

BIRR PARISH

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

Psalter Week 3

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 6/7th April was **€2,275.50**

Trocaire Boxes people are asked to leave their Trocaire Boxes to the Parish Office or to the Sacristy before or after Mass. Thank you for your generosity.

Padre Pio Mass Thursday 18th April @ 7.30pm

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre welcome singer songwriter, Christine Tobin in **A Thousand Kisses Deep**, singing her own and Leonard Cohen songs with her own very special spin. Opening her show is local talent Luran Beth, singer songwriter and student Luran. One not to miss Sat 20 April 8pm. www.birrtheatre.com

Killaloe Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes Bishop Fintan will lead the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from Shannon Airport on Friday 21st June to Wednesday 26th June, costing €899 pps including flight, airport transfers, airport and sanctuary taxes, full board with three meals each day. For more info please contact Joe Walsh Tours 01-2410800 or email joewalshstours.ie There will be 24 places reserved for assisted pilgrims who will be cared for in the Accueil Norte Dame with medical and caring assistance. Cost 750euro. To reserve, please contact Fr Tom Ryan, Pilgrimage Director on 087 2349816

Carrig and Riverstown GAA Club are holding a Community Charity walk on Sunday 21st April @ 10.30am at the Club Grounds. All funds raised will go to local charities. Tea/Coffee and refreshments served afterwards. All support greatly appreciated.

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 26th May 2024. €849.00 pps. Price includes return Bus/Train, 5 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890236 or mail knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 13th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 13th	7.30pm	Barry Kelly, Woodlane (1st Ann) Patricia O'Donoghue, California & Moorpark St (1st Ann) Tony Fahey, Burke's Hill Jim & Lily Reid Kathleen Ryan, Emmet Street Margaret, Michael & John Molloy, Shinrone
Sun 14th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 14th	9.30am	Mary Gleeson, Lacka Carrig
Sun 14th	10.30am	Anne Dwyer, Hollypark, (MM) Brendan Nolan, Killyon
Sun 14th	12 noon	Phil McDowell, Mellsop Street (1st Ann) Kieran & Don Horan, Castle Street Bridie Smyth, Killeen
Mon 15th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Tues 16th	10.00am	Lucy Hogan, The Hogan & Guilfoyle Family
Wed 17th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Thurs 18th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Thurs 18th	7.30pm	Padre Pio Mass
Fri 19th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 20th	10.00am	Private Intentions
Sat 20th	7.30pm	James Donoghue, Bulfin Park Michael Ryan, Burkes Hill
Sun 21st	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 21st	9.30am	Kevin Deane, Clohaskin (MM)
Sun 21st	10.30am	John Kennedy, Cornmarket Street his son John & mother Mary Michael & Sadie Campbell & daughter Majella, Moorpark Street
Sun 21st	12 noon	Brendan Murphy, Syngesfield (1st Ann) James Martin Cappaneale James & Elizabeth Martin, Cappaneale

Please pray for the souls of

Michael Flanagan, Bulfin Park
Lisa Maughan, London & Dublin niece of Margaret Maughan, Mill Lane



I lit a candle for a friend today. The light from it to guide is way in to your arms sweet Jesus

Sponsored by Birr Town F.C

Confirmation Day

This weekend the sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 88 girls & boys from the sixth classes of our Parish schools. We congratulate the young people on this milestone in their young lives. We acknowledge the huge work in preparation made by the class teachers and school communities. We congratulate parents and families on this special day in the life of family. As a parish community we thank Joan Hogan Pastoral worker and sacramental co-ordinator for all the work and organisation over the year.

Easter Prayer

Breaking through the powers of darkness bursting from the stifling tomb he slipped into the graveyard garden to smell the blossomed air.

Tell them, Mary, Jesus said,
that I have journeyed far
into the darkest deeps I've been
in nights without a star.

Tell them Mary, Jesus said,
that fear will flee my light
that though the ground will tremble
and despair will stalk the earth
I hold them firmly by the hand
through terror to new birth.

Tell them, Mary, Jesus said,
the globe and all that's made
is clasped to God's great bosom
they must not be afraid
for though they fall and die, he said,
and the black earth wrap them tight
they will know the warmth
of God's healing hands
in the early morning light.

Tell them, Mary, Jesus said,
smelling the blossomed air,
tell my people to rise with me
to heal the Earth's despair.

Edwina Gateley

Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

An Tríú Domhnach den Cháisc.

Inniu an tríú Domhnach den Cháisc. Sa soiscéal feicimid an bheirt deisceabal ar an mbóthar go Emmaus ag cur fáilte roimh strainséir agus níor aithin siad gurbh é Íosa a bhí ann, go raibh sé ag an mbord leo, gur thóg Sé an t-arán, bheannaigh Sé é, bhris an t-arán agus thug dóibh é. Is minic nach n-aithnímidne Íosa inár saol. Bíonn Críost aiséirithe in éineacht linn de shíor. Ba cheart dúinn éisteacht go humhail lena bhriathar trí mheán na Scriptúir. Is féidir linn ceacht a fhoghlaim ó Cleophas agus a chompánach. Leag na Ceiltigh an-bhéim ar fháilte a chur roimh an strainséir ina saol laethúil. Is cuid dár n-oidhreacht é gur fiú machnamh air sa saol nua-aimseartha seo in Éirinn. Is féidir an phaidir seo a rá: ***A Íosa oscail cumhacht Do Bhriathar sna Scriptúir dúinn ar son ár leasa spioradálta.***

Third Sunday of Easter

Today is the third Sunday of Easter. In the gospel we see the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They welcomed a stranger, who questioned them about the topic they were discussing. They informed the stranger that the women had found the tomb empty and that an angel said that Jesus had risen. He explained the Scriptures to them concerning his own life. He was leaving but Cleophas invited him to stay at the table he took bread, blessed it and broke it and gave it to them and left. They recognised Jesus and said to one another "Did not our hearts burn as talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures. We often fail to recognise Jesus in our lives. The resurrected Christ is always with us. We should listen humbly to his word in the Scriptures. We can learn a lesson from Cleophas and his companion. They welcomed the stranger. The Celts placed great emphasis on welcoming the stranger into their daily lives. It is part of our heritage that is worth reflecting on in this modern world in Ireland.