

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757
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 Email: 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

1st Week of Advent

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 25/26th November was **€2,123.60**

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Birr's S.V.P Annual Collection takes place this weekend. Your support is greatly appreciated especially in these difficult times.

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the Parish Office. €5 each
Pack of 6 Christmas Cards also available from Parish office. €5 each

BIRR STAGE GUILD presents 'A WINTER'S TALE' Seasonal Songs and Christmas Carols with Birr Stage Guild Chorus. Featuring special guest JOHN MOLLOY bass-baritone.
 FRIDAY 8th + SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER
 8.00pm At Birr Theatre & Arts Centre 057 9122911
 (1.00-5.30 Mon-Fri) www.birrtheatre.com

Birr Flower & Garden Club - Christmas Gala Flower Demonstration with Samantha Foran from Galway. Tuesday 5th December, Dooly's Hotel @ 8pm, proceeds in aid of Birr Community unit/Palliative/Hospice room. Autism Ireland
 Non-members €15, Members €10, Raffle tickets €5

Birr Historical Society - Monday 4th December @ 8pm County Arms Hotel. Illustrated talk on the social history of Birr from its days as Parsonstown, Kings County up to the 21st century by Paul Barber. All welcome.

Carrig Riverstown & Killeen Drama Group will perform 'Out of Order' written by Ray Cooney on the 1st 2nd and 3rd of December 2023 at Carrig and Riverstown Community Hall. This hilarious comedy, directed by Brendan Hanamy, promises to be an enjoyable night out for anyone attending. Tickets are on sale for €10 and are available by contacting 089 4042517.

Christmas Market in Memory Lane Courtyard
 Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd December 11am to 5pm both days. All welcome

Sponsored by Birr Town F.C

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 2nd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 2nd	7.30pm	Carmel & Liam Ryan, Killeen Florence & William Cooke, their son Teddy & daughters Margaret & Florence
Sun 3rd	8.30am	Michael Maher, Crinkill Willie & Kathleen Kinsella, Beech Villa
Sun 3rd	9.30am	Rynagh, Susan & Martin Byrne, Killeen
Sun 3rd	10.30am	John & Bea Irwin, Syngesfield Chris & Seamus Kennedy, Emmett Street
Sun 3rd	12noon	Roma Gilmartin, John's Mall (MM) Virginia Duffy, Woodlands Drive (1st Ann) Kathleen (Kay) Jones nee Delaney, Mile Tree (1st Ann) Eileen Ryan, Newbridge Street Gerard Wynne, Hillside & his Parents Matthew & May Mattie Deforge, Townsend Street Anthony Durrant, Nenagh
Mon 4th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Tues 5th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Wed 6th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Thurs 7th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Fri 8th	10.00am	Nellie, Gerry & Anne Daly, Fairview
Fri 8th	7.30pm	Michael & Mary Haverty
Sat 9th	10.00am	Mary Connors, Cornmarket Street (1st Ann) Deceased members of the Gaynor, Keogh & Farrell families
Sat 9th	7.30pm	Helen (Nellie) Gallagher, Presentation Place (1st Ann) Adelaide (Addie) O' Donoghue, Moorpark Street Sean & Angela Ryan & Son Emmet, Newbridge Street Michael Clery, Castletown & his brother Jack Marie O'Reilly, Grove Street
Sun 10th	8.30am	Richard Flanagan, Woodlands
Sun 10th	9.30am	Vincent O' Brien, Tinnakelly (1st Ann) Matthew Gleeson, Lacka
Sun 10th	10.30am	Paddy, Mary & John Quigley, Cornmarket Street
Sun 10th	12 noon	Seamus, Triona & Gail Loughnane The Garvey Family Ian Smith, Hollypark Patrick & Bernie Troy, Fortal The Connery Family, Bridge Street John & Mary Kearns, Oxmantown Mall Patsy Garahy, Main Street

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. The church evokes the coming of Christ in all its aspects; He has been on earth before and we believe that He will be here again. This season of Advent deepens our awareness of Christ's presence in the church today and heightens our hope and longing for his return.



Dates for Diary

Tuesday December 12th @ 7.30pm
Reconciliation Service in St. Brendan's led by Fr. Tom Hannon, Roscrea

Sunday December 17th
Bambamelli Sunday, we invite you to bring the figure of Baby Jesus from your family crib to church for blessing.

