

## BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757  
Website: [www.stbrendansbirr.ie](http://www.stbrendansbirr.ie)  
Email: [info@stbrendansbirr.ie](mailto:info@stbrendansbirr.ie)

*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. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

### Psalter Week 4

**Baptism Candles** now available from the Parish office

**We acknowledge and thank parishioners** for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 12/13th August was **€2,184.00**

**Minister of the Eucharist** - If you wish to join the Eucharistic ministers rota in St. Brendan's Church please give your name to one of the priests or the parish office. Thank you.

**Invitation - Sunday 20th August @ 12noon Mass - Birr "Reaching for the Stars" liturgy prepared by Brendan Youth Ministry Group focusing on leaving cert students awaiting their results. All welcome**

**Bingo** every Friday night in the Marian Hall @ 8.30pm Jackpot €3,000 on the 46th call. All welcome.

**Community Employment for Home Respite Care Worker** – Temporary Contract – Contact Alison Hackett 086 2271370 or email [ahackett@familycarers.ie](mailto:ahackett@familycarers.ie)

**The Birr Stop Smoking Service** is a FREE supportive service for people in the community who want to quit smoking. The service offers free Stop Smoking Medication and weekly support in Birr Primary Care Centre. For more information, contact Caroline Brickland, Ph 087 4484728/ Email [caroline.brickland@hse.ie](mailto:caroline.brickland@hse.ie) or visit [QUIT.ie](http://QUIT.ie)

### Regular Events at Birr Library

Writing Group 10.45am - 12.45pm every Wednesday.  
Crafters Group 6.00pm - 8.00pm every Wednesday.  
Parent & Toddler Group 11.00am - 12.00 noon every Friday.  
Adult Book Club will resume in September, 2.30pm - 3.30pm last Thursday of the Month.  
Kid's Book Club suitable for children aged 8-10. Last Fri of the Month from 3.25pm - 4.00pm.  
For further information on any events, please contact Birr Library on 057 91 24950 or email [birrlibrary@offalycoco.ie](mailto:birrlibrary@offalycoco.ie)

## Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 19th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 19th	7.30pm	Bina & Jack Walsh & Grandson Eoin Eastwood Patrick Donoghue, Bulfin Park & Ballymun Kevin Parady, Derrinsallow
Sun 20th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 20th	9.30am	Private Intentions Carrig
Sun 20th	10.30am	<b>Fiona Guinan, Whiteford (1st Ann)</b>
Sun 20th	12noon	Nora & Peter Costello, Sharavogue William & Catherine Delaney, Mile Tree son Billy & daughter Catherine (Kay) Jones Bernadette Lally, Mcauley Drive
Mon 21st	10.00am	Private Intentions
Tues 22nd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Wed 23rd	10.00am	Tony & Patricia Darcy, Borrisokane
Thur 24th	10.00am	John & Bridget Delaney John & Kathleen Walsh
Fri 25th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 26th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 26th	7.30pm	<b>Phyllis Hamilton (née Sheeran), Westgate (MM)</b> Cella Errity & deceased members of the Errity, Mahon & McGuinness families
Sun 27th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 27th	9.30am	Noel Houlihan Carrig
Sun 27th	10.30am	Jacqueline Quealy, Hillside
Sun 27th	12noon	Marie Burke, Hillside Vincent Cordial & family, Newbridge Street

Please pray for the souls of

**Dan Coolahan**, 1 Cornmarket Street Apartment  
**Bridie Parkinson**, The Terrace, Crinkill  
**Hughie Doyle**, Croghan Road, Birr  
**Daniel Shortt**, Fairview  
**Joe Conroy**, Birr Nursing Unit & Newline  
**Martin Coffey**, formerly Clareen & Dundalk, brother of Bernie Scully, Clonoghill & Billy Coffey, Banagher



"May you support us all the day long until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Christ Jesus, our Lord"

## Blackberry - Picking

Late August, given heavy rain and sun  
For a full week, the blackberries would ripen.  
At first, just one, a glossy purple clot  
Among others, red, green, hard as a knot.  
You ate that first one and its flesh was sweet  
Like thickened wine: summer's blood was in it  
Leaving stains upon the tongue and lust for Picking.  
Then red ones inked up and that hunger  
Sent us out with milk cans, pea tins, jam-pots.

Where briars scratched and wet grass bleached our boots.

Round hayfields, cornfields and potato-drills  
We trekked and picked until the cans were full  
Until the tinkling bottom had been covered  
With green ones, and on top big dark blobs burned

Like a plate of eyes. Our hands were peppered

With thorn pricks, our palms sticky as Bluebeard's.

We hoarded the fresh berries in the byre.  
But when the bath was filled we found a fur, A rat-grey fungus, glutting on our cache.  
The juice was stinking too. Once off the bush  
The fruit fermented, the sweet flesh would turn sour.  
I always felt like crying. It wasn't fair  
That all the lovely canfuls smelt of rot.  
Each year I hoped they'd keep, knew they would not.

*Seamus Heaney*

## The Season of Creation

Pope Francis established 1 September as a World day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Observed on the same date with the Orthodox Church, it is a day that calls all Christians, facing the same decisive challenges, to respond together. With challenges so great, a Season of Creation makes us aware of the importance of every person living on this planet to care for our shared earth, to celebrate the joy of creation but aware of the need to preserve creation, to care for our common home all who inhabit it. Each day marked by prayer, an intention of the prayer of the faithful, in a season that ends with the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, 4 October

*Let Justice and Peace flow  
Let justice flow like a river, righteousness like a never failing stream.*

## Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

### Beannachtaí

Tá go leor beannachtaí le fáil sa Ghaeilge. Sa traidisiún, bhí paidir ann do gach ócáid agus do gach gné den saol. Seo paidir ar fheiceáil na gréine: A Dhia a chruthaigh an ghrian, is tú grian m'anama agus is geal liom do shoilseacht. Gráim thú, a Sholais shíoraí. Tabhair dom radharc ort i soilseacht do ghlóire. Paidir do mhí Lúnasa: A Mhaighdean ghlórmhar, mhómhar, mhaiseach; Is tú mo lón, mo stór is mo thaisce; Is tú mo réalta eolais ag dul romham sa bhealach; Is i ngleann seo na ndeor, go mba tú mo chara. Áiméan.

### Blessings

There are many blessings in Irish tradition. There are prayers for every occasion and every aspect of life. This is a prayer on seeing the sun. God, who created the sun, you are the light of my being, your splendour the joy of my heart, I love you, eternal Light; give me the blessing of seeing your glory, in eternal life. Prayer for the month of August: O glorious gentle, beautiful Virgin. You are my sustenance, my abundance, my treasure. You are my guiding light leading me on my way. In this valley of tears may you be my friend. Amen.

**Sponsored by Anonymous**