

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. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Eucharistic Ministers - If any Eucharistic Minister has a Pyx for taking Holy Communion to a family member or friend and are not using it anymore we would be very grateful if you would return to the Parish Office or the Sacristy. Many thanks.

The monthly **St. Pio Mass** takes place next Thursday evening (19th August) at 7.30 p.m.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Birr Conference of SVP would greatly appreciate the **donation of school uniforms**. They can be handed in to the SVP shop on Wilmer Road from Tuesday to Friday mornings. The SVP contact number is **085-8804028**. Thank you for your continued support.

Please support **Offaly Hospice Charity Shop**, Of-faly St, Tullamore our shop is open Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 4.30pm. All donations of Ladies Gents and Children's Clothes & Shoes along with Bric a Brac welcome. Contact Chris on the Offaly Hospice Shop phone number 083 0994754 for further information.

Money Matters

We have traditionally depended on the passing of the collection baskets at Sunday masses for support. Thank you to the many parishioners who have found new ways of continuing to support the parish during this time of reduced attendances. The generosity of o many means we can pay our way at this time.

Ways to contribute to our Parish

- Envelope boxes available in Church and Parish Office
- Direct payment by cheque or cash.
- Transfer directly to our bank account
- **IBAN** - IE40 BOFI 9016 7724 9407 77.

Parish Donations during the month of **July** was **€7,769**.

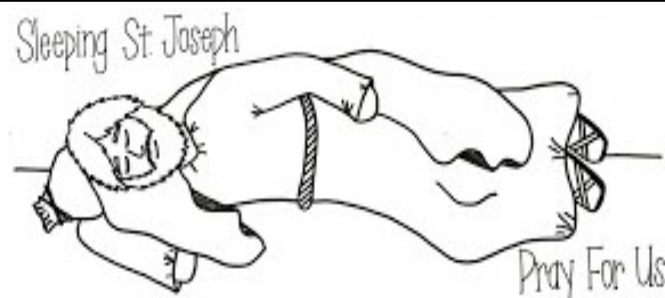
Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 14th	7.30 p.m.	Gerry & Nellie Daly Michael & Patricia Fallon Kevin Pardy Paddy & Nancy Walsh
Sun 15th	10.30 a.m.	Marie Burke, Hillside
	12 noon	William, Catherine & Billy Delaney
Thur 19th	10.00 a.m.	Mary Sheehan
Sat 21st	7.30 p.m.	Patrick Donoghue (1st Ann) Rose Gunning (1st Ann) & her husband Eamonn
Sun 22nd	10.30 a.m.	Tommy Sheeran (MM)



Please Pray for the Souls of

Baby Brendan McDonagh, Drumbane,
Bernie Downey, Fivealley,
mother of Deirdre Downey (staff Fayles).



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.

Every best wish to the committee of the

53RD ANNUAL BIRR VINTAGE WEEK & ARTS FESTIVAL

13th - 20th August 2021

Hope

When the storm passes
and the roads are tamed,
and we are the survivors
of a collective shipwreck.

With a weeping heart
and a blessed destiny
we will feel happy
just for being alive.

And we will hug
the first stranger
and praise the luck
of not having lost a friend.

And then we'll remember
everything we lost
And all at once we will learn
all we had not learned before

We will no longer be envious
because we have all suffered
We will no longer be lazy
And will be more compassionate

What belongs to all will be worth more
than that never achieved
We will be more generous
and much more committed

We will understand how fragile
it means to be alive.
We will sweat empathy
for who is and who has left.

We will miss the old man
asking for a dollar in the market
we didn't know his name
although he was next to us

And perhaps the poor old man
was your God in disguise.
You never asked for his name
because you were in a hurry.

And everything will be a miracle
And everything will be legacy.
And life will be respected,
the life we have won.

When the storm passes
I ask God, full of sadness
to return us to be better
as he had dreamed we would be.

Translation of Alexis Valdés poem "Esperanza" (Hope) written in Spanish in March 2020 about the humanitarian crisis brought "by the Coronavirus and the "hope" of how we will feel when the "Storm Passes" ("Cuando pase la tormenta" - Esperanza)
Alexis Valdés is a Cuban composer, singer, musician and poet residing in Miami. Translated by CP

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Féile Dheastógáil na Maighdine Muire.

Ar an Domhnach seo 15 Lúnasa comórtar Féile Dheastógáil na Maighdine Muire. Is suntasach an phribhléid a bronnadh ar Mhuire. In Éirinn tugtar Lá Fhéile Muire san Fhómhar ar an lá seo. Is gné dár gCreideamh deabhóid chun na Maighdine Muire, mar is í Máthair Dé í; Máthair ár Slánaitheora í. Ghlac sí briathar Dé ina croí agus ina corp agus thug sí beatha don domhan. Gach uair a deirimid an Sé do Bheatha a Mhuire, iarraimid ar Mhuire sinn a chosaint i gcónaí ach go háirithe ar uair ár mbáis nuair a sheasfaimid os comhair Dé, breitheamh na mbeo agus na marbh.

Tá 14 -22 Lúnasa ainmnithe mar Sheachtain Oidhreacht Náisiúnta ag an gComhairle Oidhreacht. Is í an ócáid oidhreacht is coitianta in Éirinn. Tá oidhreacht shaibhir againn anseo in Éirinn, scéalaíocht, amhránaíocht, ceardaíocht, spórt, ceol, toibreacha beannaithe, carraigeacha an Aifrinn, treoir mharcanna, oidhreacht thógtha, flóra, fána, gnáthóga nádúrtha, aibhneacha, locha agus rudaí eile nach iad. Bíodh meas againn ar ár n-oidhreacht agus fonn orainn í a chaomhnú.

Moladh go deo le Dia.
Áiméan

Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. The Irish people called this day *Lá Fhéile Muire san Fhómhar*, Mary's Feast in Autumn. Devotion to Our Lady is a feature of our faith because she is the Mother of God; the mother of our Saviour. She accepted the Word of God in her heart and body and she gave life to the world. Every time we say the Hail Mary, we ask Our Lady to protect us especially at the hour of our death when we will stand before the Judge of the living and the dead.

The 14th-22rd August is National Heritage Week organised by the National Council of Ireland. It is the most comprehensive heritage event in Ireland. We have a rich heritage in Ireland including storytelling, singing, craft, sport, music, blessed wells, Mass Rocks, monuments, flora, fauna, natural habitats, rivers and lakes. Let us respect and conserve it.

God be praised forever.
Amen

Sponsored By

Anonymous