

Birr Parish

Remembering Our Dead

November 2021 - October 2022

St. Brendan's Church 12th November 2022

November is a month of special commemoration. It is the month during which we remember the members of our immediate families, our friends, communities, people of our parishes and all those who have no one to remember them. They have gone to Eternal Life and one day we will join them again.

In the seasonal cycle November is a dull, gloomy month when darkness encloses us and daylight is short. It lends itself to brooding and reflection. Outdoor work is at a minimum. Even the animals and birds are more scare and lethargic. Growth is limited. And yet if the seeds do not die in the ground they will not bear fruit in the Spring. Nature insists on taking its time. Nothing is rushed.

The mystery of life and death creep into our consciousness as we try to fathom the wonder of our individual lives and those of others. How often do we hear it said, "She died before her time" or "he could have had many more years". But could he? Is there a fixed span for anyone's life? We have to answer "No". In the psalms we read, "Our span is seventy years or eighty for those who are strong". But this doesn't always follow. "We do not know the day nor the hour". Nor do we know when or where or how. We only know the one certainty which is that the lord will call us saying, "Come you blessed of my Father into the home I have prepared for you from all Eternity."

Death is not the end. In the Preface of the Mass for the Dead we read, "Life is changed not taken away." We can be sure of a place among the Saints who have gone before us, How privileged we are to know and to believe where we are going!" "Into your hands O God, I commend my spirit." We belong to an inseparable community linked together across time and space in the Body of Christ. We will be with those who have gone before us again. And so our loved ones are not dead to us. They live on in our memory and very often in our daily lives we sense their closeness and their influence. It is always good to pray for our dead. They are "where no eye has seen, no ear has heard, nor can it enter our hearts what God has in store for those who believe in him".

Eternal rest grant to all those who have gone before us. May everlasting light shine upon them and may they rest in peace in the embrace of the Blessed Trinity.

Sr. Abbie O'Sullivan.

May They Rest In Peace



Mourtadha (Mour) Badiane



Daphne Bermingham



Anita Burrows



Tony Butler



Martin Carney



Maura Carr



Bernadette Carroll



Mary Carroll



Billy Carroll



Sheila Carter



Pat Cleary



Brendan Cooke

May They Rest In Peace



Mary Concepta Cooke



Agatha Cooney



Noel Cordial



Tessie Creamer



Cathy Curley



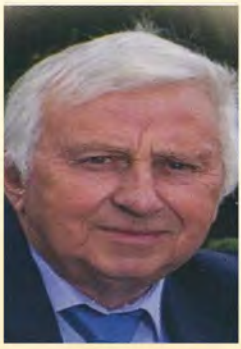
Brendan Currivan



Patti Donnellan



Denis Doran



Tommy Dunican



James Anthony Durrant



Elizabeth Dwane



Christopher Egan

May They Rest In Peace



William Egan



David Egan



Tony Fahey



Patsy Flynn



Rita Foster



Maurice Gavin



Maura Girvin



Sam Glendenning



Mary Glennon



Fiona Guinan



John Guinan



Monica Haines

May They Rest In Peace



Paddy Hamilton



Renee Hanly



Geoff Harding



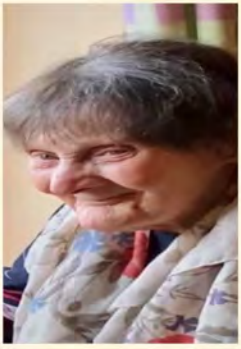
Raymond Hoare



John Hogan



Annie Jones



Mary Jordan



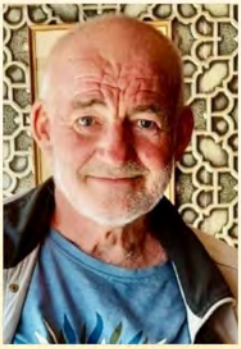
Margaret Rose Kearney



Kathleen Kelly



Tony Kelly



Francis Kennedy



Jack Kennedy

May They Rest In Peace



Joe Kennedy



John Kennedy



Margaret Kenny



Betty Killeen



Aidan King



Bernadette Kirwan



Jimmy Lally



Mary Lawlor



Mary Teresa Lawlor



Christopher Liffey



Paul Lynch



Liam Martin

May They Rest In Peace



Marian McCaffrey



Phil McDermott



Larry McGarry



Ben Mellsop



Brendan Milne



Nancy Moody



Michael Mooney



Mary Morris



Paddy Mulrooney



Sean Murphy



Tom Murray



James Odlum

May They Rest In Peace



Jacek Olejnik



Richie O' Donoghue



Baby Adam & Baby Grace O' Meara



Mary O'Reilly



Cronan Parkinson



Tommy Parsons



Phil Reddan



Michael (Patrick) Regan



Joe Reynolds



John Rice



Donal Ryan



Kathleen Ryan

May They Rest In Peace



Marie Schneider



Doreen Smith



Laura Smith



Mary Smith



Mark Smyth



Chrissie Spain



Brian Studdert



Lorna Tully



Pat Turner



Aileen Ward



Caroline Ward



Maura Whelan

May They Rest In Peace



Dolly White



Nigel Wrafter

Go dtuga Día Suaimhneas Síoraí Dí

Though we need to weep your loss,
You dwell in that safe place in our hearts,
Where no storm or night or pain can reach you.

Your love was like the dawn, brightening over our lives,
Awakening beneath the dark, a further adventure of colour.

The sound of your voice, found for us
A new music, that brightened everything.

Whatever you enfolded in your gaze quickened in the joy of its being:
You placed smiles like flowers on the altar of the heart.
Your mind always sparkled with wonder at things.

Your days here were varied filled with praise and gratitude;
Home was a special place with you at the centre,
from Heaven you are close to us still.

Adapted from Jonh O'Donogue

