

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish Mobile: 086 3531955

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Email: info@stbrendansbirr.ie

Priest on Duty - Please call Parish Mobile - 086 3531955

Fr. Tom Hogan—057-9121757

Fr. Michael Reddan—057-9122470

Fr. Pat Gilbert—057-9122470

Fr. Antony Sajeesh - 057-9122470

Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812

Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Brendan Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St. Brendan's, Birr - Saturday 7.30 p.m.,
Sunday 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon

Church of the Annunciation, Carrig -

Sunday 9.30 a.m.

St. Colman's, Kilcolman - Sunday 11.00 a.m.

St. Ita's, Coolderry - Saturday 8.00 p.m.

St. John's, Ballybritt - Sunday 9.30 a.m.

St. Molua's, Roscomroe - Sunday 9.30 a.m.

St. Mary's, Shinrone - Sunday 11.00 a.m.

St. Patrick's, The Pike - Saturday 6.45 p.m.

St. Finian Cam, Longford - Sunday 9.30 a.m.

St. Flannan's, Kinnitty - Sunday 11.30 a.m.

St. Lugna's, Cadamstown - Saturday 8.00 p.m.

St Pio Mass next Thursday evening, 16th May at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Midland Living Links coffee morning next Tuesday 14th May in the conference room at the rear of St. Brendan's church after the 10.00 a.m. Mass. All are welcome.

Three Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg from 20th-22nd June. Bus pick-up Emmet Square. For further details on travel arrangements please contact the Parish Office.

Friends of Birr Community Nursing Unit 5K Stroll 'n Roll in association with Haven Pharmacy Butlers on Sunday 26th May at 1pm. Start/Finish at Birr Community Nursing Unit. €5 per person/€10 per family. Sponsorship cards available from Haven Pharmacy Butlers & Birr Community Nursing Unit.

Date for your diary - Annual Killaloe Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine will take place on Sunday 23rd June 2019. Led by Bishop Fintan Monahan. 2:30 p.m. - Anointing of the Sick - 3:00 p.m. - Concelebrated Mass.

Free teenage camp in Birr Rugby club in July. For details contact Marie Brady on 087 4154983 after 3pm. Host families also required for French students attending school in July and August. Text host to above number or call after 3pm.

Sponsored By

Grave Maintenance Service

For more details contact
Matt Feenane on 087 4197968

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 11th	7.30 p.m.	Tim Hutchinson Carmel Milne Anne Pilkington Michael Calvey
Sun 12th	10.30 a.m.	O'Meara Family, Cree Johnny Carroll
	12 noon	Frank Wrafter Christy & Nora Cleary Tommy Pey
Mon 13th	10.00 a.m.	People of the Parish
Tues 14th	10.00 a.m.	Deceased Eucharistic Adorers John McCarthy
Wed 15th	10.00 a.m.	Seamus & Chris Kennedy
Thur 16th	10.00 a.m.	Patrick Hutchinson
Sat 18th	7.30 p.m.	Margaret Lawlor, New Road (MM) James Hegarty, Cappaneale (1st Ann) Jane Dwyer Tommy, Con & Liz Kennedy John & Mary Murray, Ballindarra Fr. Henry Torpey Paddy Kirwan, Newbridge St. Barbara, Alfred, Kate & Alfie Bracken Mary Fowler
Sun 19th	10.30 a.m.	Seamus, Jane & Martin Yates Dan 'Donie' Carroll, Bulfin Park Donal & Margie Brady Katie Ryan, Crinkill
	12 noon	Paddy Digan, Killeen Sarah Barry-Turley



Please for the souls of

Mary Hogan, Crinkill,
Tony McLoughlin, Main Street,
Margaret Lally, Dovegrove.

PLEASE NOTE - The telephone number for the Presbytery has changed and Fr. Michael, Fr. Pat and Fr. Antony can be contacted on **057 9122470**.

Aoife Scallon, a student of St. Brendan's Community School and a native of Carrig has volunteered to spend the month of July working on a development project in India. Aoife was inspired to volunteer after a visit to her school by the Lasallian Developing World project - a third world outreach sponsored by the De La Salle Brothers. They intend to build 14 classrooms and accommodation for second level students. The school caters for 410 boys and 311 girls from a very rural area in Keelamudiman, India. The project will cost €145,000. Next weekend after all masses Aoife will host a tea/coffee fundraiser in the Conference Room at the rear of St. Brendan's. **Your support will be gratefully appreciated.**

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday - €2,070
Many Thanks.
Parish Fund Collectors - May 19th
E. Nolan & R. Delaney

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter or Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We ask that we may be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit as we carry on the mission of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Let us pray for one another that we may be strengthened in our Christian vocations as married and single people, priests, deacons, and religious. May our youth listen to God's call and be encouraged to respond generously.

