

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

3D SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

12TH JANUARY 2025

YEAR C

BAPTISM OF OUR Lord



The following was received from **Alice Leahy, Director of Services, Alice Leahy Trust**. The Trust run a weekday morning service for people who are homeless or sleeping rough, which includes the provision of breakfast, an opportunity for a hot shower and change of clothing, as well as a warm welcome and advice.

'Please pass on our sincerest thanks to your parishioners in St. Cronan's Parish for being so wonderfully generous to us again this year. You have no idea how much the people who use our service will appreciate all the sweets/biscuits and other food items including tinned goods, toiletries and clothes you took the time to deliver to us this morning. The biscuits and bars are great to have to give to the people who use our service with a cup of tea, a real treat for them.'

Christmas as you are aware is a sad time for so many of the people we work with, and we are daily reminded of just how lucky we are. We keep Christmas low keyed and ensure our centre remains a place of welcome and calm. Our work at times can be challenging, and especially so at Christmas time when many of the people we work with may be reminded of happier and often simpler times. A candle in our fireplace, as we have throughout the year, simple decorations and of course Christmas cards from all our friends and supporters. Carols come to us courtesy of Lyric FM to remind us of what Christmas is all about.

With sincerest thanks again to all your parishioners in Brackenstown. I hope everyone had a nice peaceful Christmas – with every best wish to all for 2025.

We know you will remember us and the people who use our service in your prayers.'

Fr. Richard

Our monthly **Family Mass** takes place this Saturday 11th January at 6.00pm

We welcome families who have had a child baptised in our church during the past year to the 11.00am Mass this Sunday, **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**.

Religion classes for those preparing for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation continue each Tuesday from 3.00-4.00pm in the parish centre.

The parish programme of preparation for **Confirmation for candidates and their parents, Confirmation Connect**, begins with Session 1 this Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th January from 7.00-8.00pm in the church. Sessions 2 and 3 will follow in February and March respectively.

Confirmation retreats will also begin this Wednesday 15th January in the parish centre for Mr. Neary and Ms. J. Mc Dermott's classes from St. Cronan's SNC. Retreats for the other classes will follow in subsequent weeks, and they are all being led by Gerard Hanley, director of youth ministry with Alpha.

A preparation Mass for the sacraments of **First Reconciliation and First Communion** will take place on Saturday 18th at 6.00pm and on Sunday 19th January at 5pm.

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

The Council of Nicaea, the Bible and the Church Fathers

2025 marks the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea which took place in AD 325. Nicaea clarified church teaching on the Trinity and the Incarnation, that God is three and yet one and that Christ is fully God and fully man. The Council gave us the Nicene Creed with language that we repeat every Sunday – that Jesus is “consubstantial” with the Father, true God from true God, begotten not made.

To deepen our understanding of the importance of Nicaea and why the Council was necessary, St. Cronan’s Parish Scripture Study group will offer the study *The Bible and the Church Fathers* beginning on Monday 10th February. Participants will meet in St Cronan’s Pastoral Centre on Monday nights 7.30 to 8.20 pm over 12 lessons, to view a video presentation each week followed by a group discussion and an opportunity to ask questions. At the end of the course you will have a good understanding of the various heresies in the Early Church and of how the Church Fathers were able to refute these false beliefs through Holy Scripture.

For more information or to register, please contact Louise in the Parish office tel. 01 8401188 or email brackenstownparish@gmail.com

Many thanks to those who have already returned **Christmas Offerings**. There are still envelopes available at the back of the church for those who would like to contribute. Christmas Offerings form part of the annual remuneration of the priests of the parish and of the diocese.

A **Partnership Pastoral Council** meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st January at 7.30pm in the parish centre.

As two of the priests in the partnership of parishes will be away for a month from 19th January, the Swords parishes will not be able to maintain a weekday Mass in each parish during that period. It is proposed that on at least one weekday in each parish, a **Service of the Word and of Holy Communion** will take place with the assistance of Ministers of the Word and of the Eucharist. This will take place on Friday mornings in St. Cronan’s church, beginning on Friday 24th January. Those who wish to attend Mass on Fridays can attend at St. Colmcille’s Swords, or St. Finian’s, River Valley.

Traveller Outreach Addiction Service: this is a free and confidential drug and alcohol treatment service providing addiction support to the Traveller Community and their families in North Dublin. Opening hours: 9.00am-5.00pm.

To speak to a member of the team, contact: 01/6991077. For more information contact: travellersupport@coolminetc.ie.

Swords Memory Cafe – for people living with dementia, their carers, family members and those interested in fostering a dementia inclusive community in Swords – hold a free Cafe on the third Thursday of each month in Fingallian’s GAA club between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

6 week Beginner’s Yoga Class starting on Monday 27th January from 9:30am—10:45am And starting on Wednesday 29th January from 7pm—8:15pm

6 week Chair Yoga Class starting on Monday 27th January from 11:15am—12:15pm in St Cronan’s Parish Centre (beside Church).

6 Week Course €75 or pay per class €14

Contact Caroline for more information on 087 6913028. All walk-ins welcome.

Separated, Divorced, Widowed Are you coping?

Few people are able to cope alone with the pain and loneliness following the loss of a life partner. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Beginning Experience is a peer support group dedicated to helping those who are navigating life alone whether through death, separation or divorce. A team of trained facilitators, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share with you how they coped with their loss. A Three Day Coping with Life Alone Programme will take place on: Saturday 25th, January, 8th and 15th February 2025 (Advance Booking Essential) Carmelite Community Centre, Whitefriar Street, Dublin 2. For further information contact Beginning Experience 086 0877379, or email: bedublin@gmail.com

Frank Duff Prayer Meeting Pray-Reflect-Share

Tuesday 14rd January at 8:00pm in Brackenstown Parish Pastoral Centre. Hymns, The Rosary, reflection on Sunday’s Gospel and a little background information about Servant of God, Frank Duff will be included. Please invite a friend.

Religious Goods - Suitable gifts for sanctifying the home

Church Art calendars, statues, ornaments, children’s colouring books, bibles and lots more available at Repository on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.



**Legion
of Mary**

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Michael Carolan
Mary Fitzsimons
Kathleen Nugent
Michael Morris
Mary Durkan

Anniversaries

Frank Walsh (1A)
Joe (1A), Mary & June Daly
Pauline Knight (2A)
Derek Dalton (2A)
V. Delaney (8A)
John McNally (24A)
Mary Clonan
Peter Harford
Noel Flynn
Rhea Kinsella
John Gallagher
Michael Hanrahan (BR)
Special Intention

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon	James Kirwan (A) Martin Lawrence (4A)
Tues	Eddie Hogan (A)
Wed	Marian Movement for Priests Eva & Richard Kearns (A)
Thur	James Hogan (26A)
Fri	Daniel, Nathan, Mary Sinead, John & Mary Maughan (A)
Sat	Special Intention

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”*

CO PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Richard Sheehy
087 2412459

richarddesheehy@gmail.com

PARISH CHAPLAIN

Fr. Joseph Hao P.C.
01 8401188

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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