

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757
Website: www.stbrendansbirr.ie
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—057-9121757
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021
Fr. Arnold Rosney - 087-8598710

Advent Week 4

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 16/17th December was **€2,795.00**

We acknowledge the generosity of people who attended the **Ecumenical Carol service on December 17th** which was distributed to 4 charities. Mile Buíochas

Christmas Priests Collection was taken last weekend. A sincere thanks to all who contributed. If you were away you can place the envelope in the green box by the altar rails. We are very appreciative of your support during these difficult times.

This year's boxes containing the envelopes for the **Parish Development Fund, Priests' Collection** and other annual collections are now available for distribution. Distributors are asked to collect their boxes from the Conference Room after Mass. It must be noted that not every area has a distributor and some boxes will remain undistributed. If you do not receive a box and would like one, please contact the Parish Office.

GOAL Mile Birr - The annual GOAL Mile Birr will take place on Christmas Day at 1pm at Emmet Square to raise much needed funds for those most vulnerable around the world.

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

Eucharistic Ministers Rota are now available behind the altar for collection.

The Parish Office will re-open on Tuesday 2nd January 2023

Please Pray for the Souls of
James Hehir, The Terrace Crinkle
Helen Liffey, Camphill Community, Carrick-on-Suir daughter of Tess Liffey, Hillside
Ignatius O' Neill, Clareen
Winne Sheahan, Nenagh, mother of Elizabeth Maloney, Rock Lane



Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 23rd	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 23rd	7.30pm	Jodie Donoghue, Drumbane & deceased members of the O' Donoghue & Dwane families, Eden Road Sarah Nugent & her father Paddy Nugent, Green Street
Sun 24th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 24th	10.30am	John Touhey his parents Joanne & Patrick, brothers, sisters & nephew Tom McInerney Mick & Eileen O'Regan, Moorpark Street and deceased members of the O'Regan family Dan Boyd, Oxmantown Mall
Sun 24th	12noon	Margaret Mongan, her son in law Patrick Hutchinson, his wife Margaret & sons Patrick & Michael Martin & Winne Mongan, their daughter Tina & son Anthony Hugh & Margaret Doyle, deceased members of the Doyle & Mongan families
Sun 24th	6.00pm	Christmas Bouquet Intentions
Sun 24th	7.30pm	Christmas Bouquet Intentions Carrig
Sun 24th	9.00pm	Christmas Bouquet Intentions
Mon 25th	8.30am	Christmas Bouquet Intentions
Mon 25th	9.30am	Christmas Bouquet Intentions Carrig
Mon 25th	10.30am	Christmas Bouquet Intentions
Mon 25th	12 noon	Christmas Bouquet Intentions
Tues 26th	10.00am	Frances Byron, Seffin (MM)
Wed 27th	10.00am	Irena Budreviene, Macregol Pairc (1st Ann) Paddy & Sheila O'Callaghan, Moorpark Street
Thurs 28th	10.00am	John Gleeson, Green Street (1st Ann)
Fri 29th	10.00am	John Taaffe, Gurteen (1st Ann) Patricia Power & her husband Willie, Oxmantown Mall Michael Delaney, Burkes Hill
Sat 30th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 30th	7.30pm	Peter & Pauline O' Meara, Clonkelly
Sun 31st	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 31st	9.30am	Denis Byrne & Family, Tinnakelly Carrig
Sun 31st	10.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 31st	12 noon	Tom Duffy, Syngefield (1st Ann) Michael & Annie Duffy & daughter Teresa, Athlone Mour Badiane, Rosscahill, Galway & Birr

Christmas Appreciation

This year has almost come full circle and Christmas is upon us. It is an appropriate time to acknowledge goodness and blessings in our lives. We thank all who have actively participated in parish life: in the various masses and liturgies and the celebration of the Sacraments. Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and by music and singing, cleaning of our churches and the maintenance of church grounds, participating on school boards of management and parish committees.

We thank Margaret & Tom O' Brien sacristans in the Church of Annunciation Carrig and team of volunteers in St. Brendan's sacristy. We acknowledge those who open and close our churches.

