

## 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.

## Prayer for Healing and Hope in the face of the Coronavirus

Jesus, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Jesus, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Jesus, heal us.

### Remembered in Mass this Week

Sun 3rd	10.30 a.m.	Doreen Horan (MM) & her husband Kieran Tony McLoughlin (1st Ann) Mary Hogan, Crinkill (1st Ann) Billy Watson Annie, Michael & Roddy Harte Monica Boyd Stan Hayes & his wife Detta Margaret Ryan, Coolderry Bernard & Sophia Simpsin, Donegal
Mon 4th	10.00 a.m.	Patrick & Aileen O'Gorman Peg Scully O'Gorman family
Tues 5th	10.00 a.m.	Joe Donoghue
Sun 10th	10.30 a.m.	Valerie McIntyre (1st Ann) Martin Hynes, Castle Gardens Tim Hutchinson



### Please Pray for the Souls of

Michael Dixon, Norfolk,  
brother of Celia Watson,  
Alice Kennedy, London & late of  
Clonaslee, aunt of Helena Kennedy

### Thanks to shops who are facilitating distribution of the newsletter:

Horan's Daybreak, John's Place  
The Store, Carrig  
Mulrooney's Gala, Roscrea Road  
Corrib Oil Garage, Banagher Road

### Parish Contributions

**Thank You** - A number of Parishioners have contacted us in connection with contributions. If people wish, they can do so by lodging directly to the parish bank account.

**BIC** - BOFIE2D

**IBAN** - . IE40BOFI90167724940777

We acknowledge parishioners who contributed to the Easter Priests' Collection and the Parish Development Fund via letterbox and by post.

### Sponsored By

**Campbell's** Hackney Service

Contact **Michael** on 087-2618507 or 057-9120407

Woodland Park, Birr

## Sister Mary Anthony Loughnane

1929 - 2020

*An appreciation*

On Wednesday April 29th Sister Mary Anthony Loughnane of the Daughter of the Holy Ghost was laid to rest in the convent graveyard at Olney, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. She had spent all her adult life as a religious sister working in the area of education.

Sr. Mary Anthony was known to her family and friends as Sr. Celine, arrived into life in the year of the Wall Street Crash of 1929. She was one of a family of 11 children born to Margaret and Michael Loughnane, Tinlough, Carrig.

Celine was part of a generation of Irish women and men who entered religious life and have contributed through a lifetime of service as teachers, nurses and community leaders to generations, especially in the more deprived and poorer parts of our world.

The Daughter of the Holy Ghost is a religious order founded in Brittany, France with a charism to work with the poor. They were forced to move from France in the early 20th century and arrived in Bedford where over the past 120 years they have ministered as teachers, nurses, in social work and parish ministry. The Holy Ghost Sisters had a convent and school in Monaghan. It was here that Celine Loughnane and her two sisters Josie and Ciss began their religious formation as young students. Celine trained as a teacher and Josie, Sr. Mary Enda, and Ciss, Sr. Ann Patrick, qualified as nurses and midwives. Also from the Birr area Sr. Angela Mary Verney and Sr. Mary Joseph Verney, Crinkill and Sr. Josephine Kelly, the Green were members of the same order.

Sr. Celine was a qualified teacher and had a great love of both music and art. She was accomplished on the fiddle and accordion spending most of her teaching life in their convent school at Newtown Abbot, Devon and in parish ministry. She was gifted as a painter of icons. For the past ten years she has lived in the retirement home at their convent in Olney, Milton Keynes where she was blessed with a full and active life up to the final week of her life.

Celine was a yearly visitor to her family in Birr staying in recent years with her sister-in-law, Bessie, who also died recently.

Rest in peace faithful servant after a lifetime of making a difference in the lives of so many. May you now be numbered in the company of the saints. In iothlainn Dé, go dtugtar sí.

## Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

### Mí na Bealtaine.

Mí na Bealtaine, mí na Maighdine Muire, tús an tSamhraidh, mí na cuaiche, mí na mbláthanna, i Mí na Bealtaine bí linn a Thiarna. Áiméan.  
Ar chuala tú an chuach nó an bhfaca tú na fáinleoga? Tá siad tagtha chugainn ón domhan theas, áit ina mbíonn sé ina Shamhradh i gcónaí. Tá na crothaigh eanaigh ag glacadh sosa sa tír agus iad ar a mbealach ón Iodáil go dtí an Íoslainn. Cuirimis fáilte mhór rompu agus go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís. Dúirt Íosa, "Féachaigí éanlaith an aeir. Ní dhéanann siad siolchur ná fómhar ná cnuasach sna sciobóil agus tugann bhur nAthair neamhaí bia dóibh. Nach mó is fiú sibhse ná iad sin" Matha (6:26). Is í intinn an Phápa do Mhí Bhealtaine ná: Guímis go raibh deagánaigh dílis dá seirbhís ar son an tSoiscéil agus na mbocht agus iad mar shiombail a chuirfidh beocht san Eaglais ar fad. Inniu an ceathrú Domhnach den Cháisc, *Domhnach an Aoire Mhaith nó Domhnach na nGairmeacha Crábhaigh*. Iarrtar orainn guí go dtiocfaidh méadú ar ghairmeacha chun na Sagartachta agus an Bheatha Reiligiúnach. Is é Íosa féin a dúirt linn: "Tá an fómhar faising ach níl ann ach meitheal bheag. Dá bhrí sin guígí Máistir an fhómhair go gcuirfeadh sé meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair" (Matha 9:37-38).

May the month of Our Lady, the beginning of Summer, month of the cuckoo and flowers. Lord be with us during the month of May. Have you heard the cuckoo or seen the swallows? They have arrived from the sunny southern hemisphere. The wimbrels have arrived also and are resting here on their journey from Italy to Iceland. Let us welcome them and may we all be alive this time next year.

Jesus said, "Behold the birds of the air, for they neither sow, nor do they reap, nor gather into barns: and your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you of much more value than they?" Matthew (6:26). The Pope's intention for this month is :- that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Today the fourth Sunday of Easter is a very special day. We are asked to pray for an increase of vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life. It was Jesus who said, "The harvest is great, but the labourers are few. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send labourers into His harvest". (Matthew 9: 37-38).

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present  
In the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.