

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 **Parish Mobile:** 087-3515294
Website: www.stbrendansbirr.ie
Email: info@stbrendansbirr.ie
Priest on Duty - Please call Parish Mobile - 087-3515294
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

The **Legion of Mary** will gratefully accept **used stamps**.
 If you have any please drop them into the Parish Office.
 Thank you.

Discover Your Strengths – a five session programme to
 promote self-discovery and personal development is be-
 ing delivered, free of charge, by Offaly Local Develop-
 ment Company. This course starts at 11.15am on Thurs-
 day March 12th in Birr Community Resource Centre. For
 more information or to book your place, contact Louise on
 087 692 5276."

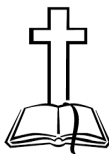
Beginning Experience weekend for people who have
 lost a spouse through death, divorce or separation on 3-5
 April 2020 at Redemptorist Centre, Esker, Athenry, Co.
 Galway. Contact Maureen on 087-6646896 or Mary on
 087-9384446.

Affordable Live-in Homecare provide live in carers for
 the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in car-
 er for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom today on
 087 9916791. Check out details on the website
 www.alhomecare.ie

"How to Be Happy & Content" with John Lonergan
 A talk with the former Governor of Mountjoy Prison takes
 place in Dooly's Hotel on Thursday 23 April at 7.30pm.
 Organised by the Parents Association of Crinkill NS, this
 talk will provide you with a roadmap to help you find hap-
 piness and contentment in your life. Tickets €10 are avail-
 able from Crinkill N.S, Crinkill Merchants (Hassett's Top-
 line), Dooly's Hotel and Carrig Village Stores.

Remembered in Mass this Week

| | | |
|----------|------------|---|
| Sat 29th | 7.30 p.m. | Baby Sheila Cash (1st Ann) Lisa Guilfoyle Elizabeth Maher Tommy Errity & Errity family |
| Sun 1st | 12 noon | Jackie Burke Christy & Nora Cleary Tommy Pey Peter Browne Christopher, Kathleen & Sally Cleary |
| Mon 2nd | 10.00 a.m. | Lorraine & Celine McCarthy |
| Thur 5th | 10.00 a.m. | Frank Coughlan, New Road Hunt family, Sligo |
| Fri 6th | 10.00 a.m. | People of the Parish |
| Sat 7th | 7.30 p.m. | Mossie Kelly-McMahon (1st Ann) Michael & Kathleen Regan & sons Alan & David Jack Roberts & Roberts family Tom O'Meara James & Margaret Horan |
| Sun 8th | 8.30 a.m. | Martin & Mary-Jane Carroll, Seffin & sons & daughter |
| | 10.30 a.m. | Agnes Pearson Peter O'Meara Patricia Shelly |
| | 12 noon | John Fay Paddy & Annie Kennedy, Fortal Richard Johnston, Military Road |



Please Pray for the Souls of

Joe Long, Cornmarket Street,
 Margaret Guinan, Clonbrone,
 Sean Bergin, Ballybrophy,
 father of John, Syngefeld

Arise – National Young Adult Event **ARISE** – Young Adult
 18+ National Event takes place in Knock Shrine on March 7th
 2020. There will be inspirational speakers, music, celebration,
 fun, a chance to meet with other young adults and much
 more. Registration is from 10am and the day will finish at
 4:30pm, Cost €10. For more information contact Joanne O'
 Brien. email: jobrien@killaloediocese.ie or Text, Call, etc.
 to 085 874 9207.

Mount St Joseph Abbey Lenten Retreat - "Come to the well".
 Friday 13th to Sunday 15th March. Led by Patrick Reynolds and
 Pat Walsh. Cost €150.00. Bookings - 0505 25600 or email
guesthouse@msjroscree.ie.

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday €1,685
Many Thanks
Parish Fund Collectors - March 8th
M. O'Gorman & R. O'Brien

Sponsored By

Birr Town F.C.

**The Parish Mobile phone number
 has changed. The Priest on Duty can
 now be contacted on 087-3515294.
 This is to be used in Emergencies Only.**

Lent 2020 - Birr Parish

Stations of The Cross

Each Wednesday of Lent
 after 10.00 a.m. Mass in St. Brendan's

Reflecting on the Sunday Readings of Lent

Using the Lectio Divina approach
Each Thursday of Lent
 after 10.00 a.m. Mass in the Conference Room
 at the rear of St. Brendan's

Triduum in Lent in St. Brendan's Church "Catching The Heart Off-Guard"

Monday March 30th - 7.30 p.m.
 led by Fr. Pat Kiernan P.P. Banagher
 Tuesday March 31st - 7.30 p.m.
 led by Fr. Martin Delaney P.P. Rathdowney
 Wednesday April 1st - 7.30 p.m.
 led by Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty

**Next Friday, 6th March is the first Friday of the
 month;** Mass will be at 10am in St. Brendan's, Birr
 and at 7.30pm in the Church of the Annunciation,
 Carrig.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place
 in St. Brendan's on Saturday with **Benediction at
 11.00 a.m.** Calls to the sick and housebound will
 take place during the coming week - if you or some-
 one you know would like a call please contact the
 priest on duty 086 3515294.

