

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

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

- Alternate Sunday

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

- Alternate Sunday

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

Sincere apologies for the St. Pio Mass not taking place last Thursday evening. The monthly Mass will be said next Thursday 23rd January at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Birr Historical Society - Brian Kennedy will give a talk on "The Parsons of Birr" (400 Years of Birr History) in The County Arms Hotel, on Monday 20th January, at 8.00 pm. All are welcome. Non members €5.

West Offaly Training - FREE Smartphone starting Thursday 23rd /Computer for beginners 21st Jan, Train the Trainer QQI level 6 starting 7th Feb, Manual Handling/Abrasive Wheel training (weekly), Makeup Course Starting 27th Jan, Tai Chi starting 23rd Jan, Mindfulness Course starting 5th Feb, ECDL starting 20th Jan, Understanding Autism Starting 5th Feb and MS Excel & Word starting 22nd Jan. Call 0579152003 to find out more.

Moate Business College Adult Education Night Classes - Registration evening is this Monday 20th January between 7-9 pm and classes will start the following week. Check out the full range of courses on www.moatebusinesscollege.com.

Banagher College Colaiste na Sionna invites prospective First Year Students and their Parents to an OPEN NIGHT on Thursday, 23rd January at 7.30 pm.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 18th	7.30 p.m.	Evelyn Bell & parents Michael & Margaret Pardy Kathleen Loughnane
Sun 19th	8.30 a.m.	Kathleen & Noel McEvoy
	10.30 a.m.	Rita Scully, Fortal Joseph Flynn, Tullamore Road
	12 noon	Geraldine Bergin, Emmet Street & her father John Kearns Brian Guidera Joe & Teresa Sharkey Dan Meleady John Claffey & Claffey family George Boyd Patrick & Josephine Kelly & daughter Gail Sr. Josephine Kelly
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Thomas & Mary Teresa White & daughter Maretta Patricia Harding
Tues 21st	10.00 a.m.	James McCarthy
Fri 24th	10.00 a.m.	Margaret Mongan
Sat 25th	7.30 p.m.	Paul Townsend (MM), Bulfin Park John Sherlock (1st Ann) Carmel Moore Michael Lynch Kathleen Carry
Sun 26th	8.30 a.m.	Jill Tully (MM)
	10.30 a.m.	Hogan family, Newbridge Street Margaret & Patrick O'Meara, Fortal
	12 noon	Thomas 'Tucker' Pardy
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Eleanor & Patrick O'Neill Michael Maher, Clonfinane

Please pray for the souls of



**Michael Feighery, Shannonharbour,
husband of Catriona, Staff of Birr CNU,
Fran Harding, Labasheeda,
son of Willie Harding,
Philomena Slowey, Longford
sister of Philip Brady, Seffin.**

**Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday €2,073
Many Thanks
Parish Fund Collectors - Jan 26th
E. Nolan & R. Delaney**

If you would like to **sponsor the newsletter** in 2020 please contact one of the priests or the Parish Office. The cost is **€100 per month.**

Sponsored By

Anonymous

The collection for the **Irish Bishops' Conference** will be taken up today as part of the offertory collection. Please add some extra money to your contribution to the offertory collection to cover this.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Ecumenical Service on Thursday, January 23rd at 8.00 p.m. in St. Brendan's Church, Oxmantown Mall. All are welcome.

Prayer for Good Health and Protection

Almighty God,
Please cover me.

Cover me with your mighty hand

Your hand is upon my life.

My life is a gift from you

You hold all things in balance.

You balance each need and care

in your loving heart.

A heart that loves with truth, hope and peace.

Your peace is given that we can walk free.

Free from fear, knowing that you are with us.

Please cover me.

Cover me with your mighty hand,

Your hand of protection and health. Amen.

A Wish for the Week Ahead

May you discover at least one good thing in every day,
Even if you have to put on your glasses & squint!

May you carry hope in your pocket,

Hope in your heart & love in both hands.

