

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. Arnold Rosney - 087-8598710
Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 3/4th February was **€2,516.30**

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

Direct Debit

If people wish, they can do so by lodging directly to the parish bank account.

BIC - BOFIE2D
IBAN - . IE40BOFI90167724940777

Padre Pio Mass - Thursday 15th February @ 7.30pm

Last 3 nights of cookery course in Carrig Hall Wednesday 21st, 28th February & 6th March from 7-9pm. All welcome

New Readers Rota

The new rota is available behind the altar. Readers are asked to please collect their copy. **Thank you for your continued great service to the Ministry of the Word, in St. Brendan's Church.**

Film@BirrTheatre press play on the hit movie Oppenheimer, Thurs 15 Feb 8pm. Portumna Players Present: Marrying Mike, Sat 17 Feb 8pm. **Booking Now Open for Birr Stage Guilds The Addams Family** – A New Musical Comedy, Tues 12 – Sat 16 March 8pm with matinee performance Sat 16, 2.30pm. www.birrtheatre.com

Offaly Archives & Birr History. An illustrated lecture by Michael Byrne, Secretary Offaly History & Orla Connaughton, Archivist. **Monday 12th February @ 8pm County Arms Hotel.** All are welcome.

Carrig Tidy Towns Group plan to hold their **AGM on Thursday 15th February 2024 in the Community Hall, Carrig at 8 p.m.** All are welcome and the Group would encourage anyone who is interested in getting involved to come along on the night. The Group had a successful year in 2023 having again increased their score in the National Tidy Towns Competition. Substantial plans are in place for 2024 subject to funding.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 10th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 10th	7.30pm	Dessie Kirwan, McAuley Drive (1st Ann) Bridget Reynolds, Grove Street Patrick Dwane, Eden Road Susie Pardy, Seffin
Sun 11th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 11th	9.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 11th	10.30am	Gerard Hart, Compton Row
Sun 11th	12noon	Patricia Mary Sammon, Leeds (MM) Wife of the late Paddy Sammon, Clonkelly Mary & Johnny Mann, New Road
Mon 12th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Tues 13th	10.00am	Baby Angel Kiely, Dublin (1st Ann)
Wed 14th	7.30am	Ash Wednesday
Wed 14th	10.00am	Ash Wednesday
Wed 14th	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday
Thurs 15th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Thurs 15th	7.30pm	Padre Pio
Fri 16th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 17th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 17th	7.30pm	Eoin Eastwood, Crinkle and his grandparents Jack & Bina Walsh Paddy & Margaret Kelly, Moorpark Street Louise O' Halloran, Fairview & Harrow Carmel & Joseph O' Hare Patrick & Mary P. Flynn
Sun 18th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 18th	9.30am	Bernadette Turner, Carrig (MM) Mary King, Killeen James, Mary Kate, Patrick & Kenneth Murphy
Sun 18th	10.30am	Mary Harty, Rath Michael Parnell, Killeen & his parents Mary & Edward Moira, Johnny, Harry & Larry Ryan
Sun 18th	12 noon	Jimmy Hogan, Green Street Michael de Forge, Moorpark Street & Deceased members of the de Forge family

Please pray for the souls of

Breda Hickey, Bandon, Cork, sister of Pat O' Gorman, Hillside
Brendan Naylor, Shepperton, England & Formerly High Street,
 brother of Dina & Ann Naylor, High Street



Sponsored by Anonymous



Sacramental Masses

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



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

Ash Wednesday - Lent

Wednesday next February 14th is Ash Wednesday the start of the joyful season of Lent. Ashes are blessed and distributed on this day @ **7.30am & 10am Mass in St. Brendan's** and at **7.30pm Mass in Carrig.**

Ashes will be available for people to take home and place on each other's foreheads reminding us of this special time (Lent) of blessing and renewal. Lent time is the 40 days before Easter, traditionally people have taken on a commitment or denied themselves of a luxury sweets/food/ alcohol etc. The prayer that accompanies the placing of the blessed ash "*turn away from sin and believe in the good news*"

St Valentine

Next Wednesday we celebrate the feast of St. Valentine, well known as the patron saint of lovers. He was reputed to have been a priest and physician who was martyred in or near Rome in the year 269 A.D.



