

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
**link
up**

5th April 2026

Easter Sunday

Alleluia
He is
Risen



Last year's Vigil led by Bishop Denis and broadcast by RTE



*May the celebration of Easter bring new hope to your being.
May the victory over earthly death turn your eyes to the promises of heaven.
May the empty tomb help you to leave your sorrows at the foot of the cross.
So that God's hope, promises and forgiveness reign in your life forever.
Amen.*

Alleluia!

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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Life Without End

Belief in the resurrection is essential to our faith, yet the account of Jesus' resurrection, or rather the lack of it, leaves us as confused as the original disciples. We've been left with a puzzle with pieces missing, a story with an

important part untold. As Christians we are reminded that religion is ultimately a faith not a science.

Our human search for certainty urges us to try and work out who moved the stone, but at this point all we can do is put the resurrection into the context of the rest of Jesus' life and teachings. We have to trust that everything Jesus has told us is true, and that the resurrection is not just an invention to give a tragic story a happy ending, but the realisation of the promises Jesus made all along. Jesus promised all along that death couldn't contain us, and the empty tomb points to this not necessarily as proof, but as truth.

So how do we find that trust that everything Jesus has told us is true? First of all we have to develop a toolbox of faith, trust, and intuition. Christians are accused of propping up impossible and improvable theories with blind faith. If this were true the accusers would have a point, but true faith runs deeper than this. We all use faith in every walk of life and we all need trust. People of faith are people who can push boundaries and take brave steps into the unknown. People of trust recognise possibilities in others and in themselves. People of intuition recognise integrity and truth. Anais Nin said, "We don't see things as they are, we see things as we are." "What you believe sets a course for your future and directs your daily activities. Consequently, when you believe only what you can see, a whole world of possibility is lost."

The empty tomb gives our life purpose. Belief in the resurrection means we can live life boldly and well, looking forward to eternal life. The empty tomb gives us a means to deal with pain and suffering, it means that death is not a meaningless end of life, but the door to the fullness of life with the risen Christ.

Trócaire



Please bring any remaining Trócaire boxes to Mass next Sunday or leave them into the Parish Centre. Do NOT leave Boxes in the Church at any time. Trócaire boxes are still available in Church porches or in the Parish Centre.

Mass times for the coming week
ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

Easter Sunday

Vigil 9pm (Parish Church)

& Dawn Mass in the Heath at 6am

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

Sunday: 9.30am

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

Sunday: 10am

Easter Monday to Easter Saturday: 10am

7.30am Mass will resume on Monday 13th April

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Tommy Gerard Brophy, The Maltings

Amelia McAlorum Marum, Cosby Avenue

Eoin Aidan O'Brien, Berryridge Avenue

Who were baptised last weekend.

An Easter Sunday Family Table Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that on this glorious day of your resurrection, you are in our midst.

We welcome you to our Easter table.

Bless this food and our family and fill us

with the joy of your Resurrection Life.

May this meal remind us of your endless grace

and the promise of new beginnings.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Easter Collection

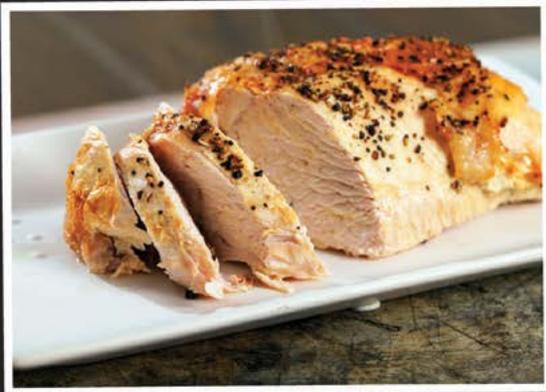
For the support of our Priests

Easter Collection for the priests of the parish takes place over the Easter period. Envelopes at the Church porches for those not using an Envelope Box. You may also donate to this collection via our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie or directly to our Clergy Account, details inside the back cover. The Easter Collection is one of four collections that take place during the year to support our priests.

The Priests of the parish thank you for your support and take this opportunity to wish you all the joys and blessings of this great Feast.

