

## BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757  
Website: [www.stbrendansbirr.ie](http://www.stbrendansbirr.ie)  
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**Parish Office Opening Hours**  
Monday - Friday 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

### Clergy of Brendan Cluster

Fr. Tom Hogan—087-6446410  
Fr. Antony Sajeesh - 089-4436426  
Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812  
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

### Psalter Week 4

Celebrating Age and Creativity, Bealtaine at Birr Theatre hosts special events, **Memories and Melodies** by Jean Farrell will take you back to days gone by with stories and giggles - Thurs 4 May 2.30pm. A Play - **Country & Irish**, is hilarious and boldly claims to be like nothing else! Sun 7 May 8pm and our Bealtaine film **LIVING** stars Bill Nighy, Thurs 11 May 3pm (Free Event- just book your seat) [www.birrtheatre.com](http://www.birrtheatre.com)

### BIRR FESTIVAL OF MUSIC 2023

On May Bank Holiday Weekend, Friday 28th April - Monday 1st May, Birr Festival of Music once again presents a range of concerts, recitals, master-classes, by national and international singers, musicians, and Birr Young Voices. In Theatre, Church, Courtyards, Castle, Birr Nursing Unit, Schools and Shops. See [birrfestivalofmusic.com](http://birrfestivalofmusic.com) for full details.

**Birr Flower & Garden Club** - Meeting Tuesday 2nd May in Dooly's Hotel @ 8pm. What to do in your Garden this month, by Fergal Fitzpatrick. All welcome. Non members €10.00.

**We acknowledge and thank parishioners** for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 22/23rd April was **€2,045.00** to the Parish.

**Busy Bodies Summer Camp 2023** - Takes place in Killeen National School, Killeen dates are as follows Week 1- 3rd July Week 2 - 10th July age 3 years to 10 years from 9.30 to 3 (school opens at 8am) bring lunch for more info please contact Ann 087-9625218

**3 day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg**, July 24/25/26th bus from Emmett Square, Birr. Enquiries to Parish Office

**Killaloe Diocesan Pilgrimages to Lourdes 2023** - 27th June to 2nd July and 2nd Oct to 7th Oct from Shannon Airport. Information and bookings contact Joe Walsh Tours - 01 2410800

**Volunteers required - South Offaly Special Olympics Club** collection days on Friday 19/20th May. The money collected at local shops will keep our local club in activities for another 3 years. Please contact Karen 089-4947822

## Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 29th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 29th	7.30pm	<b>John Patrick (Sean) Flanagan, (1st Ann)</b> Anthony Nevin & Anthony Nevin Jnr Derek Maher, Cappaneale
Sun 30th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 30th	9.30am	<b>Martin Carney, Carrig (1st Ann)</b> <b>Mark Smyth, Tinlough (1st Ann)</b> Christina Cleary, Australia and all deceased members of the Cleary Family
Sun 30th	10.30am	Stan Hayes, High Street Mourtadha (Mour) Badiane, Fahy, Rosscahill & Seffin
Sun 30th	12noon	Mick & Mary Hogan, Crinkill
Mon 1st	10.00am	Monica Boyd, Woodlands Drive
Tues 2nd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Wed 3rd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Thurs 4th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 5th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 5th	7.30pm	Private Intentions
Sat 6th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 6th	11.00am	First Holy Communion Mercy P.S. St. Brendan's N.S. & Parish Preparation Programme
Sat 6th	7.30pm	<b>Joe Kennedy (1st Ann)</b> & his wife Sally Elm Park <b>Nancy Moody, Glebe Street (1st Ann)</b> Hogan, Kennedy & Dunning families Paddy Molloy, Burkes Hill George Smith
Sun 7th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 7th	9.30am	<b>Aidan King, The Gables, Riverstown (1st Ann)</b>
Sun 7th	10.30am	John Carroll & his mother Bridie & father Jack, Crinkill & Arraghmore
Sun 7th	12noon	Sarah Barry Turley, Elm Park Christy & Nora Cleary & Tommy Pey, Riverstown

### Please Pray for the Souls of

Mark Daly, Meadowville & formerly Innisfallen Parade, Dublin  
Aleksandr Lukjanov, Birr & Milnes



*"I lit a candle for a friend today. The light from it to guide is way in to your arms sweet Jesus"*

## James Kilbane

**Concert,**  
Irish Folk, Country, Gospel  
**Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 8pm**



**Shinrone Community Centre**  
Tickets are available through the parish office **€20.00**

This is an initiative of the Brendan group of parishes, Birr, Kilcolman, Kinnitty, Shinrone, Ballingarry proceeds to youth ministry in the parishes.

### First Holy Communion & Confirmation

Please keep all the young people in your prayers as they prepare for the next milestone in their faith journey.



### First Holy Communion Ceremonies 11.00am

**Saturday 6th May** - Mercy P.S.  
St. Brendan's & PPP

**Saturday 13th May** - Crinkill N.S & Killeen N.S.

**Sunday 21st May** - Carrig N.S. -

(In Carrig Church at 9.30am)



### Confirmation Ceremonies

**Saturday 20th May**

11am - Mercy P.S. St Brendan's N.S  
& Carrig N.S

2pm - Crinkill N.S, Killeen N.S & Parish Preparation

## Prayer to the Holy Spirit

**Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Holy Spirit and we shall be recreated and you will renew the face of the earth.**

### Communion Mementos

Gift Sets, Boxed Cards & Wooden Crosses for Communion Boy & Girls ideal gifts for Communion Day on sale in the Parish office

## Sponsored by Birr Town Soccer Club

## Sr. Eileen's Cúinne Reflection

Leagann an Eaglais an-bhéim ar, go bhfuil Críost i láthair ina bhriathar, mar is é Críost a labhraíonn gach uair a léitear an scriptúr sa liotúirge. Tugann léacht an Bhíobla an sean agus an nua le chéile dúinn, an bhrí ba chiall leis céadair agus faoi mar is féidir sin a chur in oiriúint do thoscaí an lae inniu, nó fiú do cheisteanna fós le teacht. Ní theagmháil aigne, inleachtach lom amháin atá anseo, mar tá Críost i láthair lena Spiorad, lena ghrásta.

Agus, ar ndóigh, tá sé i láthair i modh faoi leith san Eocairist, i mbriseadh an aráin, gníomh a thugann chun cuimhne dúinn na brionna iomadúla a bhí le briseadh an aráin do Íosa féin lena bheatha agus tar éis aiséirí dó.

## Reflection

The Church places great emphasis on the presence of Christ in his word, as it is Christ who speaks every time scripture is read in the liturgy. The Bible reading brings us together the old and the new, the meaning it meant for the first time and how this can be adapted to today's circumstances, or even your questions are still to come. This is not just a touch of mind, a bare intellectual, because Christ is present with his Spirit, with his grace. And, of course, it is present in a particular method in the Eucharist, in the breaking of the bread, an act that reminds us of the many meanings of break the bread for Jesus himself with his life and after your resurrection.

## Queen of the May

Bring flowers of the fairest  
Bring flowers the rarest,  
From garden and woodland and hillside and dale;  
Our full hearts are swelling,  
Our glad voices telling  
The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today!  
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.  
O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,  
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.

Our voices ascending, in harmony blending,  
Oh! thus may our hearts turn, dear Mother, to thee;  
Oh! thus shall we prove thee  
how truly we love thee,  
How dark without Mary, life's journey would be.

O Virgin most tender,  
our homage we render,  
Thy love and protection, sweet Mother, to win;  
In danger defend us,  
in sorrow befriend us,  
As pure as the lilies we lay at your feet