

## 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

**Birr Library** is hosting a Coffee Morning for the community on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am. We will be having some Christmas treat's along with Mercy Primary school 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul** - A sincere Thank You to all the people who supported so generously the recent SVP Annual Appeal. We are very grateful to those who, throughout the year, donated clothing and furniture. The society is very grateful to our many loyal customers. Míle buíochas agus beannachtaí an Linbh Íosa do gach éinne.

**Advent Reflections** on the Readings for 4th Sun. of Advent continues on E.W.T.N. with Fr. Isaac Mary Spinharney C.F.R., Derry. on Sun. 18th Dec, 5 30 am & Tues. 20th Dec, 10pm; (30 min)

**GOAL Mile Birr** - The annual GOAL Mile Birr will take place on Christmas Day at 1pm at Emmet Square to raise much needed funds for those most vulnerable around the world.

**Busy Bodies Montessori School Christmas Play 2022** takes place in Carrig Hall at 3pm on Sunday 18th December. There is no charge at the door only donations on the day will be given to CLAPAI (Cleft Lip and Palate association of Ireland) staffed by all volunteers. We would love to see you there. Ann Delahunt Smyth.

**Birr Theatre & Arts Centre** Share the magic of theatre this Christmas by gifting from our range of shows! Please contact Birr Theatre & Arts Centre 05791 -22911 or www.birrtheatre.com

## Buíochas

To all involved in the recent Patrick Feeney Concert. The first responder's organising group, all who supported the event - sponsors, volunteers and all who helped make the event such a success. A heartfelt thank you.

**The Parish Office will close on Friday 23rd December and will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January**

## Remembered in Mass this Week

|                 |         |  |
|-----------------|---------|--|
| Sat 17th        | 10.00am | Patricia Mcauley, Sharon Carey & Patricia Mannion  |
| Sat 17th        | 7.30pm  | John Roe, Clonoghill<br>Adelaide O' Donoghue, Moorpark St.<br>Anne Mulvey, Hillside<br>Frances & Jimmy Naughton<br>Mary & Tom Ryan, Seffin<br>Annie & James Murtagh  |
| Sun 18th        | 8.30am  | Private Intentions   |
| Sun 18th Carrig | 9.30am  | <b>Patrick Turner (MM)</b> & Bernadette Turner<br>Jack & Ciss Cashen<br>Rita O'Brien, her grandson Rían<br>Thomas O'Brien and her sister<br>Maureen O'Brien (London)   |
| Sun 18th        | 10.30am | <b>Lorna Tully (1st Ann)</b> , Ely Place & Mother Jill<br>Billy Joyce, Crinkill<br>John Hogan, Newbridge St  |
| Sun 18th        | 12 noon | <b>Mary Camon, Bulfin Park (MM)</b><br><b>Kieran Kelly, Riverstown, (MM)</b><br>Peter Hynes, Castle Gardens & his father Martin<br>Tony Doran<br>Patrick & his wife Ann Maughan<br>Mary Maughan, Anthony Maughan<br>Patrick Kiely<br>Denis Doran<br>Ellen Guilfoyle, Fortal<br>Patrick & Bernadette Troy, Fortal |
| Mon 19th        | 10.00am | Rita O' Brien  |
| Tues 20th       | 10.00am | Charlie Brummell, Cappaneale   |
| Wed 21st        | 10.00am | Mary Tuohey & John Tuohey<br>Jodie Donoghue & the O'Donoghue Family & Daly Family<br>James Quinn   |
| Thur 22nd       | 10.00am | Private Intentions   |
| Fri 23rd        | 10.00am | <b>Mary Burke, Burkes Hill (MM)</b><br>Tom McInerney, Killeen & all the deceased members of the McInerney, Doyle, Tuohy, Wall & McCarthy Families  |
| Sat 24th        | 10.00am | Mick & Eileen O' Regan, Moorpark St & the deceased members of the O'Regan Family<br>Margaret Mongan, daughter Margaret & son in law Brendan Hutchinson & grandsons Patrick & Michael Hutchinson<br>Dan Boyd, Oxmantown Mall  |

### Please Pray for the Souls of

Vincent O'Brien, Tinnakelly, Carrig  
 Virginia Duffy, Woodlands Drive,  
 Mary Connors, Cornmarket Street & Community Nursing Unit  
 Rhona Dargle, Donabate, niece of Ursula Walsh & Gertie Carter  
 Michael Wynne, Cloghan, brother of Sean Wynne, Killeen



On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. This final candle, is sometimes referred to as the "Angel's Candle". It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



## Bambamelli 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, Banagher**

## Jesus is the Reason for this Season

He was born in a stable in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman, He worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty. From there he travelled less than 200 miles. He never wrote a book. He never had a family or owned a home. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness. He became a nomadic preacher. He was only thirty-three when the tide of popular opinion turned against him. He was betrayed by a close friend and his other friends ran away. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was unjustly condemned to death, crucified on a cross, between two thieves, on a hill overlooking the town dump. And, when dead, was laid in a borrowed grave, through the pity of a friend. Twenty centuries have come and gone. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat and all the Kings that ever reigned have not affected the life of man on this earth as that one Solitary life. He is the central figure of the human race, He is the Messiah, the son of God, Jesus.

## Christmas Mass Times

### St. Brendan's Church, Birr

|                      |             |                                   |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Christmas Eve</b> | Family Mass | 6.00 p.m.                         |
|                      | Vigil Mass  | 9.00 p.m.                         |
| <b>Christmas Day</b> |             | 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12.00 Noon |

### Church of the Annunciation, Carrig

|                      |            |                   |
|----------------------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>Christmas Eve</b> | Vigil Mass | 7.30 p.m.         |
| <b>Christmas Day</b> |            | Mass at 9.30 a.m. |

## Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

### An Ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint

Inniu an ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint agus ceiliúrfar Breith Íosa ar fud an domhain gan mhoill. Gheall Dia ag tús ama go seolfaidh sé Slánaitheoir chugainn. Faoi dheireadh tháinig an t-am. Dúirt Ísaia, "Is é an Tiarna féin mar sin a thabharfaidh comhartha daoibh. Seo, tá ógbhean ag iompar agus saoloidh sí mac agus tabharfaidh sí mar ainm air Emmanúél, is é sin 'tá Dia linn'." (Ísaia 7:12-14) Ba cheart dúinn díriú anois ar ullmhúcháin spioradálta a dhéanamh. Is féidir linn teachtaireacht na Nollag a mheabhú dúinn féin agus machnamh a dhéanamh ar an gcéad Nollaig. Tá gealltanais Dé comhlíonta. Rugadh Íosa. Is é Íosa Solas an Domhain, ár ndóchas, ár lúcháir.

**A Dhia, tá radharc agat ar do phobal agus iad ag tnúth go dílis le féile bhreith ár dTiarna. Deonaigh, impímid ort, go mbainfimid amach aobhneas ár slánaithe agus go gceiliúrfaimid é i gcónaí le barr áthais agus le dúthracht croí. Áiméan**

### Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent

And the celebration of the Birth of Jesus is near. From the beginning of time God promised he would send us a Saviour. In time the promise was fulfilled. Isaiah said "The Lord himself therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God is with us". (Isaiah 7:12-14) We take time to focus on what Christmas means. Let us reflect and meditate on the Birth of Jesus. God's promise is fulfilled. Christ is born. He is the Light of the World, our hope, our joy.

**Grant Lord, that looking forward in faith to the feast of our Lord's birth, we may feel all the happiness our Saviour brings and celebrate his coming with unending joy. Amen**

**Sponsored by Birr Town FC**