One of the most important gift we can give to anyone is the gift of appreciation. Saying Thank You is eally easy and everyone loves to feel appreciated.

Eight Gifts that don't cost a cent.

The Gift of Listening: But you really must listen. Don't interrupt, don't plan your response. Just Listen.

The Gift of Affection: Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handholds.

The Gift of Laughter. Share jokes and funny stories. You are saying "I love to laugh with you".

The Gift of Solitude: There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of peace to each other.

The Gift of Favour: Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.

The Gift of a Written Note: This can be a simple "Thanks for the help." A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime.

The Gift of a Compliment: A simple and sincere "you look great in red" , "you did a super job" or "that was a great meal" can make someone's day.

The Gift of a Cheerful Disposition: The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone, or even just a smile.

Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

Naomh Vailintín

Beifear ag comóradh Naomh Vailintín ar Dé Céadaoin seo chugainn 14 Feabhra. Seolfar go leor cártaí Vailintín agus pléifear cúrsaí grá sa phobal agus sna meáin chumarsáide ach cérbh é Naomh Vailintín? Mairtíreach agus sagart ab ea é a cuireadh chun báis sa Róimh breis is 1,800 bliain ó shin toisc gur bheannaigh sé lánúineacha a bhí i ngrá. Ní raibh fonn ar na fir óga ag an am troid in Arm an Impire Rómhánaigh Claudius. Chuir Claudius an milleán ar na mná agus d'ordaigh sé gach pósadh agus gealltanais pósadh a chur ar ceal. Bhí an bás i ndán d' aon duine a chuirfeadh ina choinne. Níor aontaigh Vailintín le seo. Cuireadh i bpríosún é agus dícheannadh é sa Róimh 14 Feabhra 270 A.D. Sa bhliain 1835 thug John Spratt, sagart Chairmilteach cuairt ar an Róimh agus tháinig na sluaite amach chun é a chloisteáil ag soiscéalú. Mar chomhartha buíochais bhronn an Pápa Gréagóir XV1 taisí Naomh Vailintín air agus tá siad in Eaglais na gCairmilteach i Sráid na mBráithre Bána i mBaile Átha Cliath ó shin. Tugann lánúineacha cuairt ar an scrín chun a bheannacht a iarraidh ar a bpóstaí. Is é seo a leanas a deir Naomh Pól faoi ghrá: Bíonn an grá foighneach agus bíonn sé lách; ní bhíonn éad air; ní dhéanann sé maíomh ná mórtas; ní bhíonn sé mímhúinte ná leithleach, míchéadfach ná agrach. (1 Cor. 13: 4-5)

A Thiarna, líon sinn le do ghrá agus le do mhaitheas. Áiméan

St. Valentines

The Feast of St Valentine will be celebrated on Wednesday 14 February. Valentine cards will be sent and love matters discussed on the media. But who was St. Valentine? He was a priest martyred in Rome approximately 1,800 years ago because he blessed couples who were in love. Young men were reluctant to join the Roman Empire Army of Claudius. Claudius placed the blame for this on women. He forbade marriages and marriage engagements. Anybody who opposed him was put to death. Valentine did not agree with this. He was imprisoned and beheaded in Rome in February 270A.D. In 1835 an Irish Carmelite priest Fr. John Spratt visited Rome. Many came to hear him preaching. As a reward he received the relics of St. Valentine from Pope Gregory XVI and they are said to be in the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Whitefriar Street, Dublin ever since. Many couples visit his shrine to ask for a blessing on their marriage. St. Paul says: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others; it is not self-seeking. (1 Cor. 13: 4-5)

Lord, fill us with your love and your goodness. Amen