



# CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN BRACKENSTOWN PARISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

*10th January 2016 — Year C*

## The Feast Of The Baptism Of Our Lord

One of the most beautiful moments of Parish life is celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism. When parents bring their new born baby to become a member of God's family there is a great sense of joy and excitement as this little one begins their friendship with Jesus. It is the same joy and excitement when we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with an adult at the Easter Vigil, having gone through the preparation time, reflecting on God's word and praying with the community.

How we welcome families who bring their children to be Baptised or how we go on the journey with adults through RCIA is very important. This for many is their first engagement as adults with questions of faith and what it means to be a member of the Christian community.

In recent media articles you can be led to believe that people only get their children baptized to get into school. If this was the case then it devalues the Sacrament and in an area where we have a wide choice of patronage of schools, it is not a reality.

Baptism is the beginning of an adventure of faith. The parents and godparents make a solemn promise to hand on the knowledge of faith to their child through their care, direction, prayer and taking part in the life of the Church. As Church we have a responsibility to those who are being baptised. This begins from the moment they make an enquiry about Baptism.

Our Baptism Team is a very important part of how our Parish welcomes and supports parents as they prepare for the Sacrament. How we welcome them, explain the ceremony to them, pray with them and support them on the day is very important. Currently there are only five people on the Baptism Team. This is by no means enough given the amount of Baptisms we celebrate here in the Parish.

During our Masses today, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, a member of the Baptism Team will explain what they do in their ministry of welcome. We ask you to consider becoming a member of this team. There will be training provided and no member of the team works on their own. There will be forms you can fill in available at the back of the Church or you can contact the Parish Office.

Recently we installed a board to remember those who have died during the year and on the other side to welcome those who are baptized each month. Even though we may not be related to the children being baptized, all of us have a part in their experience of the family of God. Pray for them, encourage them and make them always feel welcome.

The Baptism dates for February are 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February. There are no Baptisms including private Baptisms until Easter Sunday.

*Fr. Paul & Peter Siney*



### MASS INTENTIONS

**6:30pm** D'csd Members of Hanrahan Family

**9:00am** Altar List of the Dead

**11:00am** John McNally (A)

**12:30pm** Alec & Marie Ryan (A)

**5:30pm** Noel Flynn (A)

### PRAY FOR

Vera Rocca (RD)  
Martin Maughan & dcsd family members  
Sandra Brophy (A)  
Ann, Tom & Philomena O'Leary (A)  
Ciara Fagan (RD)  
Johnny O'Sullivan (RD)  
Jim Reid (RD)  
Paula O'Keeffe (RD)  
James Murtagh (RD)  
Gerry O'Malley (RD)

### MASSES NEXT WEEK AT 10AM

Mon: John Kelly (RD)  
Tues: Eamonn Lawless (A)  
Wed: Jerry Minihane (A)  
Thurs: Laurence Hoey (A)  
Fri: Bernard Oldham, John Martin & Patrick McCabe (A)  
Pray for: Edward Brum (A) & Julia Pentony (A)  
Sat: Gerard & James McGrath (A)

