

# ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

PENTECOST SUNDAY

24 MAY 2026

YEAR A

This is the time of the year when priests in many parishes are on the move. After a 6 or 9 year assignment in one place, they know that they can anticipate an appointment to another area in the diocese. Where previously it meant moving from one parish to another, today it's more common for a priest to be transferring to a partnership of parishes or, in light of the diminishing number of clergy, to be asked to take responsibility for two or more parishes. We are delighted to welcome **Fr. John Bracken**, who has just been appointed as Parish Priest in Donabate, to the Partnership of Parishes of Swords & Drynam, River Valley & Dublin Airport, Brackenstown, and Donabate/Portrane/Balheary. Fr. John's appointment fills the vacancy created by the unexpected death of Fr. Pat O'Reilly last November. Fr. John comes from the parish of Churchtown and will take up his appointment in early July. It is also diocesan practice for Parish Pastoral Workers, of which there are regrettably few, to rotate every 3-4 years, so that a variety of parishes can benefit from their pastoral gifts and expertise. We are delighted to learn that **Siobhan Gormley** has been appointed to the parish of Brackenstown as Parish Pastoral Worker for a period of three years. She will also have a remit to develop an approach to youth ministry across the Fingal North Deanery. Siobhan has been working for the past four years in Balbriggan, so I hope Fr. John Mc will forgive us for depriving him of his co-worker. Fortunately, another Parish Pastoral Worker has also been appointed to Balbriggan. I have had the pleasure of working with Siobhan in a previous parish, so I know that she will bring great enthusiasm, insight and experience to the role. We pray for all those who will be on the move in the coming months and for the parishes which will be welcoming them.



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*Fr. Richard*

*Some photos taken recently at the presentation of the Eco-Congregation Award in St. Cronan's Church*



**ASSEMBLY POINTS**  
 Entrance to Glasmore Park (from Rathbeale Road)  
 Bottom of steps from Elmwood  
 Junction Brackenstown Road & St. Cronan's Avenue  
 Junction Brackenstown Road & Brackenstown Avenue  
 (top Rathbeale)

Please be at assemble point nearest you at 7:10pm

**ANNUAL MAY PROCESSION**  
**THURSDAY 28TH MAY**  
 Followed by Mass at 7:30pm  
 Celebrant Fr. Joseph Hao  
 Parish Chaplain

**St. Cronan's Church**  
 Brackenstown Road, Swords,  
 Co Dublin, K67 FK22  
 Tel: 01 840 1188

**PARISH INTERNATIONAL DAY**  
*Many Cultures, One Faith, One Family in Christ.*

**DATE**  
 Sunday, 28th June 2026

**TIME**  
 Starts at 11:00 AM

**VENUE**  
 St. Cronan's Church  
 Brackenstown Road,  
 Swords, Co Dublin,  
 K67 FK22

**INTERCULTURAL MASS**



**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)

For some time now, representatives from the **Parish Pastoral Councils of the parishes in our partnership** have been meeting every two months or so to look at how we can work more closely together (ie: shared events or liturgies) and share resources of personnel or expertise in order to further the mission of the Gospel. This form of collaboration across neighbouring parishes is happening right across the diocese and is facilitated by the Building Hope programme of pastoral renewal. The diocese has now invited partnerships to choose a name for their partnership, and we plan to do this **on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**. More details will be available in next week's newsletter.

The **Novena to the Holy Spirit** – a dedicated period of prayer, reflection and planning for the renewal of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin - will conclude this Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May, Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church. The Novena prayer is printed below:

Congratulations to the pupils from St. Cronan's Junior School who celebrated the **Sacrament of First Communion** this Saturday!

Our weekly exploration of **St. Matthew's Gospel** concludes this Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the parish centre.

A meeting of the **Parish Pastoral Council** will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the parish centre.

An information evening for those interested in the **Pathways** or **Catechists Certificate** courses that start in September 2026 will take place on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in St. Paul's Arran Quay. Tea/coffee available from 7.00pm. The Diocesan Office of Mission and Ministry are taking applications for both the **Pathways** and **Catechesis** courses for the coming year. A significant number of our parishioners have participated in these programmes over the past few years and found them very helpful for engaging in parish ministry.

