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up**

27th July 2025

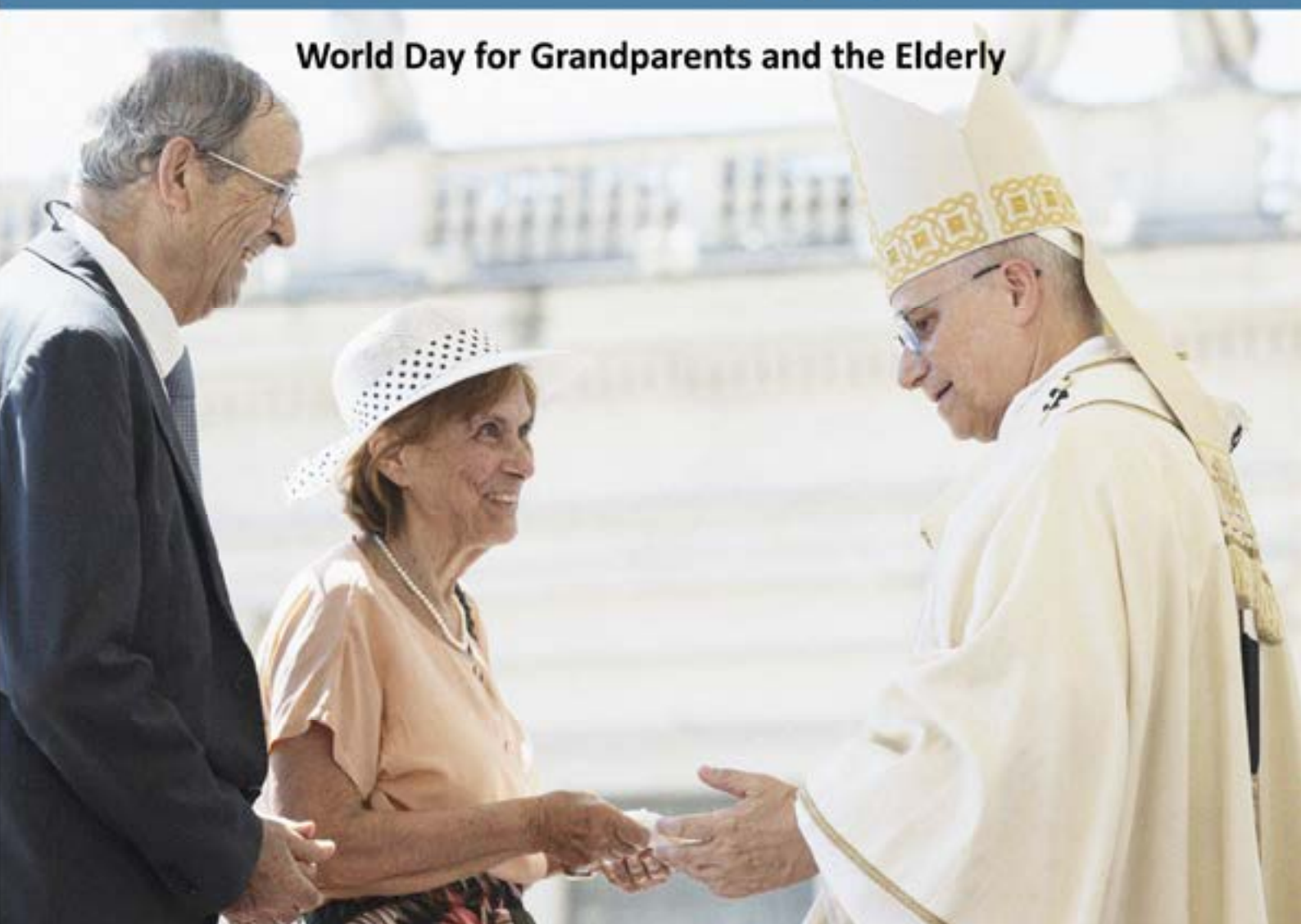
Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Give us this day our daily Bread'
'My friend, lend me three loaves
because a friend of mine on his
travel has just arrived at my
house and I have nothing to offer
him.'

(Sunday's Gospel)



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly



On this special day for Grandparents and the Elderly, we pray that they may always enjoy dignity, respect and appreciation for the contributions they have made to family and friends.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142
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Does Prayer Work?

