

CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN

BRACKENSTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
26TH FEBRUARY 2023 YEAR A

Lenten Reflection



When I asked children in our primary school this week why Lent was forty days duration, they told me that it was because Jesus spent forty days in the desert. They are on the money. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear of Jesus being led into the desert immediately following his baptism. It is a place where he can encounter God free from distractions, except the distraction of temptations, and it proves a turning point in his life and the beginning of his mission. Lent for us, too, is an invitation to find or create a desert space, where we can encounter God more deeply and make a new beginning in our lives. Our resolve to give up something or take on something new is primarily about freeing ourselves from the distractions that occupy so much of our

time, energy and focus, so that God can reach us. They are also about entering into deeper solidarity with those who are suffering and those who do not even have the choice as to whether or not they will fast. May our efforts to restrain our more superficial desires during Lent lead us to the new life of resurrection which we celebrate at Easter!

Fr. Richard

DIOCESAN COLLECTION

WEEKEND OF
25TH / 26TH FEBRUARY

The collection will be channelled through Trócaire, who are working with partners in the affected area.

Archbishop Farrell has given approval for a DIOCESAN COLLECTION to be taken up in support of the people of TURKEY AND SYRIA affected by the devastating earthquakes on Monday 5th February. The collection, will be taken up at all Masses on 25/26 February, 1st Sunday of Lent, will replace the SHARE collection and will be channelled through Trócaire, who are working with partners in the affected area.

2023 Envelope Boxes

The new boxes of Family Offering Parish Envelopes will be available to be collected at the back of the Church after all Masses on the weekend of 25th & 26th of February. Your support for the Family Offering is greatly appreciated.

The new envelope boxes for the First and Second collections at Mass will also be available to be collected at the back of the church after all Masses on the same weekend. There are substantial potential benefits for the Parish if the donor uses these envelopes for the collections at Mass and is an income taxpayer.

You can request a box of envelopes or a standing order form for the Family Offering to support the running of the Parish by contacting Louise in the Parish office Tel 8401188, email brackenstownparish@gmail.com. There are also forms available on the tables at the back of the church. Completed forms can be placed in the box inside the main door or the St. Cronan's door or returned to the Parish office. The Parish depends on the voluntary contributions of parishioners for the running and development of the Parish. Thank you to all who support the parish so generously.

Paddy O'Byrne, Finance Committee



Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, beginning next Friday 3rd March, (but excluding St. Patrick's Day) we will celebrate the Taizé Prayer Around the Cross in the Church at 8:15pm.

Brackenstown, Donabate, River Valley & Swords Cluster of Parishes

Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL
€25 per person

Stopping both ways at Ballinalack which has food, tea, coffee & toilet facilities



Remember to bring a Packed Lunch

BUS LEAVING

St. Cronan's Church at 7:30am sharp

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 Bible Timeline

The Story of Salvation



The Bible Timeline Understand the Entire Bible

St. Cronan's Parish offers The Bible Timeline beginning this Monday 20th February from 7.30 to 9.00 pm. Participants will meet every week to view a 50-minute video presentation followed by a group discussion and an opportunity to ask questions. Presenter Jeff Cavins shows how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and gives the keys to understanding the story woven throughout Scripture. Participants will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and discover how they all come together to reveal the story of our faith. For more information or to register, please contact Louise in the Parish office Tel. 01 8401188 or email brackenstownparish@gmail.com

Confirmation Connect, the online parish programme for candidates and their parents preparing for Confirmation, continues on Monday at 7.30 and 8.15pm and Tuesday at 7.30pm (depending on which group candidates belong to).



Please note the change of time for each of the three sessions.

A preparation Mass for Confirmation candidates and their families takes place next Saturday 4th March at 6.00pm and Sunday 5th March at 12.30 and 5.00pm.



