

BIRR PARISH

Parish Office: 057 9122028 Parish Mobile: 086 3531955

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Email: info@stbrendansbirr.ie

Priest on Duty - Please call Parish Mobile - 086 3531955

Fr. Tom Hogan—057-9121757

Fr. Michael Reddan—057-9120098

Fr. Pat Gilbert—057-9120098

Fr. Antony Sajeesh - 057-9120098

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. 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.

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

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

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

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

St. Molua's, Roscomroe - Sunday 10.30 a.m.

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

St. Pio Mass - next Thursday evening at 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

Climate Change - What we can do. Lecture by Professor John Sweeney in Obama Plaza on Saturday 23rd March from 10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. All welcome. For more information/book a place contact Catherine on 086 3219164.

Active Retirement Fitness Classes every Monday and Thursday mornings at 10am in private class studio at Birr Leisure Centre. Light exercises focusing on strength, balance, coordination, mobility and boosting energy. All welcome. Cost €6.

Talk at Birr Library: Queen Victoria's Visits to Ireland 1849 - 1861: views from the Irish country house by Paula Lalor (MA Historic House Studies, Maynooth University): Wednesday, March 20th: 6.30pm. Free event. Booking essential. Contact: Birr Library at 057 9124950.

Birr Historical Society - Jane Maxwell, archivist in Trinity College Library, will speak on the fascinating lives of 18th Century servants, as revealed in their master's letters, on Monday 18th March, at 8.00 p.m. in The County Arms Hotel.

Single Bed - almost new, looking for a good home. Please contact the Parish Office.

Midland Living Links - Coffee Morning in Conference Room at rear of St. Brendan's ion Tuesday 19th March after 10.00 a.m. Mass. All welcome.

Sponsored by

Anonymous

Remembered in Mass this Week

Sat 16th	7.30 p.m.	Eoin Eastwood (MM) John & Frances Hoare Sr. Josephine Grimes Teddy Cooke, Military Road
Sun 17th	10.30 a.m.	Marie Coughlan & granddaughter Chelsea Kennedy Noel Flynn
	12 noon	Jim Normile William, Teresa & Donie Hanley Anna Pey Hanley & Pey families Noel Reedy James & Winifred Carter John Behan & family
Tue 19th	10.00 a.m.	People of the Parish
Wed 20th	10.00 a.m.	Bridie Maher & family
Sat 23rd	7.30 p.m.	Catherine Campbell
Sun 24th	8.30 a.m.	Margaret, Edward & Michael Grogan
	10.30 a.m.	Helen Hogan Sanita Logins Tommy & Doreen Rigney
	12 noon	Eugene Garvey



Please Pray for the Souls of

Yvonne Howley, Parkrise,
Anastasia Carroll, Coolderry,
Sister-in-law of Bill Carroll, Whiteford.

“Remember, when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received, only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage.”

St. Francis of Assisi

Basket Fund Collection Last Sunday - €1,736

Many Thanks.

Parish Fund Collectors - March 24th

J. Kirwan & R. Scully

Child Safeguarding & Garda Vetting

If you are a Eucharistic Minister, member of the Pastoral Council, Sacristan or Altar Server leader you must complete a National Vetting form for submission to the Diocesan Office. This must be done regardless of whether you have been vetted before or not.

Thank you to all who gave returned their forms. We would appreciate if the remainder were returned **to the Parish Office as soon as possible** for submission to the Diocesan Office. Applications can only be submitted on a National Vetting Bureau Application Form (NVB 2). These are available from the **back of the altar after Mass.**

If you have **difficulty completing your form** please contact the **Parish Office**. Thank you very much for you time in completing this very important procedure.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Please take care as you celebrate St Patrick's Day, spend some time reflecting on the great tradition of faith handed to us through the ages since St Patrick's time. How might you pass on this gift to others? St. Patrick brought together Celtic tradition and Christianity in a wonderful blend. In these modern times as care for the earth and all of creation is so important, why not use this part of his great prayer as you set out each day.