Have you ever prayed really really hard for something and not had that prayer granted? Have you ever looked back in life at a prayer you once made and thought thank goodness God didn't grant it? This week's gospel reading is a lesson in prayer, but more importantly, it's a lesson in having faith that God is a parent who will not let us down.



Let's face it, we pray hardest to God when we want something. We pray hardest when something seems beyond our human means and we need some kind of miracle, this often leads us to make inappropriate prayers. How many of us pray that the love of our life will notice us in the launderette? How many of us pray to win the lottery and make secret deals with God that we will donate half the winning to charity in return? How many of us pray to God for our football team to score a winning goal in the closing minutes of a match? Worse... we lose faith when such prayers aren't answered! We find it difficult to believe that unanswered prayers might mean that God knows better, or has a different purpose for us.

Perhaps Jesus' disciples shared some of our frustration when they say, "Lord teach us to pray." In response Jesus gives us a model by which to pray. It's important to recognise it as a model and not a prayer as such. Reciting a prayer is not the same as praying. The model prayer Jesus gives us, 'The Lord's prayer', invites us to pray to God as our Father, acknowledging his holiness and praying with the shared commitment to have his will done on earth. We are invited to pray for our 'daily bread', in other words, for the things we genuinely need. Pray for forgiveness, and promise to forgive others. Pray with persistence. Prayer is about building a relationship with God, speaking to him often throughout the day. Lastly, and most importantly we should approach God with the faith we approach a loving parent. "What father," reasons Jesus, "would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish?" or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? Even parents with very average parenting skills know how to give children what they need. "How much more," says Jesus, "will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

Prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola • Feast 31 July

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give, and not to count the cost, to fight, and not to heed the wounds, to toil, and not to seek for rest, to labour, and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we are doing your will.

Amen.

Mass times for the coming week
ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH
Monday—Thursday: 7.30am & 10am
Friday (First Friday): 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm
Saturday: 10am
Sunday
Vigil 6.30pm (Saturday)
8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm
Church of the Assumption, The Heath
Sunday: 9.30am
Church of the Holy Cross, Ratheniska
Sunday: 10am
CONFESSIONS
Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.

The priest of the parish will attend their communion calls during the week.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Chimobi Anthony Ugwu, Montague Hostel
Evie May McCormack, Buttercup Avenue
Francis Christo, Ashewood Walk

Who were baptised last weekend.

Prayer for the family Martha, Mary and Lazarus Feast 29 July

Lord, You befriended this ordinary family of Martha, Mary and Lazarus.
You visited their home,
received their hospitality,
gently corrected them
when needed and eventually
raised them to the new life of eternal glory.
May I also welcome You into the home
of my soul, within my family
and into every aspect of my life.
Please come to me and raise me
to the newness of the life of grace.
Jesus, I trust in You.

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Bitesize

A strict belief, fate is the worst kind of slavery; on the other hand there is comfort in the thought that God will be moved by our prayers.

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Pilates Classes - Limited Availability!

There's still some availability in our current block of Pilates classes (beginner and intermediate levels) before we take a break for August.
To book a spot, please call or email the clinic.

Weekly Class Schedule:

Monday: Osteo Class with John (Parish Centre, 9.30am)

Tuesday: Senior Exercise Class with Conor (Clinic, 11.00am)

Wednesday: Online Pilates (9.30am)
Osteo Class (Clinic, 10.30am)

Thursday: Osteo Class (Clinic, 5.00pm)



Rúnaí Lánaimeartha ag Teastáil / Full-Time Secretary Required in Gaelscoil Phortlaoise

Tá an ceapachán seo ag brath ar ghrinnscrúduithe Reatha & ní mór don iarrthóir rathúil traenáil TUSLA agus Cúmhachadh Linbh a bhaint amach.

Caitheadh an iarrthóir a bheith cumasach i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. Taithí oifige/taithí le hobair rúnaíochta/riaracháin riachtanach, maraon le scileanna idirphearsa iontacha. Ní mór ach go mbeadh iarrthóirí cumasach i gcúntas, i bpárolla agus scileanna TE a bheith ar a dtail acu - Word, Excel, Database, Digital Media srl. Beidh dualgais breise san áireamh i dtacaíocht leis an bpríomhoide, an leaspríomhoide agus an fhoireann. An bhunáilíocht atá ag teastáil ná Ardteist nó cáilíocht eile den leibhéal céanna.

Ba cheart go mbeadh beirt réiteoir luaite (Uimhreacha teagmhála san áireamh).