**Please take this Newsletter home with you**

# PARISH DIARY

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
<b>JANUARY</b>		
10th	Focus on Baptism Team	All Masses
10 <sup>th</sup>	Final day for Epiphany Gifts Appeal	
13th	Confirmation Programme	School
17th	Celebration of the Cultures of the Parish	12:30 Mass
17th	Information on Bible Study Course	Pastoral Centre
18 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup>	Church Unity Week	TBA
19th	Meeting to review Advent Prayer by text	7:00pm Pastoral Centre
20th	Confirmation Programme	School
23rd	Do This In Memory Mass	6:30pm
24th	Do This In Memory Mass	12:30pm
26th	The Year of Mercy – What is Pope Francis Vision?	7:30pm Pastoral Centre
30th	Final Date for booking for Rome Pilgrimage	Office
31 <sup>st</sup> – 6th	Catholic Schools Week	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
1st	St. Cronan's Service of Light	7:30pm Church
1 <sup>st</sup>	The Great Adventure Bible Study Begins	7:30pm Pastoral Centre
2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Great Adventure Bible Study Begins	12:00noon Pastoral Centre
8th	Gaelscoil Bhrian Boroimhe Service of Light	7:30pm Church
10 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday	
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sacrament of Confirmation St. Cronan's SNS	11:00am Church
12 <sup>th</sup>	Sacrament of Confirmation St. Cronan's SNS	11:00am Church
16 <sup>th</sup>	Sacrament of Confirmation Gaelscoil Bhrian Boroimhe	11:00am Church
20 <sup>th</sup> – 28th	Parish Retreat Led by the Capuchin Retreat Team	7:30am; 10:00am 12:00noon; 7:30pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Do This In Memory	6:30pm
28 <sup>th</sup>	Do This In Memory	12:30pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	First Confession St. Cronan's JNS	7:00pm Church
<b>MARCH</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	First Confession St. Cronan's JNS	7:00pm Church
2 <sup>nd</sup>	First Confession Swords and Thornleigh	7:00pm Church
3 <sup>rd</sup>	First Confession Gaelscoil Bhrian Boroimhe	7:00pm Church
19th	Do This In Memory	6:30pm
20 <sup>th</sup>	Do This In Memory	12:30pm
21st	Reconciliation Service Swords	7:30pm
22nd	Reconciliation Service Rivervalley	7:30pm
24th	Holy Thursday Mass of the Lords Supper	7:30pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer	
Good Friday	Stations for Children Veneration of the Cross The Way of the Cross	10:00am 12:00noon 3:00pm; 7:30pm
26th	Morning Prayer	
Holy Saturday	Blessing of Baskets Easter Vigil	10:00am 3:00pm; 9:00pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Sunday	
<b>APRIL</b>		
9th	Do This In Memory	6:30pm
10th	Do This In Memory	12:30pm
15th	Evening of Healing Led by Eddie Stones	7:00pm
<b>Blessing and Dedication of the Pastoral Centre</b>		
The Pastoral Council will invite Archbishop Martin to celebrate the 12:30pm Mass some Sunday after Easter. This will be followed by a blessing of the Pastoral Centre.		

## YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

26th September—1st October 2016



Booking is now open for this Pilgrimage. Booking forms are available from the Parish Office either by calling in or by email. Deposits of €150.00 need to be paid by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Cheques made payable to St. Cronan's Church. Please note total cost is €795. The dates are the 26<sup>th</sup> September to the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016. Full details on the Notice Board and on the Parish Website.

### RAFFLE FOR ST. FRANCIS HOSPICE

There are some prizes left from the Coffee Morning in the Parish Centre. If you have a raffle ticket that you think may be a winner, please contact the parish office asap. Any unclaimed prizes will be donated to the Epiphany Gifts appeal.

### CHRISTMAS DUES

We thank all who have already returned their Christmas Dues and they are very gratefully received. The Dues with the First Collection support the Priests of the Parish and the sick and retired Priests of the Diocese. If you haven't returned your Dues yet, you can place them in the pouches at Mass or in the white boxes in

### PARISH PASTORAL CENTRE FUNDRAISING

The following are weekly totals:

**Buy-A-Brick Appeal € 20,338.28**

**Pastoral Centre Donations; €25,776**

**Parish Centre Appeal Total €46,114.28**

The Certificates for all who contributed are now ready to be collected at the Parish Office. Many thanks to all who have kindly contributed.

### LEGION OF MARY

We welcome new members — over 18's — Tuesdays 10:30am in Sisters' House and Wednesdays 7:30pm in Sacristy. Junior members Fridays 5:00pm in Sacristy. Come and see.

Calendars, Church Art, Padre Pio, diaries etc. available from Legion of Mary in main porch after Sunday morning and Saturday evening Masses.

