

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

On **Monday 24th May**, Fr. Lorcan Kenny will launch his book **"Seven Voices of Hope"** based on seven characters from the Easter story. The book costs €7.99 and all proceeds will go to one of Lorcan's projects in Uganda where he has strong ties with Coloma Primary School. The book is available from veritasbooksonline.com

The **Blood Bank** will be in the **Marian Hall** on Monday 17th - 2.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.
Tuesday 18th - 2.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.
Wednesday 19th - 2.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.
Attendance is by Appointment Only so please call 1850 731 137 .

Radio Maria is Ireland's only Catholic radio station is available 24/7 and covers prayer, catechesis and human formation. It is advert and politics free. There are a number of ways to listen and join in:

1. Download the app on your mobile phone. Search for "Radio Maria Ireland" in the App Store.
2. Online at www.radiomaria.ie
3. On Facebook - search for "Radio Maria Ireland"
4. On Saorview TV - Channel 210

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people. 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.

Offaly Local Enterprise Office Start Your Own Business Online Courses are open for bookings. Evening Online Course runs from 26 May to 30 June 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Day Online Course runs from 10 June to 28 June 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. These courses are currently FREE OF CHARGE. For more information and to reserve a place please visit www.localenterprise.ie/Offaly or phone 087 6480378

Sponsored By

Birr Town F.C.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 15th	7.30 p.m.	Annio Coughlan (MM) Edward & Mary Sherlock & son Eddie Carmel Milne
Sun 16th	10.30 a.m.	Donie "Dan" Carroll, Bulfin Park
	12 noon	Kathleen & James Colohan Patrick Hutchinson Mary & John Murray Fr. Henry Torpey Patrick Roddy
Mon 17th	10.00 a.m.	Paddy Digan
Tues 18th	10.00 a.m.	Michael Hayes, Annagh
Fri 21st	10.00 a.m.	Eoin Eastwood
Sat 22nd	7.30 p.m.	Chrissie O'Meara (1st Ann) & her husband Paudge
Sun 23rd	10.30 a.m.	Mikie Donoghue Martin & Katie Ryan, Crinkill
	12 noon	Patrick Kirwan, Newbridge Street Paddy O'Connor

Please Pray for the Souls of



Paul "Aidan" Maher, Pound Street,
Tommy Kennedy, Shinrone,
Fr. John Donnelly,
retired PP of Lorrha & Dorrha,
& uncle of Fidelma Ryan, Killeen.

Holy Communion & Confirmation

Many parents and families of this year's Holy Communion and Confirmation classes are enquiring about dates. Bishop Fintan, on advice from NEPH-ET has told us that at the beginning of June we will be in a better position to set dates. We will keep you informed as soon as we get the go ahead.

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.

Welcome Back to Sunday Mass

This weekend we welcome our parish community back to communal worship. It has been a long road since Christmas and our last Sunday Mass together. We will have a full schedule of Masses, Saturday 7.30 p.m., Sunday 8.30 a.m., 9.30 a.m. (Carrig), 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

We will continue to have restricted numbers and designated seating places and appreciate your co-operation. Masks must still be worn and people are asked to sanitise their hands on entry to the church.

We are grateful for your understanding and together we will keep our churches a safe place to gather and pray.

The **Parish Office** will re-open to the public this **Monday 17th May**. **People can continue to request** Mass Intentions, Mass Cards and Bouquets over the phone on 057-9122028.

The monthly **St. Pio Mass** will take place in St. Brendan's on next **Thursday, 20th May at 7.30 p.m.**

May is Safeguarding Month

'SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY'.

To safeguard those most vulnerable, we all have a part to play. If we have a concern for the safety / well-being of anybody, we must report this to the appropriate authority, whether that be Gardai, HSE, Tusla, GP or Church Authority. The Diocesan Designated Liaison Persons (DLP), are not only available to you for church related concerns, but can offer you advice on how to report any concerns in the wider context. Their details are DLP - Cleo Yates-0873553024, Deputy DLP - Joe Searson 085 2535326

Everyday God

In our resting, In our rising,
In our hoping, In our waiting.

In our dreaming, In our daring,
In our searching, In our sharing.

Star of morning, Timeless healer,
Flame eternal, Moon of evening.

Word of gladness, Word of mercy,
Word of friendship, Word of challenge.

Gentle father, Faithful brother,
Tender sister, Loving mother.

Our beginning, Our enduring,
Our unfolding, Journey's ending.

Alleluia,
Now and always, Through all ages.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Deascabháil ár dTiarna.
Inniu táimid ag comóradh Dheascabháil Ár dTiarna Íosa Críost agus tugaimid chun cuimhne Íosa ag filleadh ar a Athair. Tá a mhísean teagaisc, a Pháis agus Aiséirí curtha i gcrích agus lá na cinniúna buailte le hÍosa. Bhí breis is trí bliana caite ag na deisceabail i bhfochair Íosa agus grá mór acu dó. Ní haon ionadh gur bhraitheadar uaigneach agus imníoch nuair a bhí Sé ag imeacht uathu chun na bhFlaitheas. Bhí fíis ag Íosa dá dheisceabail go leanfaí lena shaothar ag craobhscaoileadh an dea-scéil. "Imígi faoin domhan uile agus fógraígi an dea-scéal" (Marcas 16:15). Gheall Íosa go seolfadh sé an Spiorad Naomh chucu chun treoir agus misneach a thabhairt dóibh, rud a tharla ar Dhomhnach Cincise.

Inniu Lá Cumarsáide Domhanda. Is é an téama a d'fhógair an Pápa Proinsias do Lá Domhanda Cumarsáide na bliana 2021 ná 'tar agus feic' (Eoin 1: 46) Is é seo an chéad teagmháil a rinne Íosa leis na deisceabail. Is é seo ré na teicneolaíochta. Tá sé de dhualgas ar na meáin chumarsáide an fhírinne a chur de shíor os comhair an phobail agus is minic nach mbíonn an scéal amhlaidh. Seo paidir le rá ar Lá Cumarsáide Domhanda:

A Dhia na fírinne, a thugann solas agus inspreagadh dúinn, treoraigh lucht na meán cumarsáide. Go ndéana siad gach iarracht tacú le dínit an duine trí fhocail agus íomhánna. Tabhair géarchúis dóibh. Go dtaga an Spiorad Naomh chugainn go léir agus go ndéana sé finnétithe dinn os comhair an tsaoil ar Shoiscéal ár dTiarna Íosa Críost. Áiméan.

Ascension of Our Lord

Today we are celebrating the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ and we recall Jesus returning to His Father. His mission of teaching, his Passion and Resurrection have been completed and the day of victory has arrived. The disciples had spent over three years with Jesus and loved him greatly. It is not surprising that they felt lonely and anxious when He was leaving them to go back to his Father. Jesus had a vision for his disciples which was to spread the kingdom of his love, the Good News. "Go into the whole world and spread the Good News". (Mark 16 :15) Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide and give them courage which he did on Pentecost Sunday.

Today is World Communications Day. This year Pope Francis has declared 'Come and see' (John 1: 46) as the theme for 2021. This was the first communication Jesus had with his disciples. We live in the technological age. The media has an obligation to promote the truth. This is not always the case. We pray: **God of truth who enlightens us, guide the media. May they endeavour to support the dignity of the person through words and images. Give them discernment. May the Holy Spirit come to us and give us the courage to be witnesses to the Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**