

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

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil - 7.30 p.m.

Sunday - 8.30 and 10.30 in St. Brendan's
9.30 a.m. - Carrig

12 noon will resume on Sunday 6th September

Community News

Birr Review 2020 - This year's magazine is currently being compiled and we are also looking for photographs of those who marked marriages, deaths, 40th, 50th and 60th wedding anniversaries since 1 November 2019. Please contact us on birrreview@gmail.com for further information. To include photographs of the recently deceased you can also contact (086) 8175514.

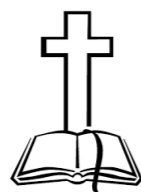
St Rynaghs College of Further Education, Banagher are running a 26-week construction skills course starting 31st of August. Training includes: Concreting, Laying Kerbs Flags & Pavers, Woodcraft, Safe Workplace Practices. The course involves onsite training and work placement. Contact 087 683 5561 for further details

West Offaly Training continues to offer their courses with most taking place online. Including Kids website course, Excel course, Summer camp for children from 10 to 13 years beginning on Monday August 10th. For further information call 0868413082 or email westoffa-lytraining@gmail.com

Gianna Care Offaly Support Group has been recently formed to support expecting mothers who may be struggling or who have found themselves in a crisis pregnancy. Due to COVID-19 people are really struggling and getting basic items together is putting mothers under a lot of pressure. A local collection will take place on Saturday 29th August the Tesco Birr car park from 4pm to 5.30pm. A Tullamore Motors van will be parked at the above collection point where you can drop off your donation while observing all social distancing guidelines. We are currently appealing for the following items: Nappies size 1 & 2, Baby wipes, Nappy Cream (all brands accepted), Baby wash, Baby lotion, Maternity Pads, Breast Pads, Baby boy and girl clothing, Moses baskets, Baby car seats Baby bath, Cellular blankets and Moses basket sheets. Second hand items are fine if in good condition. Your support would be very much welcomed to allow us help mothers in the Offaly area. Should you have any queries you can contact Monica on 0858109245. Many thanks.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 1st	7.30 p.m.	John Girvin, his brother Paul and parents Dorothy & John Enda Cooke, daughter Geraldine and grand-daughter Natalie
Sun 2nd	10.30 a.m.	Charlie Gallagher (MM) Dolly King, Killeen Tony Devine, Donaghmede, Dublin
Thur 6th	10.00 a.m.	Lorraine & Celine McCarthy
Fri 7th	10.00 a.m.	Nora Dooley William & Sarah O'Meara Maura & Jimmy Hayes
Sat 8th	7.30 p.m.	Christina Lally (MM) Christy & Mary Haugh Maureen & Noel Reedy, John's Mall Sr. Celine O'Gorman Jill Tully
Sun 9th	10.30 a.m.	Nora & Michael Grennan



Please Pray for the Souls of

Mary Torpey, Carrig & Elmgrove N. H.,
Mary O'Hanlon, Mill Street,
Ann De'Ath (nee Coolohan), UK
& late of Bridge Street, Birr.

Next Friday, **7th August** is **First Friday**. Mass will be at 10.00 a.m. in St. Brendan's only. Please note there will be **no** 7.30 p.m. in Carrig due to Confirmation ceremonies.

A new **Eucharistic Minister Rota** for St. Brendan's will be available in September. In the meantime, **2 Eucharistic Ministers** are requested to help at whichever Sunday Mass you are present. Thank you. We ask that **Eucharistic Ministers wear face coverings** when distributing Communion. Many thanks.

Guidelines for Our Churches for Liturgies

- We ask that you observe the seat markers. Members of the same household will be able to sit together.
- You are asked to sanitise your hands on entering the church.
- The collection basket will not be passed around during Mass. Instead, contributions to the parish collection may be given in a bucket provided in a designated place at the exit of the Church.
- The distribution of Holy Communion will mean processing two metres apart to the altar and returning to your seat by a different aisle.
- Holy Communion will only be distributed into the hand.
- Please take home the newsletter that you have used during Mass.
- We encourage people to wear face covering during Mass.