A very sincere **Thank You** to all who have sponsored
 the newsletter recently. Your support is very much ap-
 preciated. If anyone else would like to **sponsor the
 newsletter** in 2020 please contact one of the priests
 or the Parish Office. The cost is **€100 per month**.

Trocaire Lenten Campaign

Trócaire works with local partner organisations in over
 twenty developing countries with a focus on food and
 resource rights, women's empowerment and humani-
 tarian response. During Lent 2020 the stories of
 Madris in Kenya and Angela in Honduras help cele-
 brate the strength of women all over the world who are
 overcoming the odds to protect and provide for their
 families.

Please take a Trocaire envelope home with you and
 donate what you can to this year's Lenten campaign

The members of **Birr Comhaltas** will play Irish mu-
 sic at the **7.30 p.m. Mass on Saturday next, 7th
 March**.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Mí an Mhárta.

Mí an Mhárta, mí an fheirmeora, mí na sailcuaiche, mí
 na ngleanntán, mí na hathbheochana, mí na Féile
 Pádraig. I Mí an Mhárta bí linn a Thiarna. Is í intinn an
 Phápa don mhí seo ná:Guímis ar son Eaglaise na
 Síne,Go raibh sí buanseasmhacht ina dílseacht don
 Soiscéal agus aontacht a chur chun cinn.
 Is tráth liotúirgeach [troscadh](#), [tréanais](#) agus aithrí, ó
 Chéadaoin an Luaithrigh go Domhnach Cásca é, an
 Carghas. Iarrtar orainn scaradh lenár bpeacaí agus
 iompú chun Dé. Tréimhse dhaichead lá ag ullmhú
 d'Aiséiri ár dTiarna Íosa Críost atá ann. Is ceann de na
 tréimhsí is tábhachtaí é i bhféilire na hEaglaise. Ba é
 an phríomhaidhm a bhí i gcónaí ag an Eaglais i leith
 an Charghais ná guí, aithrí, agus déanamh déirce
 agus féindiúltú.

Sular chuir Íosa tús lena shaol poiblí, chaith Sé dai-
 chead lá san fhiántas. Sa chiúnas sin bhí deis aige
 éisteacht le briathar Dé agus toil a Athar maidir lena
 shaol féin a aimsiú. Ag tús an Charghais, iarrtar
 orainn breathnú ar ár saol, féachaint an bhfuilimid
 dáiríre faoi Íosa Críost a leanúint agus bheith dílis dár
 gcreideamh. Is fiú mar sin cuimhneamh ar mhóide-
 anna ár mbaiste féachaint an bhfuil na gealltanais á
 chomhlíonadh againn lá i ndiaidh lae. Cuirimis fáilte
 roimh an gCarghas mar go dtugann sé deis dúinn
 aithrí a dhéanamh inár bpeacaí agus sampla Críost a
 leanúint. Beidh Sé in éineacht linn, lena ghrásta i
 ngach coiscéim den bhealach.

***Dia do mo stiúradh, Dia do mo shaoradh,
 Dia do mo sheoladh, Dia do mo theagasc,
 Agus Dia do mo shábháil ar gach áit a mbíonn an
 peaca. Áiméan***

(Traidisiúnta)

The month of March ,month of spring work for the
 farmer, month of the violets, of spring awakening, of
 the feast of Saint Patrick. Be with us Lord during the
 month of March. The Pope's intention for March is :
 We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its
 faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

Lent is a season of fast, abstinence and repentance
 from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. We are invit-
 ed to reject sin and turn to God. It is a period of forty
 days in preparation for feast of the Resurrection of Je-
 sus on Easter Sunday. It is one of the most important
 seasons in the Church calendar. Its main objective al-
 ways was prayer, repentance and alms giving. Before
 Jesus began his public life, he spent forty days in the
 wilderness. In the silence he had an opportunity to lis-
 ten to the word of God and to know His will. At the be-
 ginning of Lent, we are advised to examine our lives to
 see if we are committed to following Christ and remain
 faithful to our faith. We recall our Baptismal Promises
 and see if we observe them daily. Let us welcome the
 Season of Lent as it affords us an opportunity to re-
 pent and follow the example of Jesus. He will accom-
 pany us with his grace every step of the way.

***God direct me, God rescue me,
 God guide me, God teach me,
 And God deliver me from all occasions of sin.
 Amen***