

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 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

Remembering Our Dead

On Friday 24th November each parish in Ireland remembered those who have died as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We remember them and all who have died.

God of all creation
You are present in every place
In every moment of history
You are with us, here and now.

We believe that those we loved
And who have died are held in Your embrace.

We pray that a circle of light, happiness and
peace may surround them and that they may
come to the fullness of life in your presence.

We remember how their lives shaped us,
Their hands held us, their words inspired us,
Their love supported and sustained us.

Eternal God, you see face to face
those we remember.
Give us confidence that what we have loved in
them is not lost, but lives on in your presence,
as it does in our hearts.

Comfort us in our loss and help us believe that
one day we shall be united with them
When we too shall see You, face to face.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your son,
The first born from the dead,
Who lives and reigns with you forever and ever.

Each year **Birr Lions Club** hold an annual fast in aid of the **St. Vincent de Paul** here in Birr. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic this will not take place this year. Instead a **GoFundMe** page has been set up by the Birr Lions Club to raise funds for the local SVP group. If you would like to donate please see www.gofundme.com/f/birr-svp-appeal for more details.

We are especially grateful to the following **shop owners** who allow us to leave newsletters for parishioners - Horan's Daybreak, Newbridge Street, Mulrooney's Gala, Wilmer Road, Carrig Stores, Corrib Oil, Banagher Road and Loughnane's Centre, Tullamore Road.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 21st	7.30 p.m.	Lizzy Kelly (1st Ann) Bessie Loughnane (1st Ann) Willie & Mary Coughlan & Coughlan family Jim Fogarty, Roscrea Road
Sun 22nd	10.30 a.m.	Gareth Turner Michael & Agnes Parkinson Paddy & Annie Mannion O'Meara & Mahon families Bobby Sheils Harry Ryan (Syngefield) Seamus Davis, Hillside
	12 noon	Oliver Craughwell John Gilmartin Sean Cooke, Crinkill Frank, Josephine & Dolores Higgins Joe & Delia Barry & sons Gerry, Des & David Brendan Keeshan Gerry & Celia Harte John Saurin & his mother Aggie
Mon 23rd	10.00 a.m.	Joseph Daly (1st Ann)
Tues 24th	10.00 a.m.	Holy Souls
Wed 25th	10.00 a.m.	Holy Souls
Thur 26th	10.00 a.m.	Joe Williams & Williams family
Sat 28th	10.00 a.m.	Monsignor P.J. Hamill
	7.30 p.m.	Florence & William Cooke & their son Teddy
Sun 29th	10.30 a.m.	Sheila Murdock (1st Ann) Bernie Sheeran (1st Ann) Tom & Norah Maguire
	12 noon	Raymond Murray (MM) John McCarthy, High Street

Please Pray for the Souls of



Kevin Abbott, Scurragh,
Paddy Lennon, Athlone,
father of Liam, Meadowbrook,
Peter Hogan, Clonaslee,
brother of Eileen Mahon, Lisheen,
John Saurin, England son of the late Agnes Saurin
(nee Hennessy, late of Moorpark Street).

Christmas Mass Bouquets

Our Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the Parish Office. As the Parish Office is still closed to the public you can order the cards by contacting Emer on 057-9122028.

Sponsored By

Anonymous

Sr. Patricia Harrington Feb 27 1930 - Nov 13 2020

Sr. Patricia Harrington died peacefully on 13th November in the loving care of her community of Mercy Sisters, Kilrush. She was the eldest of five children born to Patrick and Rita Harrington on 27th February 1930 in Birr. She attended both Mercy Primary and Secondary schools in Birr and following her Leaving Certificate she entered the Mercy Novitiate in Nenagh in September 8th 1947 taking the name Immaculata.

She went to UCD where she studied French and Irish. Subsequently, she taught in Birr, Nenagh, Ennis and Kilrush Mercy schools and served as Principal in Scoil San Sabhíer, Kilrush. When she reached retirement age she continued, in a voluntary capacity, to teach those who needed special help in Irish. She did this until she was eighty and was recognised as an excellent teacher, did meticulous preparation and was loved by pupils and staff.