Cuir d'iarratas (Litir larratais & CV as Gaeilge) go cathaoirleach@gaelscoilphortlaoise.net roimh an 31ú Iúil 2025 (12.00 i.n.).

The appointment is subject to Garda Vetting and the successful candidate will be required to undertake TUSLA and Child Protection Training. This position is subject to a 6 month probationary period.

Candidate must be proficient in both Irish and English. Experience in office/secretarial work/administration or related environment is essential as are excellent interpersonal skills. Applicant must be proficient in accounts and pay-roll administration and have excellent computer skills-Word, Excel, Database, Digital Media etc. The post will include additional secretarial duties in support of the Principal, Deputy Principal and staff.

Minimum qualification: Leaving Cert or equivalent.

Applications must include at least two referees (Include contact details). Please send a letter of application & CV (through Irish) to cathaoirleach@gaelscoilphortlaoise.net no later than July 31st 2025 (12.00 pm).

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Class of 2025

An exhibition of
Mountmellick Embroidery
by the class of 25 will be held on
August 20th in the
Parish Centre, Portlaoise.

Created about 1825 to provide an income for distressed ladies this white on white work is the only embroidery that can be said to be truly Irish. It gets its name from the nearby town where it originated.

Meeting held each Monday Night in Parish Centre, this group of extremely talented ladies toil away stitching and ripping to create these exceptional pieces.

There will be a display of Quilts, Tablecloths, Table Runners, Ring cushions & Framed Pieces. Ladies will be on hand to demonstrate a stitch or two.



Taking place in National Heritage week the exhibition is open to everyone all are welcome to come along
between 10am-6pm on Wednesday August 20th

We wish to acknowledge the great help of staff of Parish Centre for facilitating this exhibition and our Heritage Officers Oisín & Thomas with Laois County Council.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS – for family, friends or anyone affected by someone struggling with alcoholism. Al-anon meeting every Thursday night at 8pm in Portlaoise. For further information contact 086-8706017.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION – PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA: A Church Gate Collection will be held in aid of the parish pilgrimage to Fatima on the weekend of 9th and 10th August. We kindly ask for your generous support. Thank you.

WHIST DRIVE RESULTS PARISH CENTRE – JULY 22ND WINNERS:

Top score: Theresa Mulhare

1st Lady: Kit Farrell 2nd Lady: Paula McEvoy

1st Gent: Tied; Tom Gowing & Frank Keenan

1st Half: Catherine Galvin 2nd Half: Frances Benn

Raffle: 1st Sheila Duff, 2nd Betty Murphy, 3rd Frank Keenan, 4th Sadie Chester 5th Mary Dunne. 6th Patty Murphy. Thanks to all for your support. Whist continues each Tuesday night at 7.30 in the Parish Centre, new members always welcome, lessons available if required.

GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO Tuesday 29th July 2025 St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €2650. Double number €670. Lotto €1550

CARING IN OFFALY CE SCHEME: HOME RESPITE CARE WORKER, VACANCY NO. 2402465, Portlaoise area, 19.5 hours per week. Please contact Alison Hackett for more information on 086-0213711 or email ahackett@familycarers.ie.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET Every Sunday at 3 PM in the Parish Church.

ROSARY IN THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH: Daily 2pm (Monday to Saturday), Sunday 3pm (Adoration).

ROSARY will be recited in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church, every evening at 7pm.

VOCATIONS SOCIETY OF ST. JOSEPH: Holy Hour, Adoration, and Prayer for Vocations Every Friday at 3PM in the Parish Church.

LEGION OF MARY invites you to join us every Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Parish Prayer Hall as we come together in prayer and service to Our Lady.

COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP: Please join us in community prayers every Tuesday at 11:00am via WhatsApp. For further details, please contact Noreen on 085-2689767. All are welcome

RADIO MARIA IRELAND is an Irish-run Catholic talk radio station offering commercial-free prayer, catechesis, music, talks, and interviews. Listen anytime on Saorview Channel 210, our free app, online at radiomaria.ie, or on Facebook Live. Join us daily for spiritual nourishment, prayer, and uplifting programs.

