

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish Mobile: 086 3531955

Website: www.stbrendansbirr.ie

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.

Birr Historical Society - Former Taoiseach Brian Cowen, will speak on the 21st Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, in the County Arms Hotel, on Monday 20th May, at 8.00pm. All are welcome. Non members cover charge €5, students free.

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.

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.

Tullamore Further Education & Training Centre are hosting an OPEN DAY in our on Wednesday May 22nd, from 10 am to 2pm & 5pm to 7pm. For more information see www.tullamorefetc.ie.

Birr FET Centre, Outdoor Education Centre, Roscrea Road invite you to an Open Day on Wednesday 29th May from 11.00 – 2.00, to find out about courses available. Courses are aimed at persons over 21 and signed-on for more than six months. Contact 057 91 21571.

Sponsored By

Grave Maintenance Service

For more details contact
Matt Feenane on 087 4197968

Remembered in Mass this Week

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
Mon 20th	10.00 a.m.	People of the Parish
Tue 21st	10.00 a.m.	Mary & Jack Lee & son Willie
Thur 23rd	10.00 a.m.	Kathleen Cassidy (nee Murphy)
Fri 24th	10.00 a.m.	Peter Bruce Maureen & Sean Dunphy, son Liam and his wife Joan
Sat 25th	10.00 a.m.	Kathleen Wright
	7.30 p.m.	Jimmy Kelly (1st Ann) Emily & Devassy Thekkan Devassy O Antony Paddy O'Connor Michael Lally
Sun 26th	10.30 a.m.	Vincent Sammon Lil & Pat Egan
	12 noon	Kathleen Kinahan (1st Ann) Mikey Donoghue Bill Cooney Teena Purcell Sean, Christy & Joan Featherstone Featherstone Family



Please for the souls of

Valerie McIntyre, Demesne View,
May Bergin, Emmet Street,
Christine Nixon, Sharavogue, sister of
Peggy Guilfoyle, Killeen,
Con Hurley, Killarney, brother of Bro. Walter.

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

PILGRIMAGE TO Fatima, Lisbon, Cascais & Sintra – 8 – 14th August, 2019. Afternoon flights from Dublin €935. Includes return flights (Dub – Lisbon) 4 nights half board in Estoril **on the sea**, two nights full board in Fatima, coaches, 20K baggage included, full religious programme. Spiritual Director Fr. Tom Hannon, guided tours, full time accompaniment. Contact **Mary 087 1247 669**.

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday - €1,528
Many Thanks.
Parish Fund Collectors - May 26th
M. O'Connor & Sr. Anne

Congratulations to all the young people from **Crinkill N.S. and Mercy P.S.** who received the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** on Saturday. It was a wonderful celebration and thanks to all who were involved in the ceremony.



Next Sunday morning the children from Carrig N.S. will receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** in Carrig Church. There will be no 9.30 a.m. Mass that morning. Please keep all the children in your prayers at this special time.

Tax Back to Birr Parish

A tax scheme exists whereby people who contribute €250 or more to a charity in a given calendar year can allow the charity claim an additional sum equal to almost 45% of the donations from the Revenue Commissioner. The Revenue send this additional sum directly to the charity concerned. Birr Parish has the status of a charity for this purpose so any contributions to the parish are classified as charitable donations. There is no cost or loss incurred by any taxpayer who is willing to be part of this scheme and confidentiality will be assured in all aspects of the process. In 2016, almost €19,000 was contributed to parish funds by the Revenue Commissioners. Forms are available from the Parish Office and the church porches permitting the parish to avail of the scheme. Please give consideration to this if you have not previously done so. Many thanks.

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. – Celebrated Mass.

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.

Prayer for Preparation to Study

Lord, I know you are with me and love me.
Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.
Help me to focus on my books and notes,
keep me from all distractions so that I will make the best use
of this time that is available to me.

Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying,
and help me to remember it when the time comes.
Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study
and for the many gifts and talents you have given me.
Help me always to use them in such a way
that they honour you and do justice to myself. Amen

May is Safeguarding month in the Diocese of Killaloe.

Garda Vetting - The Diocese ensures that all parish staff / volunteers who have a role with children and or vulnerable adults are garda vetted every 5 years. This includes all priests, safeguarding representatives, Eucharistic Ministers, leader / helpers involved in parish activities. To check our garda vetting policy visit, www.killaloediocese.ie/safeguarding.

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. They intend to build classrooms and accommodation for second level students. This 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.**

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Samhradh

Tús maith leath na hoibre, a deir an seanfhocal. Tá an Samhradh ann agus laethanta geala ag síneadh amach romhainn. Ach tá an domhan i mbaol. Tá athrú aeráide agus truailliú an nádúir ag bagairt orainn. Déanaimis luach a leagan ar an tseoid luachmhar atá againn. Stadaimis ag ciorrú, stadaimis ag spraeáil ceimiceán agus ligimis do na bláthanna fiáine agus do phlásóga poiblí. Ní neart go cur le céile. Cuirimis fáilte roimh an Samhradh agus iarraidimid ar Dhia a ghrásta a bhronnadh go fial orainn i rith an ama. Is féidir linn machnamh ar an véarsa seo a leanas:

An Áit Álainn Seo:

**An ghrian ag scalladh anuas,
Tugann beocht don síol sa chré,
Is fásann na plandaí go léir,
Cuireann siad gach rud ar fáil,
Bia le hithe agus aer folláin,
Nach iontach an bronntanas dúinn é seo. Áiméan.**

According to the proverb a good start is half the work. Summer is here and bright days ahead. But our world is in imminent danger not only as result of climate change but because of the loss of many species. Let us cherish and appreciate our world. Let us stop cutting back, stop spraying and stop controlling green spaces. We welcome the summer wholeheartedly as we ask God to bestow his graces abundantly on us. We can reflect on the following verse:

This Beautiful Place Here:

**The sun shining down,
Bringing the seed to life in the clay,
All the plants growing.
They provide everything,
Food to eat and healthy air,
This is a wonderful gift for us. Amen.**