

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish Mobile: 087-3515294
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Email: info@stbrendansbirr.ie
Priest on Duty - Please call Parish Mobile - 087-3515294
Parish Office Opening Hours
Monday - Friday (including Wednesday)
9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Fr. Tom Hogan—057-9121757
Fr. Antony Sajeesh - 057-9121757
Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

A Prayer as our Schools Reopen

Loving God, we ask you to wrap our diocesan school family in a cloak of love and protection as our schools reopen this year.

Bless our boards of management and staff as they continue the good work that they have already begun to ensure a welcoming and safe environment for all.

Bless our parents as they again entrust their children to us, confident we can all work together to help them become the very best that they can be.

Above all, God of Love, we ask you to extend your hand of blessing on our pupils as they joyfully reunite with their friends and all in the school community.

May they continue to progress in their studies and always know that they are safe, secure and protected in your loving embrace.

We know much will seem very different this year, but, Gracious God, we are confident that through the intercession of our own Saint Brendan, your love and care for each of us will never change.

May we show the same love and care for one another in all we do and say this year. Amen.

In preparation for the resumption of **12 noon Mass on Sunday 6th September** we urgently need additional volunteers to act as ushers and to help with cleaning after Mass. If you can help please contact the Parish Office or one of the stewards on duty at the current Mass. Many thanks.

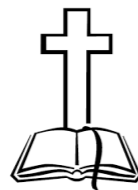
ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice where necessary. The support line is open 7 days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Offaly Personal Assistant Services are recruiting for Personal Assistants in Birr/Banagher area. We provide a practical service to people with disabilities in the community. No experience required. QQI training available on the scheme. Community Employment Scheme terms apply. Contact roisin@ocil.ie or on 085 8050539.

National Grandparents Pilgrimage 2020 - Sunday 13 September at 3pm from Knock Basilica. This year the grandparents pilgrimage will be streamed online. We invite grandparents and their families everywhere to join us online at www.knockshrine.ie/watch.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 29th	7.30 p.m.	Michelle Bonner
Sun 30th	8.30 a.m.	Tom & Nancy Talbot
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Noel Houlihan (1st Ann)
Mon 31st	10.00 a.m.	Bridget O'Meara
Fri 4th	10.00 a.m.	Rodney Anderson
Sat 5th	7.30 p.m.	Michael & Teresa Milne & sons Michael & Raymond
Sun 6th	10.30 a.m.	Dettie Hayes (1st Ann) Jimmy, John Joe, Marie & Pat Sheeran & family Corrigan family
	12 noon	Ray Nolan (1st Ann) Marie & Jim McMenamin Bessie & Charlie Fleury Ned King Carmel Danaher, Castletown, Fortal



Please Pray for the Souls of

Teresa Grant, Cree,
Patrick Donoghue, Bulfin Park,
Cella Errity, Clonkelly,
Gertie Rodgers, Banagher & Carrig,
Donal O'Sullivan, London
& late of Emmet Street,
brother of Geraldine Gleeson, Green Street,
Fr. Brendan Cleary A.P., Miltown Malbay.

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.

Corona Virus Prayer

Dear God, I pray for healing for all
affected by this deadly virus.
Only You can move in a
mighty way and do the
impossible for them.
We pray for all negative
outcomes to be resolved
by Your healing hands.
Bless and embrace each
and every single person and
bring full healing to their
bodies, minds and spirits. Amen

Fr. Michael Reddan SVD

This week Fr. Michael Reddan takes up his new appointment in the parish of Clareen in the Diocese of Ossory as he takes over from Fr. Seamus McEvoy who is retiring. We wish him every blessing and good wishes as he moves from the parish of Birr where he has worked for the past 14 years. We thank Fr. Michael for his faithful service in Birr and in the neighbouring parishes of Kinnitty, Shinrone and Kilcolman. Fr. Michael has touched the lives of so many individuals and families. His deep faith and commitment to Jesus and His Gospel was shared through his homilies and ministry. Thank you Fr. Michael for all the good memories and for your life of service in your priesthood. We pray for your continued good health and every success in the next chapter of your journey.