RECOLLECTION WEEKEND: 22ND - 24TH AUGUST 2025 in Cluain Chiarain Prayer Centre, Clonmacnois. A retreat for adult Catholics seeking to deepen their spiritual life and grow in holiness. A time for silence, reflection and fellowship with talks from various guest speakers. €180 - all meals and accommodation provided with custom welcome pack. For more details and booking visit www.thecollect.ie

MARY'S MEALS WALK.....THE ANNUAL STEP BY STEP TO FEED THE NEXT CHILD

Mary's Meals Walk from Kilkenny to Knock Shrine will arrive in Portlaoise on Friday 8th August and leave from Market Sq. on Saturday 9th to walk to Killeigh. Walkers will travel from 7 different locations across Ireland from the 7th August, all meeting in Knock on Friday 15th August. Mary's Meals is a simple solution to world hunger, feeding hungry children in their place of education in 16 of the world's poorest countries. €22 will feed a child for an entire school year. Please go to marysmeals.ie to learn more and support this amazing charity. Any donation, big or small, is very welcome. Thank you.



PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Sunday 17th August

Bus leaving Lyster Square Carpark, Portlaoise at 9am. For more info. contact

Maura O'Brien 087-1210263

Helena Corbett 087-9611331

TEACH US TO PRAY

I'm sure you've heard of a "Knock, Knock" joke. I have some to tell you today. Are you ready?

Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Canoe. (Canoe who?) Canoe come out and play?	Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Tank. (Tank who?) You're welcome!	Knock, Knock. (Who's there?) Orange. (Orange Who?) Orange you glad this is my last knock, knock joke?
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The Gospel tells us about a time Jesus was talking about knock, knock, knocking. One day, Jesus was teaching His friends, the disciples, how to pray. He said, "Let's say you went to a friend's house late at night..." "You said to your friend, 'I need to borrow some bread. I have a friend visiting and I have nothing to feed him.'"

"What if the friend answers, 'I can't help you right now. It's late and we're already in bed.' But what if you keep knocking on the door? Jesus said, 'If you knock so long that you wake everyone in the neighbourhood, your friend will get up and give you some bread.'"

Jesus used this story to tell His friends and us to knock on God's door by asking for what you need. He says, "Everyone who asks will get what he asks for. Everyone who looks will find what he is looking for. Everyone who knocks will have the door opened to him."

Jesus said prayer is a way to ask, seek, and knock. Jesus even taught His disciples a way to pray. We call this prayer the Lord's prayer. Why don't you say this prayer now.

"Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses; as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil."

That is a beautiful prayer, isn't it? It isn't a very long prayer, but there are three things in this short prayer that every prayer should include. First of all, it praises God, our heavenly Father. Second, it asks God to provide for what we need for each day. Finally, it asks for God's forgiveness for the times that we fall short of what he expects of us.



*After 2000 years,
we still pray the
way that Jesus
taught us.*



Dear Jesus,
Help us to remember that it is most important to talk to you.
Don't let us get so busy to forget to pray before we sleep and when we wake in the morning.
Amen.



Teach us to Pray



Jesus said to them, when you pray, say, "Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses; as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil." **Based on Luke 11:2-4**

Choose the word that best matches the definition

- Holy, sacred, worthy of praise
A. hallowed B. forgive C. teach D. evil
- To remove the blame for doing wrong
A. pray B. sin C. forgive D. teach
- A country whose ruler is a king or queen
A. earth B. evil C. heaven D. kingdom
- The planet where we live
A. Saturn B. Mars C. Earth D. Venus
- Something bad; wicked
A. pray B. evil C. heaven D. hallowed
- A baked food made from flour
A. fruit B. Vegetables C. bread D. Salad
- To speak to God with praise, confession, asking, thanksgiving
A. Pray B. forgive C. kingdom D. temptation
- To instruct someone on how to do something
A. pray B. forgive C. evil D. teach
- The place where God is
A. evil B. heaven C. sin D. teach
- To break God's laws
A. sin B. pray C. teach D. forgive



*Jesus teaches
about prayer*

FIND	TEMPATION	OPEN
FRIEND	SEEK	PRAY
FATHER	NAME	KNOCK
RECEIVE	MIDNIGHT	DAILY
TEACH	LEAD	BREAD
SINS	KINGDOM	
HALLOWED		
FORGIVE	ASK	

P R A Y Y B S L E F X E B P H
U K I N G D O M L T S P D Q A
A Y Z A U B Q Q S E E E R X L
U Q B S B U R W F Z A A E G L
O R R K P U J I U R Z D C K O
O N E O L F N P I P I A Q H W
T A A P X A A F V I X E M M E
E M D E D M F T W T F S N U D
M E C N H R D O H N L F B D W
P P K K R N E G R E S M Y Y U
A V N I I Q I C C G R T C D Y
T N O F U N J C E S I N S A O
I J C W D K S D G I J V Q I A
O Q K I F B E K P I V J E L A
N M M W N M J J P V W E M Y P



Time to Think...

