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—087-6446410 Fr. Arnold Rosney - 087-8598710 Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

Psalter week 4

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 9/10th August was €2261.00

Heritage Week 16-24th August 2025

The Stained Glass Heritage of St. Brendan's R.C. Church, Birr Monday 18 August, 2:30pm - 3:30pm St. Brendan's R.C. Church Local Historian and author Brian Kennedy will give a guided tour of the historic stained glass windows of St. Brendan's R.C. Church, Birr. The windows include examples of the work of noted designers A.W.G. Pugin, Richard King, Patrick Pollen, Michael Dunne, Hardman's of Birmingham and Earley and Powell. The Pugin sanctuary window is the oldest stained glass window in Killaloe Diocese dating from 1842. All are welcome to this free event.

Comhghairdeas

Congratulations to the Offaly Intermediate camogie panel on their great win last weekend in the All Ireland Final acknowledging their mentors and families and our local representation from Birr Camogie Club & St. Cillians. Kate Pilkington, Roisin Kinsella, Ellen Regan, Hannah Feenane, Faye Mulrooney, Aoife Hoctor, Aoife & Caoimhe O'Donovan, Megan King & Cathy Fogarty.

Comhghairdeas

Congratulations to our very talented dancers Eimear Teehan, Tara Seguin, Grainne Nolan, Sarah Cooke, Kathy Dermody, Aoife Maher, Aoife Gilligan and Amy Ryan winning the Senior Ladies 8 and Ceilí and the Senior 4 hand Ceilí at the weekend in Wexford All Ireland Fleadh.

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 16th	10am	Hugh Doyle, Croghan Road
Sat 16th	7.30pm	Frank Watkins, Meadowbrook, (MM) Liam Hayes, Ballinree, Crinkill (MM) James & Frances Hayes, Crinkill
		Bina & Jack Walsh & grandson Eoin Eastwood Bridget Parkinson, The Terrace, Crinkill Kevin Pardy, High Street
Sun 17th	8.30am	Paddy & Nancy Walshe, New Road Private Intentions
Sun 17th Carrig	9.30am	Sean Oakley, Ballagh, Carrig (1st Ann)
Sun 17th	10.30am	Fiona Guinan, Whiteford and her parents Michael & Mary Hogan Thomas & Maureen Loonam, Annagh, Birr
Sun 17th	12noon	Mary McCarthy, England (1st Ann) Joe Conroy, Woodfield, Birr Bernadette Lally, McAuley Drive,
Mon 18th	10am	Ann Curtis, Blackburn England
Tues 19th	10am	Paddy & Pat Murphy, Military Road Margaret & Willie Hanlon, Presentation Place and all deceased members of the Hanlon family
Wed 20th	10am	Corcoran Family, Blackburn & Birr
Thurs21st	10am	Private Intentions
Thurs 21st	7.30pm	Padre Pio Mass
Fri 22nd	10am	Private Intentions
Sat 23rd	10am	Denise Revill, Westgate (1st Ann) Michael Feehan, Syngefield
Sat 23rd	7.30pm	Patrick Donoghue, Bulfin Park & Ballymun, Dublin William & Catherine Delaney, Miletree & daughter Kathleen & son Billy & son in law John Hardman
Sun 24th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 24th	9.30am	Noel Houlihan, Faddenmore
Sun 24th	10.30am	Dan Coolahan, Cornmarket Street Apartments, Birr
Sun 24th	12noon	Brendan Larkin, Burkes Hill (MM) John McDonald, Woodlands (1st Ann)

Please pray for the souls of



Blackberry Picking



Late August, given heavy rain and sun For a full week, the blackberries would ripen. At first, just one, a glossy purple clot Among others, red, green, hard as a knot. You ate that first one and its flesh was sweet Like thickened wine: summer's blood was in it Leaving stains upon the tongue and lust for Picking. Then red ones inked up and that hunger Sent us out with milk cans, pea tins, jam-pots.

Where briars scratched and wet grass bleached our boots.

Round hayfields, cornfields and potato-drills We trekked and picked until the cans were full Until the tinkling bottom had been covered With green ones, and on top big dark blobs burned Like a plate of eyes. Our hands were peppered With thorn pricks, our palms sticky as Bluebeard's.

We hoarded the fresh berries in the byre.
But when the bath was filled we found a fur,
A rat-grey fungus, glutting on our cache.
The juice was stinking too. Once off the bush
The fruit fermented, the sweet flesh would turn
sour. I always felt like crying. It wasn't fair
That all the lovely canfuls smelt of rot.
Each year I hoped they'd keep, knew they would
not.

Seamus Heaney

Carlos Acutis

In September the church will canonise Carlo Acutis an Italian teenager who died in 2006. He was a gamer and a computer programmer who loved the Eucharist and will be the first millennial Saint. Carlo was born on May 3rd 1991 in London. His family returned to Milan. Carlo had a special love for God though his parents were not especially devout. After his first Communion he went to Mass as often as possible, his witness to faith led adults to conversion and baptism. When Carlo became a teenager he volunteered to help the poor at the Capuchin day centre and hostel, he also helped Mother Teresa's sister of charity in their work. Carlo was fifteen when he was struck with virulent and fatal form of Leukaemia. In less than two weeks he died. On Sunday September 7th 2025 he will be canonised a Saint. A Saint inspires us to become the best version of ourselves. Carlo is the first new Saint of this millennium a teenage Saint.

Sr. Eileen - Cúinne Beannachtaí

Tá go leor beannachtaí le fáil sa Ghaeilge. Sa traidisiún bhí paidir ann do gach ócáid agus do gach gné den saol. Seo paidir le rá agus tú ag dul amach ag taistil.

Gur ar choimrí Dé agus na Maighdine Muire tú. Naomh Iósaef, Mac Duach agus Mac Dara agus Naomh Peadar do do thabhairt abhaile slán. Áiméan.

In the Irish language there were prayers for every occasion and for all aspects of life. This is a prayer for a safe journey.

May God and the Virgin Mary protect you. Saint Joseph, Macduach, Macdara and Saint Peter bring you home safely. Amen

Beannú na gCéadfaithe, Naomh Fursa atá againn ón seachtú haois déag.

Go raibh cuing reachta Dé ar an ngualainn seo, Go raibh fiosrú an Spioraid Naoimh ar an gceann seo, Go raibh comhartha Chríost san éadan seo, Go raibh éisteacht an Spioraid Naoimh sna cluasa seo, Go raibh boltanú an Spioraid Naoimh sa tsrón seo,

Go raibh amharc mhuintir neimhe sa bhéal seo, Go raibh obair eaglais Dé sna lámha seo, Go raibh leas Dé agus na gcomharsan sna cosa seo, Agus gura le Dia, Athair uile, an duine seo. Áiméan

Blessing for Understanding and Perception of Saint Fursey

The arms of God around my shoulders, The touch of the Holy Spirit upon my head, The sign of Christ's cross upon my forehead,

The sound of the Holy Spirit in my ears, The fragrance of the Holy Spirit in my nostrils,

The vision of heaven's company in my eyes,

The conversation of heaven's company on my lips,

The work of God's Church in my hands, The service of God and neighbour in my feet.

A home for God in my heart, And to God, the Father of all, my entire being, Amen

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