



11th December 2016 3rd Sunday in Advent — Year A

CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN BRACKENSTOWN PARISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

T

he Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the one who does not lose faith in me.

Prayer by text 
3rd Week:

When someone says something to you, the first thing you do is react. You are either surprised, taken aback, hurt or affirmed by what they have said. Sometimes we wonder have we heard what they said properly because it doesn't make sense. Other times we react in anger not thinking about what we are saying or checking out what they are saying. So many misunderstandings and rows begin this way. To learn to hear something and take it in so that our answer is a thought-out action rather than a hasty reaction.

The same is true when we read a line from the Bible the way we are in this prayer by text. But because it is from the Bible we can treat it with a reverence that we don't give to other words we hear. The word of God should stir up something inside us and that's why looking at how we react to what we read is an important part of the prayer. So this week take time to look at how you feel when you read the words, what is going on in your life and do these words comfort you or challenge you.

On Monday 12th December at 10:30am and 7:00pm

Sr. Eileen will host a workshop on how the experience of "Prayer By Text" is going for us. It will take place in the Pastoral Centre and everyone who is taking part in the prayer is invited to come along.



MASS INTENTIONS

6:30pm: Fr. Roy Drommey (A)
9:00am: Altar List of the Dead
11:00pm: Bridget D'Arcy (A)
12:30pm: Gerry Macken (A)
5:30pm: John Hughes (A) & Kevin Donnelly (B'day Rem)

PRAY FOR

Betty & Paddy Warren (A)
Sean Kelly (RD)

MASSES NEXT WEEK

Mon: Special Intention
Tues: Liam Nolan (A)
Wed: Stephen O'Gorman (A)
Thurs: D'csd Members of Quinn Family (A)
Fri: Margaret Kelly (4th A)
Pray For: Tom & Bridget Mongan & D'csd Family Members
Sat: Special Intention

Please take this Newsletter home



Christmas Timetable 2016

St. Cronan's Church, Brackenstown

CAROL SERVICE

Thursday 15th December at 7:30pm

A family celebration with the story of Christmas told through readings, drama and popular carols & carols from around the world. Refreshments & mulled wine afterwards in the Parish Pastoral Centre.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

Vigil Mass at **6.00pm** (Family Mass)

Mass of the Nativity at **9.30pm** (Preceded by Carols at 9.15pm)

Sunday 25th December (Christmas Day)

Masses 9.00am, 10.30am and

12.00pm

Monday 26th December

Mass at **11.00am**

Tuesday 27th to Saturday 31st December

Mass at 10.00am

Sunday 1st January 2016 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Vigil Mass: 6:30pm (Saturday); 9:00am; 11:00am & 12:30pm

No Evening Mass (6:30pm Mass in St. Colmcille's)

Friday 6th January 2017 (Feast of the Epiphany)

Vigil Mass (Thursday) 7:30pm and Mass (Friday) 10:00am & 7:30pm

Epiphany Gifts can be brought to all Masses between 1st & 10th January



RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Swords

Brackenstown

Monday 19th December at 7.30pm

Tuesday 20th December at 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 24th December

10.30am – 12.00pm & 2.00pm - 3.00pm



Mrs Claus and Santa Claus are coming to visit everyone at 164

Brackenstown Scouts Christmas Cake Sale at the Scout Den on Sunday 11th December from 10am to 2pm.

There will also be a selection of arts and crafts stalls and a face painter.

We hope to see you all there! 164 Brackenstown Scouts would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas.



Christmas Mass Cards

Available from the Parish Office for €5.00. The intentions of the Masses over Christmas are for the names on these cards.

ADVENT PRAYER STATIONS

Monday 12th - Saturday 17th December

A variety of Prayer Stations will be set out around the Church during this week. You are invited to take some time to visit the stations as a way to reflect on our Advent journey towards Christmas.



Brackenstown Bible Study 2017

During 2016 we ran two very informative and enjoyable Scripture study courses. In spring we followed Jeff Cavins 8 week DVD study "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible". In the autumn we completed Jeff Cavins 13 week "The Bible Timeline Reading Plan"

During 2017 we will study Jeff Cavins 23 week DVD course "The Bible Timeline; The Story of Salvation" The course will consist of 12 classes in the spring and 11 classes in the autumn. This is the foundational study in *The Great Adventure* Bible Study Series that has helped hundreds of thousands of Catholics learn to read the Bible. *The Bible Timeline* is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible. They will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, they will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith

Course Duration: Spring classes commence Monday 30/01/17; twelve sessions. Autumn classes commence Monday 04/09/17; eleven sessions.

Course Cost: €20.00 to cover the cost of the DVDs & the study book

Course Time: Monday evenings from 7.30 to 9.00 p.m

Venue: St Cronan's Parish Pastoral Centre. **Bookings:** by 09/01/17. Limited to 35 people

Contact: Louise 01-8401188; **Email:** brackenstownparish@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS DUES

The Christmas Dues together with the First Collection at Mass and the Easter Dues goes to support myself and Fr. Joseph and the sick and retired Priests of the Diocese. We really appreciate your generosity to this collection.

There is a financial benefit to the Parish as your Dues contributions can be included in your Family Offering for the Tax Reclaim Scheme. Under the terms of this scheme only the Dues banked before 31st of December can be claimed in the 2016 submission. Any received after that date will be included in the 2017 claim. It would be helpful if we can get as many of the Christmas Dues returned by the 31st December.