August... a time to harvest...



Time and Seasons come and go, so far 2025 seems to have moved very quickly, it's hard to believe, this week we begin the month of August. Traditionally August is associated with harvest and Thanksgiving. The ancient Celtic festival of Lúnasa was a celebration for all that had been gathered. People were grateful, to their creator God, who had provided enough sustenance for them to face the more vulnerable months of the year with confidence. I pray as this harvest season begins for a prolonged period of fine weather.

Lúnasa (or Lughnasadh), the traditional Celtic festival marking the start of the harvest season around August 1, has deep roots in Ireland's agricultural and spiritual history. Named after the Celtic god Lugh, it historically involved feasting, athletic contests, and rituals celebrating the first fruits of the harvest, such as grain and bilberries. Over time, as Christianity spread across Ireland, many of Lúnasa's customs were adapted into Christian practices, creating a rich blend of cultural and religious traditions that invite reflection from a Christian perspective. The Christianization of Lúnasa is evident in festivals like Lammass ("loaf mass"), where the first sheaf of grain was baked into bread and blessed in church, symbolizing gratitude to God for His provision. This practice resonates with biblical themes of offering first fruits to God (e.g., Leviticus 23:10-14, Deuteronomy 26:1-11), where the Israelites were commanded to present the first produce of the land as an act of thanksgiving and trust in God's sustenance. In Ireland, Lúnasa traditions like climbing Croagh Patrick on Reek Sunday (the last Sunday in July) became Christian pilgrimages, blending the Celtic hilltop gatherings with devotion to St. Patrick, who is said to have fasted there for 40 days.

From a Christian viewpoint, Lúnasa's focus on harvest aligns with the biblical call to give thanks for God's provision. The festival's communal gatherings feasting, sharing food, and celebrating together—echo the early Christian practice of breaking bread in fellowship. Harvest Thanksgiving masses and services, continue to be celebrated in many parishes, often feature decorated churches with fruits, vegetables, and wheat sheaves, reflecting gratitude for God's creation and provision. These services emphasize not only physical harvest but also spiritual fruitfulness, encouraging believers to share their blessings with others, as seen in Isaiah 58:7-8, which calls for sharing bread with the hungry.

Imagine that you had to employ a gardener. You ask around among your friends and neighbours, and eventually you hear of two gardeners who are available. From people who have employed them, you are able to draw up the following profiles of the two.

The first gardener plants a variety of vegetables and flowers. Periodically he comes along and inspects them. Whenever he sees a plant or a flower that is not doing well, he pulls it up and throws it on the compost heap or into the bin. He has planted plenty of seeds and plants, so this practice does not greatly affect the yield or the appearance of the garden. Small, stunted and yellow cabbage plants, wallflowers that slugs have had a feed on, frost-bitten blossoms, all of these go out. There are a lot of advantages in this approach. The appearance of the garden is always pretty and healthy. And diseased plants do not get a chance to infect other plants.

The second gardener also plants a variety of vegetables and flowers and periodically inspects them. But his approach is different. He is on the lookout for plants that are not doing well to see what he can do to make them healthier. If a cabbage is looking yellow, he gives it more feed. If a flower is attacked by slugs he puts down extra slug-killer. If some of the blossoms are frost-bitten, he puts a glass cloche over them to protect them and give them a chance to recover. He hates to see any plant or flower dying. His gardens are not as pretty as those looked after by the first gardener, as some of the plants are clearly ailing.

If you wanted to employ a gardener, you would almost certainly

choose the first. The first strikes us as an efficient, practical, no-nonsense gardener. The second gardener seems soft-hearted, and is plant-centered rather than garden-centered. Except in the case of very rare plants, few of us would want to pay good money so that sickly specimens would be nursed, and perhaps the overall condition of the garden neglected.

One of the great benefits, of cultivating a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is his unending life giving, grace-filled presence. In a world and culture, where so much emphasis is on perfection, achievement, excellence, it's a great blessing that in faith, our God, loves us as we are. All our gardens like our lives, have both flowers and weeds.

