BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757 Website: www.stbrendansbirr.ie Email: info@stbrendansbirr.ie

> **Parish Office Opening Hours** Monday - Friday 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Clergy of Brendan Cluster Fr. Tom Hogan—087-6446410 Fr. Arnold Rosney - 087-8598710 Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Psalter week 3

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 22/23rd November was €2886.48

Christmas Mass Bouquets - Tridium Christmas Mass Bouquets Cards & Individual Mass Bouquets are now available in the Parish Office. Christmas Vigil & Christmas Day masses will be offered for these intentions.

Society of St. Vincent De Paul

S.V.P Birr Annual collection will be held on the weekend of December 6/7th. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Birr Community Nursing Unit Annual Christmas Sale of Work & Raffle on Sunday 7th December 1pm-3pm. All Welcome.

EveryDay Miscellaney" Simple thoughts to live simply by Margaret/Peig Caverly book on sale in the parish office €8.00 all proceeds to Uganda.

Birr Flower & Garden Club will hold their Christmas Gala Flower Demonstration with Ali Deitrich, an AOIFA qualified demonstrator, in aid of Authism assistance dogs. On Tues Dec 2nd @ 8pm County Arms Hotel. All arrangements will be raffled along with a lot more prizes. All welcome, Non members €15, Members €10 & raffle tickets €5.

BIRR FESTIVAL of MUSIC presents

Handel's MESSIAH The Cambiata Choir & Orchestra, conductor Niall Kinsella Soloists John Molloy, Sarah Richmond, Sean Tester, Kelli-Ann Masterson. SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER 5.00pm St. Brendan's R.C. Church, Wilmer Road, Birr €25 - Booking www.birrfestivalofmusic.com

Fundraising Concert in St. Cronan's R.C. Church Roscrea On Sunday December 14th at 6pm. Presenting James Kilbane with James Flatley A Country Gospel Evening & Festive Celebration. Proceeds towards the New Church Heating System Tickets €20 available from Parish Shop, the Sacristy and the Parish Office 0505-31835

Remembered in Mass this Week

	Reili	embere	u III wass uiis week
	Sat 29th	10am	John McCarthy, High Street
	Sat 29th	7.30pm	Gerry Cleary, Ely Place, Crinkill (MM)
	Sun 30th	8.30am	Private Intentions
	Sun 30th Carrig	9.30am	Rynagh, Susan & Martin Byrne, Killeen
	Sun 30th	10.30am	Private Intentions
	Sun 30th	12noon	Sr. Maeve Quinlan, Convent of Mercy , Riverside, Birr (1st Ann)
	Mon 1st	10 am	Private Intentions
	Tues 2nd	10 am	Private Intentions
	Wed 3rd	10 am	Winifred McDonagh, Grove Street
	Thur 4th	10 am	Marie O'Reilly, Crinkill
	Fri 5th	10 am	Private Intentions
	Sat 6th	10 am	Private Intentions
	Sat 6th	7.30pm	Seamus, Triona & Gail Loughnane Helen (Nelly) Gallagher, Presentation Place O'Meara & Mahon Family
	Sun 7th	8.30am	Michael Maher, Crinkill
	Sun 7th	9.30am Carrig	Matthew Glesson, Lacka
	Sun 7th	10.30am	Padraig Gibbons, Glebe Street (1st Ann) Virginia Duffy, Woodlands Drive Chris & Seamus Kennedy, Emmett Street John & Rody Harte, Emmett Square, Birr
	Sun 7th	12noon	Eileen Ryan, Newbridge Street Paddy, John & Mary Quigley, Cornmarket Street Jack & Sadie McKenna, Hillside and daughter Aileen Ward, Castlecoote
Please pray for Our Dead			

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Denise Dwyer, Bengal Lodge, Birr Donal O'Rourke, Banagher, brother of Marie Yates, Bulfin Park, John Joe O'Rourke McAuley Drive, Birr & Noel O'Rourke, Cornhill, Riverstown Billy Regan, Roscrea, brother of Tom Regan, Elm Park

This weekend we begin the Advent Season with the blessing of the Advent Wreath at all our Masses. This four week season helps us prepare spiritually for Christmas.

First Sunday of Advent
Blessing of the Advent wreath. Do you ever
think of making an Advent wreath for your
Home?

Save the Date!

A Christmas Concert in St. Brendan's Church on Saturday December 13th @ 7.30pm, featuring a great array of local talent.
All proceeds to Birr Parish.
An inspiring evening as we prepare for Christmas.
Tickets available on www.midlandsbooking.ie www.birrtheatre.ie
Or Contact the Parish Office

(Saturday Evening Vigil Mass will be celebrated @ 5pm)

Saturday 29th November Feast of St. Brendan of Birr



Saint Brendan of Birr (died c. 572) was one of the early Irish monastic saints. He was a monk and later an abbot, of the 6th century. He is known as "St Brendan the Elder" to distinguish him from his contemporary and friend St Brendan the Navigator of Clonfert. He was one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland, a friend and disciple of Saint Columba.

He founded the monastery at Birr in about 540, serving as its abbot. He emerges from early Irish writings as a man of generous hospitality with a reputation for sanctity and spirituality who was an intuitive judge of character. He was considered one of the chief prophets of Ireland. His friendship and support for Columba resulted in important connections between Birr and the Columban foundation of Iona.

Welcome Home the restored and conserved "St. Brendan Window". Work was carried out by Aria Stained Glass.

Sr. Eileen - Cúinne The Creed

Our Catholic Faith is our greatest treasure. To guide us to strengthen it, here are seven practices which will help us: Ask God Blessings every morning. Help your neighbour in time of need. Say grace before meals. Ask the saints to intercede for you. Spend some in meditation. Receive Holy Communion as food of soul and strength of mind. Give thanks to God every night, *Glorious God, strengthen our Faith*. Amen. We can recite the Creed often because it contains our beliefs.

The Department of Education and Youth has launched an important survey, inviting parents, guardians, staff, and board members of primary schools to express their views on the future of our primary schools. This is a unique opportunity for members of our school communities to "have your say" and help shape the direction of education for the next generation. The link to the survey is: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/ campaigns/primary-school-survey/ Bishop Fintan encourages any of the above groups to participate in the survey and share your opinion. If you are interested in change or also very importantly if you are happy with the current patronage and Catholic ethos and would like it to continue, please ensure that your voice is represented before December 16th.

St. Cronan's Association Christmas Fair – Wednesday 3rd of December.

St. Cronan's Association is delighted to welcome you to our annual Christmas Fair on Wednesday, 3rd of December, from 11.00am to 4.00pm at St. Cronan's, Roscrea (E53 WY98).

A warm festive atmosphere for all ages Visit Santa in Our New Christmas Grotto! This year, we are introducing a magical Santa's Grotto, where children can meet Santa between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. A small fee will apply. Come along, enjoy the festive spirit, and support a wonderful community event. Everyone is welcome!

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre - Internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter *Jack Lukeman* brings his seasonal performance, "*Northern Lights – Songs of the Winter Solstice*", to Birr Theatre this winter. Friday 12 December:8pm, www.birrtheatre.com

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