

## BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757  
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**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 1

#### Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 14/15th February was **€2,393.50**

**A Tap and Donate machine** is now at the Church's main entrance for card donations. Simply tap to choose your fund—Parish Fund, Priests Fund, or Adorations and Shrines Fund. Select your amount, present your card, and wait for confirmation.

The Rosary will be recited before 9.30am Sunday Mass in the Church of the Annunciation Carrig during the season of Lent. All are welcome.

**Discover Our Blessed Mother, Mary, in the Legion of Mary.** Come to an introductory meeting in the Conference Room at **7.30pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb.** Call Pat at 087 2500820 for further information.

#### Crinkill LGFA

Gaelic 4 Girls is a 10 week fun and inclusive programme designed to introduce girls aged 7 - 12 to Ladies Gaelic football. Programme starts **Mon March 2nd @ 6pm** in Crinkill GAA grounds. Cost €12 includes a Gaelic 4 Girls training top. If your daughter is interested please contact Aileen - 087 2218757 or Brendan - 086 1076790.

**Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2026** Our parish/community will once again support the Trócaire Lenten Campaign during Lent 2026. Trócaire works with some of the world's poorest communities, helping families to overcome poverty, injustice and the effects of climate change. Trócaire boxes will be available at the back of the church from this weekend. We encourage every household to take a box and support this important work throughout Lent. You can return your Trócaire box during Holy Week. Online donations can also be made at [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org). Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**Banagher Drama Group present - "Perfect Wedding"** written by Robin Hawdon and directed by Jared Madden in Banagher Further Education & Training Centre (LOETB) @8pm on Thurs 19th, Fri 20th & Sat 21st March 2026. To book call, text or WhatsApp 087-477 8492 open 5-7pm.

**Funny man Conal Gallen returns to Birr Theatre** with his comedy show The Last Laugh Tour. Friday 27 Feb, 8pm [www.birrtheatre.com](http://www.birrtheatre.com)

#### Carrig, Riverstown & Killeen Active Retirement

**Association** The Group meet every Wednesday in Carrig Hall from 2.30-4.30pm. On Wednesday Feb 25th a representative from Citizens Information will attend the group to speak about aspects of social welfare entitlements. All are welcome- members & non members

## Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 21st	10am	Mary & Jimmy Morris, John's Place
Sat 21st	7.30pm	Jack Ryan, Emmett Street (1st Ann) Baby Henry Pardy, Ashbrook Drive (1st Ann) Louise O'Halloran, Fairview & England Joe Long, Cornmarket Street Lisa Guilfoyle, Riverstown Brian Molloy, Boliver, Meath Michael Molloy, Meadowcourt
Sun 22nd	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 22nd	9.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 22nd	10.30am	Michael Parnell & his parents Edward & Mary Parnell, Killeen Michael & Nellie Whelan & son Michael, Moorpark Street John Pilkington, High Street Joe & Carmel O'Hare Patrick & Mary Flynn
Sun 22nd	12noon	Brendan King, Crinkill (MM) Nancy Buckley, Military Road, Crinkill (1st Ann) Nancy Bowe, Cloughjordan Jimmy Hogan, The Green
Mon 23rd	10am	Private Intentions
Tues 24th	10am	Margaret Mongan, Kilcormac
Wed 25th	10am	Mary Guinan, Newbridge Street
Thur 26th	10am	Private Intentions
Fri 27th	10am	Private Intentions
Sat 28th	10am	Private Intentions
Sat 28th	7.30pm	Moira & Johnny Ryan, Harry & Larry Ryan Tommy Errity & deceased members of the Errity Family Lucy Antony, India Jack, May & Patrick O'Keeffe, Crinkill
Sun 1st	8.30am	Martin McCarthy, Clonoghill Lower Elizabeth Maher, Crinkill
Sun 1st	9.30am	Sr. Fidelis O'Meara, Fadden, Carrig (Memorial Mass)
Sun 1st	10.30am	John & Anne Dwyer, La Rive, Hollypark Jack & Mary Scully, Fortal
Sun 1st	12noon	John Murdock, Presentation Place Michael Halvey, Woodlands, & deceased member of the Halvey & Leonard Families