Saint Paul, once acknowledged, "When I am weak then I am strong". As we give thanks for the gift of harvest, let us be fuelled with a spirit of gratitude. May this new month of September be a blessed one for us all. Be mindful that each one of us produces rich fruits, often as a result of patience, endurance, resilience and courage. May we celebrate that the rich diversity, that is the garden of life, there is room for everyone, as the melody sings...All God's creatures have a place in the choir.

Perhaps this harvest time is an opportunity for us all, to acknowledge the fruits that we all have in the depth of our being. Fruits that take a lot of time to grow and mature into the beautiful personality and unique qualities that are particular to all our stories. The gift of Grandparents who embody the story of every harvest. Parents who respond so generously to the needs of their children. Parenting I'm sure in many ways could be likened to tending the needs of the vineyard, it is constant, demanding, most challenging and in many ways totally dependent on the unconditional generosity and reservoir of love, that provides for the needs of family life. I am often truly inspired by the time and indeed sacrifices that so many wonderful parents, so often make for their children, in order to allow them to grow and realize the best possible harvest for their family. No fruit or talent can realize its potential without effort and work. May the Lord bless all our lives with health of body and peace of mind. The following prayer to St. Francis of Assisi is most appropriate for this time.

For a harvest shared by all

St Francis of Assisi, your whole life sang in harmony with God, nature and others.

With you, we praise God for Brother Sun,
full of beauty and splendour, warming the earth,
summoning shoots from darkness into daylight.

We praise God for Sister Water,
so useful and humble, precious and pure,
greening arid ground, growing life in desert places.

Pray for us Francis, that, like you,
we may care for all that exists,
until Brother Sun and Sister Water
produce a harvest shared by all,
in love and solidarity, justice and peace.

Amen.

Portlaoise Parish

Lourdes Pilgrimage July 2025



OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED
FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED



*Evangelin
Durojaiye*

*Who died this week in the
Phillipines, and was a teacher
in Portlaoise College*

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE, OUR SYMPATHIES
ARE WITH THEIR FAMILIES

*In Loving Memory Of
PHIL COUGHLAN*

"Curragha", Mountrath Road, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs on 30th July 2025

1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
on Saturday, 26th July at 6.30pm.



*In God's care you rest above,
In our hearts you rest in love.
Never more than a thought away,
Loved and remembered everyday.*

*Always loved and remembered by
Stephanie, Pauline, Bernadette, David,
and all their families.*

Rest in Peace Phil



*ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
& MONTH'S MIND
In Loving Memory of
FINTAN
FITZPATRICK*

Ballymacken, Portlaoise

Passed away 28th June 2025

Fintan's Month's Mind Mass will take place at
the Church of the Assumption,

The Heath, on Sunday, 3rd August at 9.30am

Maureen and the Fitzpatrick family wish to sincerely thank all who
offered support, prayers, and kindness during this sad time.
Your presence, messages, and thoughtful gestures brought
great comfort to us.

Special thanks to Msgr. John Byrne and Fr. Simon Jin and all those
who took part in the Requiem Mass at the Church of the Assumption,
The Heath, and Keegan's Funeral Home for their professionalism.

Rest in Peace



*In Loving Memory of
ROBERT BOWE*

Ironmills, Ballinakill

1st Anniversary occurs

8th August 2025

Robert's 1st Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Ballinakill Cemetery on
Sunday 3rd August at 7.30pm.

*Remembering you is easy, Rob. We do it every day.
But missing you is heartache that never goes away.
We think of you with every step, in everything we do,
And feel your love around us as we try to carry through.
We speak your name with pride, your story shining through.
In our hearts you live forever because we taught the world of you.
Forever loved, forever missed by your wife Jean, daughters
Kayleigh & Rhona, mother Marie and extended family.*

*The tears in our eyes we can wipe away, the ache in our hearts will
always stay. Tenderly we treasure the past with memories that will
always last. Robert was the perfect husband, perfect father, perfect
son and perfect brother.*

*Sadly missed and never forgotten by Suzanne, Kevin,
Sandra, Paul, Kenneth and their families.*

A Mass will also be held for Robert in St. Peter & Paul's
church, Portlaoise on Friday 8th August at 10am.

Rest in Peace Robert



*In Loving Memory of
LARRY HEARNS*

Church View, Abbeyleix.

21st Anniversary occurs

22nd July 2025

*Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for others needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.*

Sadly missed by Mary and family.