Dear friends, it is not always easy to discern our vocation and to steer our life in the right direction. For this reason, there needs to be a renewed commitment on the part of the whole Church – priests, religious, pastoral workers and educators – to provide young people in particular with opportunities for listening and discernment. There is a need for a youth ministry and a vocational promotion that can open the way to discovering God's plan, above all through prayer, meditation on God's word, Eucharistic adoration and spiritual accompaniment.

--Pope Francis,

World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 2019.

Congratulations to all the young people from **Killeen N.S., St. Brendan's Boys N.S. and our Parish Preparation Programme** who received the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** on Saturday. It was a wonderful celebrations and thanks to all who were involved in the ceremonies.



Next Saturday the children from **Crinkill N.S. and Mercy P.S.** who will receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** in St. Brendan's Church. There will be no 10.00 a.m. Mass that morning and parking in the church grounds will be restricted. Please keep all the children in your prayers at this special time.

Aid to the Church in Need -

The Diocese of Killaloe is happy to welcome Aid to the Church in Need to our parishes throughout 2019. Since 1947 Aid to the Church in Need has been in service to the Church in places around the world where people's needs and sufferings are the greatest. Based in Dublin, we also have national offices in over 20 countries which in turn deliver help to over 140 countries around the world. Each year, ACN supports projects in over 5,000 communities around the world. Our work receives no public funding and relies solely on the good will, prayers and generosity of individuals.

The mission of Aid to the Church in Need is to help bring a light of hope to some of the darkest parts of the world where people are persecuted because of their belief in Jesus Christ.

Aid to the Church in Need will speak at masses this weekend Please show them a great welcome and if you can, give what you can to this worthy cause.

May is Safeguarding month in the Diocese of Killaloe.

May is Safeguarding month in the Diocese of Killaloe. The Diocese ensures that all children involved in parish activities are safe and cared for. We have in place, parental / guardian consent forms for all activities, code of conduct for both children & adults, sign in and out registers, gardai vetting for all adult helpers / leaders. Visit www.killaloe-diocese.ie/safeguarding to find out more.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Lá na nGairmeacha

Is lá speisialta san Eaglais an ceathrú Domhnach den Cháisc. Iarrtar orainn guí go dtiocfaidh méadú ar ghairmeacha chun na Sagartachta agus an Bheatha Reiligiúnach. Is é an Pobal a chothaíonn suim i ngairm na sagartachta. Is é Íosa féin a dúirt linn: "Tá an fómhar fairsing ach níl ann ach meitheal bheag. Dá bhrí sin guígí Máistir an fhómhair go gcuirfeadh sé meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair" (Matha 9:37-38). Inár mBaisteadh ghlaigh Íosa ar gach duine againn é a leanúint. Faoi láthair sna tíortha saibhre, tá laghdú mór ar an méid daoine atá ag éisteach leis an nglaoch chun bheith ina shagairt. Is é an scéal céanna é in Éirinn. Inniu agus an tAoire Maith á cheiliúradh againn, tugaimis aird ar a bhriathra bheith aontaithe leis agus leis an Athair le go mbeadh ar ár gcumas a ghuth a aithint i saol ina bhfuil iliomad guthanna eile ár dtarraingt uaidh nuair a ghlaonn sé orthu. Go raibh sé de mhisneach ag aos óg éisteach leis an Tiarna, an tAoire Maith, nuair a ghlaonn sé orthu. Is féidir an phaidir seo a rá:

A Thiarna Íosa Críost, Slánaitheoir an domhain, go n-éirí linn ár mbeatha a chaitheamh de réir do dhílse. Go dtreoraí an Spiorad Naomh sagairt agus lucht craobhscaoilte an dea-scéil agus go gcuire Íosa meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair. Áiméan.

The fourth Sunday of Easter is a very special day. We are asked to pray for an increase of vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life. Vocations are and ought to be fostered in the community. It was Jesus who said, "The harvest is great but the labourers are few. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send labourers into His harvest". (Matthew 9: 37-38). In our Baptism each is called to follow Jesus. At present in the rich countries, there is a significant decrease in the numbers answering the call to priesthood. It is the same in Ireland.

Today as we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday let us strive to be united with Him and his Father, so that we may recognise His voice in a world where there are many voices drawing us away from Him. May the youth have the courage to listen to the voice of the Lord, the Good Shepherd, when He calls them. We can say this prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world, may we spend our lives faithful to You. May the Holy Spirit guide priests and all who preach the gospel, and may the Lord of the harvest send labourers into His harvest. Amen