

## 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.

### Psalter week 1

#### Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 25/26 April was **€2657.00**

**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.

**Legion of Mary in the Parochial Basement every Wednesday @ 7.30pm.**

**Lough Derg Pilgrimage - 3 day pilgrimage June 29th, 30th & 1st July.** Bus leaving from Lidl Carpark if interested please contact the parish office 05791-22028

**Birr Flower & Garden Club** will meet in the County Arms Hotel Birr on Tuesday May 5th @ 8pm. Our speaker Marie Staunton, horticulturist and author, will speak about propagating and developing your garden. Club plant sale @ 7.15pm. All welcome. Non-members €10, raffle tickets €5.

**Midland Living Links** supporting those bereaved by suicide. Coffee Morning **Tuesday May 5th**, Conference room in St. Brendan's Church after 10.00 a.m. mass. All welcome

**Alzheimer Day Centre, Johns Terrace, Birr Thursday May 7th 2026 from 2-4pm. All support greatly appreciated.**

#### BIRR FESTIVAL OF MUSIC 2026

May Bank Holiday Weekend 1 -4 May  
A host of Concerts, Recitals, Pop-Up events, in Theatre, Churches, Cafes, Courtyards, Castles & Gardens throughout Birr and region. Featuring The Niall Kinsella Orchestra, Ensembles, Trios, The Trench Award, Music for schools, and more. The Festival's 10th Anniversary year bringing National, International and Musicians of the Future to Birr. See birrfestivalofmusic.com for full programme and tickets. Box Office (057)9122911

**Shinrone Lunch Club**, in conjunction with Offaly Local Development, is hosting a **Lunch Club on Tuesday, 5th May at 12:30pm in Shinrone Community Centre.** For just **€10 per person**, you can enjoy: a delicious **Dinner, Dessert, Tea/ Coffee, Great entertainment.** Lovely company with friends and neighbours. **Booking is essential.** To reserve your place, please contact:  
**Sinead:** 087 217 5998 or **Declan:** 087 979 9663.

## Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 2nd	10am	<b>Bridget McDonagh, Cuba Avenue, Banagher (1st Ann)</b>
Sat 2nd	7.30pm	<b>Pearl Parsons, Bulfin Park (MM) &amp; her husband Tommy Mick &amp; Mary Hogan, Crinkill</b>
Sun 3rd	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 3rd	9.30am	Mark Smyth, Tinklough, Carrig
Sun 3rd	10.30am	Paddy Molloy, Burkes Hill Stan Hayes, High Street
Sun 3rd	12noon	<b>Gerry Corcoran, Burkes Hill (1st Ann)</b> Tony McLoughlin, Main Street, Birr & his parents Patrick & Eileen McLoughlin Jack & Lily Harte, Main Street, Birr
Mon 4th	10am	Private Intentions
Tues 5th	10am	Stephen McTiernan, Leitrim & Melbourne Guinan Family, Golf Links, Birr
Wed 6th	10am	Private Intentions
Thur 7th	10am	Private Intentions
Fri 8th	10am	John Gormley, Woodlands Park
Sat 9th	10am	Winifred, Thomas & John Kinsella, High Street
Sat 9th	11am	<b>First Holy Communion Ceremony Crinkill N.S. Killeen N.S. &amp; Parish Preparation Programme</b>
Sat 9th	7.30pm	<b>Brendan Kelly, London (MM)</b> his sister Anne Coleman, Hawthorn Drive, Crinkill & brothers Jack Kelly, Tipperary & Cyril Kelly, Liverpool Tim Hutchinson Joe & Sally Kennedy, Elm Park Sean & Frances Hogan & daughter Catherine O'Rourke
Sun 10th	8.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 10th	9.30am	Aidan King, The Gables, Riverstown
Sun 10th	10.30am	<b>Séan Plunkett, High Street (MM)</b> <b>Gary Ward, Banagher &amp; Scurragh (MM)</b> Donald & Margie Brady, Killeen
Sun 10th	12noon	Martin Hynes & his son Peter, Castle Gardens Paddy Kearns, Military Road, Crinkill

**Pastoral Council Meeting will take place in the Conference Room on Thursday 7th May @ 8 p.m. Hope to see you there.**

## First Holy Communion

Please keep all the young people in your prayers as they prepare for the next milestone in their faith journey.