Rest in Peace Larry



*In Loving Memory of
OLIVER CLEAR*

Late of 32 Liogard Portlaoise.

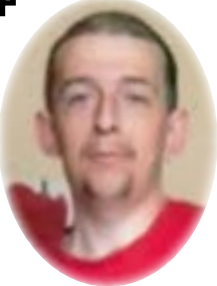
26th Anniversary occurs 23rd July 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 27th July at 11.15am.

Now God has called you to His home above, there to protect you
with eternal love, Often at night when we pray for you, I hope
you look down and pray for us too.

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by all your loving family.*

May Oliver Rest in Peace



*In Loving Memory of
DEAN BERGIN*

14 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.

7th Anniversary occurs 1st August 2025

Dean's Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church, on Saturday 2nd August at
10am.

To a Son, Brother, Uncle

*A heart of gold stopped beating, two shining eyes at rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.
To some you are forgotten, to others just part of the past,
But to us who loved and lost you, the memory will always last.*

*Loved and sadly missed by your Mother Mossie,
sisters Martina, Lisa and Sandra, nieces, nephews and friends.
Also remembering your father Ray at this time xxxxxxxxxx*

Rest in Peace Dean

In Loving Memory of A Dear Husband who passed away

DANNY O' LOUGHLIN

152 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 2nd August 2025

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on Saturday 2nd August, 10am.

Silent thoughts, a secret tear, a constant wish that you were here,
No need for words except to say, we love and miss you everyday.
Always loved and never forgotten by your loving wife Margaret x
Dad; Just a prayer from the family who loved you,

Just a memory fond and true, in our hearts you will live forever,



Because we thought the world of you.
Granddad; Of all the special gifts in life, how-
ever great or small, to have you as our granddad
was the greatest gift of all.

Sadly missed by your loving sons, daughters,
sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren,
extended family and many friends x

Rest in Peace Danny

*In Loving Memory of
DESMOND (DES) RANKIN*

Annebrook House, Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary occurs 20th July 2025

*It's lonely here without you,
We miss you more each day,
For life is not the same to us,
Since you were called away.
To your resting place we visit,
Place flowers there with care,
But no one knows our heartache,
when we turn and leave you there*

*Sadly missed and remembered by your loving wife
Maureen, your daughters Anne and Mary, son-in-law
Trevor and grandchildren Ben and Anna.*

May Des Rest in Peace

*In Loving Memory of
AGNES & PETER
LALOR*

and their daughters

RITA LALOR,

MARGARET LAWLESS

& KATHLEEN LALOR

and their grandson

PATRICK SWAYNE

Those we love remain with us
For love itself lives on
Cherished memories never fade
Because one loved is gone
Those we love can never be more than
A thought apart
For as long as there is a memory
They live on in our heart.

*Sadly missed and always
remembered by Mary and Family.*

May They Rest in Peace

*In Loving Memory of
AGNES LAWLESS*

29 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

27th Anniversary occurs 28th July
2025

Will those who think of Agnes today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.

Always remembered and never forgotten by Mick

xxx

May Agnes Rest in Peace



*In Loving Memory of
DONAL BREEN*

8 Oaklawn, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 29th July
2025

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Tuesday 29th July at 10am.

*Donal is lovingly remembered and sadly missed by
his loving wife Kay, family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Donal

In Loving Memory of
ESTHER CONNAUGHTON
(née Hilliard)

1st April 1945- 22nd June 2025



Esther's family Wayne, Zara & Annamarie would like to express their deepest gratitude to all who came to bid her farewell. Thank you to all who called, sent cards, flowers and travelled. A special thanks to all the staff in Drominin Nursing Home Stradbally.

We thank Monsignor Byrne, the clergy, the staff in the parish centre.

Thank you to Henry Rankin & Matthew Keegan Funeral Homes for the professional manner in carrying out Esther's Funeral arrangements. Thank you to Nuala Kelly for the beautiful music for the service.

As it is hard to thank everyone individually, please take this as our sincere thanks to all who knew our mother.

Esther's months mind mass will take place on Sunday the 27th of July at 11.15am.

Rest in Peace Esther

In Loving Memory Of
GERRY ALLEN

Eyne, Portlaoise.

