

## 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.

### 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

**Stations of the Cross** will be prayed every Friday of Lent at 11.50 am

**Volunteer Offaly:** If you are interested in registering your voluntary organisation or becoming a volunteer contact 083 – 0154669 for more information or register on [www.volunteeroffaly.ie](http://www.volunteeroffaly.ie)

Congratulations to the **Offaly under 18 Camogie** panel on their success last weekend, Birr/Riverstown was represented on the team.

### Lourdes 2022

After an absence of two years, due to the Covid pandemic our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes resumes again this year from 28th June to 3rd July, direct from Shannon Airport. Sick or assisted pilgrims will not travel this year. Cost €739 to €759 depending on the choice of hotel, Agena or La Solitude. To reserve your place please contact Joe Walsh Tours -Tel; 01-2410800, email: [info@joewalstours.ie](mailto:info@joewalstours.ie) Post: Joe Walsh Tours 69 O'Connell Street Dublin 1

The autumn pilgrimage will take place from 2nd to 7th October 2022. Enquiries to Fr Tom Ryan Pilgrimage Director 087- 2349816 or [tfryan.ennis@gmail.com](mailto:tfryan.ennis@gmail.com)

### SVP East Clare

Offering a little help at the right time can give people hope for the future. Our small East Clare based team supports local families and individuals, helping them to move towards self-sufficiency and we would welcome more volunteers to assist us. For more information or for an application form please text your contact details to 086 392 1492 or email us [stcaimins.eastclare@svp.ie](mailto:stcaimins.eastclare@svp.ie)

### Special Collection for Ukraine:

The Irish Bishops have asked for a Special Collection to be taken up at Masses on the weekend of 26/27 March to support humanitarian efforts in Ukraine and especially the families and children who have had to flee their homeland in advance of the Russian invasion. The proceeds of this Special Collection will be directed to Caritas Internationalis, which is the helping hand of the church on the ground in Ukraine and the surrounding region. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.

## Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 26th	7.30 p.m.	<b>Tony Kelly, Cappaneale (MM)</b> Liam & Carmel Ryan, Killeen Mark Shortt, Fairview, grandparents, aunts & uncles
Sun 27th	8.30 a.m.	Michael Bowe & Family
Sun 27th	10.30 a.m.	Middleton & Kennedy Families, Crinkle Bill Carroll, Whiteford Violet, Eddie & Michael Forrister, Castle Street Mary Tuohey, Judy Tuohey & Bridget Doyle
Sun 27th	12 noon	Terry Hoctor, Hilltop, Crinkle Eugene Garvey, Tullynisk Jimmy & Annie King, Glebe Street
Wed 30th	10.00 a.m.	Margaret Pilkington, High Street
Thurs 31st	10.00 a.m.	Kitty McManus
Fri 1st	10.00 a.m.	John Doyle and his wife Mary, Son Nicholas & daughter Geraldine and all the members of the Doyle Family
Sat 2nd	10.00 a.m.	Joe Kennedy, Tullamore Road
Sat 2nd	7.30 p.m.	Jack & Bina Walsh & Grandson Eoin Eastwood Kieran & Doreen (Don) Horan, Castlestree Mary & James Kennedy & Son Neilus Fairview
Sun 3rd	8.30 a.m.	Tommy & Doreen Rigney, Moorpark Street Nadezda, grandmother of Marijus
Sun 3rd	9.30 a.m.	Bill O'Meara & Family, Carrig
Sun 3rd	12 noon	<b>Paddy Kearns, Military Road (1st Ann)</b> <b>Herbert Hennessy, Seffin (1st Ann)</b> Christy & Nora Cleary & Tommy Pey, Riverstown

### Please Pray for the Souls of

Lorraine Byrne, Boston, sister of Padraig Freeman  
 Killeen  
 Patsy Flynn, late of High street & Northampton cousin  
 of Patsy Carroll Bulfin Park



### Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for Compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.

### Sacramental Preparation for First Penance/Communion/ Confirmation



We welcome the young people from  
**Killeen N.S @ 7.30 p.m. Saturday**  
 evening mass & **St. Brendan's P.S.** participating on Sunday  
 at  
 10.30 am Mass.



**Sponsored By  
Anonymous**

# HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

The fourth Sunday in Lent is known as Laetare Sunday or Joyful Sunday. Or more popularly known as Mothering Sunday. On this day we salute all mothers - life givers, nurturers, carers, educators, healers - parents of adoptive children, aunties, sisters and grandmothers.

