

# ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

6TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

11TH FEBRUARY 2024

YEAR B

## Blessing of the Hands



These are the hands of your partner, young and strong and full of love, holding your hands as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and forever.

These are the hands that will work alongside yours as together you build your future.

These are the hands that will hold you and comfort you in grief and uncertainty.

These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes, tears of sorrow and joy.

These are the hands that will hold your family as one.

These are the hands that will give you strength.

And these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged, will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch.

By Rev. Daniel L. Harris

In celebration of the sacrament of marriage, and to mark **International Marriage Week**, we have invited couples who celebrated their wedding in the past year, or are preparing for marriage in the coming year, to join us at the 11.00am Mass this Sunday (nearest St. Valentine's Day). We also welcome couples who may be celebrating a significant wedding anniversary. **A blessing of wedding or engagement rings** will take place during the Mass, and the hospitality committee are providing refreshments in the parish centre after Mass. All are welcome! St. Paul offers the following words to encourage flourishing relationships within the Christian community but they apply equally to couples: 'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him'. (Col.3: 12-15)

Fr. Richard

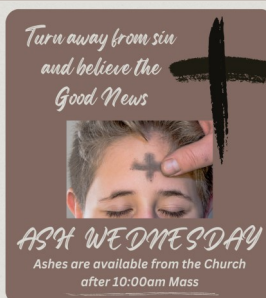
**Revised Procedures for the Sunday Mass Collections** come into effect this weekend. The (red and blue) collection pouches will be placed on the hooks at the end of each pew on either side of the centre aisle **only**. Parishioners seated on either side of the centre aisle are asked to pass first the red and then the blue pouches sideways along each pew, across the two intermediate aisles and towards the wall on either side of the church. The pouches are then placed in the large wicker baskets at each Confession box. The baskets containing the pouches should be brought into the sacristy at the conclusion of Mass. We appreciate the cooperation of parishioners and visitors with these procedures.

The **ANNUAL COLLECTION** for **ACCORD Dublin**, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses next weekend of **17 & 18 February 2024**. **ACCORD Dublin offers:**

- ⇒ Marriage Preparation courses – online, small groups.
- ⇒ Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone
- ⇒ A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

**Next Wednesday 14th February**, as well as being St. Valentine's Day, is also **Ash Wednesday**, which marks the **beginning of Lent**. Mass with distribution of ashes will take place at 10.00am. A bowl of ashes will remain in the church throughout the day.

The first Friday in Lent, **February 16**, is a **Day of Prayer for survivors of abuse**.



The Hospitality Committee will host tea/coffee in the parish centre after **11.00am Mass on this Sunday**.

There will be no Coffee Morning after the 10.00am Mass next Wednesday, 14th February as it is Ash Wednesday.



**Baptisms take place this Saturday and Sunday at 12 noon. Please note that baptisms will not take place during the season of Lent, but will resume on Easter Sunday**

**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)

**Scripture study resumes this Monday 12th February at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre.**

A first meeting of representatives of the **Finance Committees** of the parishes in our Partnership (Swords, River Valley, Donabate and Brackenstown) will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February in the Parish Centre.

**VOLUNTEERING FOR MINISTRY**  
 You can still volunteer to join a particular ministry or group listed here. Information flyers on tables at the back of the church indicate what ministries are available in our parish.

Contact the parish office if you'd like to get involved or drop us a line at [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com)

MINISTRIES IN ST CRONAN'S CHURCH
Baptism
Eucharist
Minister of the Word
Parish Pastoral Council
Youth Choir
Children's Choir
Organist/Choir
Adult Choir
Funeral Ministry
First Communion Prep
Confirmation Prep
Finance Committee
Counters
Liturgy Group
Parish Centre Management Committee
Hospitality Group
Adoration Group
Scripture Group
Sacristans
Altar Servers
Care of Creation/Laudato Si
Family Mass Group

**SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**Recently Deceased**  
 Breda Boylan  
 Liam McDonnell

**Month's Mind**  
 David Kelly  
 Joseph Daly  
 Teresa Chartuniewicz

**Anniversaries**  
 Noel O'Toole (1A)  
 Bridget Green  
 June Daly  
 John O'Dwyer

The **Office of Mission & Ministry** invites us to explore the **Just Lent** Resource in conjunction with the emphasis at the moment, in parishes and partnerships of parishes, on the Social Justice quadrant of the **Building Hope Framework** for Renewal. The Just Lent Resource can be used for individual reflection, as a parish leaflet and for small group reflection. Each week there is a prayer and a connection with the Sunday scriptures, with a short reflection. This is followed by questions for reflection following the method of see, discern and act. **The resource can be found on the Mission & Ministry website**

**10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK**

<b>Mon</b>	Noel O'Toole (1A) Special Intention Maria Cruz (MM)
<b>Tues</b>	Rose Fernie (R) Special Intention
<b>Wed</b>	Deceased Members of Long & Galvin Families
<b>Thur</b>	Liam McDonnell (RD)
<b>Fri</b>	Special Intention Thomas & Bridget Hickey (1A)
<b>Sat</b>	Special Intention

Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a **Parent Evening** for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 21st February at 7:15pm** 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 whether their death was recent or not.** Contact us on [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

**The new Family Offering Boxes and First & Second Collection Boxes are available for collection from the back of the Church at all Masses this weekend and also from the Parish Office next week.**

**There are substantial potential benefits for the Parish if the donor using these envelopes is an income taxpayer.**

**Your support for these collections is greatly appreciated.**

**'WELCOME TO THE WORLD' – EP**

Fr. Derek Farrell has just released his new music EP *'Welcome To The World'*, the title track, along with the two other tracks, *'No Need To Be Afraid'*, and *'Come Follow'*.



