

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757
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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. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Advent Week 2

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amt donated week ending 2/3rd December was **€2,115.50**

The December Priests Collection will be taken up at all masses next weekend **16/17th December**. We thank you most sincerely for your generosity to this collection

Tax Back Scheme

All who donate €250 or above and pay tax can avail of a tax back refund for the parish by signing the CHY3 form available from the Parish office you may signed up previously and it may need to be updated

Mass each week day morning @ 10am in St. Brendan's

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

Padre Pio Mass Thursday 14th @ 7.30pm

Birr Church Choir ALL are welcome to join in some Christmas music. Choir Practice for Christmas Eve Mass. **Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 20th & December in the Church at 8:00 p.m.**

Midland Living Links supporting those bereaved by suicide. Coffee Morning 12th December, Conference room in St. Brendan's Church after 10.00 a.m. mass. All welcome

The Rosary will be recited on Sunday morning in the **Church of the Annunciation Carrig** during Advent. All are welcome.

Christmas Market in Memory Lane Courtyard Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December 11am to 5pm both days. All welcome

Carrig & Riverstown Christmas Card Game 12th Dec @ 8pm . All welcome.

Sponsored by
Birr Town F.C

Remembered in Mass this Week

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 Carrig	9.30am	Vincent O' Brien, Tinnakelly (1st Ann) Matthew Gleeson, Lacka
Sun 10th	10.30am	Paddy, Mary & John Quigley, Cornmarket Street
Sun 10th	12noon	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
Mon 11th	10.00am	John & Annie Coolahan, their sons Michael, Pascal & Dan, daughter Anna & great-grandchildren Frederick, Dean & Mark
Tues 12th	10.00am	Conor McManus Deceased Eucharistic Adorers
Thurs 14th	7.30pm	Padre Pio Mass
Fri 15th	10.00am	Joseph Billane (1st Ann) Sally, Kathleen & Christy Cleary, Fotal
Sat 16th	7.30pm	Paddy Tully, Ely Place (1st Ann) his wife Jill & daughter Lorna Patrick (Paudge) O' Meara, Burkes Hill John Roe, Clonoghill John Hogan, Newbridge Street Annie & James Murtagh & Family
Sun 17th	8.30am	Patricia Shelly, Cornhill
Sun 17th Carrig	9.30am	Jack & Ciss Cashen, Ballykinash Rita O' Brien & her Grandson Rian Thomas O' Brien
Sun 17th	10.30am	Anne Mulvey, Hillside Jimmy & Frances Naughton William & Margaret Delaney & Son Joe, Glebe Street Michael O' Brien & Margaret, Glebe Street
Sun 17th	12 noon	Frances Hogan, Green Street (1st Ann) Peter Hynes Castle Gardens & his father Martin Tony Doran, Patrick, Ann, Anthony & Mary Maughan Thomas Feenane, his wife Mary Ellen and their sons Tom & Morgan

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

Bambinelli Sunday - 17th December

The 3rd Sunday of Advent has a beautiful tradition of the blessing of the Baby Jesus figure for the family crib. It was begun by the late Pope John Paul II. Families are asked to bring the statuette of Baby Jesus to church. We pray these images of Baby Jesus may be for all our families and friends who gather with us this Christmas, a sign of your presence and love.



Sacramental Masses

We welcome the children from **Killeen N.S &**



Parish Preparation Programme who will be participating in 7.30pm Mass, and **Carrig N.S.** who will be participating in 9.30am & **St. Brendan's P.S.** who will be participating in the 10.30am Mass

Primary Schools Board of Management

The present school BOM have completed their 4 year term and the new boards are in the process of taking on this role. We acknowledge the work that Board members have done over the past 4 years.

All voluntary and quietly in the Background. BOM is an essential role in the running of our Parish Primary Schools.

Mile Buíochas for what has been achieved and Beir Bua for the next 4 years of school life.

Please pray for the souls of

Vera McDonnell, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe, mother of the late Brenda Deegan, Military Road, Crinkle
Jan Borek, Poland, father of Katie Hryc, choir member, Macregol Park



Sr. Eileen - Cúinne Machnamh

Leagann an Eaglais an-bhéim ar, go bhfuil Críost i láthair ina bhriathar, mar is é Críost a labhraíonn gach uair a léitear an scríoptúr 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, intleachtach 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 bríonna 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.

Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,
 Master of both the light and the darkness,
 send your Holy Spirit
 upon our preparation for Christmas.

We who have so much to do
 seek quiet spaces
 to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious
 over many things
 look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed
 in so many ways long for
 the complete joy of your Kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy
 seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people,
 walking in darkness
 yet seeking the light.

To you we say
 "Come, Lord Jesus" Amen.

By Henri Nouwen