7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23RD FEBRUARY 2025

YEAR C

As many of you are aware, the diocese has embarked on a journey of The Building Hope Prayer renewal entitled **Building Hope**, the fruit of consultations in parishes right across the diocese on what parishioners consider pastoral praise. priorities. What emerged clearly from those consultations was the our darkness and doubts. desire that we form Christian communities which are (1) faith-filled, (2) welcoming and inclusive, (3) characterised by servant leadership Open our eyes to recognise you in the and co-responsibility, and (4) with a concern for social justice. To assist parishes and partnerships in working towards these objectives, the diocese has recently produced a Building Hope Pastoral Strategic May the risen Christ sow seeds of hope Planning Resource 2025-2027. The resource sets out practical steps which can be taken under each of the four above headings using the Synodal model of Prayer – Reflection – and Planning. Next Saturday 1st March, the Parish Pastoral Councils of the four parishes in our partnership (Donabate, River Valley, Swords and Brackenstown) will spend a half day in our Pastoral Centre, exploring how we as a partnership might work more closely together in realising some of We make this our prayer through Christ these objectives. As the number of priests in the diocese become fewer (most recent statistics show that more than 50% of the priests in the diocese are over 70 years of age), there is a more urgent need for parishes to share resources and to work more collaboratively together. As well as our regular parish pastoral council meetings, the partnership

Pilgrim God, we give you thanks and

We seek your way of loving kindness to

walk together as one family.

faces of one another,

in the breaking of bread and in the splendour of creation.

and new life deep within us.

May our hearts and minds be filled with your Word,

bringing forth truth, justice and peace. May the Holy Spirit working in and through us do much more

than we can dare to imagine as we live out our baptismal calling in

humble and loving service. Our Lord.

Amen. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

St Laurence O'Toole, pray for us. St Kevin, pray for us. St Brigid, pray for us.

pastoral council meets every second month, and we have had two meetings of a finance forum which brings together representatives of the different finance committees. Key to the success of Building Hope is creating increasing capacity for lay ministry in our parishes. A number of our funeral ministry team have trained as lay leaders and regularly lead prayers at the funeral home, cemetery or crematorium. Parishioners will have noticed that in recent weeks a liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion has taken place on a different day in each of the Swords parishes, and our thanks are due to the ministers of the Word and of the Eucharist who have led these liturgies very effectively and reverently. I invite parishioners to pray that the gathering of the

four pastoral councils next Saturday will bear fruit in a plan of pastoral action for the coming years.

Fr Richard

Baptisms will take place this weekend, 22nd and 23rd February at 12 noon. Please note that Baptisms do not take place at St. Cronan's during Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday 5th March. The next baptisms will be on Easter Sunday 20th April.



Bible Study Course on the **Bible** and the Church **Fathers** 2025 1,700th the marks anniversary of the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. clarified Nicaea church teaching on the

Trinity and the Incarnation, that God is three and yet one and that Christ is fully God and fully man. St. Cronan's Parish is offering The Bible and the Church Fathers over 12 weeks in St. Cronan's Pastoral Centre each Monday from 7.30 to 8.30pm. There is no charge, and all are welcome.

A meeting of the Pastoral Centre Committee will take place on Monday 24th February at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

A meeting to plan the next Family Mass will take place on Tuesday 25th February at 6pm in the Pastoral Centre. New volunteers welcome to join us. The *Family Mass* will take place on Saturday 1st March at 6.00pm.

We invite all willing volunteers to join us in a thorough cleaning and tidying of the church and its environs Saturday 22nd February

at 12 noon

The cleaning of **church** will take place this Saturday February at 12 noon. New volunteers always welcome, even if you can only come once in a while.

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 new Family Offering Parish Weekly Envelopes 2025 boxes will be available to be SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS collected at the back of the Church after all Masses this weekend 22nd/23rd February. Your support for the Family Offering is greatly appreciated. The Parish depends on the voluntary contributions of parishioners for the running and development of the Parish.

The new envelope boxes for the Sunday collections at Mass will also be available for collection. If you don't already use these envelopes for your Sunday Mass donations, please consider doing so. By donating to the Mass collections using these envelopes rather than directly into the baskets, your donation could be worth up to 45% more to the parish, at no extra cost to you! For example, if you pay income tax and your total annual combined donation (including Family Offering, First and Second collections and Christmas/Easter Offerings) is €250 or more per year, we can claim a refund from Revenue on the tax that you have already paid. This refund is available through the CHY Charitable Donation Scheme for approved charities. Last year the Parish received a CHY income tax refund of €44,960, which was of immense help to the parish finances. You can request a box of envelope or a standing order form for the Family Offering to support the running of the Parish by contacting the Parish office: Tel 840 1188, or email brackenstownparish@gmail.com

Thank you to all who support the Parish so generously!