The celebration of First Reconciliation (Confession) for children attending St. Cronan's Junior National School will take place at 7.30pm on:
Tuesday 28th February at 7.30pm—Ms. Gannon and Ms Lehany's classes
Wednesday 1st March—Ms. Kelly/Hanratty & Ms. Farren's classes
Wednesday 8th March at 7.30pm—Ms. Gabbett's class

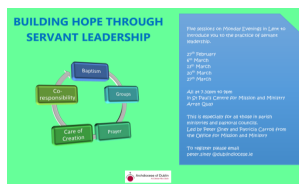
We may be saying farewell to our current pastoral centre caretaker, Aaron, in the coming weeks as the CE scheme on which he is a participant and which normally runs for two years, is due to draw to a close in mid March. We would be sorry to lose, Aaron, but are hopeful that he may be able to extend his time with us until such time as a replacement on the scheme may be found. It is in this context that Donabate & Swords District CE Project is currently advertising for the position of Caretaker of Brackenstown Parish Pastoral Centre. The position is for 19.5 hours per week, five days weekly. The position is based mainly at the Pastoral Centre adjacent to the parish church but includes other locations, such as St. Joseph's room and the church itself. The Community Employment (CE) programme is designed to help people to get back to work by offering part-time and temporary placements in jobs based within local communities. Interested applicants should apply to the CE project coordinator at f.iannitti@swordsceprojectcom – 085 702 9001.

Trocaire Lenten campaign packs (including a Trocaire box) are available at the church entrances from this weekend. This year's campaign focuses on Somalia, where lack of rain over a number of years has led to a failure of harvests and a devastating food shortage. A representative from Trocaire will speak at all Masses about the campaign on Sat/Sun. 4/5th March, Second Sunday of Lent.

On behalf of Irish Water, GMC are carrying out work on a new trunk watermain to improve security and resilience of water supply for 350,000 people in North Dublin across homes, hospitals and businesses. To facilitate these works, a water outage is required from **1am Sunday night to 11am Sunday morning - 26th February.**



The Diocesan Office for Mission and Ministry are putting on a **Lenten programme** called Building Hope Through Servant Leadership, aimed particularly at Pastoral Council members and those in pastoral ministries. It will run from 7.00pm on five Monday evenings in Lent at St. Paul's Arran Quay.



Bethany Bereavement Support Group

offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it
Please phone Brid - 086 6006397 - week Sunday 19th February to Saturday 25th - please phone after 6pm
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased

Christina Mua
Rosaleen Durnin

Month's Minds

James Long

Anniversaries

Dolly Keane (9A)
Mary Reynolds (24A)
Deirdre Walsh
Terry Colbert
Annie & Andrew Martin
Margaret Morandeira
Christy McNally
Paddy McManus
John & Margaret Murtagh
Maura Foran
John & Bridget Kelly
Margaret O'Brien
Robert Donovan
Delia O'Donohoe
Flora Moran (BR)

10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

Mon Rita Raftery (RD)
Tues Myra Donnellan (RD)
 Pray for: Flora Moran (BR)
Wed Anne Dynes (BR)
 Pray for: Kevin Harford (A)
Thur Richard & Eva Kearns (A)
 Pray for: Catherine Punch (BR)
Fri Marian Movement for Priests
Sat Tony O'Neill (2A)

CO PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Richard Sheehy
087 2412459

richardsheehy@gmail.com

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

brackenstownparish@gmail.com

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



Legion of Mary

INVITATION TO PATRICIAN MEETING

How should we celebrate the season of Lent in 2023? What is the significance of Lent? The next Patrician Meeting will focus on how we can revitalize our commitment to Lent. Everybody most welcome especially newcomers and members of parish ministries on **Thursday 23rd February at 8:00pm in Parish Pastoral Centre.** Spiritual Director will attend.

Christ Centred... Pray the Rosary

The rosary helps us to focus on the main events in the life of Jesus. It tells of Mary's role in our salvation... a wonderful prayer. The "Rosary Statue" was blessed for use in the homes of the parish at the October Candlelight Procession. If you would like to have the statue in your home for a little time, please contact a member of Legion of Mary in the main porch after Saturday evening or Sunday morning Masses.

GROTTO ROSARY

The Legion of Mary would like to thank all who recited the rosary for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday 11th February. The numbers attending made it a great success.

DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE

Service for Healing of the Generations
Venue: St. John the Evangelist Church,
Kilbarrack, Dublin 5.
Date: 26th February beginning at 7pm