

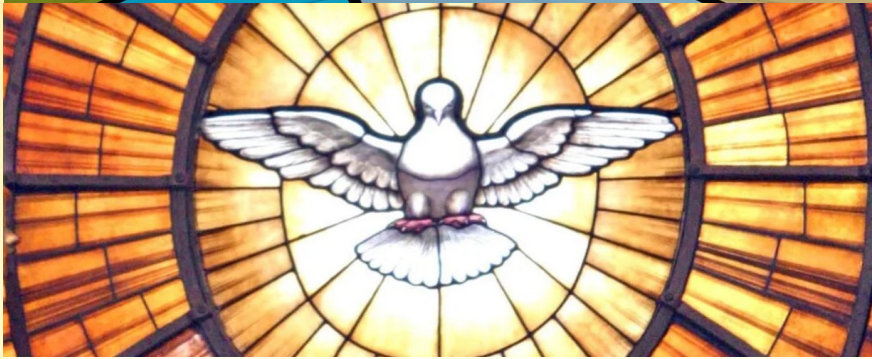
ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

ASCENSION SUNDAY

17 MAY 2026

YEAR A



This Sunday, Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, marks the beginning of an annual **Novena to the Holy Spirit** – a dedicated period of prayer, reflection and planning for the renewal of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin, which will continue through Pentecost to the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church. Like the apostles gathered in the upper room, we wait and pray for a renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit on ourselves and on our community of faith. It is appropriate that on this first day of the Novena to the Holy Spirit we celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation** for two adults in our parish community, Maria Gomez and Leonardo Alves. With the

assistance of a couple of members of our parish RCIA team, they have been preparing over the past year to receive this final sacrament of Christian Initiation and have been attending Mass each Sunday. They will be confirmed during the 11.00am Mass this Ascension Sunday. As the Novena this year takes place during the month of May, the Novena prayer below is dedicated to Our Lady.

Novena Prayer

Mary, Mother of the Church, stand with us at this Spirit-filled time. Grace us with your faithful presence as we pray, reflect and plan.

Mary, our Mother, wrap your mantle of gentleness and courage around us. Inspire us to say 'yes' to your Son, as we breathe in the Spirit of Truth and Love, to renew our communities of faith around Jesus.

Holy Mary, you stood at the foot of the Cross, broken-hearted. You witnessed the joy of the resurrection and the wonder of Pentecost. You walked great distances in your time. Be with us now on our Synodal Journey, *Building Hope*.

Beloved Mother, open our hearts generously to our baptismal calling. Encourage us into ever deepening communion with your Son, with each other, with those most in need, and with all of God's creation.

A Mhuire Mháthair, hold us close to you as we embrace God's loving invitation to wholeness, healing and peace. Amen.

Archdiocese of Dublin
Building Hope through Prayer, Reflection and Planning



Fr. Richard

The Brackenstown branch of the **Vocations Society of St. Joseph**, which supports the training of priests, will hold a church gate collection this weekend 16th/17th May. The branch meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 10.30am Mass in the parish centre. New members welcome.

ECO-CONGREGATION AWARD

For the second year in succession, Brackenstown parish has been awarded an Eco-Congregation award for our work in promoting bio-diversity and energy saving in our church and grounds. The award will be presented in the church immediately following 10.00am Mass next Wednesday 20th May. Students from Colaiste Choilm and St. Finian's Community College, who have participated in Laudato-si projects with us during the past year, will attend, and pupils from Scoil Chronain will sing a couple of songs. All are welcome!

CONGRATULATIONS

TO VERA LYNN BAPTISTA AND PRINCE LORD HERMOSE WHO CELEBRATED THEIR MARRIAGE IN OUR CHURCH ON FRIDAY 8TH MAY, ALSO TO LAURA LYNCH AND ANDREW SAVAGE WHO WERE MARRIED ON THURSDAY 14TH MAY, AND TO DANIEL PANDURIC AND SVITLANA BOKOVA, WHO WERE MARRIED ON SATURDAY 16TH MAY. WE WISH THEM EVERY HAPPINESS AND BLESSING FOR THE FUTURE.

