

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. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Advent Week 3

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 9/10th December was **€2,454.60**.

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

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - A sincere Thank You to all the people who supported so generously the recent SVP Annual Appeal. We are very grateful to those who, throughout the year, donated clothing and furniture. The society is very grateful to our many loyal customers. Wishing you a very happy Christmas.

Adoration will finish on Friday 22nd December and will resume on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Folk Choir Christmas Practise in Conference room @ 7.30pm Thursday 21st December. **New members welcome.**

The Christmas Family modern classic movie **ELF** is showing at Birr Theatre, Thursday 21 Dec 7pm. **The Unseen Universe**, titles our current exhibition where a group of local artists come together on Common Ground. Exhibiting until the end of January. All welcome. www.birrtheatre.com

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

MARTELLO TOWER POP-UP BOOKSHOP

Makes a seasonal return to Birr for nine days over this weekend and all next week up to and including Saturday 23rd December. The shop will be in Paul Barber's old shop on Main Street and opening hours are daily from 12 midday to 5.30 p.m. An extensive range of new and old local heritage titles, the shop will carry copies of a wide range of new books on Irish topics. Pictures and photographs of local interest will also be on sale. The bookshop is by James Scully & Sons Limited and works on a cash only basis but Revolut may be available. Enquiries to 085 710 7569

Busy Bodies Montessori School - Christmas Play Carrig Hall @ 3pm Sunday 17th Dec - No charge but all donations to North Tipperary Hospice

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 16th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 16th	7.30pm	Paddy Tully, Ely Place (1st Ann) his wife Jill & daughter Lorna Patrick (Paudge) O' Meara, Burkes Hill John Roe, Clonohill John Hogan, Newbridge Street Annie & James Murtagh & extended family
Sun 17th	8.30am	Patricia Shelly, Cornhill
Sun 17th	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 & Margaret O'Brien, Glebe Street Billy Joyce, Crinkle & the Tully Family
Sun 17th	12noon	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
Mon 18th	10.00am	Sean, John & Bridget Horan Anthony & Catherine Lawlor Mary & Frank Dunne Deceased members of the Heffernan families
Tues 19th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Wed 20th	10.00am	Charlie Brummell, Cappaneale
Thurs 21st	10.00am	Mary Tuohey Vincent Tuohey
Fri 22nd	10.00am	Michael McDonagh, Eden Road
Sat 23rd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 23rd	7.30pm	Jodie Donoghue, Drumbane & Deceased & members of the O' Donoghue families, Eden Road Sarah Nugent her father Paddy Nugent, Green Street
Sun 24th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 24th	9.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 24th	10.30am	John Touhey his partents Joanna & Patrick, brothers, sisters, nephew Tom McInerney Mick & Eileen O' Regan & deceased members of the O' Regan families
Sun 24th	12 noon	Margaret Mongan, her son in law Patrick Hutchinson, his wife Margaret & sons Patrick & Michael Margaret & Winne Mongan, their daughter Tina & son Anthony Hugh & Margaret Doyle, deceased members of the Doyle & Mongan families

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

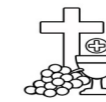
Sunday December 17th

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



Sacramental Masses

We welcome the children from **Mercy P.S.** who will be participating in 7.30pm Mass, and **& Crinkle N.S.** who will be participating in 10.30am Mass



The Annual Ecumenical Carol Service will be held in Birr Methodist Church, Emmett Street on Sunday 17th December @ 7.30pm. Funds raised by the Bikeathon will be awarded to various charities at the service. All welcome

Christmas Mass Times

St. Brendan's Church, Birr

Christmas Eve	Family Mass	6.00 p.m.
	Vigil Mass	9.00 p.m.
Christmas Day	8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12.00 Noon	

Church of the Annunciation, Carrig

Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass 7.30 p.m.
Christmas Day	Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Christmas Eve	Mass @ 6.30pm
The Pike/St. Patricks	Mass @ 6.30pm
Kinnitty/St. Flannans	Mass @ 8pm
Coolderry/St. Ita's	

Christmas Day	Mass @ 8.45am
Longford/ St. Finian	Mass @ 9.30am
Ballybrit/St. John the Baptist	Mass @ 10.30am
Roscomroe.St Molua's	Mass @ 11am
Kilcolman/St Coleman	Mass @ 11am
Shinrone /St. Mary's	Mass @ 11.30am
Cadamstown/St Luna's	

Please pray for the souls of

John Harte, Emmet Square & Moorpark Street
Nuala Maloney (nee) Windsor, England & Birr, sister of Phil Corcoran, Corwin Burkes Hill & Frances Smyth, Elm Park
Anthony Coughlan, England stepbrother of John Lynch, Elm Park
Helen Liffey, Kilkenny, daughter of Tess Liffey, Hillside



Búiochas & Comhghairdeas

This past week Fr. Antony bid farewell to the Parish of St Brendan Birr and to our Pastoral area. We are all the better because of Antony's Ministry and presence with us since September 2018. He has left us precious memories of his beautiful smile and warm personality. He touched the lives of the young and the young at heart. The deep faith & love of our Lady are the corner stones of his Spirituality. Our loss will be another parishes blessing - We wish him well for future days and thank him for his time and presence with us. Is Dia bheatha do shláinte agus síocháin gach lá. (May God give you health & peace always)

A Message from Fr. Antony

Thank you for your prayers & Support and the extraordinary Generosity. Sending you my warmest wishes and blessings. May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Jesus, the joy of the Angels, the eagerness of the Shepherds, the determination of the Wise men and the peace of the child Jesus. And may all the blessings of the Lord be yours at Christmas and in the New Year.

Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete!

Today is Gaudete Sunday or Joyful Sunday; the third Sunday in Advent when the rose colour of joy replaces the purple colour of repentance in the Advent Wreath and in the priest's vestments. We are more than halfway through Advent and we are invited to look forward joyfully to Christmas. The pink candle is lighted on the Advent Wreath. The change of colour reminds us to have courage and to continue our spiritual preparation especially by prayer and fasting. Saint John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord. Let him be an inspiration for us. He reminds us today that a light has come into the world. Christ is that light. **Lord, grant us strength and courage that we may always nurture in ourselves goodness and virtue. Amen**

Sponsored by Birr Town F.C