Patricia was a keen reader and was very devoted to doing her daily crosswords. She stayed very active until her final few months, walking every day in Vandeleur Woods even in rain - complete with umbrella. Her outlook on life was very positive.

Her 90th birthday was celebrated just before lockdown and several of her relatives from siblings to grand-nieces and nephews joined her for the celebration. She was close to her family and remembered every celebration they had.

Patricia is predeceased by her parents and brother Don and is deeply regretted by her sisters Colette Lydon and Ursula Waters and a wide circle of family, community and friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dilis.

On passing a Graveyard

May perpetual light shine
upon the faces of all who rest here.
May the lives they lived unfold further in spirit.
May all their past travail
find ease in the kindness of clay.
May the remembering earth
mind every memory they brought.
May the rains from the heavens
fall gently upon them.
May the wildflowers and grasses
whisper their wishes into light.
May we reverence the village of presence
in the stillness of this silent field.

by John O'Donohue

Under the current government restrictions the **Parish Office** will remain closed to the public until Tuesday December 1st. You can continue to book masses or order Mass Cards by contacting Emer on 057-9122028.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Sollúntas Chríost Rí na nUile.

Ceiliúrtar Sollúntas Chríost Rí na nUile ar an Domhnach deireanach den Bhliain Liotúirgeach. An Pápa Pius XI a bhunaigh an fhéile seo in onóir Chríost Rí na nUile sa bhliain 1925 mar fhreagairt dhíreach ar an náisiúnachas agus an dí-eaglaisiú a bhí ag dul i dtreise ag an am. Rinneadh í a cheiliúradh i dtosach ar an Domhnach deiridh de mhí Mheán Fómhair. Sa bhliain 1969 thug an Pápa Pól VI ainm nua ar an bhFéile: "Ár dTiarna Íosa Críost Rí na nUile". Ceiliúrtar ar an Domhnach seo é gach bliain. Tá ríogacht agus caithréim Chríost ár dTiarna, Ard -Rí na Cruinne, á cheiliúradh againn. Tá bliain úr, nua na hEaglaise ag tosú agus ár n-aird dírithe ar chomhlíonadh plean Dhé nuair a thioctaidh a ríocht agus go mbeimid i gcuideachta ár muintir i láthair Íosa Críost sa bhflaitheas. Cuimhnímid gur chríochnaigh a bheatha saolta ar an gcros ach inniu tugaimid ómós dó mar Rí Aiséirithe.

Go dtuga gach dúil ar neamh agus ar talamh moladh agus glóir duit go deo mar Rí na nUile

*Is é Íosa mo Rí-se, mo chara is mo ghrá;
Is é Íosa mo dhídean ar pheaca is ar bhás.*

A Chroí Naofa Íosa go dtaga do ríocht.

Áimeán

(Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais)

Feast of Christ Our King

The feast of Christ Our King is celebrated on the last day of the Liturgical Year. The Feast of Christ our King was instituted by Pope Pius IX in 1856 in response to growing secularism and nationalism. It was originally celebrated on the last Sunday in September. In 1969 Pope Paul VI renamed the festival "Our Lord Jesus Christ King of All" to be celebrated on the last Sunday of the Liturgical year.

We are commemorating the triumph of Christ, Our Lord as King. A new Liturgical Year begins and our attention is focused on God's plan when His kingdom will come and we and our people will be with Jesus Christ in heaven, remembering that His life ended on the cross but today we honour Him as the Risen King.

May all creation praise and glorify You forever as King of all.

*Jesus my King, my friend and my beloved;
Jesus my protection from sin and death.*

Sacred Heart of Jesus may your Kingdom come.

Amen

(This prayer is from Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais)

Mass continues to be celebrated behind closed doors. It takes place each morning at 10.00 a.m. and at the weekend on Saturday night Vigil at 7.30 p.m. and Sunday morning at 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon. Unfortunately no Mass will be celebrated in Carrig Church or at 8.30 a.m. on Sunday.

**Last Week's Donations - Many Thanks
Parish Donations - €1,170**