

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 - 089-4436426

Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812

Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Next Friday, 2nd December is the First Friday. Mass will be at 10am in St. Brendan's and 7.30pm in Carrig. If any housebound parishioners or sick parishioner would like to receive the sacrament at home or have a visit from a priest, especially for first Friday, please contact the **Parish office on 05791-22028**

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the Parish Office. €5 each
Pack of 6 Christmas Cards also available from Parish office. €5 each

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Birr's S.V.P Annual Collection takes place on the 3/4th December. Your support is greatly appreciated especially in these difficult times.

Carrig, Riverstown & Killeen Active Retirement Group are holding their AGM in Carrig Hall on Monday 28th Nov @ 7.30pm. We meet every Wednesday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm for activities and new members are welcome to join our group.

First Aid Course on Wednesday 30th November @10.00am. Booking essential as places are limited. This is a free event. To book a space call Birr Library on 057 9124950.

Earth meets Sky - Art exhibition by Kathleen Gormley will be showing at Birr Library from Thursday 10th - 30th November. 50% of the proceeds will go to the Charity UNHCR to Ukrainian families to survive the winter.

EmployAbility Midlands
Do you have a disability, illness or injury and would like help to find a job? If the answer is yes, you can contact Liam on 086 387 3047 or Patricia on 086 145 1074 and we will be happy to tell you more about EmployAbility Midlands and how we can help you find a job.

IRISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA IN BIRR Fabulous Christmas Concert with Irish Chamber Orchestra & Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh. THURSDAY 15th DECEMBER 7.30 pm St. Brendan's Church, Wilmer Road, Birr. Tickets €22/20 Booking: birrfestivalofmusic.com

Advent Reflections: Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, Fr. Bernardino Maria Soukup, reflects on the Mass Readings of the First Sunday of Advent, from Limerick on EWTN TV (Sky 586) on Sun. 27th at 5 30am & on Tuesday, 29th at 10 pm (30 min)

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 26th	10.00am	Ben Mellisop, Meadowville (1st Ann) Paddy, Ellen & Pauline Mellisop & Hazel Eades Mellisop Nancy Gaynor
Sat 26th	7.30pm	Raymond Hoare, Crinkill (MM) Tom Murray, Lisheen (MM) Anne O'Donnell, Middlesex, London Eddie Coughlan, Fairview Mary Fox & James Fox, Hillside Joseph Daly, Clonkelly O'Meara Family Clonkelly, Mahon Family, Grove Street Seamus Davis, Hillside Alice O'Keeffe Patrick O'Neill
Sun 27th	8.30am	Willie & Kathlyn Kinsella, Beech Villa
Sun 27th	9.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 27th	10.30am	Michael & Agnes Parkinson & Son Cronan, The Crescent Annie & Paddy Mannion, Clonoghill John & Bea Irwin, Syngfield Bobby Sheils, Whiteford Bernie Sheeran, William Street
Sun 27th	12 noon	Mary Smith, Bulfin Park (MM) Joe & Delia Barry and sons Gerry, Des & David John & Mary Kearns, Oxmantown Mall Oliver Craughwell, Woodlands & his parents & sisters Sean Cooke, Crinkill John & Mary Windsor & deceased members of the Windsor Family
Mon 28th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Tues 29th	10.00am	John Mc Carthy, High St, his daughters Lorraine, Celine & deceased members of the McCarthy Family
Wed 30th	10.00am	Frank & Carmel Egan, Glebe St
Thurs 1st	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 2nd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 2nd	7.30pm	Matthew Gleeson, Lacka, Carrig
Sat 3rd	7.30pm	Florence & William Cooke, High St., their son Teddy & daughter Margaret
Sun 4th	8.30am	Michael Maher, Crinkill
Sun 4th	9.30am	Phil Reddan, (1st Ann) Rynagh Byrne, Killeen Susan & Martin Byrne
Sun 4th	10.30am	Gerard Wynne, Hillside & parents Matthew & May Carmel & Liam Ryan, Killeen Hennessy & Byrne Families
Sun 4th	12 noon	Seamus, Triona, Gail & Garvey & O'Donnell Families Eileen Ryan, Newbridge St. Des & Eileen Talbot, Hillside Patsy Garahy Paddy McIntyre, Emmet St.