Some **religious books**, which have been donated by a parishioner, have been left at the back of the church. They will be available over the next two weeks for parishioners and visitors to help themselves to a book or two and take them home. Please do not return the books!

A meeting of the **Partnership Pastoral Councils** will take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May from 10.30-12.30pm to review progress on the short/medium/long term Building Hope goals, beginning with Mass at 10.00am.

**'Teen Hope'** is a programme for young teenagers from first to third year of Secondary School (post-Confirmation). It is a parish-based faith outreach where, through fun and engaging activities, young teens can build friendships and have an experience of belonging, discipleship and prayer. **Training for parish leader's to set up and run a 'Teen Hope' group** will take place in Whitehall parish centre on Tuesdays 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May and 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 7.00-9.00pm. Further training locations will be organised after the summer. register at : [Teen Hope - Leader's Training – Fill in form](#)

The **Annual Diocesan Sacraments Conference** takes place on June 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm at St Paul's, Arran Quay. Cost €10 per person. To register, please email [angela.mcgarry@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:angela.mcgarry@dublindiocese.ie). Places are limited. All parish pastoral workers, catechists and parish sacramental teams are warmly invited.

**If anyone knows** of someone experienced who can paint the statues in the Grotto, please contact the Parish Office.

**St. Cronan's Junior National School** are recruiting for 2 very important roles - firstly a part time secretary. The position has been advertised on Educationposts.ie and more details can be found at the school. The second position is some substitute cleaners to cover leave/holidays etc. Anyone interested can contact the school.

**Beginning Experience — Separated, Divorced, Widowed: Are you coping?**

Beginning Experience is a programme run by trained facilitators, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced. The Dublin Beginning Experience Team has a Three Day **Coping with Life Alone Programme** which will take place on Saturday 6th June, 20th June and 27th June in the Carmelite Community Centre, Whitefriar Street. For further information contact Beginning Experience 086 0877379, or email: [bedublin@gmail.com](mailto:bedublin@gmail.com)

**LEGION OF MARY: Religious Goods Suitable for families** Confirmation and Holy Communion cards, prayer books, beads, medals and rosettes. Also Baptism cards and candles, motorist prayers, key rings, children's books and lots more at repository Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.

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| <p>PARISH PRIEST<br/>Fr. Richard Sheehy<br/>087 2412459<br/><a href="mailto:richardsheehy@gmail.com">richardsheehy@gmail.com</a><br/>PARISH CHAPLAIN<br/>Fr. Joseph Hao P.C.<br/>01 8401188<br/><a href="mailto:office@brackenstown-parish.com">office@brackenstown-parish.com</a><br/>PERMANENT DEACON<br/>Declan Colgan<br/>01 8401188<br/><a href="mailto:office@brackenstown-parish.com">office@brackenstown-parish.com</a><br/>PARISH SECRETARY<br/>Louise Donnelly<br/>Mon to Fri. 9:30am – 1:00pm<br/>01 8401188<br/><a href="mailto:office@brackenstown-parish.com">office@brackenstown-parish.com</a><br/>PARISH OFFICE HOURS<br/>Monday - Friday<br/>9:30am - 1:00pm<br/>Registered Charity Number<br/>20016166</p> | <p><b>SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS</b></p> <p><b>Recently Deceased</b><br/>James Masterson</p> <p><b>Anniversaries</b><br/>Patrick, Mary, Alan &amp; Tony McCarthy<br/>Margaret &amp; Ernie Pawley and<br/>Dcsd Members of Pawley &amp; Shiels Families<br/>Pat &amp; Stephen Daly &amp; Dcd Family Members<br/>Frank Murphy</p> | <p><b>10 AM Masses THIS WEEK</b></p> <p><b>Mon</b> Helen Galvin (RD)<br/>Colm Maloney (23A)</p> <p><b>Tues</b> John &amp; Esther Halpin (A)<br/>Healing Intention</p> <p><b>Wed</b> Irene Greeley, Carmel Moran &amp; Dcsd<br/>Members of Greeley &amp; Moore Families</p> <p><b>Thur</b> Frances Hickey (RD)</p> <p><b>Fri</b> John McSweeney &amp; Dcsd Family<br/>Members</p> <p><b>Sat</b> Dessie Molloy (A)<br/>John Pentony (A)<br/>Alice Howell (A)</p> |
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