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ALL CLASSES HAVE RESUMED FOR 2026

In Clinic:

Senior exercise class Tues. at 11am
Online Pilates every Wed. at 9.30am
Osteoporosis class every Wed.
10.30am

Osteoporosis class every Thurs. at 4pm
Men's health and fitness every Thurs at 10am



In Parish Centre

Mon. morn. Osteoporosis class at 9.30am
Intermediate Pilates class Monday evening at 6pm
Beginners Pilates class Mon. evening at 7pm

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Wednesday 8th April 2026 Midlands Park Hotel 11am - 5pm

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- Be Creative



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Information talk for women

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Senior Clinical Psychologist Beaumont Hospital
Thursday 9th April 2026, 11am



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Closing date
Thursday April 9th

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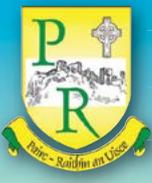
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PARK/RATHENISKA GAA ACADEMY

Gaelic Football & Hurling for **BOYS** and **GIRLS** from **AGE 4-17** starting in March

FOR MORE DETAILS

f parkratheniska @ parkratheniska @ parkratheniska
Email: secretary.parkratheniska.laois@gaa.ie

Ages 4-6 Ratheniska Rascals Football & Hurling Starts Sunday 12th April at 11:00am
Eircode: **R32 WR94**



- 🏈 Ages 4-6 Football & Hurling Sunday morning 11:00am
- 🏈 U7-U11 Hurling Sunday mornings 11:00am
- 🏈 U7-U11 Football Monday evenings 6:30pm
- 🏈 U8-U14 Girls Football Tuesday evenings 6:30pm



PARK/RATHENISKA GAA ACADEMY

EN We welcome all cultures to our Sports Club. Come try Gaelic Football or Hurling – no equipment needed to give it a go. All boys and girls are welcome! Boys Football Mondays at 6.30pm, Hurling Sundays at 11am, Girls Football Tuesdays at 6.30pm.

LT Mūsų sporto klubas kviečia visų kultūrų žmones. Ateikite išbandyti gėlių futbolo arba hurlingą – nereikia jokios įrangos, kad galėtumėte pabandyti. Laukiame visi berniukai ir mergaitės! Futbolas berniukams pirmadieniais 18:30, hurlingas sekmdieniais 11:00, futbolas mergaitėms antradieniais 18:30.

LV Mūsu sporta klubā laipni aicināti visu kultūru cilvēki. Nāciet izmēģināt gēlu futbolu vai hērlingu – nav nepieciešams aprīkojums, lai pamēģinātu. Laipni gaidīti visi zēni un meitenes! Futbols zēniem pirmdienās plkst. 18:30, hērlings svētdienās plkst. 11:00, futbols meitenēm otrdienās plkst. 18:30.

SA ان يدان يف تافاقثال اع مچب بحرن انا و اة لیل یغ ل مردقلا فرك بچو لاعف. یضایرل اہت بچرتل تادعمر ایل یل اچا تچت ال - غن یل ریل ال مردقلا فرك اہرب بچر تانبالو دالوال اع مچب ءاسر 6:30 ءعاسال نینثال ا مروی دالوال فركو ءا ءابص 11 ءعاسال دجال مروی غن یل ریل ال ءاسر 6:30 ءعاسال ائالثال مروی تانبالل مردقلا.

UA Ми радо вітаємо представників усіх культур у нашому спортивному клубі. Приходьте спробувати гельський футбол або герлінг — вам не потрібно жодного спорядження, щоб спробувати. Запрошуємо всіх хлопців і дівчат! Футбол для хлопців щопонеділка о 18:30, герлінг щонеділі об 11:00, футбол для дівчат щовівторка о 18:30.

IE Cuirimid fáilte roimh gach cultúr chuig ár gClub Spóirt. Tar agus bain triail as Peil Ghaelach nó Iománaíocht – níl aon trealamh de dhith chun triail a bhaint as. Cuirtear fáilte roimh gach buachaill agus caifín! Peil do bhuaicillí gach Luan ag 6.30i.n., Iománaíocht ar an Domhnach ag 11r.n., Peil do chailíní gach Máirt ag 6.30i.n.

PL Serdecznie zapraszamy przedstawicieli wszystkich kultur do naszego Klubu Sportowego. Przyjdź i spróbuj futbolu gaelickiego lub hurling – nie potrzebujesz żadnego sprzętu, aby spróbować. Zapraszamy wszystkie dziewczynki i chłopcy! Piłka nożna dla chłopców w poniedziałki o 18:30, hurling w niedziele o 11:00, piłka nożna dla dziewczynek we wtorki o 18:30.

