

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

Parish Office Opening Hours

Monday - Saturday (excluding Wednesday)
9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

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.

Community News

Stoma Support Group meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th August 6.30-8.30pm in the Dóchas Offaly Cancer Support Group Centre. Please contact Anne on 086 3074846. All are welcome.

Young Adult Catholic Conference takes place in All Hallows College, Dublin on Saturday August 31st and Sunday September 1st 2019. This is a fantastic weekend packed full of interesting events for young Catholics. Prices range from €25-€50, accommodation also available. For further details contact Lucy 087 9959803.

Starting your own Business Course - commencing in Birr on Wednesday, 11 September. Running over 6 consecutive Wednesday evenings until 16 October from 7 - 10 pm. Course fee only €70, or free to JSB or JSA payment recipients. For more information and to reserve a place, please contact Local Enterprise Office Offaly, on 057 9357480 or download an application form from their website www.localenterprise.ie/Offaly.

Carmelite Lourdes Pilgrimage Fundraiser - Tea Party Friday 23rd August 2019 in the Town Hall, Portumna. Sit down supper at 8.30pm followed by dancing to Sabrina Fallon. Tickets €15 on sale in O'Meara's SuperValu, Portumna and on the night at the door.

Lough Derg 2019: Last day to begin the Three Day Pilgrimage is Tuesday 13th August. One Day Retreats resume on Saturday 17th August and continue on specific days until Sunday 29th September. For bookings or further information telephone 071 9851518. Email: info@loughderg.org or see www.loughderg.org.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 10th	7.30 p.m.	William Egan (MM) Mary & Christy Hough
Sun 11th	10.30 a.m.	Nora & Michael Grennan Paddy & Nancy Walsh John Ahearn Fred Delaney Sheila O'Dwyer
	12 noon	Lill Roe Margaret & Michael Kearns, Townsend Street John Kennedy, Bridge Street
Mon 12th	10.00 a.m.	People of the Parish
Tues 13th	10.00 a.m.	Gerry & Nellie Daly Deceased Eucharistic Adorers
Wed 15th	10.00 a.m.	Eileen Collins
Thur 15th	10.00 a.m.	Stella Enright
Sat 17th	7.30 p.m.	John Joe, Agnes & Ger Murphy John & Elizabeth Multaney & family Thady & Eileen Coyne & son James
Sat 18th	10.30 a.m.	Kathleen & Sally Scully
	12 noon	Paul Kelly, Chesterfield Close William & Catherine Delaney & son Billy Nora & Peter Costello
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Tom Turner (MM)

Please pray for the souls of



Mary Patricia Connellan, Longford,
sister of Dr. Denise O'Hare,

We wish all Leaving Certificate students every best wish as the results are made known this week. We wish them every blessing as they embark on the next stage of their lives.

Remember

your exam results do not define you as a person and/or predict your future.

Laura Henry

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday - €1,976
Many Thanks.
Parish Fund Collectors - August 18th
M. O'Connor & Sr. Anne

Sponsored By

St. Pio Group

Feast of the Assumption - Thursday 15th August

The Feast of the Assumption invites all of us to reflect on Mary as the radical woman. Read prayerfully the Magnificat (see below). Here we see this woman who hungers for a new justice on earth, one that reflects the justice of God. The God who did not overlook her is the God who dethrones the mighty and exalts the lowly. Mary voices a radical protest against what we all take for granted; that the mighty will always prevail over the weak, that the well fed nations will thrive while others starve to death, that the politically strong will always occupy the thrones of power. The Assumption of Mary is a celebration of hope. To that hope we cling. In that hope we rejoice!

*Oh Mary assumed into heaven
- inspire us a we journey
to our true homeland. Amen.*

On Wednesday, 14th August, there is a Vigil Mass at 6.45 p.m. in St. Patrick's, The Pike St. Brendan's. Masses will be in St. Brendan's, Birr on Thursday 15th at 10.00 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Please note there is no Mass in Carrig.

The Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord,
My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
Henceforth all generations will call me blessed.
The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength
And scatters the proud hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones
And raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things,
Sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his sons for ever. Amen.

Pilgrimage to Lough Derg - 3rd & 4th September. Includes Holy Mass in Knock on Tuesday 3rd, overnight stay in Bundoran with evening meal and B&B included. On Wed 4th travel to Lough Derg for Day Retreat 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Returning home directly with a meal in Roscommon. Contact the Parish Office on 9122028 for more details.

The Autumn Diocesan Pilgrimage leaves from Shannon Airport on Sunday 29th September to Friday 4th October. €699 with €20 discount for online booking at joewalshstours.ie.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Deastógáil na Maighdine Muire/Lá Fhéile Muire san Fhómhar

Ar an Déardaoin seo chugainn 15 Lúnasa comórfar Féile Dheastógáil na Maighdine Muire. In Éirinn tugtar Lá Fhéile Muire san Fhómhar air freisin. Ba mhór ag muintir na hÉireann an fhéile seo. Lá mór ceiliúrtha dóibh ab ea é mar go raibh cara acu anois i gcúirt neimhe. Biodh an mhúinín chéanna againne as cabhair agus cumhdach na Maighdine. Tógadh an Mhaighdean gan Smál, Muire Máthair Dé chun glóire na bhflaitheas idir chorp agus anam.

Is é seo an cur síos atá uirthi sa Bhíobla Naofa: "Ansin thaibhsigh an comhartha mór sa spéir, bean a raibh an ghrian mar bhrat uimpi agus an ghealach faoina cosa agus coróin de dhá réalta dhéag ar a ceann." (Apacailipsis Eoin 12:1) Chaith Muire a saol faoi inspioráid an Spioraid Naoimh. Lean sí a Mac sa saol seo agus isteach sna flaitheas. Cuimhnimis ar Mhuire i gcónaí mar mháthair dhílis, a dhéanann idirghuí de shíor ar ár son agus atá mar eiseamláir agus mar thearmainn dúinn i ngleann seo na ndeor. Is ceann de laethanta saoire na hEaglaise é agus tá sé de dhualgas orainn freastal ar an Aifreann agus staonadh ó obair shaothrach gan ghá. Déan machnamh ar an phaidir seo:

*A Mhaighdean, ghlórmhar,
mhómhar mhaiseach,
Is tú mo lón, mo stór, mo thaisce,
Is tú mo réalta eolais
ag dul romham i ngach bealach,
Is ar ghleann na ndeor,
go mba tú mo chara. Aiméan*

Next Thursday we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. In Ireland it is also known as Lá Fhéile Muire san Fhómhar. The Irish people loved this feast. It was great day of celebration as they were aware that they now had an advocate in heaven. Let us have the same confidence in the power of Our Lady. Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven.

This is how she is described in Scripture; "a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars". (Apocalypse 12 :1). Mary spent her life inspired by the Holy Spirit. She listened to her son and 'pondered in her heart' what he said. Let us always remember her as our Mother in heaven who intercedes for us and is our model and refuge in this valley of tears. This feast is a holy day of obligation. We have a duty to attend Mass and abstain from unnecessary servile work. Let us reflect on this prayer:

*O Glorious, gracious, beautiful Virgin
You are my sustenance,
my store, my treasure,
You are my star of knowledge,
leading me on my way.
And in this valley of tears,
may you be my friend. Amen*