

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 1

Parish Finances
We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 16/17th August was €2,553.00

Congratulations to all Leaving Cert students on receiving their results last Friday. We wish you every blessing and best wishes for the next stage of your life.

Did you know that the Social Prescribing is a free HSE-supported service that helps people connect with their community to improve well-being? Derbhla will be in Birr Library on Wednesday 27th August between 2pm and 3pm for anyone who would like to drop in to hear more about the service and connect with groups and activities in the community.
Drop in for a chat or you can also contact Derbhla on 0877002521 or dodonnell@offalyldc.ie for more info.

A Prayer for peace in Israel and Gaza

Sunday 24th August is designated as a day of prayer for Gaza. On this day you are asked to light a candle in your family home or Church, attend Mass, spend time before the Blessed Sacrament, pray the Rosary, and make some small personal penance or sacrifice. And, on the day, let the Light of Hope radiate our from the island of Ireland for peace, for Gaza and for the future of its people.

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Heavenly Father, we pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Gaza and Israel. We pray especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies. Strengthen and support the work of all relief organisations. We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness. Lord hear us as we pray in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

| Remembered in Mass this Week |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 23rd                     | 10am    | <b>Denise Revill, Westgate (1st Ann)</b><br>Michael Feehan, Syngefield                                                                                                                                                   |
| Sat 23rd                     | 7.30pm  | Patrick Donoghue, Bulfin Park & Ballymun, Dublin<br>William & Catherine Delaney, Miletree & daughter Kathleen & son Billy & son in law John Hardman<br>Johnny & Mary Mann, Pound Street                                  |
| 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  | <b>Brendan Larkin, Burkes Hill (MM)</b><br><b>John McDonnell, Woodlands (1st Ann)</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| Mon 25th                     | 10am    | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Tues 26th                    | 10am    | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wed 27th                     | 10am    | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Thur 28th                    | 10am    | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Fri 29th                     | 10am    | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Sat 30th                     | 10am    | Reetha Devassy, India                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sat 30th                     | 7.30pm  | <b>Kathleen Kearney, Grove St, Crinkill (MM)</b><br>Kathleen Donoghue & sons Jimmy & Brendan, McAuley Drive<br>Cella Errity, Clonkelly & deceased members of the Errity & McGuinness Families<br>Nigel Wrafter, New Road |
| Sun 31st                     | 8.30am  | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Sun 31st                     | 9.30am  | Private Intentions                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Sun 31st                     | 10.30am | Tom & Nancy Talbot, Seffin<br>Noel & Maureen Reedy, John's Mall                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sun 31st                     | 12noon  | Johnny Hogan, Clonoghill Lower<br>Paddy Mulrooney, Clonoghill Lower<br>Jacqueline Quealy, Hillside<br>Eamon Hensey, Cappaneale<br>Peter & Nora Costello, Sharavogue                                                      |

**Please pray for the souls of**

**Fionnbar Gerard Stephen (Barry) Joyce**,  
Birmingham & Market Square, Birr

**Anne Mahon**, Bunclody, Wexford, Mother of Siobhan  
Carey, Barroncourt & Birr Community Hospital

## First Day of School

I wonder what you're doing now  
And if everyone is treating you kind,  
I hope there is a special person,  
A nice friend that you can find.  
I wonder if the teacher knows  
How special you are to me  
And if the brightness of your heart  
Is something the teacher can see?  
I wonder if you think of me  
And if you need a hug.  
I already miss the sound of your voice  
And when you give my leg a tug.  
I wonder if you understand  
My joy at seeing you grow,  
And on this day, know my heart breaks. As out  
in the world, I'm letting you go!

**Schools re-open this week. Good luck to all students in our parish schools as they return this week! We wish every blessing on children beginning school for the very first time.**

## Blessed Carlo Acutis

The Brendan Pastoral Area (parishes of Birr, Kilcolman, Kinnitty & Shinrone) warmly invites all parishioners and the wider community to a special Celebration of the Eucharist in honour of the canonisation of 15 year old Blessed Carlo Acutis,

**Venue: St Brendan's Church, Birr**  
**Date: Saturday 6th September**  
**Time: 7.30pm**

This will be joyful celebration with participation from the Brendan Pastoral Area Youth Group and the Brendan Pastoral Area Choir

Carlo was a normal teenager who loved hanging out with his friends who also had a deep relationship with the Lord with particular devotion to the Eucharist and Our Lady. Carlo was a computer genius who used his talents to create a website showing all the miracles that occurred through the Eucharist. As least two miracles have been attributed to Carlo since his death.

Fifteen year old, Blessed Carlo Acutis will be canonised on the 7th September 2025 by Pope Leo XIV in Rome.

## Sr. Eileen - Cúinne Machnamh

Leagann an Eaglais an-bhéim ar, go bhfuil Críost i láthair ina bhriathar, mar is é Críost a labhraíonn gach uair a léitear an scríoptúr sa liotúirge. Tugann léacht an Bhíobla an sean agus an nua le chéile dúinn, an bhrí ba chiall leis céadair agus faoi mar is féidir é, sin a chur in oiriúint do thoscaí an lae inniu, nó fiú do cheisteanna fós le teacht. Ní teagmháil aigne, intleachtach lom amháin atá anseo, mar tá Críost i láthair lena Spiorad, lena ghrásta. Agus, ar ndóigh, tá sé i láthair i modh faoi leith san Eocairist, i mbriseadh an aráin, gníomh a thugann chun cuimhne dúinn na bríonna iomadúla a bhí le briseadh an aráin d' Íosa féin lena bheatha agus tar éis aiséirí dó.

## Reflection

The Church places great emphasis on the presence of Christ in his word, as it is Christ who speaks every time scripture is read in the liturgy. The Bible reading brings us together the old and the new, the meaning it meant for the first time and how this can be adapted to today's circumstances, or even your questions are still to come. This is not just a touch of mind, a bare intellectual, because Christ is present with his Spirit, with his grace.

And, of course, He is present in a particular way in the Eucharist, in the breaking of the bread, an act that reminds us of the many meanings of break the bread for Jesus himself with his life and after your resurrection.

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