

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish House: 057 9121757
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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 2

Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 21/22nd March was **€2,309.00.**

Easter Mass Bouquets now available from the Parish office contribution of €5.00. Thank you

A Tap and Donate machine is now at the Church's main entrance for card donations. Simply tap to choose your fund—Parish Fund, Priests Fund, or Adorations and Shrines Fund. Select your amount, present your card, and wait for confirmation.

On behalf of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary they wish to thank everyone who donated so generously at last weekend Masses (Carrig & St. Brendan's) the total amount raised was €6,055.11.

Adoration will finish on Wednesday 1st April and resume on Tuesday 7th April.

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.

Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday April 1st in Sts. Peter & Paul Cathedral Ennis, Co. Clare @ 7.30pm. Bishop Fintan has issued an open invitation to all.

Midland Language Centre is currently looking for host families in County Offaly for international students who will be attending local secondary schools for the 2026/27 academic year. **Earn €880 per month** – We are expanding across County Offaly and are looking for warm, welcoming families to host international students for the 2026/27 academic year. Hosting an international student is a rewarding experience and offers families the opportunity to welcome a young person into their home while providing them with support during their time studying locally. For more info, please text Sophie 087 310 5192.

Sponsored by Anonymous

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 28th	10am	Private Intentions
Sat 28th	7.30pm	Michael Flanagan, Bulfin Park Herbert Hennessy, Seffin & his parents Willie & Kathleen Thomas & Roseanne O'Brien, Aharney, Tullamore
Sun 29th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 29th	9.30am	Private Intentions Carrig
Sun 29th	10.30am	Bernie Bracken, Castletown, Fortal (1st Ann) John & Kathleen Kinnarney, Freagh, Kilcormac
Sun 29th	12noon	Private Intentions
Mon 30th	10am	Private Intentions
Tues 31st	10am	Private Intentions
Wed 1st	10am	Spy Wednesday
Thurs 2nd	10am	(Holy Thursday) Morning Prayer
Thurs 2nd	8.00pm	The Lord's Supper followed by Exposition & Night Prayer
Fri 3rd	10am	Morning Prayer
Fri 3rd	12noon	Stations of the Cross
Fri 3rd	3.00pm	Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord
Sat 4th	10am	Morning Prayer & Blessing of Food
Sat 4th	9.00pm	Easter Vigil
Sun 5th	8.30am	Easter Mass Bouquets
Sun 5th	9.30am	Easter Mass Bouquets
Sun 5th	10.30am	Easter Mass Bouquets
Sun 5th	12noon	Easter Mass Bouquets

Please pray for the souls of

Elizabeth Kennedy (née) McCormack, Lacka, Carrig, Birr
Chrissie O'Dwyer, Cashel, Tipperary, mother of Kathleen McDonnell, Cree
William Hegarty, New Jersey & late of Mill Street, Birr, brother of the late James Hegarty, Cappaneale, Birr



Easter Priests Collection will be taken up at all masses this weekend 28/29th March. We thank you most sincerely for your generosity to this collection.

Easter Ceremonies

Holy Thursday Morning Prayer 10.00 a.m.

Carrig Our Lord's Supper 7.30 p.m.

Birr Our Lord's Supper 8.00 p.m.

Exposition 9.00 p.m.

Night Prayer 9.45 p.m.

Good Friday Morning Prayer 10.00 a.m.

Birr Stations of the Cross 12 noon

Good Friday - Christians Together

Meeting at the Foot of the Cross

Emmett Square March 29th @ 2.00pm

Led by Canon Arthur Minnion, Rev. Nigel Gill, Fr. Tom

Birr Passion of the Lord 3.00 p.m.

Holy Saturday Morning Prayer & Blessing of Food 10.00 a.m.

Birr Reconciliation 10.30 - 12 noon

Birr Easter Vigil 9.00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Dawn Mass 6.00 a.m.

Kilcomman Graveyard Shinrone & Kinnitty

Normal Sunday Mass Times

Divine Mercy Sunday April 12th

Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2.45pm followed by Mass at 3.00pm. Novena of the Divine Mercy beginning on Good Friday and finishes on April 12th

Good Friday Reflection

They arrived at the appointed place where He who bore all crosses stood, welcoming saint and sinner with open arms. He lifted the burden from each one's shoulder and placed it in a circle around the Cross, which He for us had borne. They sat around in silence, and as his gaze looked with love into each heart they knew instinctively that He knew and understood the weight and burden of the cross they carried. He spoke in tongues but no sound came, yet each one heard his words within the heart, which changed the weight and texture of the cross they carried. He then raised his hands and gave a blessing and then He gave a strange direction and a choice. Whoever wished could exchange their cross for his, or for the cross of those who had caused them pain, or they could embrace their own, now transformed with compassionate love. And if they were to travel further with him in the peace and joy they now experienced, they must allow his compassion to flow, which forgave the other and sought forgiveness for themselves. Strange as it may seem none of them exchanged their crosses of this and few if any took the crosses of this and few if any took the crosses of their afflictors. Those who did left them down again for they realised that they were very heavy, that their own crosses fitted their own shoulder best for the rest of their journey home.

Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

Domhnach na Pailme / Domhnach na Páise

Cuireann Domhnach na Pailme tús leis an tSeachtain Mhór san Eaglais mar atá Domhnach na Pailme, Céadaoin an Bhraith, Déardaoin Mandála, Aoine an Chéasta agus an Satharn Naofa. Le linn na seachtaine seo, tugtar cuireadh dúinn ár gcroí agus ár n-intinn a oscailt agus fáilte a chur roimh Chríost inár saol. An Domhnach seo táimid ag díriú ar Pháis ár dTiarna Íosa Críost. I Soiscéal an lae inniu feicimid Íosa ar mhuintir asail. Tá na sluaite timpeall air á leanúint ar a bhealach go Cathair Iarúsailéim. Bhí pailmeacha móra ina lámha acu agus iad ag screadach, ag béiceadh agus ag canadh "Is beannaithe an té atá ag teacht in ainm an Tiarna. Hósanna sna hArda". Is mar sin a léirigh siad ómós Dó. Theastaigh ón slua rí a dhéanamh de. A mhalairt ar fad a bheadh le cloisteáil roimh dheireadh na seachtaine nuair a bheadh an daoscarshlua ag béiceadh, 'Céastar É'. 'Céastar É'. Ghlac Íosa ár gcuid peacaí air féin sa Pháis agus léirigh Sé a ghrá dúinn ar Chalvarie. Is féidir an phaidir seo a rá i rith na Seachtaine Móire: *Le Bás na Croise cheannaigh tú sliocht míhortúnach Éabha. Ó shin anuas is beannaithe an comhartha seo dár naomhú. Áiméan. (Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais.)*

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week which includes Spy Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. During this week we are invited to open our hearts and minds and welcome Christ in our lives. This Sunday we focus on the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. In today's Gospel hear that Jesus is riding a donkey. The crowds around him follow him on his way to Jerusalem. They carried large palms while shouting and singing "Hosanna, Hosanna" In this way they showed him homage. They wanted to make him king. But before the end of the week many were shouting, 'Crucify Him'. 'Crucify Him'. Jesus took our sins unto Himself and showed His love for us on Calvary. *We can say this prayer during Holy Week: By your Death on the Cross, you redeemed the unfortunate children of Eve. Blessed ever since is the sign of our sanctification. Amen.*