

## 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

**AGM of Carrig & Riverstown Development Association** - Monday, 24th February in Carrig & Riverstown Hall at 8pm. This year the Special Guest Speaker is Margaret Quinn from Muintir Na Tire who will be giving us a talk on their organisation and what they do for communities. All are welcome and we would encourage as many people from the community to attend

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

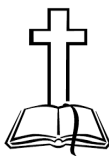
**Crochet Classes for Beginners** commences in the Conference Room at the rear of St. Brendan's church on Thursday 27th February from 7.30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. Contact Jacinta on 087 6480987 for more details.

**Emmanuel House of Providence**, Clonfert are holding 7 weeks **Life in the Spirit Seminar** including Mass, starting on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February from 2.30pm – 5.00pm. Bishop Michael Duignan: 1<sup>st</sup> seminar on God's love. Contact: 057 91 51552 for more details.

**Discover Your Strengths** – a five session programme to promote self-discovery and personal development is being delivered, free of charge, by Offaly Local Development Company. This course starts at 11.15am on Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> in Birr Community Resource Centre. For more information or to book your place, contact Louise on 087 692 5276."

### Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 22nd	7.30pm	Catherine Campbell nee Dwyer (1st Ann) John Murdock
Sun 23rd	8.30am	Margaret, Edward & Michael Grogan Rose Hughes & Hughes family
	10.30am	Michael & Nellie Whelan & son Michael Moira Ryan Harry, Larry & Johnny Ryan Michael Parnell & his parents Edward & Mary Parnell, Killeen
		John Pilkington Jack & Mary Scully
	12 noon	Paul & Winifred Sheils Jimmy & Annie King, Glebe Street Bridie Ryan
Thur 27th	10.00 a.m.	Patrick Kiely Mary Maughan
Fri 28th	10.00 a.m.	Michael Caffrey (1st Ann) & his wife Mary, Glebe Street
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



### Please Pray for the Soul of

Nuala O'Maoileoin, Dublin,  
 sister-in-law of Maire Purcell

**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.

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

**Silent Retreat:** Theme: "If you but knew the gift of God..." Preached by: Fr. Kilian Byrne at Esker Retreat Centre, Athenry, Co. Galway. April 13th – 19th Cost: €380 full board. Contact: Helen on 086-1678027 or hellywilliams@gmail.com www.foyerofcharity.ie. A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions and listen to the Spirit of God.

**Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday €1,862**  
**Many Thanks**  
**Parish Fund Collectors - March 1st**  
**M. Breen & O. Nolan**

*Sponsored By*

# Anonymous

**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

#### Ash Wednesday - 26th February

##### Mass Times

7.30 a.m. - St. Brendan's  
 10.00 a.m. - St. Brendan's  
 7.30 p.m. - Carrig

**Distribution of Ashes** after each Mass.

#### 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

A sincere thank you for your generosity to the **Priests Collection** taken up last weekend. Your kindness is very much appreciated. Envelopes can still be left into the Parish Office.

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**"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 happiness and contentment in your life. Tickets €10 are available from Crinkill N.S., Crinkill Merchants (Hassett's Topine), Dooly's Hotel and Carrig Village Stores.

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**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, booking, etc. please contact Joanne O' Brien, Director of Youth Ministry, Killaloe Diocese. Text, Call, etc. to 085 874 9207 or email: [jobrien@killaloediocese.ie](mailto:jobrien@killaloediocese.ie)

### Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

#### Domhnach na Measarthachta

Tá an Domhnach seo tiomnaithe don mheasarthacht. Is suáilce í gur féidir linn a chleachtadh i ngach gné dár saol. Is eol dúinn go bhfuil fadhb an óil agus fadhb na ndrugaí ag cur isteach go mór ar theaghlaigh. Is mór an brón agus briseadh croí a bhíonn le fulaingt dá bhrí sin. Tá plaic crochta ar an mballa in a lán de na hionaid a chuireann cóir ar andúiligh agus scríofa air tá: 'Is tusa amháin atá in ann é a dhéanamh ach ní féidir leat é a dhéanamh i d'aonar'. Cuireann sé i gcuimhne dúinn freisin go gcaithimid cúnamh a iarraidh ar Dhia agus ar a chéile má táimid ag lorg lámh cúnta. .Is féidir cabhair a fháil ó A.A nó ó Ionad Leighis nó ó Chomhairleoir Sláinte. Beidh Céadaoin an Luaithrigh ar an 26 Feabhra. Is tús tréimhse an Charghais é, an daichead lá roimh an Cháisc. Iartar orainn cúl a thabhairt don pheaca agus grá a léiriú do Dhia agus do dhaoine eile. Cuireann an luaithreach ar ár n-éadan i gcuimhne dúinn mortlaíocht dhaonna. Tá an cleachtadh seo coitianta i measc, Anglacánaigh, Liútaraigh, Meitidistigh agus Preispitéirigh. Is féidir machnamh a dhéanamh ar an bpaidir seo a leanas ón Traidisiún:

**A Íosa, glan mo chroíse**

**Go gléghlan gach lá,**

**A Íosa, cuir m'intinn faoi léirsmacht do ghrá.**

**Déan mo smaointe go fíorghlan**

**agus briathra mo bhéil,**

**Is a Thiarna, 'Dhia dhílis,**

**stiúir choíche mo shaol.**

This Sunday is dedicated to Temperance. It is a virtue which we ought to practise in our lives. We know that drink and drug abuse cause pain and suffering for many families. Many addiction treatment centres have a plaque hanging on the wall which states: "You alone can do it but you cannot do it on your own" This reminds us that we must ask help from God and from each other in times of trouble. Help is available from A.A, Treatment Centres and Addiction Specialists. Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on Wednesday next 26 February. It is the beginning of the Lenten Season, the forty days before Easter. We are invited to turn away from sin and love God and our neighbour. The ashes on our foreheads reminds us of our mortality. Ash Wednesday is observed by many Western Christians among them Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists and Presbyterians. Let us reflect on the following prayer from Tradition:

**Jesus, cleanse my heart each day**

**and make it spotless,**

**Jesus, rule my mind by the power of your love.**

**Make truly clean my thoughts**

**and the words I utter,**

**and, dear Lord God,**

**direct my life now and forever.**

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**.