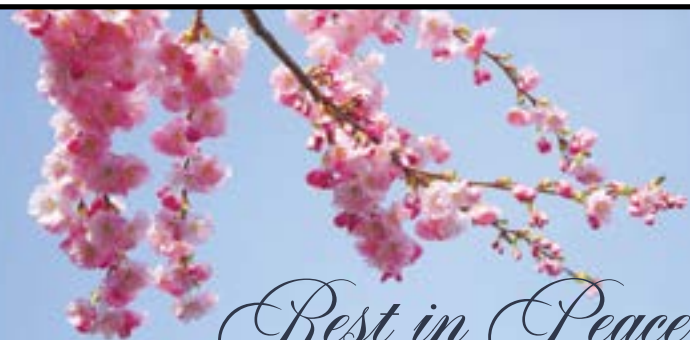
41st Anniversary occurs 26th July 2025.

We hold you close within our hearts and there you will remain To walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again



Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by Mam and all your family. x

May Gerry Rest in Peace



Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
FINTAN KEEGAN

2 Green Road, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 31st July 2025



*A whisper on a July evening,
You heard a gentle call,
You took the hand of Jesus
and gently left us all.*

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by Mary and family, Kay and family, nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace Fintan

HENRY RANKIN

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At The Parish Centre

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

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www.portlaoiseparish.ie



Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe
will host their annual
Truck, Tractor & Vintage
Road Run

Sunday, September 7th 2025

Registration from 1pm

Shanahoe Community Hall R32E3FR

departing at 2pm sharp

Registration Fee €20

Vintage all the way to new are welcome!

~Kids' Big Wheely Fun Run~Food~Refreshments~



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BEST OF LUCK LORCAN

LORCAN HOLOHAN (U15)
WILL REPRESENT IRELAND IN AN
INTERNATIONAL EVENT THIS WEEK
IN ORLANDO, USA.

THE PORTLAOISE BOXING CLUB
MEMBER IS OUR NATIONAL
CHAMPION. GREAT CREDIT TO
LORCAN'S TALENT AND DEDICATION
AND TO HIS COACHES AT THE CLUB.

WELL DONE!



MSGR. JOHN WITH LORCAN AND COACHES PAT RYAN AND JOHN DOLLARD

Congratulations



Above: Congratulations to Lauren Dooley and Lee Byrne

**Congratulations
&
Every Blessing
to
Couples married
recently**



Above: Congratulations to Fiona Kelly and Benny Carroll



Above: Congratulations to Aleksandra Leczycka and Christophe Martin



Above: Congratulations to Rachel Costello and David Seale



Above: Congratulations to Eimear Corri and Eddie Fallon

Portlaoise Parish



Results for
24th July 2025



No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Anne Brophy
Emmy Ryan
Quicksilver
Jolanta Zadora
John Byrne
Patrick Maher
Billy Doran
Padraig & Liz Gowing
Brid Davis
Jackie Robinson
Jennifer Moore
Phil Dwane
Finn & Nicola Byrne
Nuala Keogh
Helen Fenlon
Stephen Kelly
Michelle Horan
Eunice Burns
Kian Kinsella
M Hanlon
Amie & Sean Dowd
N Kirwan
Margaret Keegan
Pat Mortimer
Ann Carroll
Dan Kissane

MATCH 3s €1,000

26
Match
3s
Receive
€39
each

PROMOTER

Albookss
Kathleen Brown
Quicksilver
Online Lotto
Online Lotto
Mary Hennessy
Mary Doran
Lotto Gift
Brid Davis
Jackie Robinson
Rocky Kehoe
Thelma Brown
Nicola Byrne
Parish Centre
Paul Dooley
Martley's Shop
M Fallon
Beth Kelly
M Farrell
M Farrell
Catherine Kearns
M Farrell
Margaret Keegan
Heather Mortimer
Ann Carroll
Liam Kelly

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Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:20-32

Responsorial Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8

Colossians: 2:12-14

Luke 11:1-13

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Each one must give as he or she has decided in their heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver 2 Corinthians 9:7

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Please choose a way to make your contribution

- * Making your offering in the boxes at the Church entrances
- * Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre
 - * Direct payment by cheque or cash
 - * Cashless tap facility at Parish Church
 - * Donation facility on our website
- * Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre
- * Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account: IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

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FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Clergy of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.
Tel: 057 8621142



Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C.
Tel: 057 8600122



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

To contact the Priest on Duty:
Parish Centre during office hours
9am - 5pm Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours
in emergency only Tel: 0852134285

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and our Church Porches.
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)
All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



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