

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish Mobile: 087-3515294
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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. Pat Gilbert - 057-9121757
Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Pastoral Council Meeting

The following are the main points arising from September's Pastoral Council Meeting:

- Fr Tom and Fr Antony were thanked for providing daily mass via Facebook and radio link during the lockdowns.
- Congratulations were extended to Mrs Ming Loughnane on her retirement as Principal of St Brendan's Community School and to her successor Mr John Kennedy, on his recent appointment.
- The generous bequest of 7 Compton Row to the Parish by Miss Kathleen Carry was welcomed.
- The meeting agreed to seek permission to rent 7 Compton Row, following refurbishment.
- Ushers and those who sanitise the seats, were thanked by the chairperson of the COVID-19 Prevention Group.
- Members were updated on the 2019 accounts and 2020 financial position to date.
- Retiring Sacristan, Mr Ger Roberts was thanked for his diligence to his duties and wished well on his retirement.
- The Liturgy Group reported on their recent meeting and decision to have two Masses in November for those whose funerals were held in Birr Parish over the previous year, in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines.

The **Season of Creation** or **Creation Time**, is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September to 4 October (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of **creation** as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.

This weekend, 3rd & 4th October we celebrate the **Harvest**. We acknowledge Mary Larkin who has created the **Sacred Space** and the O'Meara family, Fortal who supplied the vegetables. Many thanks.

Sponsored By

Anonymous

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 3rd	7.30 p.m.	Cella Errity (MM) Mai Snow Michael & Rosaleen Brien & Brien family, Pound St & Burkes Hill
Sun 4th	12 noon	Agnes O'Brien (1st Ann) Tom McInerney & McInerney family Jimmy & Else McInerney Paddy & Judy Tuohey
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Quinn family John Williams Bernie, Raymond & Derek Larkin Larkin & McGarry families
Thur 8th	10.00 a.m.	People of the Parish
Fri 9th	10.00 a.m.	Nancy & Tom Talbot
Sat 10th	7.30 p.m.	Christy & Mary McLoughlin Dan & Maisie Finnerty
Sun 11th	8.30 a.m.	Paddy Frawley
	10.30 a.m.	Conway family Patrick Fitzgerald
	12 noon	Joe Kerins William & Catherine Delaney & son Billy James & Annie Kearns

Please Pray for the Souls of



Phil McNamara, Syngefield,
Patricia Featherstone, England,
sister of Catherine Murphy, Clareen
& Johnny Featherstone, Carrig.
Joan Lavelle (nee Fogarty), England,
sister of Frances Colclough, Syngefield.

Birr Parish Finance

We thank parishioners who have continued to make donations to St. Brendan's Parish during these strange times with restricted church attendances and a challenging economic situation. Donations can be made to the parish in a number of ways:

1. Parish Envelopes (Cash or Cheque)
Donations can be given at weekend Masses or placed in the locked green box in St. Brendan's church beside the candelabra. This box is opened daily,
2. Set up a standing order.
3. Electronic transfer to the Birr Parish bank account - IBAN - IE40 BOFI 9016 7724 9407 77.

We would also like to acknowledge the people who have already signed up to Revenue's CHY4 Tax Back scheme. If you pay income tax in Ireland and donate €250 or more in a given calendar year you can help the parish reclaim tax back on your donations. Please contact the parish office for more information.

The Parable of the Pencil

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting him into the box.

"There are 5 things you need to know," he told the pencil, "Before I send you out into the world. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be."

- One: "You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in someone's hand."
- Two: "You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, but you'll need it to become a better pencil."
- Three: "You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make."
- Four: "The most important part of you will always be what's inside."
- And Five: "On every surface you are used on, you must leave your mark. No matter what the condition, you must continue to write."

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart.

Now replacing the place of the pencil with **YOU**. Always remember them and never forget and you will become the best person you can be.

- One : "You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand. And allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess."
- Two : "You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems in life, but you'll need it to become a stronger person."
- Three : "You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make."
- Four : "The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside."
- And Five : "On every surface you walk through, you must leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to do your duties."

Allow this parable on the pencil is to encourage you to know that you are a special person and only you can fulfil the purpose to which you were born to accomplish. Never allow yourself to get discouraged and think that your life is insignificant and cannot make a change.

Eucharistic Adoration resumes in St. Brendan's Church on **Tuesday 6th October** in the main body of the church. It will take place on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** from **10.30 a.m. to 12 noon**. We ask people to stay and keep watch with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Deireadh Fómhair.

Cuirimis fáilte roimh mhí Dheireadh Fómhair, mí na Coróineach Muire, tús na bliana acadúla. A lósa, bí linn i rith na míosa le do bheannachtaí agus do ghrá dúinn. Is iad iad intinní an Phápa don mhí seo ná: de bhua an bhaiste, go gcuirtear le rannpháirtíocht na dtuata, go mór mór na mban, i réimsí freagrachta na hEaglaise. D'iarr Ardeaspag na hÉireann Eamon Martin ar mhuintir na hÉireann le déanaí an Choróin Mhuire a rá inár dteaghlach mar chosaint ar Covid-19.

Ceiliúrtar féile Phaidrín Pháirtigh na Maighdine Glórmhaire Muire ar 7 Deireadh Fómhair. Thaibhsigh an Mhaighdean Mhuire do Naomh Dominic i 1208 agus d'ordaigh sí an Choróin Mhuire a mhúineadh do na daoine. Chuirfeadh an phaidir iad ag machnamh ar bheatha an tSlánaitheora agus ar a bhás agus a aiséirí. Is é an Choróin Mhuire sciath dhíde na gCríostaithe. Is féidir linn iarracht a dhéanamh ár ngrá don Mhaighdean Mhuire a léiriú i rith na míosa tríd an Choróin Mhuire a rá go rialta mar a rinne ár sinisir romhainn agus an t-iomann seo a rá freisin:

**A Mhuire na ngrást, a Mháthair Mhic Dé,
go gcuire tú ar mo leas mé,
Go sábhála tú mé ó gach uile oic,
go sábhála tú mé idir anam is corp.
Go sábhála tú mé ar muir is ar thír,
go sábhála tú mé ar lic na bpian.
Garda na n-aingeal os mo chionn,
Dia romham agus Dia liom. Áiméan**

Month of October

Let us welcome the month of October. This is the month of the Rosary. the beginning of the academic year. Jesus, come to our aid with your love and many blessings during the month of October. The Pope's intention for this month is: We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church. Archbishop Eamon Martin asked the people of Ireland recently to say the family Rosary during the month of October as a protection against COVID -19.

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated October 7. Our Lady appeared to Saint Dominic in 1208 and instructed him to teach the Rosary to the people. It would help them to reflect on the life, death and resurrection of Our Lord. The Rosary is a protective shield for Christians. We can show our love for Our Lady by saying the Rosary during the month as our ancestors did and to recite this hymn also.

**O Mary of graces and mother of Christ
O may you direct me and guide me
and guide me aright.
O may you protect me from Satan's control
And may you protect me in body and soul.
O may you protect me by land and by sea,
And may you protect me from sorrows to be;
A strong guard of angels above me provide;
May God be before me and God at my side.
Amen.**

**Last Sunday's Collection - Many Thanks
Basket Collection - €978.00
Parish Development Fund - €478.00**