

## BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish Mobile: 086 3531955

Website: www.stbrendansbirr.ie

Email: info@stbrendansbirr.ie

Priest on Duty - Please call Parish Mobile - 086 3531955

Parish Office Opening Hours

Monday - Saturday (excluding Wednesday)  
9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Fr. Tom Hogan—057-9121757

Fr. Michael Reddan—057-9122470

Fr. Pat Gilbert—057-9122470

Fr. Antony Sajeesh - 057-9122470

Fr. Kieran Blake, Kilcolman - 057-9120812

Fr. Michael O'Meara, Kinnitty - 057-9137021

### Brendan Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

**St. Brendan's, Birr** - Saturday 7.30 p.m.,  
Sunday 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon  
**Church of the Annunciation, Carrig** -  
Sunday 9.30 a.m.

**St. Mary's, Shinrone** - Sunday 11.00 a.m.

**St. Patrick's, The Pike** - Saturday 6.45 p.m.

**St. Colman's, Kilcolman** - Sunday 11.00 a.m.

**St. Ita's, Coolderry** - Saturday 8.00 p.m.

**St. John's Ballybritt** - Sunday 9.30 a.m.

- Alternate Sunday

**St. Molua's, Roscomroe** - Sunday 9.30 a.m.

- Alternate Sunday

**St. Finian Cam, Longford** - Sunday 9.30 a.m.

**St. Flannan's, Kinnitty** - Sunday 11.30 a.m.

**St. Lugna's, Cadamstown** - Saturday 8.00 p.m.

**Annual GOAL Mile** - Please support the Annual GOAL Mile Birr on Christmas Day at 1pm (sharp) and help those that need it most. GOAL do the most amazing work, delivering humanitarian and development programmes throughout the world. Run, Walk, Support. Enjoy the Mile!

**Lourdes 2020** - The 64th Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday **26th June to Wednesday 1st July**; €725 full board with €20 discount for online booking to: joewalshstours.ie The gift of a Pilgrimage to Lourdes for a family member this Christmas is often the solution for family members wondering what might be a suitable gift for their parents, family member or friend.

**FEMPOWER** – an intensive eight week training programme empowering women to return to the workforce. Starting in Birr in January 2020, this free programme, delivered by Offaly Local Development Company, aims to upskill women in areas necessary for employment. Topics covered include communication skills, time management, presentation skills, cv and interview preparation and work placement. For more information, or to get your registration form, contact Catherine on 087 280 2919 or Louise on 087 692 5276.

Sponsored By

# Birr Town F. C.

### Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 21st	7.30 p.m.	Lizzy Kelly (MM) Bessie Loughnane (MM) Jody Donoghue & Daly family Mary Tuohy James Quinn Seamus, Willie Joe & Maureen Mahon & Mahon family
Sun 22nd	10.30 a.m.	Joe Daly (MM) Sheeran family, William Street Aherne & Dunne families, Townsend Street Billy Joyce
	12 noon	John Roe Mick & Eileen O'Regan & O'Regn family Sean, John & Bridget Horan Catherine & Anthony Lawlor Mary & Frank Dunne William & Annie Keenahan John Lawlor Michael Heffernan Lawlor & Heffernan families Noel, Joan & Coleman Corboy
Carrig	9.300 a.m.	Jack & Ciss Cashen
Mon 23rd	10.00 a.m.	Paul & Winifred Sheils Julie, John & Elizabeth McDonagh James Patrick Doran Winifred & Martin Mongan
Tue 24th	10.00 a.m.	Dan Boyd
Wed 25th	8.30 a.m.	Christmas Mass Bouquets
	12 noon	Christmas Mass Bouquets
Carrig	9.30 a.m.	Christmas Mass Bouquets
Thu 26th	10.00 a.m.	Susan Walsh (MM) John Nolan
Fri 27th	10.00 a.m.	Paddy & Sheila O'Callaghan James McNamara, Moorpark Street John Molloy & Eileen Dermody Michael Delaney
Sat 28th	10.00 a.m.	Fergal & Patrick Keighery
	7.30 p.m.	Sheila Murdock (MM) Anne Sherlock Sarah Nugent
Sun 29th	10.30 a.m.	Bernie Sheeran (MM) Pauline O'Meara Angela Hall
	12 noon	Patrick & Bernadette Troy, Fortal



Please pray for the soul of

Joe Pey, Glebe Street

The **Parish Office** is closed for Christmas and will re-open on Thursday 2nd January.

