

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 - 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

The Parish Office will **NOT** be open to the public during Level 5 restrictions.
Please telephone 057-9122028 to book masses. Mass cards can be ordered by telephone also. We appreciate your understanding at this time.

Thank you for your continued generous financial support to the parish. Donation Envelopes can be left in the green box at the altar rails. We thank you for your generosity.

It is also possible to make a contribution by credit or debit card directly to Birr Parish using the Diocesan Website – www.killaloe-diocese.ie. The full contribution as received by the Diocesan website will be fully paid to us. Simply go to the Diocesan Website and click on the red “Donate to your Parish” button on the top of the page. You will be invited to select Birr and the parish fund you wish to contribute to. Your support is appreciated.

COVID-19 Level 5 Restrictions

With the current **Level 5** restrictions our **masses will continue to be said behind closed doors**. However, they will be streamed on Facebook “Brendan Birr” and will be available over the radio link.

The church will be closed during mass times but will be open for private prayer. We ask that you observe the seating guidelines and sanitise your hands before entering the church.

During these restrictions Mass will be said each morning, Monday to Saturday at 10.00 a.m. Vigil mass will be celebrated on Saturday evenings at 7.30 p.m. and Sunday masses will be said at 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon. Intentions for Carrig and the 8.30 a.m. will be said at the 10.30 a.m. mass.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 9th	7.30 p.m.	Jim & Mollie Brien Tom & Mary Brummell & son Tony Evelyn Bell & parents Michael & Margaret Pardy
Sun 10th	10.30 a.m.	Elizabeth O'Meara Michael & Nora Grennan Thomas Wrafter
	12 noon	Eileen Talbot (1st Ann) & husband Des
Tues 12th	11.00 a.m.	Patrick, Jenny & Margaret Smyth Gerry Lynskey
Wed 13th	10.00 a.m.	Murphy family
Sun 17th	10.30 a.m.	Joseph Flynn
	12 noon	Brian Guidera John Claffey & Claffey family Noel, Joan & Colman Corboy

Please pray for the souls of



Lizzie Porter, Airfield, Roscrea Road,
Mary Hoare, John's Terrace,
Alexander Moore, Woodland Villas,
Myra Wrafter, New Road,
Danny Byrne, Killyon,
Jack Gleeson, Newport, Co. Tipperary &
late of Killeen.

Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

A Question to be Asked

Have you ever asked your parents why they had you baptised? Their answer might run something like this:

We were over the moon when you were born. You were our first/third/fifth, and we loved you as much as any of our other children.

We were so happy that you had arrived into the world safely and we wanted to do the best thing for you. So we brought you to the church, thanked God, and poured water over you in his name. Mam held you, well wrapped up. Dad was very proud and wore his best clothes.

Before you were born we had spent some time discussing what Christian names we would give you. Once we held you we decided, and gave you the names by which you would forever be known to us, to the world and to God.

We wanted you to be part and parcel of God's family and to have the strengths of Mass and the Sacraments. We wanted you to have the support of our families, of the neighbours and of the parish.

That day we gave you what was most precious to us, our love and faith. You were our son/daughter. Our 'favour' was on you. It still is. Remember that.



For Your Birthday

Blessed be the mind that dreamed the day
The blueprint of your life
Would begin to glow on earth,
Illuminating all the faces and voices
That would arrive to invite
Your soul to growth.

Praised be your father and mother,
Who loved you before you were,
And trusted to call you here
With no idea who you would be.

Blessed be those who have loved you
Into becoming who you were meant to be,
Blessed be those who have crossed your life
With dark gifts of hurt and loss
That have helped to school your mind
In the art of disappointment.

When desolation surrounded you,
Blessed be those who looked for you
And found you, their kind hands
Urgent to open a blue window
In the grey wall formed around you.

Blessed be the gifts you never notice,
Your health, eyes to behold the world,
Thoughts to countenance the unknown,
Memory to harvest vanished days,
Your heart to feel the world's waves,
Your breath to breathe the nourishment
Of distance made intimate by earth.

On this echoing-day of your birth,
May you open the gift of solitude
In order to receive your soul;
Enter the generosity of silence
To hear your hidden heart,
Know the serenity of stillness
To be enfolded anew
By the miracle of your being.
— John O'Donohue

Sponsored By

**Birr Town
Football Club**

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Baisteadh ár dTiarna Íosa Críost.

Ceiliúrtar Féile Bhaiste an Tiarna ar an Domhnach seo. Inniu cloiseann Íosa glór an Athar. 'Is tusa mo mhac muirneach. Is duit a thug mé gnaoi. (Lucás 3:21-22). Tháinig an bheannacht agus fáiltiú céanna sin anuas ar gach duine againne ar lá ár mBaisteadh, agus aon uair go mbraithimid an misneach lag, nó easpa muinín ionainn féin, ba chóir dúinn an soiscéal seo a léamh agus a ghuí.

Ócáid thábhachtach i saol ár Slánaitheora ab ea a bhaisteadh in abhainn na hIordáine. Ní ionadh go bhfuil Baisteadh Íosa mar cheann de rúndiamhra an tsolais sa Choróin Mhuire. Lena bhaisteadh chuir Íosa in iúl croílár a mhisean. Ba é sin na daoine a bhí ar seachrán i ndorchadas a bpeacaí a thabhairt chun athmhuintearas le Dia. Léirigh Íosa gur theastaigh uaidh na peacaigh a thionlacan agus croí na trócaire a thaispeáint dóibh.

Tugann Féile Bhaisteadh ár dTiarna deis dúinn athnuachan a dhéanamh ar cad go díreach a chiallaíonn ár mbaisteadh féin agus sinn ag maireachtáil agus ag obair le daoine eile. Tá dlúthbhaint idir ár mbaisteadh agus baisteadh Íosa. Táimid baiste in ainm na Tríonóide. Ba é Comhartha na Croise an chéad phaidir a d'fhoghlaimar agus gach uair a deirimid é, táimid ag cur in iúl ár muinín agus ár ndílseacht mar dheisceabail ár dTiarna. Is féidir linn an phaidir seo a rá chuig an Tríonóid Naofa:

Athair, Mac is Spiorad Naomh, bíodh an Triúr -in-Aon linn lá is oíche, ar chúl na dtonn nó ar thaobh na mbeann. Áiméan.

The Baptism of Our Lord

The Feast of Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on this Sunday. Today Jesus hears the voice of the Father. 'You are my beloved son in whom I am well pleased. (Luke 3: 21-22). On the day of our Baptism we all received the same blessing and welcome, and whenever we feel, powerless or lack confidence in ourselves, we could read and pray this gospel.

The Baptism of our Saviour in the river Jordan was an important event in the life of Jesus. It is no wonder that it is one of the Mysteries of Light in the Rosary. In the Baptism of Jesus we see the essence of his mission which was the people who strayed in darkness be reconciled with God. He showed that he wanted to accompany sinners and show them his mercy.

This Feast gives us an opportunity to renew the meaning of our own baptism as we live and work with others. There is a close connection between the baptism of Christ and our Baptism. We were baptised in the name of the Blessed Trinity. The Sign of the Cross was the first prayer we learned and every time we recite it we express our trust and loyalty as disciples of Jesus. We can recite this prayer:

May Father, Son and Holy Spirit enfold us day and night, on the seashore, or on mountain high. Amen