

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.

Clergy of Brendan Cluster

Fr. Tom Hogan—057-9121757
Fr. Antony Sajeesh - 057-9121757
Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Dates For Your Diary

Sunday 7th November - Blessing of the Graves

Clonoghill - 3.00 p.m.
Carrig - after 9.30 a.m. Mass

Saturday 27th November - Feast of the Miraculous Medal - Mass at 10.00 a.m. will include a blessing of Miraculous Medals.

A **Trócaire Emergency Appeal** for the people of East Africa will take place this weekend **6th/7th November**. Many people in East African countries including Somalia, Ethiopia and South Sudan are struggling to survive a **devastating hunger crisis**. You are asked to donate what you can to this church collection next weekend. Many thanks.

A book on the **"The Graveyards and Churches of Carrig and Loughen"** will be published this month. If you have loved ones interred in either Carrig or Loughen and we haven't been in contact please contact any of the following: Tony Dargan (0872069342), Tom or Margaret O'Brien, Laura Smith, Tony Doorley, Dermot Sullivan, Peter Whyte.

EMPOWERED – is a series of free workshops run by Offaly Local Development Company promoting empowerment, employment, education and wellbeing. Commencing on Wednesday November 10 until Friday November 19. The schedule contains a variety of workshops, both in person and online, covering a wide range of topics. Spaces are limited so booking is essential! For more information, please call 087 738 5989 or 087 692 5276.

Money Matters

We are especially grateful for your continued support to the parish finances. It is very much appreciated. 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 so many means we can pay our way. You can contribute by using Envelope boxes, by direct payment by cheque or cash or transfer directly to our bank account - **IBAN** - IE40 BOFI 9016 7724 9407 77. **Parish Donations** during the month of **October** was **€10,260**.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 6th	7.30 p.m.	Adrian Cahill (1st Ann) Martin, Nellie & Michael Ryan Patrick & Agnes Hogan & family Peter & Judy Plunkett Alan Regan Roger Lavander Anthony & Bridget McLoughlin & family & grandson Peter Hynes Willie & Kathleen Hennessy
Sun 7th	10.30 a.m.	Gerry Donoghue (MM) Maria Madden Alice Brady
	12 noon	Marian Nevin Louise Noone Ann Maloney Eileen Hynes & her daughter Geraldine O'Brien family Margaret O'Connor
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Nell Doorley (MM) Byrne family
Tues 9th	10.00 a.m.	John Hutchinson (1st Ann) Deceased Eucharistic Adorers
Wed 10th	10.00 a.m.	Frank Touhey Eileen Hynes
Thur 11th	10.00 a.m.	Betty Hough (MM) Jimmy Kiely (MM), Kilcormac
Fri 12th	10.00 a.m.	Fintan McManus Paddy & Sheila Slattery Rita Flynn
Sat 13th	10.00 a.m.	Paddy & Ellen Mellsop, their daughter Pauline & daughter-in-law Hazel John Murdon
	7.30 p.m.	Enda Cooke, her daughter Geraldine & grand-daughter Natalie Gloria Hansbury Billy & Phyll Murphy Liam & Joan McGlone Vincent & Margaret Daly Daly & Lawlor families Damien Deegan
Sun 14th	10.30 a.m.	Mary Loonam, Annagh Joe Feehan
	12 noon	James & Annie Kearns Gilmartin & Ryan families Michael Quinn, Croghan
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Ita Clarke (MM)

Please Pray for the Souls of



Frank Donnelly, late of Mill Street & BCNU
Margaret Kenny, Burkes Hill,
Joe Rodahan, Pallasgreen,
father of Margaret Ryan, Killeen,
Lawrence McGarry,
UK & late of High Street,
Raymond Spencer, Shinrone,
Nora Murray (nee Kennedy)
Dublin & late of Kilcolman,
sister of Brendan and Martin Kennedy, Birr

Beni Merente Award

Carmel Campbell, Woodlands was the recipient of a **"Beni Merente"** award presented in recognition of over 45 years as organist and choir director for the Church of the Annunciation in Carrig. Beni Merente awards are in recognition of outstanding service to the local church community. It means "Well Merited" and issued in the name of Pope Francis.