Personal or family prayer is very beneficial. Did you ever pray the rosary? Would you like to find out about ways in which it can help you? Contact members of Legion of Mary in main porch after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

### MSZE SWIETA W JEZYKU POLSKIM

Dzisiaj, Niedziele 10 Styczen, o godz 18:45 (Spowiedz 18:15—18:40)

### SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS THIS YEAR:

Volunteers needed to deliver the free Catholic Paper Alive! in various parts of the parish. Information from Legion of Mary members in main porch after weekend Masses or leave your name & phone no. with Louise in parish office.

### CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS

**9/10 January**

No Collection

**16/17 January**

No Collection

**23/24 January**

Matthew Rose—Nel UCD Volunteer Overseas



# CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

On SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY at the 12:30pm Mass we will celebrate the different cultures of the Parish. We have invited the African Chaplaincy, Polish Community, Travelling Community, Indian Community to join with us in celebrating the faith we hold together.

We invite you to come to the Mass in traditional dress or wearing the a national sporting jersey of your country.

After the Mass there will be refreshments in the Pastoral Centre prepared by each group as a sample of their national dishes.



An eight week course for anyone who wants an overview of the key books of the Bible. If you would like to have a deeper relationship with God and a better understanding of your faith, then join us for *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*. You will not only benefit personally from being part of this study; you will also help to bring about a profound renewal in our parish as we grow closer to Christ. Brackenstown Parish will begin *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 7:30pm in the Pastoral Centre. (We will also run it at 12:00noon on Tuesdays beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> February if there is sufficient interest) For more

information or to sign up, contact Paddy O'Byrne through the Parish Office 01 8401188 or [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com) or fill in a form and place it in the white post boxes in the Church. There will be a 30min presentation in the Pastoral Centre after all Masses on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January. There will be a charge of €20 for the workbook.

## EXTRACT FROM *MISERICORDIAE VULTUS* (THE YEAR OF MERCY DOCUMENT) BY POPE FRANCIS

"It is proper to God to exercise mercy, and he manifests his omnipotence particularly in this way". Saint Thomas Aquinas' words show that God's mercy, rather than a sign of weakness, is the mark of his omnipotence. For this reason the liturgy, in one of its most ancient collects, has us pray: "O God, who reveal your power above all in your mercy and forgiveness ... "Throughout the history of humanity, God will always be the One who is present, close, provident, holy, and merciful.

"Patient and merciful." These words often go together in the Old Testament to describe God's nature. His being merciful is concretely demonstrated in his many actions throughout the history of salvation where his goodness prevails over punishment and destruction. In a special way the Psalms bring to the fore the grandeur of his merciful action: "He forgives all your iniquity, he heals all your diseases, he redeems your life from the pit, he crowns you with steadfast love and mercy" (Ps 103:3-4). Another psalm, in an even more explicit way, attests to the concrete signs of his mercy: "He executes justice for the oppressed; he gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the sojourners, he upholds the widow and the fatherless; but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin" (Ps 146:7-9). Here are some other expressions of the Psalmist: "He heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds... The Lord lifts up the downtrodden, he casts the wicked to the ground" (Ps 147:3, 6). In short, the mercy of God is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality with which he reveals his love as of that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that this is a "visceral" love. It gushes forth from the depths naturally, full of tenderness and compassion, indulgence and mercy. Paragraph 6.



We wish Fr. Tony well on his remaining lectures in Bristol and a safe journey back to his community in Kerala.



## PARISH INFORMATION

### Mass Times:

### Weekday Mass:

### Holyday Mass:

### Confession:

Fr. Paul Thornton, Adm,

Fr. Joseph Njanackal, C.S.T., C.C.

Br. Martin Bennett, OFM Cap. Deacon

Peter Siney, Pastoral Worker

Louise Donnelly, Secretary

Sunday: 6:30pm (Sat. Vigil); 9:00am, 11:00am, 12:30pm & 5:30pm

Monday to Saturday 10:00am

Vigil 7:30pm; 10:00am

Saturday 10:30am to 11:00am and 6:00pm to 6:20pm

After 10:00am Mass on the Thursday before the First Friday

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01 8401188 – [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com)

Mon to Fri. 9.30am – 1.00pm

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