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

Our weekly exploration of **St. Matthew's Gospel** continues each Monday at 7.30pm in the parish centre. The study centres around a video presentation, followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion. St. Matthew's Gospel is the one that we are reading at Sunday Mass this year.

A training session for **Parish Pastoral Council** chairpersons and presidents will take place in Arran Quay from 7.00-9.00pm on Monday 18th May.

A meeting of the **Parish Finance Committee** will take place at 9.00pm on Monday 18th May.

The 6th year students from Colaiste Choilm will celebrate their **Graduation Mass** in our church on Tuesday 19th May at 7.30pm.

A meeting of the **Finance Partnership Forum** will take place on Wednesday 20th May at 7.30pm in the parish centre.

The **Partnership Pastoral Council** will meet in the parish centre on Thursday 21st may at 7.30pm.

The pupils from **St. Cronan's Junior School** will celebrate the **Sacrament of First Communion** next Saturday 23rd May at 10.00am and 12 noon.

Apologies from the **Transition Year** students at St. Finian's Community College who had to postpone the planned meeting with parishioners on Friday to assist them with their devices (mobile phone, tablet, iPad etc). Parishioners are asked to check the weekly newsletter for details of when a further session will take place. Please let the parish office know if you would be like to take part.

CHY TAX REFUND SCHEME

CHY forms for 2025 were posted earlier this year to parishioners who meet the qualifying criteria. If you received a form and have yet to return it we ask that you please do so at your earliest convenience. We wish to express our sincere thanks to all those parishioners who help fund the running costs of the parish. Your support is very much appreciated.

Parish Finance Committee

The Diocesan Office of Mission and Ministry are taking applications for both the **Pathways and Catechesis courses** for the coming year, which will start in September. A significant number of our parishioners have participated in these programmes over the past few years and found them very helpful in engaging in ministry in the parish. For more information, see the posters on our notice boards or on our website.

'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, and it is led by a group of trained parishioners/volunteers. **Training for parish leader's to set up and run a 'Teen Hope' group** will take place in Whitehall parish centre on Tuesdays 19th and 26th May and 2nd 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 20th from 10am to 3pm at St Paul's, Arran Quay. Cost €10 per person. To register, please email angela.mcgarra@dublindiocese.ie. Places are limited. This year's conference explores the various roles of Parish, School and Family as we accompany families on the journey of Sacramental Preparation. All parish pastoral workers, catechists and parish sacramental teams are warmly invited.

Anam Cara, which supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly **Bereaved Parent Support Evening** on Wednesday 20th May at 7.30pm in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, 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. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

A Day of Prayer at Emmanuel House, Clonfert on Pentecost Saturday, 23rd May. Bus departs St. Cronan's Car Park at 7:30am and Fingal Offices at 7:45am. Contact Nora at 8404247 or 0863292329.

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

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.

PARISH PRIEST Fr. Richard Sheehy 087 2412459 richarddesheehy@gmail.com PARISH CHAPLAIN Fr. Joseph Hao P.C. 01 8401188 office@brackenstown-parish.com PERMANENT DEACON Declan Colgan 01 8401188 office@brackenstown-parish.com PARISH SECRETARY Louise Donnelly Mon to Fri. 9:30am – 1:00pm 01 8401188 office@brackenstown-parish.com PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:30am - 1:00pm Registered Charity Number 20016166	SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS Recently Deceased Joe Dalton Red Skelton John Crangle Month's Mind Jim Masterson Anniversaries Dennis Ryan (8A) Vincent McGuinn Ewelina Spyрка Brendan Galligan Maureen Wallace Anne Curtis Special Health Intention	10 AM Masses THIS WEEK Mon Brendan Rothwell (RD) Get Well Intention Tues Thanksgiving Mass Wed Pat Stones (RD) Thur P.K. Kuriakose (Rem) Fri For those who supported the family of the late Briege McGuinness Billy Carrick (11A) Sat FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS
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