RO Primim cu drag toate culturile in Clubul nostru Sportiv. Vino să încerci fotbalul gaelic sau hurlingul – nu ai nevoie de echipament pentru a încerca. Toți băieții și toate fetele sunt bineveniți! Fotbal pentru băieți lunea la ora 18:30, hurling duminica la ora 11:00, fotbal pentru fete marțea la ora 18:30.

PK مراحت سیر بلک سٹورپس اے پنپا مره روا یسے۔ سیر ہے ترک مردقمریخ اک بوتفاقث نے اهرآ – سیرھدی رک اهرآ گنلرہ ای لاپٹ کلگی مراحت۔ سیرن ترورض یک ن اهراس یسک سے کے کے سوکڑل اسی دی دمرآ شوخ سیر ای کڑل روا کے کڑل روا تا گنلرہ ، سے چ 6:30 مرش وک ریپ لاپٹف سے لے لاپٹف سے لے کے سیر کڑل ، سے چ 11 حبص وک سے چ 6:30 مرش وک لگنر

Eircode: **R32 WR94**



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PORTLAOISE TRADFEST 2026 HEADLINE ACTS



ALTAN

Fri 1ST May | 8pm
Dunamais Arts Centre



CLADA

Sat 2ND May | 9pm
Kavanagh's Bar



GEORGE MURPHY AND THE RISING SONS SUN

Sun 3RD May | 9pm
Kavanagh's Bar

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 31ST MARCH

Top score: Paraic Dowling. 1st Lady: Margaret Flanagan. 2nd Lady: Sadie Chester. 1st Gent: Catherine Galvin. 2nd Gent: Peter Stevenson. 1st Half: Bernie Cahill. 2nd Half: Christy Fitzpatrick. Raffle: 1st Billy Jackson, 2nd Christy Fitzpatrick, 3rd Frances Dunne, 4th Mary J Dunne, 5th Mary Delaney. *Thanks to all for your support. Whist continues each Tuesday night at 7.30 in the Parish Centre, new players always welcome, lessons available if required. Contact 086 8812228*

ACTIVE RETIREMENT Monday 6th April NO Bowls. Wednesday 8th April NO Active Age in Parish Centre. Thursday 9th APRIL IN SUE RYDER CENTER KILMINCHY CARDS AND CHAT FROM 3PM. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TUITION GIVEN FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT MARIA AT 0879187157 HAPPY EASTER to all.

WALK IN THE PARK FOR PARKINSONS will take place on Saturday, 11th April at 11a.m. in Colt G.A.A. Grounds, Raheen, Abbeyleigh. R32 V085. Visit www.parkinsons.ie to register in advance or register on the day. Phone John on 087-2712448 or Mary on 087-9617940 for more information. Refreshments will be served afterwards in Doogues Bar, Raheen. All support greatly appreciated.

FOURTH WALL LAOIS THEATRE GROUP presents "Moll" by J.B. Keane on Saturday 25th April in Dunamais Arts Centre.

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.

EMMANUEL HOUSE CLONFERT Divine Mercy Sunday, 12th April starting at 11am led by Eddie Stone & Team. Divine Mercy Novena begins Good Friday. Please bring a packed lunch. Schedule for Healing Services: Weds 11am & Thurs 7am.



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Thursday 16th April



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after the
10am
Mass.

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Easter at Camp Pio
Date: Saturday 11th April 2026
Time: 12pm-2pm
Venue: Bloom HQ, Old Convent
Mountrath R32D29F

To register contact:
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I've Just Seen Jesus

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb where Jesus had been buried. She found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and another disciple, whose name was John. She told them, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!"

Peter and John started out for the tomb. They were both running, but John outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed -- for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. Then they went home.

Mary stayed behind and stood outside the tomb weeping. As she knelt down and looked inside, she saw two angels dressed in white. They asked her why she was crying. She told them that someone had taken her master and she didn't know where they had taken him. Then, Mary turned and saw a man standing behind her. It was Jesus, but Mary did not recognize Him. She thought he was the gardener. Then Jesus called her by name and, when she heard his voice, she recognised Him. After she saw that it was Jesus,

she went to the disciples and said to them, "I've just seen Jesus! He is alive!"

