



25th December 2019  
Christmas Day Year A



Remembering some of the events  
in our Parish during 2019.  
Wishing you and yours a very  
happy and holy Christmas!



# Christmas Message 2020

Every family has its own traditions around Christmas that make it unique and special. For my family one of them was on Christmas afternoon, just before the dinner, my dad would play O Holy Night sung by Leontyne Price. The vinyl, now over forty years old, had its unique sound with the odd crackle but that's what made it unique, that's what made it our sound.

When things change for us and a place at the Christmas table is empty, we know that how we mark this day will never be the same. We try to hold onto some of what we have always done and then find a way to keep those who are not with us, part of the celebration. Christmas has at its core the Holy Family in the stable in Bethlehem and their story reaches out and touches every other family in the world. The first Christmas didn't take place in perfect surroundings and yet in that place the greatest sign of the Father's love for us came into the world.

The light that shone from Bethlehem continues to be the light that shines in the dark moments of our lives and it is a light that the darkness cannot overpower. In this Christmas time we meet together as family, we face the different circumstances that this year has brought, we remember with love those who have gone from us, we feel their presence as they watch over us and we celebrate the child Jesus who is there in the middle of all life's situations wanting to bring us hope and joy.

May you and your family have a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Fr. Paul

## 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 every Sunday for Advent from 4pm—5pm. Can you stay 1 hour with me? We encourage new people to come & join us.

## PRAYER MEETING

Spend One Hour... **Tuesday, 7th January 8pm– 9pm** in Parish Pastoral Centre, (St. Cronan's Church). This Prayer Meeting honours Servant of God, Frank Duff, Founder of Legion of Mary. Everybody most welcome.

## Calendars

**Church Art** Calendars, children's books, colouring books, rosary beads etc. as well as many other religious items available in main porch after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

## Christmas Season

The rosary reminds us of the events we celebrate at this time of year. The "Rosary Statue" could help us focus on the story of Christ's birth. If you would like to have the Statue in your home for a week in this season (or other time), please speak to member of Legion of Mary in main porch after Saturday evening or Sunday morning Masses.

## Would You Like to Work for Our Lady?

Legion of Mary needs new members to help Our Lady bring Jesus to more people. Meetings are held in the new location—"Crosscare" room at priest's house, on Tuesdays at 10:30am, Wednesdays at 7:30pm and 4:45pm on Fridays for under 18's in Parish Pastoral Area. Why not come along and see what you can do!



'LIKE' Legion of Mary Brackenstown Swords

## CHRISTMAS DUES

The Christmas Dues together with the First Collection at Mass and the Easter Dues goes to support myself, Fr. Bibin and the sick & retired Priests of the Diocese. We sincerely 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. Thank you again for your generosity and for all your support at Christmas and throughout the year.

Fr. Paul & Fr. Bibin.



All Welcome to the next meeting in

St. Cronan's Pastoral Centre  
Tuesday 7th January from 11am - 12pm  
Tea & coffee available from 10:30am

AS YOU CELEBRATE THE GLORY OF THIS MIRACULOUS SEASON, MAY YOUR HOME BE FILLED WITH LOVE, PEACE, AND JOY. MAY THESE BLESSINGS FOLLOW YOU THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR.

**EVENING PRAYER**  
will be celebrated on  
**Tuesday, December 31st @ 6pm**  
As we prepare to say goodbye to 2019  
and to greet the New Year

View our Parish Webcam via the Parish Website [www.brackenstown-parish.com](http://www.brackenstown-parish.com)

CONTACT



brackenstownparish

Fr. Paul Thornton, Adm, 01 8401661 – 087 7404729  
pauljthornton@gmail.com

Fr. Bibin Jacob C.S.T., C.C. 01 8408926 – 089 4238775  
brackenstownparish@gmail.com



@cronanparish

Niamh Morris, Pastoral Worker  
085 7708759; niamh.morris@dublindiocese.ie

Louise Donnelly, Secretary Mon to Fri. 9.30am – 1.00pm  
01 8401188 – brackenstownparish@gmail.com



01 8401188