

## 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

### COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

### Reopening of Churches for Private Personal Prayer

In light of recent Government announcements our Churches will reopen for personal prayer, to light a candle or make a visit from Monday, May 18th, from 10.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Mass will continue to be said behind closed doors at 10.00 a.m. from Monday to Saturday. There will now be a Vigil Mass said on Saturday evening at 7.30 p.m. and Sunday Mass will be said at 10.30 a.m. All Masses are broadcast on the radio and are streamed live on the parish Facebook page, Brendan Birr

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  
 Loughnane's Garage, Tullamore Road

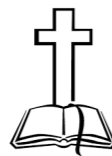
Sponsored By

**Campbell's** Hackney Service

Contact Michael on 087-2618507 or 057-9120407  
 Woodland Park, Birr

### Remembered in Mass this Week

Sun 17th	10.30 a.m.	Sean Kinirons, High Street (MM) Martin Ryan (1st Ann) & his wife Katie Mai Bergin, Emmet Street (1st Ann) James Hegarty, Cappaneale Margaret & William Hegarty Ann & Paul Ricketts Connerton family Emiley & Devassey Thekkan Devassy O.A. James O'Callaghan Dan "Donie" Carroll, Bulfin Park Donald & Margie Brady John & Mary Murray Fr. Henry Torpey
Mon 18th	10.00 a.m.	Bridy Ryan, Fairview (1st Ann)
Thur 21st	10.00 a.m.	Eoin Eastwood
Sat 23rd	10.00 a.m.	Bridie Hynes & husband Jim
	7.30 p.m.	Edward & Mary Sherlock & son Eddie Paddy Kirwan
Sun 24th	10.30 a.m.	Kathleen O'Meara, Ardvagga, Shinrone (1st Ann) Kathleen Kinahan Peter Bruce Mikie Donoghue Winifred & Thomas Kinsella, High St. Paddy O'Connor



### Please Pray for the Souls of

John Gormley, Woodland Park,  
Canon JJ Cribben P.P.,  
Milltown, Galway and Ballyhaunis,  
Uncle of Cliona Molloy, Arraghmore, Carrig,  
Mary Jo Flood, Newtowncashel, Co. Longford,  
mother of Marie McLoughlin, Staff Shinrone N.S.

### 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.

### 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.

### First Holy Communion & Confirmation

The weekends of May were to have been our celebration of First Holy Communion for the 2nd Class young people from Mercy P.S., Crinkill N.S., St. Brendan's Boys P.S., Killeen N.S., Carrig N.S. and the Parish Preparation Programme.

Next Saturday, May 23rd was to have been our Confirmation celebration with Bishop Fintan and the 6th Class young people.

We continue to remember you in our prayers and please God at a future date to be decided we will celebrate these key events in your young lives and in the life of your family and parish.

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### Cocooning April 2020

by Mary Finn Artist

All set now, I leave the house" it's week 4.

"In the name of the father"  
 Father Celsus Tierney,  
 Begins live streaming mass  
 on Facebook from Holycross Abbey,  
 as I walk our family farm in Ballycahill  
 Dog on lead, down the lane  
 towards the farm -house,  
 where my children grew up.  
 Memories flood back.  
 I pass the 16th c castle on the right,  
 Hear my grandchildren playing in the yard.  
 They shout, "Mary, We will email you".  
 "Keep a safe distance", I can't remember!  
 Was it 2 meters?  
 the yellow Covid booklet said?  
 Afraid now.

I would love to hug them anyway,  
 especially Emily who was due to receive her,  
 First Communion in May.  
 And then,  
 I remember  
 all those cocooning in flats, apartments  
 and nursing homes who can't go out for a walk.  
 Holy holy holy lord God says the iphone  
 It's safe now to unleash the dog,  
 no cattle here to chase,  
 he runs to the river, free at last.  
 Looking up, there's not a plane in the Sky  
 And this usually a pathway  
 between Europe and America  
 The birds haven't stopped singing  
 since I left home  
 Now near the forest they are melodious  
 like a choir of angels.  
 Stay safe everybody says the parish priest...  
 I turn for home, dog back on the lead.  
 The cows are relaxing in the long grass,  
 The calves are playing on new pastures .  
 My walking companion, Off the lead again  
 Runs for home.  
 Not a care in the world.

### Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

**Paidreacha na Bealtaine .**  
**Seo roinnt paidreacha**  
**agus amhrán gur féidir a**  
**rá, chuig an Mhaighdean**  
**Muire le linn na míosa seo.**

A Mhuire Mháthair  
 'sé seo mo ghúí,  
 go maire Íosa,  
 go deo im' chroí.

Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave,  
 is tusa mo mháthair,  
 is máthair Dé.  
 Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave,  
 is tusa mo mháthair,  
 is máthair Dé.

A Mhuire Mháthair,  
 tá lán de ghrást,  
 go mbeidh tú taobh liom,  
 ar uair mo bháis.

Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave,  
 is tusa mo mháthair,  
 is máthair Dé.  
 Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave,  
 is tusa mo mháthair,  
 is máthair Dé.

**Banríon na Bealtaine**  
 Tabhair na bláthanna is teir-  
 ce  
 Tabhair na bláthanna is deise  
 As gairdíní ,coillte, taob-  
 hchnoic is móinéir  
 Tá ár gcroíthe go hiomlán ag  
 borradh le háthas  
 Ag insint is ag moladh an  
 bhláth(a) is deise faoin aer.

Curfá  
 Ó a Mhuire cuirfimid  
 C'róin ort ,  
 Le bláth'nna inniu  
 Banríon na nAingeal  
 Is Banríon na mBláth (anna)  
 Ó a Mhuire cuirfimid  
 C'róin ort ,  
 Le bláthanna inniu  
 Banríon na nAingeal  
 Is Banríon na mBláth  
 Is tú Muire an Bhantiarna a  
 admhaíonn gach éinne  
 Deonaigh dod pháistí go  
 mbeidh  
 siad dílis go héag duit  
 An fhad is a bheas an  
 chluanóg ag lonradh le  
 bláthanna  
 An fhad a bheas dath gorm  
 Le feiceáil sa spéir

**Prayers for May**  
**This is a selection of pray-  
 ers and hymns for Mother**  
**Mary to say or sing during**  
**May**

Mary Mother,  
 this is my prayer  
 May Jesus live eternally in  
 my heart

Hail Mary, hail dearest one  
 You're my mother  
 and God's mother  
 Hail Mary, hail dearest one  
 You're my mother  
 and God's mother

Mary Mother,  
 full of grace  
 Be at my side at death's hour

Hail Mary, hail dearest one  
 You're my mother  
 and God's mother  
 Hail Mary, hail dearest one  
 You're my mother  
 and God's mother

### Queen of the May

Bring flowers of the rarest  
 bring blossoms the fairest,  
 from garden and woodland  
 and hillside and dale;  
 our full hearts are swelling,  
 our glad voices telling  
 the praise of the loveliest  
 flower of the vale!

refrain:  
 O Mary! we crown thee with  
 blossoms today,  
 Queen of the Angels, Queen  
 of the May,  
 O Mary! we crown thee with  
 blossoms today,  
 Queen of the Angels, Queen  
 of the May.

Our voices ascending,  
 In harmony blending,  
 Oh! Thus may our hearts turn  
 Dear Mother, to thee;  
 Oh! Thus shall we prove thee  
 How truly we love thee,  
 How dark without Mary  
 Life's journey would be.

refrain  
 O Virgin most tender,  
 Our homage we render,  
 Thy love and protection,  
 Sweet Mother, to win;  
 In danger defend us,  
 In sorrow befriend us,  
 And shield our hearts  
 From contagion and sin.  
 refrain