

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

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

Christmas Market, Memory Lane Birr continuing every Saturday & Sunday 11am - 4pm until 18th December. **Gifts to suit everyone.**

Birr Library is hosting a Coffee Morning for the community on Tuesday the 20th December from 10.30am. We will be having some Christmas treat's along with Mercy Primary school 6th Class Choir for some festive singing. We will be hosting a craft display in our atrium. Let's enjoy this festive time together. This is a free event.

Offaly Personal Assistant Services, CE Scheme, is currently recruiting participants in the Birr area. Would you like to work in the community for people with disabilities? Please contact Roisin on **085 8050539** for more information. Full training provided.

Birr Citizens Information Office 0818 07 6260
 We are closing on Wednesday 21st December at 2:00pm and we will reopen on Monday 9th January at 10:00 am. Our opening hours are as follows: **Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10-2pm.**
 We wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Happy new year 2023

Carrig & Riverstown GAA Club are holding a timber auction in their Club grounds this Sunday, 11th December commencing @ 11am.

"Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to Older People once a week? ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested please sign up here: <https://alone.ie/volunteers/> for more information, contact Fiona on fiona.boyle@alone.ie or on 086 1366539."

The Advent Reflections Series continues this week on EWTN .Fr. Joseph Gormely, an Irish priest from Derry will lead the reflections on the Readings for the third Sunday of Advent. This programme will be aired on Sunday Dec. 11th at 5: 30am and Tuesday Dec13th at 10pm on SKY 586.

Sponsored by Birr Town FC

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 10th	7.30pm	Mary O'Reilly, Grove Street (1st Ann) Paddy O'Meara, Burkes Hill Michael Clery, Castletown & his brother Jack Sean & Angela Ryan & son Emmett Ryan, Newbridge Street
Sun 11th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 11th	9.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 11th	10.30am	James Durrant, Nenagh & Australia (1st Ann) Matt Deforge, Townsend Street Paddy, John & Mary Quigley, Cornmarket Street Chris & Seamus Kennedy, Emmet Street John & Annie Coolahan & their sons Pascal, Michael & daughter Anna Michael, Billy & Jim Hogan & Frances Quinlisk
Sun 11th	12 noon	Ian Smith, Hollypark Tom Feenane & his wife Mary Ellen and their sons Morgan & Thomas
Mon 12th	10.00am	Conor Mc Manus
Tues 13th	10.00am	Deceased Eucharistic Adorers
Wed 14th	10.00am	Tom Nevin (MM)
Thur 15th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 16th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 17th	7.30pm	John Roe, Clonoghill Adelaide O' Donoghue, Moorpark St. Anne Mulvey, Hillside
Sun 18th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 18th	9.30am	Patrick Turner (MM) & Bernadette Turner Jack & Ciss Cashen Rita O'Brien, her grandson Rian Thomas O'Brien and her sister Maureen O'Brien (London)
Sun 18th	10.30am	Lorna Tully (1st Ann), Ely Place & Mother Jill John Hogan, Newbridge St
Sun 18th	12 noon	Mary Camon, Bulfin Park (MM) Kieran Kelly, Riverstown, (MM) Peter Hynes, Castle Gardens & his father Martin Tony Doran Patrick & his wife Ann Maughan Mary Maughan, Anthony Maughan Patrick Kiely Denis Doran Ellen Guilfoyle, Fortal Patrick & Bernadette Troy, Fortal

Please Pray for the Souls of
 Pat Joe Kelly, Northampton, formerly Pound Street,
 Helen (Nellie) Gallagher, Presentation Place
 Joseph Grimes, Harrow & formerly Cappaneale
 Katherine (Kay) Jones, Mile Tree, Fortal, Birr



Sacramental Masses



We welcome the children from **Mercy P.S.** who will be participating in 7.30pm Mass, and the children from **Crinkill N.S.** who will be participating in 10.30am Mass

During this Advent Season, let us ask the Lord to help us keep the lamp of faith lit in our lives, to be prepared to receive Him and that He will fill us with Peace and Joy



Dates for Diary

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, Banagher

Irish Chamber Orchestra

Fabulous Christmas Concert with Irish Chamber Orchestra & Muireann Nic Amhlaoihb.

Thursday 15th December @ 7.30 p.m.
St. Brendan's Church, Wilmer Road, Birr. Tickets €22/€20

Booking see birrfestivalofmusic.com



My Soul Glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed.

When does an ordinary life, become extraordinary, a mundane day, become revolutionary. A moment in time, change history? When God enters in forgives sin allows us to begin again. When we repeat those words of Mary

"Let what you have said be done to me"

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Tríú Domhnach den Aidhaint Gaudete!

Bígí lúcháireach i gcónaí sa Tiarna. Deirim arís é: bíodh lúcháir oraibh. Bíodh bhur gceansacht le feiceáil ag an saol mór mar ní fada uainn an Tiarna. (Fil 4:4-5)

Inniu Domhnach Gaudete nó Domhnach na Lúcháire; an tríú Domhnach den Aidhaint nuair a thógann dath rósach na lúcháire, áit corcra an aithrí i bhFleasc na hAidhainte agus i gculaith Aifrin an tsagairt. Nós a bhí ag ár sinsear ná an mainséar a eagrú sa teach díreach tar éis 8 Nollaig. Is féidir an phaidir ársa seo a rá mar ullmhúchán cuí don bhFéile mhór.

Is beannaithe an nóiméad a rugadh Mac na hÓige, i meán oíche i mBeithil i lár an gheimhridh ghairbh. Deonaigh a Dhia, trí idirghuí Íosa Críost agus Muire Máthair, Íosa éisteacht le mo ghuí agus glac le m'achainí. Áiméan. Gaudete!

Third Sunday of Advent

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. (Phil 4: 4-5). Today is Gaudete or Rejoicing Sunday; the Third Sunday of Advent when rose coloured vestments replace the purple of repentance and the rose coloured candle is lighting on the Advent Wreath. Our ancestors' custom was to erect the Crib after 8 December. We can say the following prayer in preparation for the great Feast.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born, of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my petition through the intercession of Jesushrist and the Virgin Mary His Mother. Amen. Gaudate!