We thank St. Brendan's Environmental Group under the guidance of Liam Moran for their work in the parish at Christmas time with the decoration of St. Brendan's and the erection of the crib. We acknowledge Mary Kinsella for the window decorations and we also thank Kathleen Gormley for her creative work with the crib in St. Brendan's. We acknowledge Eddie Doorley and team for the crib and figures in Carrig Church

We thank Carmel Campbell, Enda O'Connor, Rena Haverty, organists, Kathrena Ryan and Kieran Hoctor Birr Folk Choir. Gerry Dolan and Tommy Lyndon together with all who participate in both choirs as well as soloists.

We thank the young people from St. Brendan's pastoral area youth group for their involvement in parish life throughout the year.

We also thank Brian Kennedy, chairman of the Pastoral Council.

We acknowledge Sharon, our parish secretary, Joan, our sacramental co-ordinator and pastoral worker, Veronica Dalton Murray Pastoral worker and the teachers and staff of our schools. We thank you the parishioners for your continued financial support, your words of encouragement and for the living witness of your faith.

Fr. Tom & Fr. Antony.

Fr Arnold Rosney

Fr. Arnold Rosney has kindly agreed to the request from Bishop Fintan to provide pastoral assistance to the Brendan Pastoral area until the summer diocesan appointment. We are thankful to Fr. Arnold for his flexibility and willingness to help.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne An Nollag

Táimid ag tnúth go dílis le féile na Nollag, Breith ár dTiarna Beimid ag ceiliúradh le dícheall is le dúthracht ar an Luan seo chugainn. Tá na cártaí Nollag seolta na bronntanais dáilte agus is comharthaí grá iad seo go léir. Féile ghrá is ea an Nollaig. Ghráigh Dia chomh mór sin, sinne gur sheol Sé a Mhac chugainn mar Shlánaitheoir. Déanaimis ullmhúchán spioradálta as seo amach. Bhíodh an phaidir seo á rá i mBéarla ag ár sirsir mar ullmhúcháin do bhreith an Linbh Íosa. Seo leagan Gaeilge de:

Is beannaithe an nóiméad a rugadh Mac na hÓige, ag meán oíche i mBeithil i lár an gheimhridh ghairbh. Deonaigh a Dhia, trí idirghuí Íosa Críost agus Muire, Máthair Íosa, éist le mo ghuí agus glac le m'achainí. Áiméan

Tá an Cró Nollag againn le beagnach ocht gcéad bliain. Naomh Proinsias as Assisi san Iodáil a chuir tús leis an gCró Nollag san Eoraip. Sa bhliain 1220 thug sé cuairt ar Bheithil agus thaitin an tslí inar ceiliúradh an Nollaig ansin go mór leis. Nuair a d'fhill sé abhaile rinne sé mainséar as uaimh. Chuir sé íomhá chloiche den leanbh Íosa isteach inti agus chuir sé ainmhithe beo timpeall uirthi. Bhí na daoine an-sásta leis an gCró Nollag agus d'fhás an nós as sin.

Nollaig bheannaithe agus athbhliain faoi mhaise go raibh agaibh go léir agus is é seo mo ghuí daoibh: Síocháin an Naí Íosa a gealladh do lucht na dea-thola, go raibh ag lucht léite mo Chúinne Domhnach i ndiaidh Domhnaigh.

Christmas is near and we must prepare for it. We look forward with anticipation and excitement to the feast of Christmas, the Birth of our Lord and we will soon celebrate with effort and commitment on Monday. The cards have been sent and the presents distributed which are signs of love. God loved each of us so much that He sent His son into the world to be our Saviour. Let us prepare spiritually from now on. Friendship with Christ is the light that leads us in this world. This prayer was said by our ancestors in preparation for the birth of the Child Jesus. *Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born, of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my petition through the intercession of Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary His Mother. Amen.*

May you have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year. This is my wish for all who read the cúinne each Sunday. May peace of the Infant Jesus, promised to people of good will be with you all who read my Cúinne each Sunday.

Sponsored by Birr Town FC