We thank you for your understanding.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Next week the sixth class pupils from **Killeen N.S., St. Brendan's Boys P.S., Mercy P.S. and Crinkill N.S.** will celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation** in four separate ceremonies. We keep our young people in our thoughts and prayers as they prepare for these key faith moments in their lives.



Each family of the Confirmation Candidate can attend the ceremony, i.e. parents, siblings, grandparents and sponsor. Each family will have a designated seat for 5 family members. The remaining family can sit in designated seats together whilst being conscious of social distancing from other families. We have limited church capacity and we ask you to remember this when inviting family members.

Prayer in Preparation for Confirmation

Lord, as I prepare to be confirmed in the Spirit, May the Spirit breathe through me today and always,
Giving me light and love and helping me to recognise and strengthen the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit within myself.
Lord, help me to create space in my heart and life for the Spirit to guide me,
May I do all that I can to be open to the grace of this special day
And may the Holy Spirit move me each day to live generously and lovingly,
Displaying the fruits and gifts of the Spirit in all I say and all I do. Amen

Sacrament of First Holy Communion



On Sunday 9th August at 12 noon the children from Killeen N.S. and Parish Preparation Programme will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Please keep these young children in your prayers.

Last Sunday Collections - Many Thanks
Basket Collection - €829
Parish Development Fund - €851

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Mí Lúnasa

I mí Lúnasa, ceiliúramis an fómhar. Duine de na déithe ba thábhachtaí i gcultúr na gCeilteach ab ea Lugh. Féile a bhí ann le fáiltiú roimh fhás an arbhair agus roimh thús an fhómhair. Is minic a bhíodh daoine in Éirinn ag déanamh damhsaí agus tinte cnámha le Féile Lúnasa a cheiliúradh. Bhí cuid de na nósanna seo beo go fóill go dtí an fichiú haois. De réir an tseanchais ba laoch, file, cruitire, taidhleoir, státaire agus ceardaí é Lugh. Is uaidh a shíolraigh ainm na míosa, Lúnasa, an chéad mhí den fhómhar. In aimsir na gCeilteach ceapadh gur ón ngrian a tháinig torthaí na talún. Tháinig Naomh Pádraig agus mhúin sé gur chruthaigh Dia teas na gréine agus báis-teach na spéire chun plandaí a chur ag fás. Gabhaimis buíochas le Dia as gach ní a fhásann. Sa Bhíobla, cuirtear in iúl dúinn go bhfuil "tráth breithe, tráth báis, tráth curtha síl, tráth bainte fómhar". (Cóheilít (3:1). A Thiarna bí linn i Mí Lúnasa.

*Ag Críost an síol, ag Críost an fómhar;
in iothlann Dé go dtugtar sinn.*

*Ag Críost an mhuir, ag Críost an t-iasc;
líonta Dé go gcastar sinn.*

*Ó fhás go haois, ó aois go bás,
do dhá láimh, a Chríost, anall tharainn.
Ó bhás go críoch nach críoch ach athfhás,
i bParthas na ngrást go rabhaimid Áiméan*

Month of August

In August, we celebrate the harvest. Lugh was one of the most important gods in pre-Christian Celtic Culture. Dancing and bonfires were engaged in to celebrate the Feast of Lugh. Some of these customs were still alive until the twentieth century. According to folklore Lugh was a warrior, a hero, a poet, a harpist, a diplomat, a statesman and a craftsman. August (Lughnasa) the first month of Autumn is named after him. In pre-Christian times it was thought that all the crops came from the sun and without it there would be no food and they would die. St. Patrick came and taught that God created the heat of the sun and the rain to help the growth of plants. We thank God for everything that grows. In the Bible we read that there is: A time to be born, a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.... (Ecclesiastes 3:2-3). Lord be with us during the month of August.

*To Christ the seed, to Christ the crop,
in barn of Christ may we be brought.
To Christ the sea, to Christ the fish,
in nets of Christ may we be caught.
From growth to age, from age to death,
Thy two arms here, O Christ, about us.
From death to end, not end but growth,
in blessed Paradise may we be. Amen.*

Sponsored By

Anonymous