## First Holy Communion Ceremonies 11.00am

**Saturday 9th May** - Crinkill N.S., Killeen N.S. & Parish Preparation Programme

**Saturday 16th May** - St. Brendan's P.S & Mercy P.S

**Sunday 17th May** - Carrig N.S.  
(In Carrig Church @ 9.30am)

## Queen of the May

Bring flowers of the rarest  
Bring flowers the fairest,  
From garden and woodland  
and hillside and dale;  
Our full hearts are swelling,  
Our glad voices telling  
The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

Refrain: O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today!  
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.

O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,  
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.

Their lady they name thee, their mistress proclaim thee.  
Oh, grant that thy children on earth be as true;  
as long as the bowers are radiant with flowers  
as long as the azure shall keep its bright hue.

Sing gaily in chorus, the bright angels o'er us  
re-echo the strains we begin upon earth;  
their harps are repeating the notes of our greeting,  
for mary herself is the cause of our mirth.

### Please pray for the souls of

**Sarah Deirdre (Der) Garahy**, London & Fortal, Birr  
**Seamus Murphy Roan**, Terryglass, father of Sharon Duff staff of Birr Community Nursing Unit  
**John O'Rourke**, Killucan, Mullingar & New York, husband of Assumpta McEvoy, Derrinlough & brother of Hugh O'Rourke, Riverstown  
**Ann Rafferty**, Ballingarry, Roscrea, Grandmother of John Rafferty, Carrig  
**Esther Nolan**, Roscrea, mother of Monica Wrafter, Woodlane, Birr

## Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

### Mí na Bealtaine

Tá Mí Bhealtaine thar tairseach isteach chugainn. Bhí bliain na gCeilteach roinnte ina dhá leath, an dorchadas agus an loinnir. Chuir Samhain tús le tréimhse an dorchadais. Ba í Bealtaine tús séasúr an tsolais. Cuirimis fáilte roimh mhí na Bealtaine, tús an tSamhraidh. Tá an chuach agus na fáinleoga tagtha chugainn aneas ó na tíortha ina mbíonn sé ina shamhradh i gcónaí. Tá na crothaigh eanaigh ag glacadh sosa sa tír agus iad ar a mbealach ón Iodáil go dtí an Íoslainn. Bhain siad ceann scríbe amach gan compás ná satloingseoir. Go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís

Tá an mhí seo tiomnaithe don Mhaighdean Mhuire. Bhí muintir na hÉireann an-ómósach do Mhuire i gcónaí. Tá nós ag daoine altóir a chruthú ina dtithe in onóir na Maighdine Muire a rith Mí na Bealtaine agus an Choróin Mhuire a rá gach lá. Tá an nós seo beo fós i roinnt mhaith scoileanna. Ba mhaith an rud iad a choimeád inniu agus sinn ag guí.

**A Mhuire na ngrást, a mháthair Mhí Dé, Go dtreoraí tú mise go deireadh mo ré. Tabhair cuidiú is cabhair dom in aghaidh cathú an tsaoil, Agus tabhair mé i gcónaí leat saor as gach baol. Áiméan**

## The Month of May

May has come. The Celtic year was divided into two halves, the dark and the light. Samhain was the beginning of the dark half and Bealtaine the beginning of the light half. We welcome the month of May, the beginning of Summer. The cuckoo and the swallows have arrived from the sunny southern lands without the aid of compass or satellite navigation to guide them. May we live to see this time next year.

This month is dedicated to Our Lady. Irish people had great respect always for Our Lady. It is still a custom to have a May altar in homes and recite the rosary daily during the month of May. This custom is kept in many schools. It is good to continue such customs. **Gracious Mary, mother of God guide me throughout my life, and support me against sorrows and temptations. Deliver me from all evil. Amen.**

**Sponsored by T.P Sullivan Haulage**