May your coffee sustain you,

May your kindness guide you,

May you learn & grow from your experiences...

Or at least survive them!

May your purpose stay steady & firm,

May your spirit be fresh & strong

And may you choose to protect your peace & happiness
Calmly, but firmly!

Bishop Fintan Monahan will lead a 7-night pilgrimage to Medjugorje from July 22-29, 2020 with direct flights from Dublin to Mostar-Medjugorje Airport. Mass daily with full religious programme with sightseeing and visit to local sites of interest. Air-conditioned accommodation close to St James' Church with breakfast and evening meals included. Price is €725 per person sharing. For more information please contact Marian Pilgrimages on Dublin 01.878.8159 or info@marian.ie

Group Pilgrimage to Medjugorje - 19th - 26th August 2020. Price €675 if booked before February 1st (€725 afterwards) Accompanied by Fr. Tom Hannon as spiritual director. For more information contact Phil on 086-3956299.

Lourdes 2020 - The 64th Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday **26th June to Wednesday 1st July**; €725 full board with €20 discount for online booking to: joewalstours.ie.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Aontacht na gCríostaithe.

Leagann na hEaglaisí Críostaí ar fud an domhain seachtain ar leith amach ó 18 - 25 Eanáir chun guí ar son Aontacht na **gCríostaithe**. Is é an téama do 2020 ná "d'Fhaltaigh siad romhainn uile" (Gníomhartha 28:2). Guímis mar a dúirt Críost an oíche roimh a bhás, "Ionas go mba aon iad go léir, faoi mar atá tusa a Athair ionamsa agus mise ionatsa, go mbeidís seo ina n-aon ionainn i dtreo go gcreidfidh an saol gur chuir tú uait mé" (Eoin17:21). Tharla dhá-mhór-scoil in Eaglais Chríost. Sa bhliain 1054 scar Eaglais an Oirthir i gConstaninople ón Eaglais sa Róimh agus thug siad Ceartchreidmhaigh orthu féin. Tharla scoilt san Eoraip san séú haois déag agus is as sin a d'fhás na hEaglaisí Protastúnach mar atá an Eaglais Liútarach, an Eaglais Chailvéineach agus an Eaglais Anglacánach. Le breis is céad bliain anuas tá na heaglaisí ag iarraidh na scoilteanna a leigheas. Tugtar Éacúiméineachas ar an iarracht sin. Iarrtar orainn guí ar son aontacht idir Críostaithe ionas go gcomhlíonfar misean Chríost. Is paidir ar son Aontachta Críostaí í seo:

A Athair an ghrá, a ghlaigh sinn chun comhbhráithreachais le do mhac, agus a cheap sinn le bheith inár bhfinnéithe don soiscéal. Trí ghrásta do Spioraid, cuir ar ár gcumas na deighiltí a shárú, agus féach chuige go bhfan-faimid daingean, agus go mbeidh ár gcuid áthais iomlán. Guímid leis seo trínár dTiarna Íosa Críost, Áiméan. Ainm Naofa Íosa.

The week of prayer for Christian Unity is kept throughout the world each year from 18-25 January. The theme for 2020 is: "They Showed Us Unusual Kindness" (Acts 28:2). We are obliged to pray for unity among Christians so that the mission of Christ will be fulfilled. Let us pray as Jesus asked us on the night before He died, "May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me, and I am in you so the world may believe it was you who sent me" (John 17:21). Two major splits occurred in the Church of Christ. In 1014 the Eastern Church in Constantinople separated from the Church in Rome and became the Orthodox Church. In the sixteenth century in Europe there was a split and the Protestant Churches, Lutheran, Calvinistic and Anglican were established. For over a century the unity of the churches is sought. This is called Ecumenism. The following is a prayer for Church Unity:

Father of love you have called us to confraternity with your Son and to be witnesses to the gospel. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit enable us to overcome divisions and remain steadfast that our joy may be complete. We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.