

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

Ministers of the Word - St. Brendan's

New rotas available for collection from behind the altar.

Birr Daffodil Day 2021

Daffodil Day was a little different this year, but with the effort everybody made it was a very successful fundraiser nationally and locally. You helped raise €7,173 in the Birr area. To everybody who helped and supported this fundraiser in any way, we thank you.

It is the generosity of each and everyone of you that will mean the Irish Cancer Society will continue to provide supports for cancer patients and their families.

On behalf of all involved in Birr Daffodil Day, Thank You.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

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

Overseas Volunteers Training Course September 2021 - Open to all!

Viatres Christi, a faith-based development organisation is running an online volunteer preparation course covering Community Development, Health, Global Awareness, Mission, etc. This is open to all! Once completed, participants can be considered for volunteer roles through VC EU Aid Volunteers #EUAVI programmes. If you want to know more see website www.vcvolunteers.ie or email info@viatreschristi.com

The **Vincent de Paul shop** is currently closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, they can be contacted on **085-8804028** in emergencies.

Prayer to **Mary, our Mother** during the month of **May**

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions, but, in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sun 2nd	10.30 a.m.	Herbert Hennessy (MM) Stan Hayes, High Street John Carroll
	12 noon	Cecily Dolan (MM) Annie, Michael & Rody Harte
Mon 3rd	10.00 a.m.	Patrick & Aileen O'Gorman & family Peg Scully Monica Boyd
Thur 6th	10.00 a.m.	Tony McLoughlin
Sat 8th	7.30 p.m.	Patrick Kearns (MM) Billy Watson
Sun 9th	10.30 a.m.	Paddy Molloy (1st Ann) Valerie McIntyre Mary & Mick Hogan, Crinkill
Sun	12 noon	Martin Hynes, Castle Gardens

Please Pray for the Souls of



Trevor O'Shea, Dublin & Birr,
son of Mary & John O'Shea, Bulfin Park,
James Kirwan, Coolderry,
brother of John, Bulfin Park,
Bríd Gibbons, Oughterard,
sister-in-law of John Gibbons, Clonkelly.

Trócaire

We acknowledge Trócaire contributions for the Lenten Appeal. To date **€5,058** has been received. You can drop your Trócaire boxes into the Sacristy each morning between 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon. Many thanks.

Birr Parish Finance

We are **very grateful** to parishioners who have continued to make donations to St. Brendan's Parish. **Donations** can be made to the parish in a number of ways:

1. Parish Envelopes (Cash or Cheque)
Donations can be 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.

Parish Donations during the month of **April** was **€3,788**. We are very grateful for your continued support.

Sponsored By

Birr Town F.C.

This is the **Year of St. Joseph** and in his capacity as the patron saint of Workers, **1st May** is celebrated as the **Feast of "St. Joseph the Worker"**.



St. Joseph: Open to the surprises of God

SAINT JOSEPH...

You believed in Mary's word.
Make us a church that genuinely listens to women's experiences.
May we celebrate the generous heart-space of all families.

SAINT JOSEPH...

You raised Jesus to be a peacemaker.
make us a church of non-violent resistance to war.
Help us to live the beatitude of peace in the presence with the poor.

SAINT JOSEPH...

You knew the adept craft and routine of work.
Make us a Church that honours the dignity of all labour,
and so become advocates and protectors of human rights.

SAINT JOSEPH...

You listened to the voice of dreams.
Make us a Church in contemplation and prayer,
ever alert to the voice of angels and open to the surprises of God.

SAINT JOSEPH...

You belonged to a family searching for a home of refuge.
Make us a Christian church that welcomes the lost, befriends the least and offers sanctuary to the lowest.

SAINT JOSEPH...

You formed in Nazareth a family for Mary and Jesus.
Make us a Church that avoids returning to former securities and certainties.
Give us voices to sing a new song of freedom into God's future.

SAINT JOSEPH...

You taught Jesus to engage with the excluded and marginalised.
Make us a Church that listens and learns with a new vision of hope, to welcome with enthusiasm the new beginnings of promise and possibilities.

John Cullen

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Mí na Bealtaine.

Tá Mí na Bealtaine thar tairseach isteach chugainn. Bhí bliain na gCeilteach roinnte ina dhá leath, an dorchadas agus an loinnir. Chuir Samhain tús le tréimhse an dorchadais. Ba í Bealtaine tús séasúr an tsolais. Cuirimis fáilte roimh mhí na Bealtaine, tús an tSamhraidh. Tá an chuach agus na fáinleoga tagtha chugainn aneas ó na tíortha ina mbíonn sé ina shamhradh i gcónaí. Tá na crothaigh eanaigh ag glacadh sosa sa tír agus iad ar a mbealach ón Iodáil go dtí an Íoslainn. Bhain siad a gceann scríbe amach gan compás ná satloingseoir. Go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís. Cuirimis fáilte mhór rompu agus go mbeirimid beo ag an am seo arís. Dúirt Íosa, "Féachaigí éanlaith an aeir. Ní dhéanann siad síolchur ná fóimhar ná cnuasach sna sciobóil agus tugann bhur nAthair neamhaí bia dóibh. Nach mó is fiú sibhse ná iad sin" Matha (6:26)

Tá an mhí seo tiomnaithe don Mhaighdean Mhuire. Bhí muintir na hÉireann an-ómósach do Mhuire i gcónaí. Tá nós ag daoine altóir a chruthú ina dtithe in onóir na Maighdine Muire i rith Mí na Bealtaine agus an Choróin Mhuire a rá gach lá. Tá an nós seo beo fós i roinnt mhaith scoileanna. Ba mhaith an rud iad a choimeád inniu agus sinn ag guí. Is í intinn an Phápa don mhí seo ná: Guímis go ndéanfaidh na daoine sin atá i gceannas ar chúrsaí airgeadais comhoibriú le Rialtais i rialú réimse an airgeadais agus dá bharr sin cosaint a thabhairt do shaoránaigh ó gach dainséar a ghabhann leis.

**A Mhuire na ngrást, a mháthair Mhí Dé,
Go dtreoraí tú mise go deireadh mo ré.
Tabhair cuidiú is cabhair dom in aghaidh cathú an tsaoil, agus tabhair mé i gcónaí leat saor as gach baol. Áiméan**

Month of May

May has come. The Celtic year was divided into two halves, the dark and the light. Samhain was the beginning of the dark half and Bealtaine the beginning of the light half. We welcome the month of May, the beginning of Summer. The cuckoo and the swallows have arrived from the sunny southern lands without the aid of compass or satellite navigation, to guide them. The whimbrels have arrived also and are resting here on their journey from Italy to Iceland. May we live to see this time next year. Behold the birds of the air, for they neither sow, nor do they reap, nor gather into barns: and your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you of much more value than they? Matthew (6:26).

This month is dedicated to Our Lady. Irish people had great respect always for Our Lady. It is still a custom to have a May altar in homes and recite the rosary daily during the month of May. This custom is kept in many schools. It is good to continue such customs. The Pope's intention for May IS: Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers. We can recite this traditional prayer to Our Lady during the month of May:

Gracious Mary, mother of God guide me throughout my life, and support me against sorrows and temptations. Deliver me from all evil. Amen.