Carmel is a member of the choir from her teenage years. With the sudden death of her sister Marita, she took on the role of organist and choir mistress. Over the years Carmel has encouraged many young people to develop their musical talents in choir and through her piano teaching. We thank Carmel and Michael for the way they enhance our masses and liturgies. Beir beannacht libh.

Willow

by Brendan Kennelly

To understand
A little of how a shaken love
May be sustained

Consider
The giant stillness
Of a willow

After a storm.
This morning it is more than peaceful
But last night that great form

Was tossed and hit
By what seemed to me
A kind of cosmic hate,

An infernal desire
To harass and confuse,
Mangle and bewilder

Each leaf and limb
With every vicious
Stratagem

So that now I cannot grasp
The death of nightmare.
How it has passed away

Or changed to this
Stillness,
This clean peace

That seems so unshakable
A branch beyond my reach says
"It is well

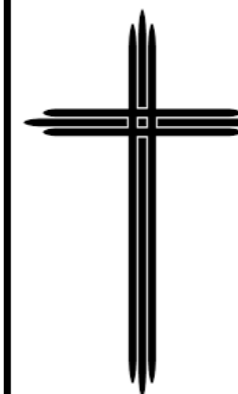
"For me to feel
The transfiguring breath
Of evil

"Because yesterday
The roots by which I live
Lodged in apathetic clay.

"But for that fury
How should I be rid of the slow death?
How should I know

"That what a storm can do
Is to terrify my roots
And make me new?"

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne



Mí na Marbh.

Mí na Samhna , mí na marbh, mí titim na nduilleog, tús na bliana Ceiltí. I mí na Samhna, bí linn a Dhia.

Is í intinn an Phápa don mhí seo ná : **Gúimid go n-aimseoidh daoine a mbíonn dúlagar ag dul díobh nó a bhíonn spíonta ag brú an tsaoil tacaíocht , agus go ndéanfar solas an bhealaigh tríd an saol.**

Bíonn an Eaglais de shíor ag guí ar son na marbh agus tá an dara lá de Shamhain ceaptha aici d'anama-cha na marbh go mór dóibh siúd nach bhfuil duine ná deoraí fágtha acu ar an saol seo chun guí ar a son. Cuimhnímid an mhí seo go háirithe ar ár ngaolta, ár gcomharsana, ár gcairde, daoine dár bpobail agus daoine eile atá imithe ar shlí na fírinne.

Bhí sé de nós i gcónaí ag ár sinsear cuairt a thabhairt ar shéipéal agus ar reilig i rith na míosa agus guí ar son na marbh. Is maith an rud na gnásanna seo a choimeád beo agus a chleachtadh. Is mór an sólas dúinn nach bhfuil ár ngaolta imithe uainn ach imithe romhainn agus lá éigin beimid ina bhfochair i bParthas na nGrást. Is é seo an ghuí a chloistear go minic i bpaidreacha na hEaglaise san Aifreann .

Suaimhneas síoraí tabhair dóibh a Thiarna agus go lonraí solas suthain orthu. Go bhfaighe anama-cha na bhfíréan go léir trócaire ó Dhia agus cónaí faoi shuaimhneas. Áiméan

Month of the Dead

November, the month of the Holy Souls, the falling of the leaves, the beginning of the Celtic Calendar.

The Pope's intention for this month is : **We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.**

The Church always prays for the Dead. The 2 November is devoted to the faithful departed, especially those who have nobody to pray for them. At his time of year we especially remember and pray for our loved ones, our neighbours, our friends, people in our community and others who have gone home to the care of God in Heaven.

It is an ancient custom to visit a church and graveyard during the month to pray for the dead. We ought to keep these customs and practise them. It is comforting to realise that our relatives have not gone away from us but gone before us and some day we will be with them in Paradise. We hear this prayer at Mass to remember those souls gone before us.

**Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.**