Congratulations to the pupils from **Carrig N.S.** and the **Parish Preparation Programme** who received the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on Friday evening last and to the pupils from **Killeen N.S. and the Parish Preparation Programme** who received the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** on Saturday morning.

We keep in our prayers pupils from **Crinkill N.S.** who will receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion this Sunday, 30th August at 12 noon.**

First Holy Communion for pupils from **St. Brendan's Boys P.S.** will take place next **Saturday, 5th September at 11.00 a.m.**

First Holy Communion for pupils from **Mercy P.S. & Carrig N.S.** will take place next **Saturday 5th September at 1.00 p.m.**

The **September Priests' Collection** will be taken up at all masses next Sunday, 6th September. We thank you most sincerely for your generosity to this collection.

Next **Friday, 4th September** is **First Friday**. Mass will be at 10.00 a.m. in St. Brendan's Church and at 7.30 p.m. in Carrig. There will be **NO** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday because of the First Communion ceremony.

Face Coverings - In line with Government guidelines we encourage all who come to church to wear a face mask or shield. It is mandatory in public indoor spaces.

Ministers of the Word (St. Brendan's) - please collect your new rota from the back of the altar. Many thanks.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Séasúr an Chruthaithe 2020

I Mí Mheán Fómhair, bí linn, a Íosa; mí na torthúlachta, mí bhainte an arbhair, mí tús na scoilbhliana. Is iad intiníní an Phápa don mhí seo ná: Guímid nach ndéantar slad ar acmhainní an phláinéid ach go roinntear iad ar bhonn cóir ómósach.

Inniu an chéad Domhnach de Shéasúr an Chruthaithe 2020 a leanfaidh ar aghaidh go dtí 4 Deireadh Fómhair, Lá Fhéile Naomh Proinsias Assisi. Tá an chéad lá de Mheán Fómhair tiomnaithe do Lá Idirnáisiúnta Urnaí don Chruthú. Is é an téama atá tofa don bhliain seo ná lubhaile don Chruinne. Tá tábhacht ar leith ag baint le Séasúr an Chruthaithe don Eaglais Chaitliceach go háirithe ós rud é gur thiomnaigh an Pápa Proinsias an séasúr seo do Chúram na Cruinne. Is é seo a bhí le rá ag an bPápa. "Caithfidh a chinntiú gur teaghlach daonna amháin sinn. Is é an domhan ár n-áit chónaithe. Ní Dia sinn. Bhí an domhan ann i gcónaí agus tugadh dúinn é. Le linn na tréimhse seo iarrtar orainn onóir a thabhairt don Chruthaitheoir agus gréasán na beatha a chamhnú."

Ba cheart dúinn go léir gach iarracht a dhéanamh chun an domhan mór a chóiméad slán sábháilte do na glúine atá le teacht. Chun cabhrú linn é seo a dhéanamh is féidir linn staidéar a dhéanamh ar Laudato Si, ciorclán an Phápa a foilsíodh Meitheamh 2015.

A Dhia, doirt anuas orainn cumhacht do ghrá ionas go mbeimid in ann an bheatha agus an áilleacht a chosaint. Áiméan

Season of Creation 2020

Be with us Jesus, during the month of September; the month of fruitfulness, the month of cutting the corn, the beginning of the school year. The Pope's intention for this month is: We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered but shared in a just and respectful manner.

Today we mark the first Sunday of the Season of Creation 2020 which will continue until 4 October the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. September 1 is an International Day of Prayer for Creation. The theme this year is Jubilee for the Earth. It is a special time for the Catholic Church especially since Pope Francis devoted this season to Care of the Earth. The Pope said we must realise that we are one human family. The earth is our home. We are not God. The Earth was here before us and was given to us. During this season we are asked to honour the Creator and preserve the network of life. We ought to make every effort to keep the world safe for future generations. the Popes Encyclical Laudato Si which was published June 2015 has many insights and practical advice.

All-powerful God. pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Amen.

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