

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.

A volunteer **Eucharistic Minister** is needed to lead a **Holy Hour** once a month (Thursday 2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.) in Birr Community Hospital. If you are interested in this ministry please give your name into the Parish Office or ring 057-9122028.

Community News

Birr St. Vincent de Paul - Sincerest gratitude to the many people who gave so generously to SVP's Annual Appeal before Christmas. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Ring found - please contact the Parish Office.

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

Carrig and Riverstown Development Association - CRK Drama group returns to the stage in Carrig hall for one night to perform their fantastic production of Billy Canning's 'Through the Chair' on Saturday the 15th February 2020 at 8pm as a special fundraiser going towards the hall extension. Tickets are on sale for €10 each and are available from any member of Carrig and Riverstown Development Association committee or by contacting 089 2432578. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 1st	7.30 p.m.	Eileen Cahill, Bulfin Park Barbara Bracken & Bracken family
Sun 2nd	10.30 a.m.	Daniel & Bridget Hogan, Mount Palmer Tim Bergin
	12 noon	Billy Kirwan Agnes & Paddy Shiels Maura & Eamon Garahy William & Ann Hough
Mon 3rd	10.00 a.m.	Willie Reynolds (1st Ann) & mother Nora
Sat 8th	7.30 p.m.	Bridget Featherstone (MM) Pat, Mary & Brendan Dwane Jimmy & Irene O'Neill
Sun 9th	10.30 a.m.	Michael & Betty O'Brien Gerry Harte
	12 noon	Eileen Talbot (MM) Sean & Frances Hogan, Burkes Hill Susie Parry Babe & Kevin Murphy

On this Sunday,
the **Feast of The Presentation of Our Lord**,
candles are blessed for both church and home use.

If you would like to have candles for home use
blessed or wish to donate candles (not tea lights)
for church use please leave them on the altar for
blessing. Many thanks.

Bishop Fintan Monahan will lead a 7-night pilgrimage to Medjugorje from July 22-29, 2020 with direct flights from Dublin. 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: joewal-shtours.ie.

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday €1,875
Many Thanks
Parish Fund Collectors - February 9th
D. Naughton & A. Mellsop

Sponsored By

Anonymous

Appeal for Nurses - This year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from Friday 26th June to Wednesday 1st July. To care for sick and assisted pilgrims, the Diocese is looking to recruit 20 volunteer nurses who would assist and care for these pilgrims. Nurses who would like to express interest in volunteering or to find out more information are asked to contact Michael Daly 086-3813677.

Pilgrimage to Oberammergau

The Killaloe Diocese has secured 40 tickets for the famous Passion Play that is held in Oberammergau Germany Bishop Fintan Monahan will lead a Killaloe the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the famous Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany from 29th August to 2nd September this year. Flying direct from Shannon Airport the pilgrimage will include visits to Vienna, Salzburg, the German Marian Shrine of Our Lady of Altötting and Marktl am Inn (birthplace of Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI). Places are limited to 40 pilgrims, so early booking is advised. Since the Passion Play at Oberammergau is performed only once every ten years, this pilgrimage offers a unique opportunity to participate in a special and historic event.

In 1633 the residents of Oberammergau in the German province of Bavaria vowed that if God spared them from the bubonic plague, that they would, for all time, produce a play every 10 years depicting the life and death of Jesus. The play is performed in every year ending in zero. This year the play will be performed throughout the season from May to October. The production involves 2,000 performers, musicians and technicians, all of whom are residents of Oberammergau. Cost of the Pilgrimage is €1095 per person sharing, no single rooms available.

Further Information and booking forms from
Fr. Tom Ryan, Killaloe Diocesan Director of Pilgrimages. 087 234 9816
Fr. Brendan Quinlivan, Killaloe Diocesan Communications Officer. Tel: 087 273 6310

Next Friday, 7th February 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 someone you know would like a call please contact the priest on duty 086 3531955.

Monday 3 February is the feast of St Blaise and blessing of throats will take place after 10.00 a.m. Mass.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Mí Feabhra 2020

Mí Feabhra, mí na Féile Bríde, tús an Earraigh, mí na n-uan, mí na dtrí shíon - gaoth, báisteach agus sneachta. I mí Feabhra, bí linn a Thiarna. "Anois teacht an Earraigh, beidh an lá ag dul chun síneadh, Is tar éis na Féile Bríde ardóidh mé mo sheol" a scríobh Antoine Ó Raifteirí.

Is í intinn an Phápa don mhí seo ná :Go dtugtar éis-teacht d'achainí ár gcomharsan imirceach agus dóibh siúd a fhulaingíonn mangaireacht choiriúil is go ndéantar dóibh beart dá réir. Ceiliúrtar Lá Fhéile Bríde, Muire na nGael, ar an gcéad lá d'Fheabhra. Tá antóir ar chrosa Bhríde. Crochtar iad os cionn dorais an tí le súil go mbeadh rath ar an teaghlach ar feadh na bliana. Is paidir í seo do Naomh Bríd:

A Naomh Bríd, a Mhuire na nGael,
scaoil orainn do bhrat.

Agus coinnigh faoi do chumhdach mé
Go mbeidh mé leat i bhflaitheas Dé. Áiméan.

Inniu lá fhéile Muire na gCoinnle. Beannaítear coinnle roimh an Aifreann. Is comhartha iad gur Críost féin an Fíorsholas a tháinig ar an saol. Coinnle Mhuire a tugtar ar na coinnle sin mar gheall ar an lá a bheannaítear iad. Ba dheas Coinneal Mhuire a bheith i ngach teach.

Fáilte an Domhnaigh, i ndiaidh na seachtaine. Lá breá saoire, a d'ordaigh Dia dúinn lenár n-anam a dhéanamh. Áiméan

February, St Brigid's month, the beginning of Spring, month of the lambs, month of three kinds of weather: wind, rain and snow. Antoine Ó Raifteirí wrote: "Now that Spring is here the days will get longer, And after St. Brigid's Day I will start my journey."

The Pope's intention for this month is: Pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered. The feast of Saint Bridget is celebrated on the first of the month. St Bridget's crosses are sought after. They are placed over the door for good luck for the year.

This prayer can be said to Saint Bridget:
Bridget, Mary of the Gael, wrap us in your cloak.
Protect me until I am with you in Heaven. Amen.

Today is Candlemas Day. Candles are blessed. They are a sign that Christ is the true light of the world. Keep a blessed candle in your home.

We welcome Sunday at the end of the week.
A welcome rest ordained by God to renew our souls, Amen.

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.**