## Her Hands

Her hands held me gently  
 from the day I took my first breath.  
 Her hands helped to guide me  
 as I took my first step.  
 Her hands held me close  
 when the tears would start to fall.  
 Her hands were quick to show me  
 that she would take care of it all.

Her hands were there to brush my hair,  
 or straighten a wayward bow.  
 Her hands were often there to comfort  
 the hurts that didn't always show.  
 Her hands helped hold the stars in place,  
 and encouraged me to reach.  
 Her hands would clap and cheer  
 and praise when I captured them at length.

Her hands would also push me,  
 though not down or in harm's way.  
 Her hands would punctuate the words,  
 just do what I say.  
 Her hands sometimes had to discipline,  
 to help bend this young tree.  
 Her hands would shape and mould me  
 into all she knew I could be.

Her hands are now twisting with age  
 and years of work,  
 Her hand now needs my gentle touch  
 to rub away the hurt.  
 Her hands are more beautiful  
 than anything can be.  
 Her hands are the reason I am me.

Maggie Pittman



## Ceathrú Domhnach den CharghasK22

Inniu an Ceathrú Domhnach den Charghas. Tugtar Domhnach *Laetare* ar an Domhnach seo mar de réir an traidisiúin ba lá ceiliúradh i lár an Charghais é. Is éard is brí le *Laetare* ná Lúcháirimis! Meabhraíonn an Scrioptúr dúinn go bhfuil cúis gairdeas sa Tiarna againn. Caitheann an sagart éide rósach agus an tAifreann á léamh aige inniu. De ghnáth ní bhíonn aon bhláthanna ar an altóir le linn an Charghais ach is féidir iad a bheith ann inniu. Fadó ní bhíodh an t-orgán le cloisteáil sa tréimhse seo den bhliain ach amháin ar Dhomhnach *Laetare*.

Feicimid na boscaí do Thrócaire sna séipéil ó thús an Charghais. Iarrtar orainn gach bliain teacht i gcabhair ar thíortha atá ar ghéar-chéim nó i bpráinn. Cuireadh an eagraíocht Trócaire ar bun sa bhliain 1973. Tá sainordú ag Trócaire: tacú le tionscadail forbartha fadtéarmach thar lear agus faoiseamh a chur ar fáil le linn éigeandála agus leis sin, a chur in iúl do phobal na hÉireann faoi chúiseanna na bochtaineachta agus éagóra agus an pobal a ghríosú chun athrú domhanda. Tá tionchar ar a cuid oibre cheana féin agus an taithí agus an dóchas atá le feiceáil i measc na mbocht agus daoine atá faoi chois. Tacaíonn Trócaire le pobail ina n-iarrachtaí chun feabhas a chur ar a saol, freastal ar a riachtanais bhunúsacha agus dínit an duine a chinntiú. Bhí muintir na hÉireann i gcónaí báúil le tíortha a bhíonn i sáinn. Go gcaithfidimid go fial le Trócaire an Charghas seo. Guímis ar son gach uile dhuine atá ag fulaingt de bharr cogaidh nó gorta, daoine atá ruaigthe as a n-áit cónaithe nó as a dtír féin.

**A Dhia, cabhraigh linn cúram a dhéanamh dár gcomharsana uile. Cabhraigh linn comhoibriú le daoine eile chun an domhan seo a fheabhsú. Deasaigh ár mbeathaí créachta. Áiméan.**

This is the Fourth Sunday of Lent also called Laetare Sunday. It is a day of celebration. Laetare means Rejoice! The Scriptures tell us that we have a reason to rejoice in the Lord. The priest wears rose coloured vestments. There are usually no flowers on the altar during Lent but today is an exception. In the past the organ was silent during Lent but was heard on Laetare Sunday. Trócaire boxes are available in our churches during Lent. We are asked to help those in dire need in many parts of our world. Trócaire was established in 1973. Trócaire has a dual mandate: to support long-term development projects overseas and to provide relief during emergencies; and at home to inform the Irish public about the root causes of poverty and injustice and mobilise the public to bring about global change. Its work is also influenced by the experiences and the hopes of the poor and oppressed. Trócaire supports communities in their efforts to improve their lives, meet their basic needs and ensure their human dignity. The Irish people have always contributed generously to those in need. Let us continue this wonderful tradition. Let us pray for all people who are suffering because of war or famine, people who are displaced or forced to leave their own country.

**Lord, help us to care for the common good of all. Help us to work with other people to build a better world. Heal our broken lives. Amen.**