

Fifth Sunday of Lent



22nd March 2015

MASS INTENTIONS

6:30pm Joseph O'Toole (B'day Rem)
9.00am Altar List of the Dead
11.00am Kathleen Crosbie (A)
12.30pm Theresa Hagan (A)
5.30pm William Delaney (2nd A)

PRAY FOR

Eugene Hayes (RD)
Cyril & Anne Gallagher (A)
Eileen Reilly (22nd A)
Jane Emmett (2nd A)
John & Margaret Murtagh (A)
Mgnr. Roger Robins (RD)
Cathy O'Callaghan (RD)

MASSES NEXT WEEK 10.00 AM

Mon: Joe Clarke (RD)
Tues: Maureen Walker (22nd A)
Wed: James, Mary & Henry Garrigan,
Jack, Mollie & John Leonard (A)
Thurs: For those who supported the family
of the late Tony McCarthy
Fri: Ray Fitzgerald (16th A)
Sat: Genick Gintouth (RD)
Pray For: Mary (Maureen) Cronly (1st A)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Times of Adoration are:
Mon: 10.30 am – 11.30 am
Wed: 6.00 pm – 11.00 pm
Fri: 10.30am – 5.45 pm
Sat: 10.30am – 11.30am
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes
place on each Sunday of Lent from 4 - 5 pm.**

LENTEN BIBLE CHALLENGE

Tuesday 24/03/15, 7.30-8.30 pm in the Parish Meeting Room; a review & discussion on Mark's Gospel, chapters 7 to 13. The reading plan for next week is Mark, chapters 14 to 16, which teach the meaning of Christ's Crucifixion & Resurrection. The weekly reading guide will be available on Tuesday night. All welcome, please come along.

PARISH PASTORAL CENTRE FUND

The total raised for the Parish Pastoral Centre Fund Raising Appeal is to date €10,470.00. Many thanks to all who have kindly contributed.

PARISH RECEIPTS

The Annual Parish Receipts are ready to be distributed. If you can help in delivering these or wish to collect your own, please contact the parish office.

EMMAUS RETREAT CENTRE

A silent one-day retreat for men will be held on Palm Sunday 29th March at Emmaus Retreat Centre, Lissenhall, Swords from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Talks. Quiet time for prayer. Sacrament of Reconciliation. Blessing of the Palms with Procession. Mass. Sacrament of the Sick. Spiritual direction by Jesuit Fathers. Meals provided. Booking advised – contact John Callaghan 01-8370778. Suggested offering €45.

FAMILY OFFERING

We thank all those parishioners who support the running of the parish through the Parish Family Offering fund. The February standing order figure is €3,050.00. The Weekly Outdoor collection for last week amounted to €800.72 and three annuals/half yearly contributions totaling €1,220. The Family Offering Envelope/Standing Order Collection is the ONLY one which supports the daily running costs of the Parish and the upkeep of the Church. Thank you for your commitment to this collection.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS

The following are Church Gate Collections for March/April:

21/22 March – Order of Malta
28/29 March – VDP Advocate
4/5 April – No Collection
11/12 April – CASA
18/19 April – Share Appeal
25/26 April – Dublin Seminarians

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir are looking for singers and musicians to aid them in their presentation of the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 8pm. If you are aged 12-18 and would like to get involved, please contact Sarah 086 0687650 or Andrea 086 805 9030.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

“Spread the Joy of the Gospel with Confidence” is the title of the Patrician Meeting on **Thursday next, 26th March at 8:00pm in the Parish Meeting Room.** What is the best way to spread the Gospel locally? Why not come to the meeting and hear some points of view? *Everybody most welcome.* Spiritual Director will speak on the subject.

SWORDS PARISH GROUPING

Swords Parish Grouping Holiday 2015
Monday 29 June – Saturday 4 July
Splendours of Poland
based in Krakow

Cost: €725.00 per person sharing
Booking and further details at
Parish Office Tel: (01) 8407277
This holiday is organised by: MAP Travel

BAPTISMS

There will be no Baptisms during Lent. The next dates for Baptisms are in May. Please check our website for details.

If you would like to be a part of the Baptism Ministry here in St. Cronan's, please contact any of the Priests in the Parish, a member of the Baptism Team or the Parish Office.

SCHOOL BINGO

The School PTA are having their Easter bingo in the school hall on Friday 20th March at 7.30pm. St. Cronan's School. Please come along to support us.

FAITH IN THE FOG

An evening of theatre, music, story-telling and comedy, presented by Jeff Lucas, author of the best-selling book Faith in the Fog. Riasc Centre, Swords Wed 25th March 7.15 pm. Tickets 12 euro at the door or 10 euro in advance from Hilary at 087 837 or 1120 or 01 6268519.

FAMILY MASS TEAM

Any children who would like to participate in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross drama and/or a short re-enactment of the Gospel on Easter Sunday, please give their names to the Family Mass team after 12.30 Mass or email the parish office at brackenstownparish@gmail.com.

EASTER ENVELOPES

The Easter Offering Envelopes are now ready for distribution. If you are able to help deliver these, please contact the Parish Office.