*I arise today, through
The strength of heaven,
The light of the sun,
The radiance of the moon,
The splendour of fire,
The speed of lightning,
The swiftness of wind,
The depth of the sea,
The stability of the earth,
The firmness of rock.*

*I arise today
Through a mighty strength,
the invocation of the Trinity,
Through belief in the Threeness,
Through confession of the Oneness
of the Creator of creation.*



Dates for the Diary - Lenten Reconciliation Service in preparation for Easter will be held on Monday 15 April at 7.30pm.

The **Stations of the Cross** will be done each Friday morning in Lent after 10.00 a.m. Mass.

Lent is the Autumn of the Spiritual Life during which we gather fruit to keep us going for the rest of the year.

St. Francis de Sales

The **Pastoral Councils** of the 4 parishes in the **Brendan Cluster** are invited to a gathering in **Coolderry Hall** on **Wednesday March 20th at 8.00 p.m.** There will be a short input by Fr. Eugene Duffy, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick to explore the area of **co-operation and support.**

Trocaire: “You will eat and have all you want and you will bless Yahweh your God in the fine country which he has given you.” *Deuteronomy 8:10.*

This year's Trocaire Lenten campaign highlights the different ways land is stolen from vulnerable people in the developing world. It could be by corporate land grabs, by war or simply because they are a woman. *To find out more visit www.trocaire.org.*

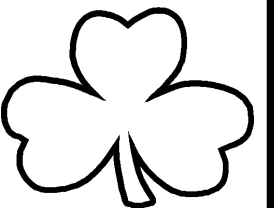
First Reconciliation 2019

Congratulations to all the boys and girls who made their **First Reconciliation** during the week. The ceremonies were wonderful celebrations of the Sacrament and well done to all concerned and Thank You to Second Class teachers, Helena Kennedy (PPP) and Joan Hogan, Parish Sacramental Co-ordinator. Please continue to keep the boys and girls in your prayers as they prepare for their **First Holy Communion** in May.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Lá Fhéile Pádraig

Ceiliúramid Lá Fhéile Naomh Pádraig Éarlaimh na hÉireann ar an Domhnach seo, ní hamháin in Éirinn ach ar fud an domhain mhóir. Tógadh mar sclábhaí é go hAontroim áit ar chaith sé, sé bliana ag aoireacht muc. Bhí sé mar nós aige guí chun Dé céad uair sa ló agus céad uair san oíche. D'éalaigh sé go dtí an Fhrainc agus oirníodh ina shagart é agus ina dhiaidh sin rinneadh easpag de. D'fhill sé ar Éirinn agus chraobhscaoil sé Soiscéal na Críostaíochta. Tugann an fhéile deis dúinn buíochas a ghabháil le Dia as an tseoid luachmhar seo a bhronn Naomh Pádraig orainn. Gabhaimid buíochas chomh maith dóibh siúd idir chléir agus tuath a scaip an Creideamh ar fud an domhain. Bhí Pádraig umhal de shíor i láthair Dé. Sa *Confessio* cuireann sé é féin in aithne dúinn mar seo “Mise Pádraig, peacach ró-thútach, an té is lú de na fíréin go léir agus an té is mó a bhfuil dímhéas ag a lán.” Tugaimis ómós dó mar ba chóir. Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig ar chlann mhór dhomhanda na nGael, sa bhaile agus ar fud na cruinne, ar ár lá náisiúnta ceiliúrtha féin.



Today we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the Patron Saint of Ireland. He will be honoured not only here but throughout the world. Saint Patrick was brought as a slave to Antrim where he spent six years tending pigs. He tells us he prayed to God a hundred times a day and the same at night. He escaped to France and was ordained a priest and later a bishop. He returned to Ireland and preached Gospel of Christ to the Irish people. We remember to thank God for this precious gift on St. Patrick's feast day. We also thank God for all those who brought and still bring the Christian message to people throughout the world. Patrick was humble in the presence of God. In the *Confessio* he introduces himself “I Patrick, wretched sinner, least among men, despised by many....”. Let us honour him appropriately. Happy St. Patrick's Day to Irish people everywhere in the world, on this our national feast day.