

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

Birr Flower & Garden Club Meeting on Tuesday 7th February @ 8pm in Dooly's Hotel. Our guest speaker on the night is Colm O’ Driscoll who hosts TV series Home Grown. Annual membership is €40.00 and non members €10.00 per night . **New members welcome.** We would also like to acknowledge those who supported our Christmas gala draw. We donated €650 to the LauraLynn children’s hospice.

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre have 3 Irish contenders for this year's Oscars and Baftas on the BIG screen. **The Banshees Of Inisherin** (16 Feb, 8pm) **An Cailín Ciúin** (02 Mar, 8pm) and **AfterSun** (23 Mar, 8pm) All details www.birrtheatre.com

The AGM of Birr Athletic Club will take place on Friday 17th February in Dooly's Hotel at 8pm. All are welcome.

Birr Vintage Week & Arts Festival is hosting its first **community meeting** of 2023 on **Tuesday 7 February** in Dooly's Hotel at 7.30pm. It's our 55th birthday this year and plans are already underway for another very special celebration from 4-12 August! Please join us next month:

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED IN BIRR The Irish Blood Transfusion Service Board's mobile unit team will be at Marian Hall, Birr on Tues 7th February from 3.45pm to 8.00pm, Wednesday 8th February from 2.30pm to 5pm and 7pm to 9.30pm also Thursday 9th February from 12.00pm to 2pm and 4pm to 7.30pm. All clinics are by apt only now on 1800 731 137.

World Youth Day takes place in Lisbon in August 2023. The cost is €750 and could be raised through Fundraising/Parish Sponsoring/Part Sponsoring. The young person travelling **must be 18 years old at time of departure.** Please contact Deirdre Convey - 065 6834461 or deirdreconvey@gmail.com or Donagh O’ Meara 087 2322140 or the Parish Office.

AFCM Lenten English Retreat - Led by Xavier Khan Vallayil, Mr. Saju Vargheese & Mr. Jose Kuriakose at St Flannan’s College Ennis Co. Clare From February 16th @ 9am to February 18th @ 4pm. Please contact 087-9316316 or 087-7740812 www.afcmireland.ie.

Remembered in Mass this Week		
Sat 4th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 4th	7.30pm	Peggy Roberts, Eden Road (MM) Kieran & Phil O’ Brien Susie Pardy, Seffin Sheila & Paddy O’ Callaghan, Moorpark Street Eileen Cahill, Bulfin Park Barbara Bracken, Whiteford
Sun 5th	8.30am	Elamma Polose
Sun 5th Carrig	9.30am	Sean Sullivan, Ballagh (MM)
Sun 5th	10.30	Noel Corboy, Joan Corboy & Coleman, Clonkelly
Sun 5th	12 noon	Mary Jordan, Burkes Hill (1st Ann) & deceased members of the Jordan, Mahony & Cole families Martin Connolly, Fairview
Mon 6th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Tues 7th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Wed 8th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Thurs 9th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 10th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 11th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 11th	7.30pm	Mary Morris, Johns Place (1st Ann) Patrick Dwane, Eden Road
Sun 12th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 12th Carrig	9.30am	Michael Maher, Clonfinane
Sun 12th	10.30am	Gerry Hart, Compton Row
Sun 12th	12 noon	Mary Mann, New Road Patrick, Josephine & Gail Kelly & Sr. Josephine & Pat O’ Malley Dinny Kelly, Ballindown

Please Pray for the Souls of

Mick Mulrooney, John's Place
Peter (Timber) Carroll, late of Mill Street & Ballaghmore
Esther Hogan (nee Russell), Lisnageeragh, Brosna
sister in law of Kathleen Russell, Bulfin Park
Dessie Walsh, Ballymoate, brother in Law of Michael Delaney, Syngefield
Tom Larkin formerly of Loughleen, Carrig, Birr & Malahide
Dublin, brother of Flan Larkin Borrisokane & Noel Larkin, Riverstown

Sponsored by Anonymous

Sacramental Masses

We welcome the children from **Killeen N.S** and the **Parish Preparation Programme** who will be participating in 7.30pm Mass, **Carrig N.S.** who will be participating in 9.30am Mass and **St. Brendan’s P.S.** who will be participating in 10.30am Mass.

World Day of Prayer for the Sick

Saturday next February 11th is the Feast of our Lady of Lourdes and is World Day of Prayer for the Sick. The late Pope John Paul II began the tradition on this day in Parish communities across the world of celebrating the Sacrament of Anointing to those who are ill or suffering, facing surgery or because of age. People are anointed with the oil of the sick and prayed over.

Mass will be celebrated at 11am and the sacrament of the sick administered. Also carers are invited to participate with the blessing of hands of carers

Beatitudes for Carers

Blessed are those who care and who are not afraid to show it — they will let people know they are loved.

Blessed are those who are gentle and patient — they will help people to grow as the sun helps the buds to open and blossom.

Blessed are those who have the ability to listen — they will lighten many a burden.

Blessed are those who know how and when to let go — they will have the joy of seeing people find themselves.

Blessed are those who, when nothing can be done or said, do not walk away, but remain to provide a comforting and supportive presence — they will help the sufferer to bear the unbearable.

Blessed are those who recognize their own need to receive, and who receive with graciousness — they will be able to give all the better.

Blessed are those who give without hope of return — they will give people an experience of God.

Sr. Eileen’s Cúinne

Taibhsiú na Maighdine Muire i Lourdes

Ar an Satharn seo chugainn an 11 Feabhra, ceiliúrfar Taibhsiú na Maighdine Muire do Bher-nadette Soubirous, sa bhliain 1858, cailín bocht ceithre bliana déag d’aois. Níl áit ar bith ar fud an domhain ina bhfuil Críostaithe, nach bhfuil cáil ar Lourdes de bharr na sluaite, a thugann cuairt ar an Scrín bheannaithe ag iarraidh leighis dá ngalair agus grásta dá n-anam. Is paidir dheas í seo ó *Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais* ar féidir a rá in ómós don Mhaighdean Mhuire

A Mhuire ghlórmhar, mhómhar, mhaisiúil, is tú mo stór, mo lón, mo thaisce is tú mo réalta eolais ag dul romham i ngach bealach, agus ar shliabh na ndeor go mba tú mo chara. Ái-méan

Tá 11 Feabhra ainmnithe le Naomh Gobnait chomh maith. De réir an tseanchais d’fhág Gob-nait a háit dhúchais i gCo. An Chláir agus thaistil sí go háiteanna éagsúla in Éirinn, ina measc Baile Bhúirne, Co. Corcaigh. Bhí cáil uirthi mar bhean leighis agus cúramóir na heaslánaithe agus mar phatrún naofa beachairí. ***Go mbeannaí Dia duit a Ghobnait naofa, Go mbeannaí Muire faoi mar a bheannaím féin duit.***

Our Lady of Lourdes

Saturday next 11 February is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. In 1858 Our Lady appeared for the first time to Bernadette Soubirous a poor, fourteen old girl. Christians from all over the world come to the Sacred Shrine every year seeking healing from illness and seeking spiritu-al grace. The following prayer is taken from *Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais*.

Virgin Mary, glorious, gentle, beautiful, you are my beloved, my sustenance, my treasure, you are my guiding star, leading me on my way, and in this valley of tears you are my friend. Amen.
Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.

Saint Gobnait’s feast day is celebrated on 11 February also. According to tradition she was born in Co. Clare but travelled to many places in Ireland including Baile Bhúirne, Co. Cork. She was esteemed as a healer, carer of the sick and is the patron saint of beekeepers.

May God bless you Gobnait, may Mary bless you as I salute and bless you.