

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

Camcor Spring Clean - Part of the "BIFFO" (Brilliant, Imaginative Folk From Offaly) on Facebook.

Great work was completed at Easter on the Camcor at the Mill Island Weir when debris and tress were removed by an energetic group of local people who are part of the "Offaly Search and Recovery Team" including John Hefernan, Barry Loughnane, Fergal Clarke, Willie Loughnane, John Mahon and Noel Teehan. The activity was part of a fundraiser to support Offaly Hospice and Offaly Search and Recovery with all money raised locally staying local.

Overseas Volunteers Training Course September 2021 - Open to all!

Viatores Christi, a faith-based development organisation has specialised in the recruitment, training and deployment of overseas volunteers since 1960. VC runs 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, click [here](#) or visit the News section of our website www.vcvolunteers.ie or email info@viatoreschristi.com

Level 7 Diploma in Spirituality – Applied Youth Ministry and Facilitation

This is an online course accredited by St. Patrick's College, Maynooth that runs from September to April and will be delivered online. The practical element will comprise the on-line planning and delivery of four youth retreats/parish reflective youth experiences. The skills are transferable to other situations. Training for this is included in the course.

This course is for anyone interested in the spiritual and human development of young people, including parents, teachers, school chaplains and youth workers in parish ministry.

Cost €1,500 (Payable in two instalments). **Limited number of grants available** towards cost if enquiries made before end of April. Initial deposit €100 (only refundable if not accepted onto the course).

For further information please contact Kathleen 086 8608966. Also see www.shekinah.ie.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sun 25th	10.30 a.m.	John Kennedy, his son John & mother Mary, Cornmarket Street Anthony Nevin & son Tony
	12 Noon	Margaret Lawlor, New Road Windsor, Corcoran & Smyth families John & Mary Doyle, son Nicholas & daughter Geraldine Doyle family
Mon 26th	10.00 a.m.	Brendan & Sarah O'Brien
Wed 28th	10.00 a.m.	Derek Maher
Sun 2nd	10.30 a.m.	Herbert Hennessy (MM) Stan Hayes, High Street John Carroll
	12 noon	Annie, Michael & Roddy Harte

Please Pray for the Souls of



Anne-Marie (Annio) Coughlan, Glebe Street and late of Fairview, Margaret Teehan, Coolderry, Mother of Pat, Burkes Hill, Mary McSweeney (nee Boylan), Cork, late of Croghan, Birr.

Trócaire

We acknowledge Trócaire contributions for the Lenten Appeal. To date **€4,333** 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 **March** was **€4,249**. We are very grateful for your continued support.

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

Sponsored By

Anonymously

Vocations Sunday

This Sunday is Vocations Sunday and in his message Pope Francis offers Saint Joseph as a model for all members of the clergy and religious. He says, *"Saint Joseph is an extraordinary figure, not because of any astonishing charism or special status, but because he accomplished extraordinary acts of service in his daily life. Vocations have the same goal of begetting and renewing the lives of others. The priesthood and consecrated life requires men and women with open hearts, who are capable of great initiatives, generous in self-giving, compassionate in comforting anxieties and steadfast in strengthening hopes."*

New Deacon

We pray for Antun Pasilic who will be ordained to the Diaconate on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, the final step on his journey to priesthood. Antun is a clerical student for the Diocese of Killaloe.

Prayer for Vocations

Father, we're your people, the work of your hands. So precious are we in your sight that you sent your Son, Jesus. Jesus calls us to heal the broken-hearted, to dry the tears of those who mourn, to give hope to those who despair, and to rejoice in your steadfast love. We, the baptized, realize our call to serve. Help us to know how. Call forth from among us priests, sisters, brothers and lay ministers. With our hearts you continue to love your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Everybody Knows:

You can't be all things to all people.
You can't do all things at once.
You can't do all things equally well.
You can't do all things better than everyone else.
Your humanity is showing just like everyone else's.

So:

You have to find out who you are, and be that.
You have to decide what comes first, and do that.
You have to discover your strengths, and use them.
You have to learn not to compete with others,
Because no one else is in the contest of *being you*.

Then:

You will have learned to accept your own uniqueness.
You will have learned to set priorities and make decisions.
You will have learned to live with your limitations.
You will have learned to give yourself the respect that is due.
And you'll be a most vital mortal.

Dare To Believe:

That you are a wonderful, unique person.
That you are a once-in-all-history event.
That it's more than a right, it's your duty, to be who you are.
That life is not a problem to solve, but a gift to cherish.
And you'll be able to stay one up on what used to get you down.

Author Unknown

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Lá na nGairmeacha/ An tAoire Fóna.

Lá faoi leith san Eaglais is ea an Ceathrú Domhnach den Cháisc ina n-iarrtar orainn machnamh a dhéanamh ar an ngairm a thugann Dia do gach duine. Ag ár mBaisteadh glaonn Íosa ar gach duine againn é a leanúint. Is cuma an duine a bheith óg nó aosta, saibhir nó daibhir, tuath nó cléir, tá gairm tugtha ag Dia do gach uile dhuine nach féidir le haon duine eile a chomhlíonadh. Déanaimis gach iarracht bheith dílis dár ngairm go laethúil. Iarrtar orainn freisin guí go dtiocfaidh méadú ar ghairmeacha chun na Sagartachta agus an Bheatha Reiligiúnach. Is é Íosa féin a dúirt linn: "Tá an fómhar fairsing ach níl ann ach meitheal bheag. Dá bhrí sin guígí Máistir an fhómhair go gcuireadh sé meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair" (Matha 9:37-38). Tá páirt lárnach ag saol na clainne chun gairmeacha a spreagadh agus a chothú. Is ann a chuirtear siol le haghaidh gairme saoil. Is féidir an phaidir seo a rá go rialta ar son gairmeacha chuig an saol sagartúil agus chuig an bheatha reiligiúnach.

A Thiarna Íosa Críost, Slánaitheoir an domhain, go n-éirí linn ár mbeatha a chaitheamh de réir do dhílse. Go dtreoraí an Spiorad Naomh sagairt agus lucht craobhscaoilte an dea-scéil agus go gcuire Íosa meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair. Áiméan.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

On the fourth Sunday of Easter we are invited to reflect on the vocation given to each of us. In our Baptism each is called personally to follow Jesus whether we are young or old, a parent or individual, rich or poor, or in Religious Life, God has called each to fulfil a special role in life which cannot be done by any other. Let us make every effort to be faithful always to this calling.

We are asked to pray for an increase of vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life today. Jesus said, "The harvest is great but the labourers are few. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send labourers into His harvest". (Matthew 9: 37-38) Family life plays a key role in motivating and nurturing careers It is where vocations and career choices are nurtured. We can say this prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world, may we spend our lives faithful to You. May the Holy Spirit guide priests and all who preach the gospel and may the Lord of the harvest send labourers to work on His behalf Amen.