ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 15TH DECEMBER 2024 YEAR C



Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, is aptly named 'gaudete' or 'joy' Sunday. The focus of the Advent readings, which for the first two weeks of Advent looks to Christ's future coming in glory, now shifts to the significance of his entry into human history 2000 years ago. As we light the third (rose) candle on the Advent wreath, the sense of joyful anticipation grows. There are an increasing number of symbols on the Jesse tree, and the crib is already under construction. A visit earlier this week to the National Concert Hall to hear the wonderful music of Handel's Messiah is for me an Advent highlight. To be joyful is not to deny the human tragedies or the sadness in life that visits us all at some time or another, but it is to recognise and celebrate the things that restore our hope and our faith in God, in life and in people. Whether it's the generosity of the publicans in Leitrim opening their doors to families who lost their electricity and water this week because of storm Darragh, or the goodwill of families donating food parcels for St. Vincent de Paul and of the TY students from Colaiste Choilm in packing them, the innocence of Junior infants recounting the Christmas story, or the atmosphere at both our Christmas concert and senior citizens Christmas party last week, there is much to be joyful about and for which to give thanks. Advent invites us to renew our faith in the God who is always breaking into the world, particular through the unexpected goodness of other people.

As a witness to our hope in Christ, children and adults are invited to write on the back of one of the coloured stars which will be placed on the Christmas tree either a prayer for hope or the promise of an action that we are going to undertake as a sign of hope. *Maranatha, Come Lord, Jesus!*

Fr Richard

Church of St. Cronan, Brackenstown Parish Christmas Calendar 2024

Monday 16th December
Service of Reconciliation at Donabate Church 7:30pm

Wednesday 18th December
Service of Reconciliation at River Valley Church 7.30pm

Sunday 22nd December
Confessions after 9.00am; 11:00am and 5.00pm Masses

Tuesday 24th December
(Christmas Eve)
Mass 10:00am
Confessions 10:30am-11:30am
First Mass of Christmas
***Family Mass* 6.00pm**
Mass of the Nativity 9.00pm
(Preceded by Carols at 8.45pm)

Wednesday 25th December
(Christmas Day)
Christmas Mass 9.00am & 11.00am
No Evening Mass

Thursday 26th December
(St. Stephen's Day)
Mass 10.00am

Friday 27th December
Mass 10.00am

Saturday 28th December
Mass 10.00am
Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday 29th December
(Feast of the Holy Family)
Mass 9.00am, 11.00am & Mass 5:00pm

Monday 30th December
Mass 10.00am

Tuesday 31st December
Mass 10.00am
Prayer vigil to welcome New Year 11.30pm

Wednesday 1st January 2025
(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)
Mass 10.00am

Saturday 4th January
Mass 10.00am
Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday 5th January
(Second Sunday of Christmas)
Mass 9.00am, 11:00am, & 5.00pm

Monday 6th January
(Feast of the Epiphany)
Mass 10.00am

Sunday 12th January
(Feast of the Baptism of The Lord)
Mass 9.00am, 11:00am, & 5.00pm

Epiphany Gifts for Alice Leahy Trust or St. Vincent de Paul can be brought to all Masses from 29th December to the 6th January

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

A **Family Mass for Advent** takes place this Sat. 14th December at 6.00pm, where children will present the first part of a Nativity play which they have been rehearsing. The second part of the nativity will be presented during our Christmas Family Mass at 6.00pm on Christmas Eve. A rehearsal will take place next Wednesday 18th Dec. at 3.30pm. Still places for shepherds and angels!

A huge thanks to the Order of Malta for organising a wonderful **Christmas Party for Senior Citizens** last Sunday. There was a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed themselves, thanks also to our musicians, Tom, Gerry and friends!

Many thanks to parishioners and visitors for the wonderful response to the annual indoor collection for **St. Vincent de Paul Society,** which raised €5,000. Another €1,500 for St. Vincent de Paul was raised by the raffle at the concert. Many thanks to all the local businesses and parishioners who sponsored prizes for the raffle, including Dunnes, Grainger's at Swords Manor, Doyle's Butchers and The Arch Bar.

Parishioners and visitors are invited to gather for the last time this Monday 16th Dec. at 7.00pm in the church to participate in **a reflective reading of one of the scripture readings** for the Sundays of Advent. The session lasts no more than 30 minutes and may be of particular interest to ministers of the Word.

An Advent **Service of Reconciliation** for our partnership of parishes will take place at St. Patrick's Church, Donabate at 7.30pm on Monday 16th December and at St. Finian's Church, River Valley at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th December.
There will be the opportunity for individual confession at each of the services.



Coffee Morning Wednesday 18th December after the 10am Mass. All Welcome to join us for music, a cup of tea and a mince pie!

Bethany Bereavement Support Group
offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it
Please phone Terri on 8403243,
or Brid on 086 6006397
"I ask you Lord to be kind to them now, who were always kind to me here"

The parish **Christmas card, timetable of Christmas services** and offering envelope are available for collection on the tables at the entrances to the church. Please take one, and perhaps also one for a neighbour who is housebound but who might like to follow the Christmas services via webcam!

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm 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 how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN CHURCH DUBLIN AIRPORT
MASSES RESUME NEXT SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER AT 11AM AND ON TUESDAY'S, WEDNESDAY'S AND FRIDAY'S AT 1:00PM
ADORATION ON FRIDAY'S FROM 12 NOON

Christmas Gifts - Suitable gifts for recreating the Home of Nazareth
Nativity sets, Christmas cards, Liturgical calendars, statues, ornaments, children's colouring books, bibles and lots more available at Repository on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.



Legion of Mary

Rosary Statue

We invite you to host the Rosary statue for a week in your home this year. It was recently blessed in our Church on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. When prayed well, the Rosary allows us to see the face of Christ in others and recreates something of the atmosphere of the household in Nazareth. Rosarium Virginis Mariae on the Most Holy Rosary (October 16, 2002) | John Paul II (vatican.va). **For more information, please speak to any member of the Legion of Mary after Mass at weekends.**

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Month's Mind
Vincent May
Michael Nugent

Anniversaries
Willie (1A) & Monica Hughes
Dean Cox (1A)
Colette Redmond (1A)
Brian Lally (2A)
Melencia Mande (2A)
Stephen O'Gorman (12A)
David Warren (34A)
Liam Nolan
Donal Cronan
Christopher & Kathleen Troy & Dcsd Family Members
Patrick McCabe
Bernard Oldham
John Martin
Ann Cowan
Alicia Farrelly
Joan Kelly
Joan King
Paddy & Margaret McKittrick
Kevin Donnelly (BR)

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon	Dcsd Members of Stones & McGonigle Families Tom & Bridget Mongan & Ann Maughan & Dcsd Family Members
Tues	Diana Uzoamaka Ukuta (21BR) Noel O'Toole (BR) Colette Redmond (1A)
Wed	John & Kathleen O'Connor (A)
Thur	Special Intention
Fri	Kathleen, Patrick & Hugh O'Reilly & Dcsd Members of Lee & O'Reilly Families
Sat	Special Intention

Grief Support Group
weekly meetings every Wednesday 7pm to 8pm.
We hope to offer a listening ear to anyone who is dealing with or living with grief.
Contact email:
haveasipswords@gmail.com

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