**Available Now** to stream/download, (€5) online at: [derekjudefarrell.bandcamp.com](http://derekjudefarrell.bandcamp.com).

**Also available** to order on CD, (€5 + postage) by email to: [derekjudefarrell@gmail.com](mailto:derekjudefarrell@gmail.com)

Proceeds from this EP will go to:  
**TRÓCAIRE – OUR LADY'S HOSPICE & CARE SERVICES – and CROSSCARE**

Archbishop Dermot Farrell will lead the **Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday, April 27**. Parishes/Parish Partnerships are encouraged to book buses. We are glad to say that the Choir of Many Voices from throughout the Archdiocese will be back this year. As in previous years, parishes should plan to arrive in Knock for 11.45am. If you would like to take part in the choir or have any other queries, please email: [knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie)

**Bethany Bereavement Support Group**

offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it

**Please phone Bridget - 085 2812985**  
**Sun 11th - Sat 17th February**  
**Please phone from 6pm-8pm**  
*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"*

**The week of February 7-14th, culminating on St Valentine's Day, has been designated as International Marriage Week 2024. International Marriage Day will be celebrated worldwide on Sunday February 12th.**

To celebrate International Marriage Week, all sacramentally married and engaged couples who would like to explore and deepen their relationship are invited to participate in a zoom meeting on any of three Tuesdays leading up to St. Valentine's Day from 8.00-9.00pm:

<b>Tuesday Jan. 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Love – what's it all about?</b>	
<b>Tuesday Feb. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Prayer and living faith as spouses</b>	
<b>Tuesday Feb. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Knowing each other</b>	

The Zoom details for attending any of the three sessions are as follows:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88227705620?pwd=bVBNdG11M0JPSWJaYVQ5eXdCcXBxQT09>  
 Meeting ID: 882 2770 5620 Passcode: 1402

This initiative is facilitated by Teams (Equipe Notre-Dame) Ireland.

We have assembled a number of items of clothing which have been left behind in the church by parishioners or visitors in recent weeks. These include hats, scarves, gloves, a broach and even a pair of spectacles and a case. If these are not reclaimed in the coming week, they will be donated to a local charity shop.

**Grotto Rosary**  
**Sunday 11th February**  
**Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**  
**Volunteers required to recite Rosary on Sunday 11th February every hour on half hour commencing 10:00am to 9:00pm**

**Please sign roster at back of Church or contact a member of Legion of Mary.**



**Partnership Working Together**

**River Valley** plans a weekly prayer/reflection on the first Thursday of each month from February to June. The focus will change from week to week in keeping with the Liturgical season.

**Swords** St Colmcille's Parish Book Club for Lent will read **"Finding God in a Leaf"** by Fr Brian Grogan, with an introduction on **Tuesday 13th February @ 2.00pm**. It will take place over 5 weeks, on Tuesday afternoons in the Parochial House, Seatown Road. There will be an additional session on **Tuesday 12th March at 7.00pm** for anyone who would like to read and discuss the book but can't attend the afternoon sessions.

**Brackenstown** will hold a Taizé prayer service on each of the Fridays in Lent, beginning on Friday 16th February at 7.30pm.

**I am Mark**, is a Lenten initiative of the partnership of parishes and is a dramatic presentation of St. Mark's Gospel by Stefan Smart, will take place in our church on **Wednesday 28th February at 7:30pm**. Tickets can be booked online on our website <https://www.brackenstown-parish.com/iammark>

**CO PARISH PRIEST**  
 Fr. Richard Sheehy  
 087 2412459  
[richardshesheehy@gmail.com](mailto:richardshesheehy@gmail.com)


**PARISH CHAPLAIN**  
 Fr. Joseph Hao P.C.  
 01 8401188  
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**PERMANENT DEACON**  
 Declan Colgan  
 01 8401188  
[brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com)

**PARISH SECRETARY**  
 Louise Donnelly  
 Mon to Fri. 9:30am – 1:00pm  
 01 8401188  
[brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
 Monday - Friday  
 9:30am - 1:00pm

Registered Charity Number  
 20016166

 **Legion of Mary**

**Frank Duff Prayer Meeting**

Frank Duff was inspired with a profound insight into the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ and of the place of Mary in this mystery. We welcome this prayer meeting every month to pray for the children in our parish preparing for the sacraments and for their families that they may grow in love for Christ in the Eucharist. We also pray for vocations to the priesthood in the archdiocese.

You too are invited to pray for your intentions through the intercession of Frank Duff on **Tuesday, 13th February 8:00pm-9:00pm** in Parish Pastoral Centre. The Rosary, a reading and reflection on Sunday's Gospel and a little background information about Frank Duff will be included.