#### Please pray for the souls of

Pauline Leonard, Clonmellon, Westmeath, sister of Michael Keogh, Burkes Hill  
 Tony Hogan, Terryglass, father of Martin Hogan, Fadden Carrig  
 Marie Donnelly (née) Cantwell, Taylors Cross, Banagher mother of Brona Dempsey, Rock Lane, Birr & sister of Dolores Carroll, Whiteford, Crinkill  
 Bishop Willie Walsh, Ennis, Clare (First Anniversary)  
 Kieran Connell, Castlecoote, Roscommon, husband of Ann Dooley, Lisheen, Birr & brother in law of Teresa Ryan, Lisheen, Birr



## BLESSING THE DUST

*Ash Wednesday*



*Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.*

ECCLESIASTES 3 : 20

**All those days you felt like dust,  
like dirt, as if all you had to do was  
turn your face toward the wind and  
be scattered to the four corners  
or swept away by the smallest  
breath as insubstantial—  
did you not know what the Holy One  
can do with dust?**

**This is the day we freely say  
we are scorched.**

**This is the hour we are marked  
by what has made it  
through the burning.**

**This is the moment  
we ask for the blessing  
that lives within the ancient ashes,  
that makes its home inside the soil  
of this sacred earth.**

**So let us be marked not for sorrow.  
And let us be marked not for shame.**

**Let us be marked not for  
false humility or for  
thinking we are less than we are  
but for claiming what God can do  
within the dust, within the dirt,  
within the stuff of which the world  
is made and the stars that blaze in  
our bones and the  
galaxies that spiral inside the  
smudge we bear.**

*Jan Richardson*

**Sponsored by Anonymous**

## Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

### Inniu an Chéad Domhnach den Charghas.

Sa tráth seo bliana, bímid ag smaoineamh ar bhás agus ar aiséirí Chríost. Bíonn páirt againn ina bhás agus ina aiséirí nuair a dhéanaimid dearmad orainn féin chun toil Dé a dhéanamh agus chun cabhrú lenár gcomharsana. "Tá a fhios againn go bhfuil an bás scoite againn agus an bheatha shroichte againn, ó ghrá a bheith againn do na bráithre. An té nach mbíonn grá aige fanann sé sa bhás" Go raibh sé de mhisneach againn aithris a dhéanamh ar Íosa trí íobairtí agus cleachtaí spioradálta. An áit a bhfuil carthanacht agus grá, tá Dia ann. Tugaimis grá dá chéile ó chroí dílis. Áiméan.

### First Sunday of Lent

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. During this season we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus. We take part in his death and resurrection when we put service to others before our own needs and do God's will. "We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death" May we have the courage to imitate Jesus through sacrifice and spiritual exercises.

Where there is charity and love God is also there. Let us love one another sincerely. Amen

**Lourdes Pilgrimage Dates Aug 3rd - 7th (4 nights)** Hotel Astrid, Price €763.00pps. Spiritual Director Fr. Tom Hannon Group leader - Phil Robinson 086-3956299 Early booking for Seats & Accommodation

#### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Bishop Fintan will lead both our Diocesan summer and autumn pilgrimages this year. Wednesday 24th to Monday 29th June cost €990 pps and Monday 28th Sept to Saturday 3rd Oct cost €960 pps. Book directly with [joewalshtrips.ie](http://joewalshtrips.ie) or tel 01 2410800. A limited number of assisted pilgrims will be accommodated in Accueil Notre Dame in the grounds of the sanctuary. For more information on this section only please contact Mary Freeman at [marybfreeman@gmail.com](mailto:marybfreeman@gmail.com) or tel 087 9777896