

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 **Parish Mobile:** 087-3515294
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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. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

The Sun

Have you ever seen
 Anything in your life
 more wonderful

than the way the sun,
 every evening,
 relaxed and easy,
 floats toward the horizon

and into the clouds or the hills,
 or the rumpled sea, and is gone--
 and how it slides again

out of the blackness, every morning,
 on the other side of the world,
 like a red flower

streaming upward on its heavenly oils,
 say, on a morning in early summer,
 at its perfect imperial distance--
 and have you ever felt for anything
 such wild love--
 do you think there is anywhere, in any language,
 a word billowing enough
 for the pleasure

that fills you,
 as the sun reaches out,
 as it warms you

as you stand there, empty-handed--
 or have you too turned from this world--

or have you too gone crazy
 for power, for things?

by Mary Oliver

Birr Review 2021 - The Birr Review Committee are hard at work putting this year's Birr Review together and are looking for contributions from the people of Birr to this much loved annual publication. We are hoping that all the local Clubs, Societies and Groups will let us know what activities they have been up to since 1 November 2020. Couples who have been married, and those couples who have celebrated their 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th or 60th Wedding Anniversaries since 1 November 2020 are also encouraged to send in a photograph and accompanying details to: birrreview@gmail.com.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 24th	7.30 p.m.	Christy "Pops" Kelly & his wife Kathleen Paddy Nugent, Green Street Helena Cahill David "Budgie" Byrne & his father Camillus
Sun 25th	10.30 a.m.	Babby Flynn Bill Foran & family
	12 noon	Michael Madden, Main St & Townsend St.
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Mary Torpey (1st Ann), Carrig
Thur 29th	10.00 a.m.	Jimmy & Maria McInerney
Sat 31st	7.30 p.m.	John Girvin, his brother Paul & parents Dorothy & John Enda Cooke, her daughter Geraldine & grand-daughter Natalie William O'Donoghue
Sun 1st	10.30 a.m.	Tony Devine, Donaghmede, Dublin



Please Pray for the Souls of

Tom Sheeran, William Street,
 Noel Cunningham, Ballyshannon,
 brother of Ursula Walsh, The Crescent
 & Gertie Carter, New Road,
 Rita Downey, Kilmaine, Clareen
 & late of Elmgrove N.H.



Sleeping St. Joseph Fridge Magnets

Pope Francis has promoted devotion to the Sleeping Saint Joseph. Joseph, while he was asleep was visited by the Holy Spirit in his dreams when making difficult decisions in his life. So Pope Francis puts his prayer request under the image of the Sleeping St. Joseph when he is going to sleep in the evening time. The next day he will revisit the presenting issue with fresh insight.

Fridge Magnets of Sleeping St. Joseph
 are now on sale in the Parish Office and after Mass.
 €3.00 each or 2 for €5.00. All proceeds to Birr Parish.

Sponsored By

Anonymous

We Are Living

What is this room
 But the moments we have lived in it?
 When all due has been paid
 To gods of wood and stone
 And recognition has been made
 Of those who'll breathe here when we are gone
 Does it not take its worth from us
 Who made it because we were here?

Your words are the only furniture I can remember
 Your body the book that told me most.
 If this room has a ghost
 It will be your laughter in the frank dark
 Revealing the world as a room
 Loved only for those moments when
 We touched the purely human.

I could give water now to thirsty plants,
 Dig up the floorboards, the foundation,
 Study the worm's confidence,
 Challenge his omnipotence
 Because my blind eyes have seen through walls
 That make safe prisons of the days.

We are living
 In ceiling, floor and windows,
 We are given to where we have been.
 This white door will always open
 On what our hands have touched,
 Our eyes have seen.

Brendan Kennelly

Reek Pilgrimage 2021

Normally the National Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick takes place on the last Sunday of July. For this year, Reek Sunday has been extended to incorporate the whole month of July; each weekday from Wednesday to Saturday in order to facilitate those who wish to fulfil the Reek Sunday Obligations.

Mass on the Summit:

Wednesday to Friday 12 noon, Mass on Saturday 10am (Weather permitting) Confessions before and after Mass 11am—11.45am, 12.45pm—1.15pm

Money Matters

The average monthly expenses for the parish are approximately €12,000 per month. The main income is from the Parish Development Fund, Basket Collection and Shrines. The basket collection has reduced dramatically and consequently we have an ongoing shortfall. We acknowledge and thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Donations can be made to the parish in a number of ways - via Parish Envelopes, set up a standing order or via electronic transfer to the Birr Parish bank account - IBAN - IE40 BOFI 9016 7724 9407 77.

Parish Donations during the month of June was **€5,538.**

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Lá Urnaí Domhanda do Sheantuismitheoirí agus do Dhaoine Scothaosta.

D'fhógair an Pápa Proinsias, Iúil 25 mar Lá Urnaí Domhanda do Sheantuismitheoirí agus do Dhaoine Scothaosta. Deir sé go meabhraíonn siad dúinn gur bronntanas é seanaois, agus gurb iad seantuismitheoirí an fáinne a nascann na glúine, chun taithí an tsaoil agus an chreidimh a tharchur chuig daoine óga. Déantar dearmad ar sheantuismitheoirí, go minic agus déanaimid dearmad ar an saibhreas seo a bhaineann le fréamhacha a chosaint agus a chleachtadh. Mar sin is féidir linn an phaidir seo a leanas a chum an Pápa do Sheantuismitheoirí agus do Dhaoine Scothaosta a rá inniu agus i rith na seachtaine.

A Thiarna, íosa rugadh tú don Mhaighdean Mhuire agus is iad Joachim agus Anne do sheantuismitheoirí. Féach le grá ar sheantuismitheoirí agus ar dhaoine scothaosta ar fud an domhain.

Cosain iad! Is foinse na heagna iad do theaghlaigh, do chreideamh an tSoiscéil, agus is iad cosantóirí traidisiún fónta. Tacaigh leo! Agus iad ag dul in aois go dtuga siad cúnamh dá mhuintir agus iad mar chrann taca an tSoiscéil, cosantóirí sáridéal sa bhaile, foinse beo traidisiúin fhíorluachmhara. Déan múinteoirí eagna agus misnigh, go gcuiridís ar aghaidh chuig na glúine atá le teacht seoda luachmhara a dtaithí spioradálta. Áiméan.

Grandparents & Elderly World Day of Prayer

Pope Francis has proclaimed a World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly which will take place for the first time this year on Sunday 25th July 2021. They remind us that old age is a gift, and that grandparents are a link to generations past and transmit to young people their experience of life and faith, the Pope said. Grandparents, so many times, are forgotten and we forget this richness of safeguarding and transmitting roots. We can recite this prayer during the week. It was composed by Pope Francis.

Lord Jesus, you were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne. Look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect them!

They are a source of enrichment for families, for the Church and for all of society. Support them! As they grow older, may they continue to be for their families strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardians of noble domestic ideals, living treasures of sound religious traditions.

Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience. Amen.