Finance Committee

Ash Wednesday 5th March marks the beginning of the season of Lent Mass with distribution of ashes will take place at 10.00am and at 7.30pm

Trocaire Lenten campaign packs (which include the Lenten donation box) will be available on tables around the church from this weekend. This year's campaign, entitled Stronger Together, focuses on communities affected by the effects of climate change in Guatemala and other parts of the world. The annual Lenten campaign is Trocaire's biggest fundraiser.

The annual diocesan **Pilgrimage to Knock** will take place on Saturday 26th April (Easter Saturday). It is hoped once again to organise a bus from the partnership of parishes to travel to Knock. Note the date, and watch this space for more details!

'Shout' March 5th & 6th in Fingal Community College at 7:15p.m each night

In a world full of words, how can Dana be herself when she can't speak? Dana has selective mutism, but that doesn't stem her vivid imagination. Because it's not just the noise you make that makes you who you are. Alexis Zegerman's play Shout is a funny, moving drama about anxiety, celebrating difference, and finding your voice. It wonders what exactly it takes to overcome anxiety and cope with mental health issues when you're a teenager. https://www.gr8events.ie/sales/index.php?event=1897

Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage: We are delighted to announce our plans to have a group representing the Diocese at the Jubilee of Youth gathering in Rome during the summer. If you can't make it, there's also an option for a 'Rome @ Home'! Fill in your details to express interest in being part of the group or mark your option for 'Rome @ Home'.

The January edition of Mission & Ministry Matters is available by clicking here

Email: natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie

Prayer Resources for the Jubilee Year can be found at

Register Interest: https://forms.office.com/e/9fGvLqiL7t

https://dublindiocese.ie/jubilee2025/

Partnership Working Together: St Colmcille's Parish— Lenten Discussions

For Lent this year we will be meeting over five weeks during Lent for discussions on 'Calling a Wounded Earth Home'.

Following on from last year's book club during Lent, where we discussed the book Finding God in a Leaf, this year we will be reflecting on the topic 'Calling a Wounded Earth Home'. We will have prayers, reflections and discussions on a different theme each week. If you attended last year we would be delighted to see you again. If you did not attend last year, you will be very welcome, it is not necessary to have attended last year. We will start on Tuesday 11th March and each Tuesday until April 8th at 2.00pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Road. There will be an additional session on Tuesday night April 8th at 7.00pm for anyone who would like to join in the discussion but are unable to attend in the afternoons. All materials will be provided. For more information or to register your brackenstownparish@gmail.com interest contact Colette at the Parish Office 01 8407277 or parishoffice@stcolmcilleschurch.ie



Legion of Marv

Come and See Meetings!

Legion of Mary hold meetings on Tuesday 10:30-11:45am in St brackenstownparish@gmail.com Joseph's Room and Wednesdays 7:30-9:00pm in St Cronan's Pastoral Centre. Junior Legion: Fri 5:00-6:00pm. All welcome to attend any meeting at your convenience.

Alive Newspaper

Could you help us distribute Alive newspaper in Valley View area this year? If interested, please contact members of the Legion at Repository on Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings.

Religious Goods - Suitable for the Home

Confirmation and Communion gifts/items, Statues, ornaments, children's colouring books, bibles and lots more available at Repository on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.

Recently Deceased Tony Corrigan

Month's Mind Amanda Harford

Anniversaries

Michael John Canning (1A) Doreen McKittrick (2A) Terry Culbert (4A) Sean McKenna (4A) Dolly Keane (11A) Bridget Kelly (20A) Mary Joseph

Michael, John, Tommy & Emma Kelly Deirdre Walsh Alphonsus Snr, Alphonsus Jnr, & Raymond Skelton John & Margaret Murtagh Margaret Morandeira **Christy McNally** Paddy McManus Reg Cheevers

Hannah, Martin & Matthew Gormley Bridie Caulfield (BR)

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon Patrick & Mary Kate Gallagher (A) Francisca Abing (23A) Special Intention

Tues Margaret Morandeira, Christy McNally & Paddy McManus (A)

Wed Marie Reilly (RD)

Thur Special Intention Delia O'Donohoe (A)

Terry Culbert (4A)

Sat Aileen Devine (2A)

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.

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 richardesheehy@gmail.com

PARISH CHAPLAIN Fr. Joseph Hao P.C. 01 8401188

PERMANENT DEACON 01 8401188

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