**Birr Eucharistic Ministers** - Christmas Mass Rotas are available at back of altar.  
Many thanks.

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday €1,954.00  
Many Thanks  
Parish Fund Collectors - December 29th  
R. Verney & M. Mannion

# A Very Happy & Peaceful Christmas to All

Our **Christmas Priests' Collection** will be taken up at all masses this weekend, 21st/22nd December. Your generosity to this collection is very much appreciated.



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### St. Brendan's Church, Birr

**Christmas Eve** Family Mass 6.00 p.m.

Vigil Mass 9.00 p.m.

**Christmas Day** 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12.00 Noon

### Church of the Annunciation, Carrig

**Christmas Eve** Vigil Mass 7.30 p.m.

**Christmas Day** Mass at 9.30 a.m.

## CONFESSIONS

### St. Brendan's Church, Birr

**Christmas Eve** 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

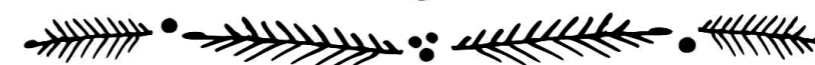
2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

### Church of the Annunciation, Carrig

Confessions will be heard before Mass

# Christmas To Do List

1. ~~Buy~~ <sup>Be</sup> Presents
2. Wrap ~~Gifts~~ Someone in a hug
3. Send ~~Gifts~~ Love
4. ~~Shop~~ <sup>Donate</sup> For Food
5. Make ~~Cookies~~ Memories
6. ~~See~~ <sup>Be</sup> The Light\$



## Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

**An Ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint**  
Inniu an ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint agus ceiliúrfar Breith Íosa ar fud an domhain ar an gCéadaoin seo chugainn. Tá an feitheamh thart nach mór agus comhlíonadh na Nollag buailte linn. "Seo mar a deir an Tiarna: "Tusa, a Bethlehem Efrata, bíodh is gur beag le rá thú i measc treibheanna Judah, is asat-sa a thiocfaidh, dom-sa, an té a bheidh os cionn Israel" (Micah 5:2)

Is féidir linn teachtaireacht na Nollag a mheabhú dúinn féin agus machnamh a dhéanamh ar an gcéad Nollaig. Bhí an tSlánaitheoir geallta don chine daonna agus rugadh é breis agus dhá mhíle bliain ó shin. Lonraigh a sholas sa dorchadas. Chan na haingil leis na haoirí an chéad oíche Nollag "ná bíodh eagla oraibh; óir féach, tá deascála agam daoibh, a chuirfidh áthas mór ar an bpobal uile, rugadh slánaitheoir daoibh" (Lúcás 2:10). Lastar coinneal gheal san fhuinneog mar chomhartha go bhfuil fáilte roimh an Leabha Íosa, Muire agus Íosaef, ní amháin inár dtithe ach inár gcroí freisin. Fáilte romhat, a Rí na nAingeal!  
**Síocháin an Naí Íosa a gealladh do lucht na dea-thola go raibh ag cás an Nollaig seo agus san Athbhliain. Áiméan.**

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent and the Birth of Jesus will be celebrated worldwide on Wednesday next. The waiting is almost over. This is how the Lord speaks: "But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days." (Micah 5 :2 ) We can reflect on the first Christmas and its true meaning. The Saviour was promised and born in a stable in Bethlehem more than two thousand years ago. A light shone in the darkness. The Angels sang to the shepherds on the first Christmas night. "Fear not, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto us this day is born a Saviour." (Luke 2:10) A lighted candle is placed in the window to welcome Mary, Joseph and the Infant Jesus not only in our homes but also in our hearts. Welcome Saviour of the world!

**May the peace of the Infant Jesus promised to people of good will be with you all this Christmas and in the New Year. Amen.**