# CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN & BRACKENSTOWN PARISH

## Parish Newsletter

## 15th March 2020 Third Sunday of Lent Year A **COVID-19 UPDATE**

#### Dear Parishioner,

In light of the guidelines issued by the Government and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, the following arrangements are in effect from Thursday 12th March until further notice. Change may happen at short notice and will be posted on Brackenstown Parish Facebook page

These are strange and somewhat unsettling times. But the work of building up the Kingdom of God goes on and is important now more than ever. We need to answer call to 'love our neighbour as yourself' in practical and simple ways. A note through a neighbour's door, a phone call, an offer to do some shopping can mean so much. And, of course, our own behaviours show our care to the wider community. Listening to the advice given by the HSE, not being selfish in our buying, staying at home if we are sick and continuing to WASH OUR HANDS! In our prayers, too, we can ask the Lord to keep each of us in his loving care. Perhaps each day you could light a candle for a short time and say a prayer for those affected and for those who are working so hard to keep us safe and well. The Parish Team

#### **Weekend Masses** (Saturday evening and Sunday)

will be suspended at this time. Mass will be celebrated and broadcast via webcam (There will be no congregation) at the following times Saturday: 6.30pm 9am & 11am

#### Weekday Masses will continue for now under these conditions:

That the number attending remains under 80

Sunday:

- That those who attend wash their hands and use the hand sanitiser available in the porches.
- That those who attend practice social distancing within the Church ie: sit 1.5mts (6ft) from other people, not just beside you but also in front and behind you.

#### In the event of a Funeral

Please give priority to the family and do not attend as the limit remains at 100

#### Confession

The use of the Confession Box is suspended at this time as it is an enclosed space. Confession will be available only on Saturday morning from 10:30am in the Sacristy.

#### **Private Prayer and Adoration**

The Church will be open from 9:00am to 6:00pm daily for prayer.

Eucharistic Adoration will take place at these times:

Monday: 10:30am to 11:30am Wednesday: 6:00pm to 11:00pm Friday: 10:30am to 6:00pm Saturday: 10:30am to 11:30am

#### **The Parish Retreat**

Has been postponed and will be held at a later date

#### **Pastoral Centre**

The Parish Pastoral Centre is closed to meetings and hospitality. The Parish Office is closed to people calling in

#### We're still here to help!!!

If you feel isolated or need anything, please contact us and we will do our best to help you Tel: 01 840 1188 (Monday - Friday, 9am-1pm) Tel Fr. Paul - 087 740 4729 Tel. Fr. Bibin - 089 423 8775 Email brackenstownparish@gmail.com

> All our Masses and prayer times will be broadcast on the webcam: www.brackenstown-parish.com

Mass is also available on EWTN

#### **ALL WEEKEND MASSES WILL BE OFFERED** FOR INTENTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN **BOOKED**

James and Mary Hernan John and Hannah Conroy Patrick, Carmel and Albert Bissett Anna McGuirk

#### **PRAY FOR**

Ellen Harford Lynne Godfrey Frank Hopkins Thomas McArdle

### **10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK**

Mon:

10am Cyril and Ann Gallagher 7.30pm Bridget and Patrick Greene

Carmel O'Keeffe Tues: John and Hannah Conrov

Wed: Deceased members of the McTiernan Family

Thur: Eileen Clancy

Fri: Jimmy Kirwan (2nd Anniversary) Sat:



Anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again

#### St. Patrick's Breastplate

Christ with me. Christ before me. Christ behind me. Christ in me. Christ beneath me. Christ above me. Christ on my right. Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down. Christ when I arise. Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me. Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise today
Through a mighty strength,
the invocation of the Trinity,
Through belief in the Threeness,
Through confession of the Oneness
of the Creator of creation.



**1st Reading:** 1 SAM 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A

**PSALM** 23: 1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6. **2nd Reading:** EPH 5:8-14

**Gospel:** JN 9:1-41

4th SUNDAY
OF LENT

BRACKENSTOWN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2020 24—29 September 2020 for 7 Nights

Cost €769 per person sharing

- Cost includes: Direct flight from Dublin to Lourdes
- Inclusive of airport taxes & insurance
- Transfers on arrival at Lourdes Airport to your hotel and return
- Staying in the Hotel Padoue on a full board basis
- Fully escorted prilgrimage,
  - accompanied by Spiritual Director
- Direct Flight from Lourdes to Dublin

For further details contact Susan on 01 8084445

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**



Mon: 10.30 am - 11.30 am Wed: 6.00 pm - 11.00 pm Fri: 10.30 am - 5.45pm Sat: 10.30am - 11.30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place during Lent from 4—5pm on the following Sundays: 15th, 22nd & 29th March and 5th April. Can you stay 1 hour with me? We encourage new people to come & join us.



'LIKE' Legion of Mary Brackenstown Swords

#### Petra's Journey to Baptism

As a Catechumen, Petra was led out of 12.30 mass after the homily each Sunday. She was led in procession by the Book of the Gospels, and then she and members of the team reflected on the Sunday gospel, what did it mean? How did it speak to us?

Some ask why did Petra not stay for the rest of mass. There are two main reasons, first is that she cannot be invited to the table of the Eucharist as she is not baptised. The second reason is that just after Petra was led out, the faith community stand and profess their faith in the Creed. Petra was not yet ready to believe all that we say we believe each Sunday.

Now after a faith journey with our parish over the last 18 months, Petra is ready to profess what she believes, what we believe. A lovely ceremony that takes place during lent is the Presentation of the Creed. This is about the faith community professing it loudly and firmly and convincingly - and Petra as the Elect, in these final 40 days of preparation, receiving it in her heart.

#### St Patrick's Day (reflection by Jane Mellett)

For Christians in Ireland, March 17<sup>th</sup> takes on a deeper significance as church communities celebrate the feast of Ireland's patron saint and the gift of faith. This is an opportunity to reflect on those who passed on this gift of faith to us: grandparents, parents, teachers, religious, friends, strangers. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the significance of the Christian message for our communities today. In a society where racism is increasing, thousands of families are homeless, and a 'céad míle fáilte' is not extended to all, Christ's message of inclusion, justice and love is as relevant and as radical as ever.

Let us reflect on what our faith means to us, the strength and hope it gives us. Let us invite Christ more fully into our lives today and allow ourselves to embrace real transformation. What does it mean to be Christian in Ireland today and try to live as Jesus did? St Patrick endured hardship and persecution, risking a lot in order to bring the Gospel message to people. Let us celebrate this great saint today and also ask that we too may be carriers of the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

View our Parish Webcam via the Parish Website www.brackenstown-parish.com



brackenstownparish

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