“NOW WE ARE GOING”

“Now We Are Going Up To Jerusalem” is a book of reflections on the Passion, Resurrection and Reign of Christ by Fr. Owen Wynne SCJ (Sacred Heart Fathers, Inchicore). It is available from Legion of Mary in main porch after Mass.

LEGION OF MARY

Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony will take place on Saturday next, 28th March at 3:00pm in St. Sylvester's Church, Malahide. Auxiliary members are especially invited.

LENT- WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'? WEEKS FOUR AND FIVE

How did week four go? Give yourself a rating between 1 and 10. Lent is nearly over and there can be a temptation to say I've done enough or I have let my promise lapse so much that it's not worth doing anymore. Two weeks give us an opportunity to renew our resolve and to take on a particular way of observing the end of Lent and Holy Week, the most important week of the Churches year leading us to the Holy Thursday, Good Friday and The Easter Vigil which are the highpoint of the Christian journey. It is from these three days that all other feasts and celebrations have their meaning and we have our identity as Christians.

An extra thing you could do is to reflect on the main passages for each of the key events:

	GOOD DEED	PRAYER	FAST (GIVE UP)
WEEK ONE			
WEEK TWO			
WEEK THREE			
WEEK FOUR			
THIS WEEK			

TROCAIRE BOXES

In these last two weeks of Lent, don't forget the Trocaire Box. What is put into these boxes makes a huge difference to the work that Trocaire can do in helping people and providing long term solutions to poverty. You can bring your Trocaire Boxes to the Sacristy or Parish Office up to the end of April and we will forward them on your behalf.

SYNOD ON THE FAMILY

A group of 24 parishioners gathered last Wednesday night to discuss the Pastoral Responses to the Family. These will be submitted to the Diocese to form part of the Irish contribution to the Synod in October. The feedback is available on the Parish Website together with the documents in relation to the Synod. If you would like to add a comment to our submission, please email it to brackenstownparish@gmail.com no later than the Friday 27th March.

HELP WITH THE EASTER CEREMONIES

As we get ready for the Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies we need volunteers for the following:

Volunteers to have their feet washed at the Mass of the Lords Supper Holy Thursday 7:30pm

Children 8-14years for the Stations of the Cross at 12:00 Good Friday

Musicians and singers 16+ for the Journey to Calvary Good Friday at 8:00pm

Stewards/Welcomers for the Palm Sunday Masses, Holy Thursday 7:30pm, Good Friday at 12:00 and 3:00pm; Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday at 9:00pm and all the Masses on Easter Sunday.

If you would be willing to help out at any of these ceremonies please leave your name and the ceremony into: The Parish Office by calling in, by phone 018401188 or by email brackenstownparish@gmail.com or by putting your details in the suggestion box in the main porch.

Your involvement would be deeply appreciated. Thank you, Fr. Paul

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NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY

Passion Sunday / Palm Sunday. We now come to the Sunday with a split personality. It starts with an upbeat gospel recounting Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It is a festive affair, complete with a parade route strewn with palm branches instead of ticker tape. But we quickly progress to the stark reading of Jesus' passion, bearable only because we already know its happy ending.

Two names for the same day: Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. I propose a third name: Fickle Sunday. For the same crowd that was cheering during the parade was jeering a few days later. They'd been wowed by his sermons, fed with loaves and fishes, healed of their diseases, delivered of their demons. But as soon as the tide began to turn, so did they.

Their cries of "Hosanna" turned to shouts of a very different kind: "Crucify him!"

Of course, he was not surprised in the least. The gospels tell us that he knew the human mind and heart all too well. He was not fooled by all the acclamations and fanfare. Flattery could not swell his head. He had no illusions of grandeur or ambition for worldly glory. In fact, our second reading tells us that He had willingly emptied Himself of heavenly glory in pursuit of His true passion – His Fathers will and our salvation.

Jesus "set his face like flint." He was on a mission and nothing would deter him. He barreled through barriers that usually stop us dead in our tracks—fear of ridicule, fear of suffering, abandonment by our closest companions. He was willing to endure the sting of sin to blot out sin, and was eager to face death in order to overcome it.

He did indeed have a "well-trained tongue." His words had mesmerized the crowds, intrigued Herod and even made Pilate stop and think. But now his lips are strangely silent. All the gospels point out that he said very little during his passion, collecting only seven brief statements from the cross.

So the virtual silence of his well-trained tongue was to fulfill Scripture. But there was another reason for his silence. Though Jesus was destined to preach on Good Friday, the message was not to be delivered in words. The language of this sermon was to be "body language." Good Friday, according to Jewish reckoning, actually began at sundown on Holy Thursday. So on the beginning of his final day, Jesus gave us the verbal caption of his last and greatest sermon: "This is my body, given for you; this is my blood, which is poured out for you."

"I love you" is not so much something you say as something you demonstrate. Diamonds may be a moving testimony to love, but the laying down of one's life is even more compelling. And though this life is human and therefore vulnerable, it is also divine and therefore infinite in value. A gift so valuable that it outweighs every offense committed from the dawn of time till the end of the world. A gift so powerful that it melts hearts, opens the barred gates of paradise, and makes all things new.

Palms will be blessed at the front of the Church before each Mass and people will be invited to follow the Celebrant and Altar Servers in procession.