Ecumenical Carol Service
Methodist Church, Emmett St 7pm

December 8th
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Mass 10am & 7.30pm

We celebrate Mary who from the first instance of her existence in the womb of her mother Anne, was privileged by almighty God and preserved free from all stain of original sin.

Bikeathon

Following the success of last years bikeathon organised by "Birr churches Together". It will take place again this year on **December 8th/9th from 8am to 8pm**
Venue Emmett Square
 individuals, sports clubs, cycling groups are invited to take a slot cycling on a stationery bike for 20 min period. Funds raised will be donated to local charities "Birr Vincent de Paul, Offaly Healthy Homes, Avista Chesterfield Close, Birr Home hospice care
 To book a slot please contact
 Canon Arthur Minion 086-8251065

Birr Review Book is currently available in the shops in Birr. **Your support is greatly appreciated.**

St. Brendan's C.S. Christmas Market

Thursday, December 7th in B10 from 10am-3pm. Students from 1st, 2nd and TY will be selling an array of handmade crafts and baked goods.

Carrig & Riverstown GAA Club are holding a Timber Auction this Sunday Dec 3rd at 2pm in Carrig & Riverstown GAA grounds All support greatly appreciated

Please pray for the souls of
Frances Byron, Seffin

Josie Oakley, Shinrone mother of Geraldine O' Brien
Barney Moylan, Knocknahorna, Garbally & Birr Community Nursing Unit



Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

An Chéad Domhnach den Aidbhint

Inniu an chéad Domhnach den Aidbhint agus is féidir linn smaoiniamh air mar thréimhse fheithimh, fhaire, ullmhúcháin, solas a fheiceáil agus machnamh go ciúin ar an Té atá ag teacht. Tá bliain úr na hEaglaise ag tosú arís agus ár n-aird dírithe ar chomhlíonadh phlean Dé nuair a thiocfaidh a ríocht. Tréimhse cheithre seachtaine dhíreach roimh an Nollaig atá ann. Is séasúr é a chabhraíonn linn ullmhú mar is cóir don Fhéile Mhór. Réitítear agus beannaítear fleasc don Aidbhint an Domhnach seo. Tá nós na fleisce go forleathan ar fud na hEorpa leis na cianta. Déantar í as cuileann agus duilleoga síorghlasa i ríocht fáinne agus bíonn cúig choinneal uirthi, ceann do gach seachtain den Aidbhint agus ceann don Nollaig. Baineann an cruth ciorclach leis an tsíoraíocht toisc nach mbíonn tús ná deireadh leis. Lastar coinneal amháin gach Domhnach le linn an tséasúir. Le linn na hAidbhinte ba chóir dúinn iarracht a dhéanamh chun bealach an Tiarna a réiteach agus cúl a thabhairt dár bpeacaí ionas go mbeimid in ann fáilte a chur roimhe nuair a thiocfaidh Sé. **Guimis, A Dhia, a Athair uilechumhachtaigh, impímid ort as ucht do thrócaire, bí taobh linn i gcónaí le cabhair an Spioraid Naoimh. Go dtuga Féile tréimhse na hAidbhinte lúcháir, sonas agus síocháin dúinn féin, dár muintir agus don tír eile. Sin é ár nguí chugat trí Chríost ár dTiarna. Áiméan.**

First Sunday in Advent

Today is the first Sunday in Advent and we can reflect on it as a time of waiting, watching, preparation, light and quiet reflection on the Person who is to come. A new Liturgical year has begun and we reflect on the fulfilment of God's Plan, the coming of His kingdom. It is a period of four weeks prior to Christmas. It is a season which helps us to prepare for the great feast of Christmas. The Advent Wreath is prepared and blessed on the first Sunday of Advent. This is a long standing custom in Europe. beginning or end. One candle is lit for each Sunday in Advent. During Advent we ought to follow the way of the Lord and repent of our sins so that we can welcome Jesus when He comes. **We pray, Almighty God in your mercy, be with us always with the help of the Holy Spirit. May the season of Advent be a time of joy, happiness, peace for each of us, our people and the country. We make our prayer through Christ. Our Lord, Amen.**