

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. 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.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - The Annual Church Gate Collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held on 7th/8th December. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Birr Community Nursing Unit: Annual Sale of Work on Sunday 1st December from 1pm -4pm in the Nursing Unit. All proceed to benefit of Friends of B.C.N.U. All Welcome.

Birr Christmas Market 2019 : Get into the Festive Spirit with the whole family and visit Pilkington's Marquee Birr. Over 30 Stalls, Barn Music, Food, Disco Dome, Kids face painting and of course Santa's Grotto! Sat 7th & Sun 8th Dec 11am - 6pm. Free Entry. All proceeds to Birr Lions Club.

The Stoma Support Group meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th December 6.30-8.30pm in the Dóchas Offaly Cancer Support Group Centre. Please contact Anne on 086 3074846. All are welcome.

Lusmagh Camogie Club: We are holding a fund-raising night in St Cronan's Church, Lusmagh on [Sunday 15th December](#) with Paul Harrington. A mulled wine reception [starting at 7](#) in the parish hall and then the night of songs will [start at 8pm](#) in the church. Tickets € 25 are available to purchase on Eventbrite or by contacting Eithna [0876767404](tel:0876767404) or Catriona [0876580325](tel:0876580325)

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 30th	7.30pm	Willie & Mary Ellen Coughlan & Family Bill Dwyer William & Josephine Kealey, Clonoghill Lower
Sun 1st Dec Carrig	8.30am 9.30am	Michael Maher Rynagh, Susan & Martin Byrne
Mon 2nd	10.00am	Murray & Maxwell Families
Tues 3rd	10.00am	Tony Mc Loughlin
Thurs 5th	10.00am	Frank & Carmel Egan
Sat 7th	10.00am	Matt De Forge
	7.30pm	Georgie Hackett (MM) John & Catherine Lally & Son Michael Eddie & Christina Brewer Paddy & Margaret Guilfoyle Margaret Mongan & Grandson Patrick Hutchinson, daughter Margaret, son Michael & Husband Brendan Gerard Wynne, Hillside Paddy & Margaret O'Brien & son Paul
Sun 8th	8.30am	Mullaney & Byrne Families Willie & Kathleen Kinsella
	10.30am	Dinny, Thomas, Brigid & Marie Sheeran Paddy, Molly & John Quigley Chriss & Seamus Kennedy
	12 noon	Seamus & Triona Loughnane & daughter in Law Gail & Family Loughnane & O'Donnelly Families Michael & Monica Connery Pauline & Michael Connery, Bridge St. Mary & Tom Ryan, Seffin Patsy Garahy Maureen & Patrick Maher

Please pray for the souls of

Joe Daly, Clonakelly, Birr



Susan Walsh, Meadow Brook, Burkes Hill, Birr

Bernie Sheeran, William Street, Birr

Christmas Mass Bouquets now available in Parish Office with donation of €5. Proceeds are used for charitable projects.

Bambinellin Sunday (Baby Jesus Sunday)



Bambinelli Sunday (Baby Jesus Sunday) is a beautiful Advent tradition. Every year on one Sunday of Advent, families bring the figure of Baby Jesus to St. Peter's Square, Rome for the Pope to bless them. Many homes in our parish still give a central place to the crib among their Christmas decorations. On Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December, we invite you to bring the Baby Jesus from your home to any mass in Birr Parish and they will be blessed by the celebrant.

January to June boxes of envelopes (Parish Development Fund & Priests Collection) are ready for distribution. Distributors are asked to collect theirs from the conference room after Mass. As we do not have distributors in all areas if you do not receive a box and would like one please contact the Parish Office on 057-9122028. We take this opportunity to thank you for your continued financial support. It is very much appreciated.

St. Brendan of Birr

The patron saint of the Parish of Birr is St. Brendan the elder and is referred to as Séan bhRénnainn. He was held in high esteem by St. Colmcille and the monastery of Iona because of his friendship and work on behalf of St. Colmcille. The monastery he established was located near St. Brendan's graveyard and the ?? Of Birr Castle. This monastery became a centre of learning and its scribe produced the Mac Regol Gospels. Tradition tells he died in 565AD and his feast day is celebrated on November 29th and 9th May. Both the Catholic and Anglican Churches of our town bear his name. St. Brendan's legacy and memory was honoured on his feast day by the pupils and staff of St. Brendan's Primary School at daily mass.

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday €2,002

Many Thanks

Parish Fund Collectors - December 8th

M. Breen & O. Nolan

Sponsored By

St. Pio Group

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Chéad Domhnach den Aidhaint

Inniu an chéad Domhnach den Aidhaint agus is féidir linn smaoiniamh air mar thréimhse fheithimh, faire, ullmhúcháin, solas a fheiceáil agus machnamh go ciúin ar an Té atá ag teacht. Tá bliain úr na hEaglaise ag tosú arís agus ár n-aird dírithe ar chomhlíonadh phlean Dé nuair a thiofáidh a ríocht. Tréimhse cheithre seachtaine díreach roimh na Nollaig atá ann. Is séasúr é a chabhraíonn linn ullmhú mar is cóir don Fhéile Mhór. Réitítear agus beannaítear fleasc don Aidhaint an Domhnach seo. Tá nós na fleisce go forleathan ar fud na hEorpa leis na cianta. Déantar í as cuileann agus duilleoga síorghlasa i ríocht fáinne agus bíonn cúig choinneal uirthi, ceann do gach seachtain den Aidhaint agus ceann don Nollaig. Baineann an cruth ciorclach leis an tsíoraíocht toisc nach mbíonn tús ná deireadh leis. Lastar coinneal amháin gach Domhnach le linn an tséasúir. Le linn na hAidhainte ba chóir dúinn iarracht a dhéanamh chun bealach an Tiarna a réiteach agus cúl a thabhairt dár bpeacaí ionas go mbeimid in ann fáilte a chur roimhe nuair a thiofáidh Sé. **Guímis, A Dhia, a Athair uilechumhachtaigh, impímid ort as ucht do thrócaire, bí taobh linn i gcónaí le cabhair an Spioraid Naoimh. Go dtuga Féile tréimhse na hAidhainte lúcháir, sonas agus síocháin dúinn féin, dár muintir agus don tír eile. Sin é ár nguí chugat trí Chríost ár dTiarna. Áiméan.**

Today is the first Sunday in Advent and we can reflect on it as a time of waiting, watching, preparation, light and quiet reflection on the Person who is to come. A new Liturgical year has begun and we reflect on the fulfilment of God's Plan, the coming of His kingdom. It is a period of four weeks prior to Christmas. It is a season which helps us to prepare for the great feast of Christmas. The Advent Wreath is prepared and blessed on the first Sunday of Advent. This is a long standing custom in Europe. It is made from holly and evergreen leaves in the form of a circle with four candles representing each week. The circle reminds us of eternity which has no beginning or end. One candle is lit for each Sunday in Advent. During Advent we ought to follow the way of the Lord and repent of our sins so that we can welcome Jesus when He comes. **We pray, Almighty God in your mercy, be with us always with the help of the Holy Spirit. May the season of Advent be a time of joy, happiness, peace for each of us, our people and the country. We make our prayer through Christ. Our Lord, Amen.**

Christmas Penitential Service

Wednesday 11th December

at 7.30pm

Led by Fr. Joe Mc Mahon O.F.M.