

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

New Dates for the Celebration of First Communion and Confirmation

Following the return to the new normal, St. Brendan's will facilitate families of the **First Holy Communion and Confirmation** classes with parish celebrations of the sacraments on an individual school basis. We ask that **enrolment forms for Confirmation** are returned as soon as possible to the Parish Office if you have not already done so.

Confirmation will be celebrated as follows with all ceremonies taking place at **7.30 p.m.:**

Tuesday 4th August - Killeen N.S.
Wednesday 5th August - St. Brendan's Boys P.S.
Thursday 6th August - Mercy P.S.
Friday 7th August - Crinkill N.S.
Monday 10th August - Carrig N.S.
& Parish Preparation Programme

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on the following dates with ceremonies starting at **12 noon.**

Sunday 9th August - Killeen N.S.
& Parish Preparation Programme
Sunday 16th August - St. Brendan's Boys P.S.
Sunday 23rd August - Mercy P.S. & Carrig N.S.
Sunday 30th August - Crinkill N.S.

Parents are asked to RSVP Joan Hogan, the Sacramental co-ordinator on whether their child will be attending the ceremony or not. Thank you.

Sponsored By

Anonymous

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 27th	7.30 p.m.	Maureen Plunkett (MM) Paddy 'Wacky' Coughlan
Sun 28th	10.30 a.m.	Gail Kelly, The Green and parents Patrick & Josephine Frank McGilton Stephen Tierney
Wed 1st	10.00 a.m.	Theresa Smyth Buckley & Cleary families
Fri 3rd	10.00 a.m.	Peter McEvoy
Sat 4th	7.30 p.m.	Chrissie O'Meara (MM) Nancy Dooley Christina & Tom Brereton
Sun 5th	10.30 a.m.	Martin Byrne



Please Pray for the Soul of

Ann Cassidy, Vancouver,
sister of Teresa O'Brien.

Mass Schedule from June 29th

Daily Mass at 10.00 a.m. will resume in St. Brendan's from Monday 29th June. We will follow the HSE guidelines regarding social distancing of sitting **2 metres apart**, adhering to **hand sanitising** and **limiting our capacity**.

The **obligation to attend Mass** in person was lifted at the start of the pandemic. People are welcome to join us for **Mass via Facebook and radio**. Family groups should sit together in designated seats.

Beginning the weekend of **4th/5th July**, **Mass** will be celebrated at **7.30 p.m. on Saturday evening** and on **Sunday at 10.30 a.m.** Then in the following weeks, with all going well, we will restart our usual Mass schedule in St. Brendan's' and in Carrig church. The first Mass celebrated in **Carrig** church will be on **First Friday, July 3rd at 7.30 p.m.**

We know that people will understand the **need to stick to the rules** in the interest of **safety** for all and sincerely **thank you** for your **understanding and co-operation**.

We would like to **acknowledge** parishioners who have volunteered with **stewarding and church cleaning**.

Please God all will be well as we resume our liturgies.

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.

Re-Opening of St. Brendan's Church for Liturgies

For us as Christians, some things are foundational. From earliest times, Christians have gathered to celebrate the Eucharist on Sunday, the Lord's Day, the first day of the week, the day of resurrection. It is a great joy for us that we can prepare for a return to celebrations of the Eucharist. Some people are fearful of gatherings of any sort at this time. This is understandable. If you are vulnerable health-wise do not rush back until you feel able and safe to do so.

We are truly sad not to be able to welcome everyone at the same time but safety is our first priority. We ask your understanding of the constraints this places on us.

- The demands of physically distancing mean that seating arrangements will be very different in our churches. Members of the same household will be able to sit together. Others will be seated at a two metre distance from each other, respecting current guidelines. We may not be able to sit where we are accustomed to sitting because of seats being closed off.
- Holy water fonts will be empty until the advice on this changes.
- Entry will be through the main door only. The stewards will advise you on this and show you where to go. They will also indicate how to exit the church at the end of Mass.
- You will be asked to sanitise your hands on entering the church. If you have been wearing gloves coming into the church, please re-move them and place them in the bin provided before sanitising your hands.
- We are asked to remain in our seats before the liturgy begins and not to engage in devotional practices such as Stations of the Cross, visiting shrines or the lighting of candles. (Note: The sanitiser on our hands is a highly flammable product and is a fire hazard when lighting candles with a match, lighter or from a lighted candle).
- Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist are encouraged to take up their roles if they feel able to do so. Ministers will be made aware of any specific arrangements that apply to their role beforehand.
- Health protocols will not allow the passing around of baskets for the collection during the Preparation of the Gifts. Instead, contributions to the parish collection may be given in a bucket provided in a designated place at the exit of the Church.
- The handshake for the Sign of Peace is still suspended. However, the gesture can be replaced by a moment to pause and pray in silence for the gift of peace.
- The distribution of Holy Communion will mean processing two metres apart to the altar and returning to your seat by a different aisle.

We thank you for your understanding.

Parish Office

The **Parish Office** re-opens to the public on **Monday 29th June** from **9.45 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.** from Monday to Saturday, excluding Wednesday. Please note new opening times. We are encouraging people to continue to telephone 057-9122029 to book Masses, Baptisms and Weddings. We will continue to provide Mass Cards via post for those who wish to telephone an order. Please note we do not have a facility to process bank cards.

Found - We have 2 purses in our Lost Property that were handed in before St. Brendan's Church closed. If you think one of them might be yours please contact the Parish Office on 057-9122028.

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

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Vireas Corónach.

I rith na seachtaine dúirt an Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar go bhfuil ath-bhreithniú déanta ar an bplean chun dul i ngleic le Cóvid 19 agus roinnt de na srianta a bhí i bhfeidhm á bhogadh. Diaidh ar ndiaidh beidh níos mó saoire againn. Leag an Taoiseach béim ar fhreagracht phearsanta mar tá baol agus bagairt dár saol ann fós ón víreas. Guimid Sonas siorraí ar anamacha na ndaoine a fuair bás de bharr an víris. A Dhia, beannaigh agus sábháil na daoine atá ag obair sna seirbhísí bunlínte ar ár son ar fud na tíre faoi láthair. Is féidir an phaidir seo a rá go laethúil.

A Íosa Críost, thaistil tú trí bhailte agus sráidbhailte ag cur cóir leighis ar gach galar agus ag freastal ar dhaoine breoite. Tar i gcabhair orainn anois agus cuir cosc ar leathadh domhanda an choróinvíreas agus tú ag léiriú do ghrá dúinn. Leighis iad siúd atá tinn de bharr an víris. Go raibh a neart agus a sláinte acu trí chúram leighis ardchaighdeán. Saor sinn ón eagla a chuireann cosc ar náisiúin oibriú le chéile agus ar chomharsa cabhrú lena chéile. Áiméan.

Coronavirus

During the week the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar announced that some of the Covid 19 restrictions would be eased and more freedom allowed in public places. He emphasised the importance of personal responsibility as the virus still poses a threat to our lives. Eternal rest to all those who have died because of the virus. We pray God's blessing on everyone who currently works in the front-line services. We can recite this prayer daily:

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness. At your command, the sick people were made well. Come to our aid now, as the coronavirus spreads worldwide, so that we may experience your healing love. May the sick 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. Amen.