Advent

This Sunday a new church year begins with the celebration of the **First Sunday of Advent** and it is a signal for us as Christians to begin our preparations to welcome Jesus, the Light of the World. *How will you mark Advent?*



The **Advent Wreath** is a circle of evergreens bearing four candles. The circle represents the cycle of time and is a symbol of perfection, of eternity and of fidelity. The evergreens represent hope in the cold, bare days of winter. The candles will be a symbol of the coming light of Christ, growing stronger as we light an extra candle each week.

Dates for Diary

Sunday December 18th

Bambamelli Sunday, we invite you to bring the figure of Baby Jesus from your family crib to church for blessing. Ecumenical Carol Service St. Brendan's, Wilmer Rd 7pm

Tuesday December 20th @ 7.30pm
Reconciliation Service in St. Brendan's led by Fr. Pat Kiernan

St. Brendan of Birr

This Tuesday, 29th November, we celebrate the Feast of St. Brendan of Birr

Gracious God, You have given us, in the life and example of St. Brendan of Birr, the reflection of your gifts of love and compassion, an inspired leader, evocative teacher, generous companion and loyal friend.

Teach us where to see and find you. Teach us, like Brendan, to be reflective and find you in the bits and pieces of life.

Inspire us to bring comfort and joy to our families and communities.

Strengthen our faith and trust in the power of your Spirit at work in our lives. We make our prayer in the name of Jesus, our way, our hope and our light. Amen.

Patrick Feeney & His Band

Live at St. Brendan's Church, Birr @ 8pm
Friday 9th December.



Tickets available Parish office €25p.p.
Proceeds to Offaly Hospice & St. Brendan's Church

Please Pray for the Souls of

Danny Maher, Australia, brother of Ellie Hctor, Hilltop, Crinkill
Frank Dillon, Fivealley, Camcor Unit,
Anne Wycks Nee Quinn of London, Ontario, formerly of Emmet Square, Birr
Mary Burke, Burkes Hill



Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Chéad Domhnach den Aidbhint

Inniu an chéad Domhnach den Aidbhint. Ciallaíonn an focal Aidbhint 'teacht'. Tá an Nollaig, Féile Bhreith Íosa, teacht ár dTiarna, gar dúinn agus tá ullmhúcháin le déanamh againn chuici. Bíonn fuadar fúinn faoi bhronntanais, shoilse, cártaí, bhia, agus dheoch, agus is éasca go leor dearmad a dhéanamh ar an gciall dhomhain atá leis an Aidbhint. Is minic a dhéanfaimid faill sa réiteach spioradálta nach mór a dhéanamh le haghaidh na Nollag. Tá séasúr na hAidbhinte ag féachaint sa dá threo. Tá sé ag breathnú siar ar theacht Íosa don chéad uair i mBeithil agus tá sé ag breathnú amach roimhe i dtreo theacht Íosa athuair ag uair ár mbáis agus ag deir-eadh an tsaoil. Tá ár n-aird dírithe ar chomhlíonadh phlean Dé nuair a thiocfaidh a ríocht. **"Go ndéana Dia na Síochána féin sibh a naomhú go smior; agus go gcoimeádtar slán gan locht sibh idir spiorad agus anam agus corp i gcomhair theacht ár dTiarna Íosa Críost. Mar is iontaofa an té úd atá glaoch oraibh agus déanfaidh sé é sin"**. (1 Teas 5:23-24) San Aidbhint, tugtar deis dúinn buíochas a ghabháil le Dia as an ngrá thar cuimse a thaispeáin sé dúinn trína Mhac a chur ar talamh. Paidir a deirtear i rith na hAidbhinte ná **"Tar chugainn, a Thiarna, Íosa Críost."** B'fhéidir go gcabhródh sé leat freisin.

First Sunday of Advent

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means 'coming'. Christmas, the coming of Christ among us, the feast of the Birth of Christ, is near and we must prepare for it. We worry about presents, lights, cards, food, and drink and it is easy to forget the deep meaning of Advent. We often neglect the spiritual preparation for Advent. Advent looks in two directions. During Advent we remember the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem on the first Christmas and we look ahead towards the coming of Jesus again at death and at the end of the world. Our attention is directed towards the fulfillment of God's plan when His kingdom will come. **"May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you he will not fail you"**. (1 Thess 5:23-24).

During Advent we have an opportunity to thank God for His unending love in sending His son on earth. This prayer is said during Advent **"Come to us, Lord, Jesus Christ."** It may also help you also.

Sponsored by Anonymous