Thank you again for your generosity and for all the support you give to myself and Fr. Joseph.

Fr. Paul



Envelope Delivery Team



Thank you to all who volunteered to become part of our delivery team. The envelopes are prepared and you will get a text to collect them. They are available from the Parish Office on weekdays (9:30 – 1:00pm) and the Sacristy at the weekends.

Prayer Tree

The Thanksgiving Prayers have now been removed and our theme for the Prayer Tree this month is "Our Christmas Prayers". You can write your Christmas prayer on a post it and put it on the tree (between St. Anthony and St. Francis). Remember to pray for all the prayers that are there as you add yours.

Christmas Tree Stars and Angels

If you would like to remember a loved one who has died or who is away from home this Christmas you can write their name on a star which will be put on our Christmas Tree. If you want to remember a baby who has died, a miscarriage or still birth you can write their name or the date you lost them on the angel which will also go on our Christmas tree.

Both the stars and angels are on the table beside the Jesse Tree and you can put them into the white box provided.

PARISH DIARY

DATE	EVENT
DECEMBER 2016	
10th Dec	DTIM Mass 6:30pm
11th Dec	DTIM Mass 12:30pm
11th Dec	Annual St. Vincent de Paul Collection
12th Dec	<i>Experience of Prayer by Text</i> 10:30am or 7pm
15th Dec	Christmas Carol Service 7:30pm
19th Dec	Reconciliation Service St. Colmcille's 7:30pm
20th Dec	Reconciliation Service St. Cronan's 7:30pm

THE PARISH DIARY IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE



Lighting Upgrade

Over the next two weeks there will be work going on in the Church to upgrade the lighting. This will involve replacing the spotlights on the Sanctuary which have been giving so much trouble. They will change the lights at the back of the Church to a new fitting which should give out more light. There will be additional lights on the outside of the Church to light up the side areas and the pathway from St. Cronan's Estate. There will be a timer on some of the lights inside the Church to make sure there is always light when the Church is open. We hope that we can work around Church services so there will be minimal disruption for our parishioners.

Dates for Baptisms:

8th January 11am & 12:30pm
14th January 12:30pm
28th January 12:30pm
29th January 1:45 pm

Please note one Month's Notice to be given & a copy of baby's Birth Cert is required when booking a Baptism.

The next Parent Preparation Meeting is Thursday 5th January 2017 at 8pm in St. Cronan's Parish Centre.

BINGO

EVERY SUNDAY

in the Pastoral Centre at
8:00pm

Doors Open at 7:30pm

Everyone welcome



Church of St. Cronan
Brackenstown Parish

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Thursday 15th December at 7:30pm

*A family celebration with the story
of Christmas told through the readings, drama,
popular carols & carols from around the world*

*Refreshments & Mulled Wine afterwards in the
Parish Pastoral Centre*

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Advent Calendars, Christmas Cards, Crib Figures, little gifts etc. available in main porch after Saturday evening & Sunday morning Masses.

MSZE SWIETA

Msze Swieta w Jezyku Polskim dzisiaj, Niedziele 11 Grudzien, o godz 18:45. (Spowiedz 18:15 – 18:40).



EUCCHARISTIC 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 every Sunday of Advent from 4pm–5pm. Can you stay one hour with me? We encourage new people to come and join us.

THE ROSARY

Praying for a special intention? Praying for peace? The 'Rosary Statue' was blessed for use in the homes of the parish at the October Candlelight Procession. If you would like to pray the rosary and have the rosary statue in your home for a week, or get more information, please contact a member of Legion of Mary in main porch after Saturday evening or Sunday morning Masses.

FAMILY OFFERING

We thank all those parishioners who support the running of the parish through the Parish Family Offering fund.

October Standing Order €3,691

Outdoor Collection €927.57

Annals/Half Yearly €0.00

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

would like to thank the parishioners of St. Cronan's Church who donated generously to the monthly collections. The amounts raised were: **October €743.68 & November €975.76**

Introduction of an envelope system for the 1st collection

Thank you to those who have returned the forms that were inserted recently in the parish newsletter. As mentioned there are substantial benefits to the Parish to be gained by using an envelope system for the 1st collection at no extra cost to anyone. Information sheets on how this scheme works are available on the tables at the back of the church. Thank you for your generous support of our Parish.



THANK YOU

The Sisters of Marie Reparatrice and the family of the late Sister Ellen O'Donoghue wish to sincerely thank the priests and people of Brackenstown parish for their prayers and sympathy followings Ellen's recent death RIP. We are very grateful for the prayers and support from so many and to those who travelled to Limerick for her funeral. It meant so much to Ellen's family and community that her years of ministry amongst the people of Brackenstown was recognised and appreciated. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.



PARISH INFORMATION

Mass Times:

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

Weekday Mass:

Monday to Saturday 10:00am

Holyday Mass:

Vigil 7:30pm; 10:00am

Confession:

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

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

01 8401661 – 087 7404729 – pauljthornton@gmail.com

01 8408926 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com

089 4614226 – peter.siney@dublindiocese.ie

01 8401188 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com

Mon to Fri. 9.30am – 1.00pm

Fr. Paul Thornton, Adm,
Fr. Joseph Njanackal, C.S.T., C.C.
Peter Siney, Pastoral Worker
Louise Donnelly, Secretary



brackenstownparish



@cronanparish



brackenstown-parish.com



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CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS

10/11 December
VDP Annual Collection

17/18 December
No Collection

