richard Sheehy 087 2412459 <a href="mailto:richardsheehy@gmail.com">richardsheehy@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>PARISH CHAPLAIN</b> Fr. Joseph Hao P.C. 01 8401188 <a href="mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com">brackenstownparish@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>PERMANENT DEACON</b> Declan Colgan 01 8401188 <a href="mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com">brackenstownparish@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>PARISH SECRETARY</b> Louise Donnelly Mon to Fri. 9:30am – 1:00pm 01 8401188 <a href="mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com">brackenstownparish@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>PARISH OFFICE HOURS</b> Monday - Friday 9:30am - 1:00pm</p> <p><b>Registered Charity Number</b> 20016166</p>												
<p><b>Partnership Working Together: St Colmcille's Parish — Lenten Discussions</b> For Lent this year we will be meeting over five weeks during Lent for discussions on 'Calling a Wounded Earth Home'. We will start on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March and each Tuesday until April 8<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Road. There will be an additional session on Tuesday night April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm for anyone who would like to join in the discussion but are unable to attend in the afternoons. All materials will be provided. For more information or to register your interest contact Colette at the Parish Office 01 8407277 or <a href="mailto:parishoffice@stcolmcilleschurch.ie">parishoffice@stcolmcilleschurch.ie</a></p>													
<p><b>Come and See Meetings!</b> Legion of Mary hold meetings on Tuesday 10:30-11:45am in St Joseph's Room and Wednesdays 7:30-9:00pm in St Cronan's Pastoral Centre. Junior Legion: Fri 5:00-6:00pm. All welcome to attend any meeting at your convenience.</p> <p><b>Alive Newspaper</b> Could you help us distribute <i>Alive</i> newspaper in The Gallops area this year? If interested, please contact members of the Legion at Repository on Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings.</p>													
<p><b>SACRED HEART ART CONTEST</b> In Association with Radio Maria Ireland, for children aged 4-12 years and 13-18 years. Let your creativity be seen through drawing, painting and artwork of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Free Registration at <a href="mailto:promoter@radiomaria.ie">promoter@radiomaria.ie</a> or call 01 4123456 for more information. Deadline for submissions is 13th May.</p>													