

## 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 2

#### Parish Finances

We acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generosity and support of the Parish. The amount donated week ending 16/17th November was **€2,349.00**

The Rosary in honour of the Holy Souls will be recited in the Church of the Annunciation Carrig on Sunday 24th November at 3pm. All Welcome

Christmas Celebration - Roscrea Community Choir Saturday November 30th @ 8pm in St. Cronan's Church, Roscrea. Tickets €20 featuring Orchestra of St. Cronan's lead by Anne Phelan of the RTE Orchestra plus special guests on the night.

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre welcome back the ever popular ABBA Forever on Sat 30 Nov, 8pm. Comedy duo follow next Sat with Pat and Faye Shortt. Knuckle Down! Sat 07 Dec 8pm. Full details www.birrtheatre.com

Carrig, Riverstown & Killeen Active Retirement Group our next monthly meeting will be held on Monday November 25th in Carrig Community Hall @ 7.30pm. Our membership fees are due on the night. We also meet on Wednesday afternoons 2.30-4.30pm where we play board games and activities so come along and join us.

Birr Flower and Garden Club will hold their Christmas Gala Flower Demonstration on Tuesday December 3rd in the County Arms Hotel @ 8pm. Proceeds in aid of Motor Neurone Disease Ireland. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Admission €15.00, raffle tickets €5.00. All welcome.

Sale of Work in Birr Community Nursing Unit Sunday December 1st @ 12noon. Cakes, Christmas cards & Bric Brac. All welcome



### Sacramental Masses

We welcome the children from Crinkill



N.S. who will be participating in 7.30pm Mass.

Mercy P.S. who will be participating in the 10.30am Mass

## Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 23rd	10am	Paddy & Ellen Mellsop, daughter Pauline & son Ben & Hazel Mellsop Paul O' Dwyer & Margaret McCarthy, Kilkenny Seamus Davis, Hillside
Sat 23rd	7.30pm	O' Meara Family, Clonkelly Mahon Family, Grove Street Frank, Josephine & Dolores Higgins Joseph Daly, Clonkelly Kevin Abbott, Scurragh Mary Fox and her husband James Fox, Hillside Denis Parkinson, Crinkill
Sun 24th	8.30am	Florence & William Cooke and their son & daughters
Sun 24th	9.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 24th	10.30am	<b>Frances Byron , Seffin Avenue (1st Ann)</b> Michael & Agnes Parkinson & Son Cronan, The Crescent Annie & Paddy Mannion, Clonoghill Bernie Sheeran & the Sheeran Family, William Street Aherne Family, Townsend Street Peggy & Jack Mc Donagh, Dublin
Sun 24th	12noon	Mary Burke, Burkes Hill Joseph Grimes, Cappaneale Bobby Shiels, Whiteford Oliver Craughwell, Woodlands Park & his deceased Parents & Sisters Mary & John Windsor and deceased members of the family
Mon 25th	10am	Paddy O' Neill, Pound Street Alice O' Keeffe, Wicklow
Tues 26th	10am	Private Intentions
Wed 27th	10am	Private Intentions
Thurs 28th	10am	Private Intentions
Fri 29th	10am	John McCarthy & daughter's Celine & Lorraine, High Street and deceased sisters & brothers of John
Sat 30th	10am	Private Intentions
Sat 30th	7.30pm	Willie & MaryEllen Coughlan & the Coughlan Family, Pound Street
Sun 1st	8.30am	Michael Maher, Crinkill
Sun 1st	9.30am	<b>Stephen (Steve) Martin, Lacka Carrig (MM)</b>
Sun 1st	10.30am	Private Intentions
Sun 1st	12noon	<b>Tony Hogan, Hillside (MM)</b> <b>Frank Masterson, St. Brendan's Villas (MM)</b> Rynagh Byrne, Susan Byrne & her husband Martin Byrne, Killeen & Birr John & Mary Kearns, Oxmantown Mall Sheila Murdock, Presentation Place and her dad Bill Dwyer, Fivalealy Paddy O' Meara, Burkes Hill

## Friday 29th November Feast of St. Brendan of Birr



**Saint Brendan of Birr** (died c. 572) was one of the early Irish monastic saints. He was a monk and later an abbot, of the 6th century. He is known as "St Brendan the Elder" to distinguish him from his contemporary and friend St Brendan the Navigator of Clonfert. He was one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland, a friend and disciple of Saint Columba.

He founded the monastery at Birr in about 540, serving as its abbot. He emerges from early Irish writings as a man of generous hospitality with a reputation for sanctity and spirituality who was an intuitive judge of character. He was considered one of the chief prophets of Ireland. His friendship and support for Columba resulted in important connections between Birr and the Columban foundations.

### New Book Celebrates St. Brendan's R.C. Church's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On 1st of August 2024 St. Brendan's R.C. Church celebrated the bicentenary of its completion, on 1st August 1824. Over 20 decades the church has been at the center of life for the Roman Catholic population of Birr Parish. It was one of the first Irish R.C. churches to be completed on such a scale since the relaxation of penal laws. In 1824 Roman Catholic and dissenter populations were tolerated if they kept things below the radar. St. Brendan's however, with its gothic revival architecture and 124 feet 6-inch spire certainly was not below the radar. It was also built in a most prominent position overlooking the weir on the Cam Cor River. This was thanks to the local landlord Laurence Parsons, 2nd Earl of Rosse. Laurence not only donated the site but contributed £100 and a quarry of stone to complete the building. It is safe to say that the 2nd Earl of Rosse was a truly ecumenical gentleman who was a leading light in the realms of tolerance and inter-community relations. This is just one aspect of the building's history recorded for posterity by local historian and pastoral council chairperson Brian Kennedy, in his new book 'A Place in All Our Hearts.'

The book with a myriad of pictures of the building will be launched in St. Brendan's Church, by Bishop Fintan Monaghan, on 29th November next, at 7.30 p.m. The launch will take place in the context of an Ecumenical Service to mark the Feast of St. Brendan of Birr, to whom the church is dedicated.

## Sr. Eileen - Cúinne

### Feast of Christ Our King

The feast of Christ Our King is celebrated on the last day of the Liturgical Year. The Feast of Christ our King was instituted by Pope Pius 1X in 1925 in response to growing secularism and nationalism. It was originally celebrated on the last Sunday in September. In 1969 Pope Paul V1 renamed the festival "Our Lord Jesus Christ King of All" to be celebrated on the last Sunday of the Liturgical year. We are commemorating the triumph of Christ, Our Lord as King. A new Liturgical Year begins and our attention is focused on God's plan when His kingdom will come and we and our people will be with Jesus Christ in heaven, remembering that His life ended on the cross but today we honour Him as the Risen King. May all creation praise and glorify You forever as King of all. *Jesus my King, my friend and my beloved; Jesus my protection from sin and death. Sacred Heart of Jesus may your Kingdom come. Amen* (This prayer is from Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais)

### November - Month of Remembering



Mass of Remembrance for the Deceased Residents of Birr Nursing Unit  
 Nov 26th @ 7.30 p.m. Birr Nursing Unit

#### Please pray for the souls of

**Niall Cahill**, Marino Dublin and formerly New Road, Birr brother of Jackie & Joe Cahill, Bulfin Park  
**Fr. Sean Sexton A.P.**, Inagh, Clare  
**Carmel Nugent**, Birr Community Nursing Unit & Rath  
**Jackie McLean**, Worcester, UK, Mother in Law of Geraldine Wynne, Hillside, Birr



Sponsored by Carrig Cemetery Committee