Some people, like Mary, Peter, and John can't see Jesus because they are looking for Him in a grave or on a cross. He isn't there! He is risen and is seated at the right hand of His Father in heaven. If you want to see Jesus, look in His Word, He will reveal Himself to you, just as He did to Mary!



*May your
Easter basket be full of
Joy, Happiness & Peace
Today & Always!*

**Happy
Easter**



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MONSTER RAFFLE GIVEAWAY

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND**



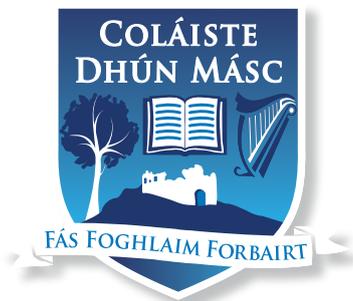
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2. Accounts Assistant - full-time, on-site, starting Mid-April to June 2026

For job description, contact Ann-Marie at
annmariegollogly@lasalleigbm.org or Kevin
at 087-1763729



At **Dunamase College / Coláiste Dhún Másc**, the Irish language and culture are a key part of everyday school life, and this strong sense of pride is especially evident during Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Week) - a celebration that students and staff look forward to each year.

Organised by the Cumann Gaelach and the Gaelbhreach committee, in collaboration with the Irish department, the school enjoyed an action-packed two weeks full of events that celebrated Irish in fun, creative, and meaningful ways, both within the school and in the wider community.

A wide range of in-house activities took place, ensuring that every student had the opportunity to engage with the language. These included a poster competition

and a meme competition, encouraging students to use Irish in modern and imaginative contexts. Students also took part in quizzes, bingo, and movie screenings as Gaeilge, while a lively Just Dance as Gaeilge session brought great energy and enthusiasm to the celebrations. A door-decorating competition also took place, with students transforming classroom doors and corridors with Irish-themed designs, adding to the festive atmosphere throughout the school. Fifth-year students particularly enjoyed participating in Bingo Loco, which added a fun and interactive element to the week.



A Lá Glas (Wear Green Day) was also held, with both students and staff proudly dressing in green, creating a strong sense of community and celebration throughout the school.

Teachers also got involved through a Phrase Bingo challenge, where they collected and used Irish phrases in their daily interactions,



highlighting that the promotion of Irish extends beyond the classroom and is embraced by the entire school community.

Fifth Year students Nina, David, and Cuileann also participated in an EU translation competition, where they were tasked with translating a script from a European language into Irish. The students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to experience what it is like to work as a translator, while also gaining a deeper appreciation of the wide range of career opportunities available through Irish.

As part of the celebrations, students reached out beyond the school, visiting local primary



schools including Gaelscoil Phort Laoise, Gaelscoil Thromaire, Ratheniska National School, Timahoe National School, and Barnashrone National School. Here, they organised céilís and hosted quizzes, sharing their love of Irish with younger students and inspiring the next generation of Gaeilgeoirí.

The Gaelbhreach Committee were proud to host a Pop-Up



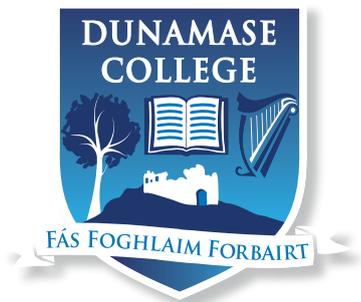
Gaeltacht in Portlaoise Library, providing a welcoming space for the wider community to come together and speak Irish. The event highlighted the importance of Irish in modern life, particularly across social media, music, and community engagement, reinforcing the idea that Irish is a living, thriving language: “Tír gan teanga, tír gan anam.”

In recognition of their ongoing efforts to promote Irish in innovative ways, students were once again invited to TikTok HQ, celebrating the school’s success in bringing the language to a wider audience online. Students enjoyed meeting Irish-language content creators and, of course, creating their own Irish TikToks.

The school’s podcasting team also played an active role in promoting the Irish language during the celebrations. Students recorded a series of Irish-language segments for Midlands 103, giving them the opportunity to share their cúpla focal with a wider audience. This experience not only built students’ confidence in using

culture. On the day, they met with Catherine Connolly and presented their vision for the future of Gaeilge, emphasising the importance of creating more opportunities for young people to use Irish within their local communities. This experience highlighted the growing influence of student voice at a national level.

Fifth-year Aonad students also had the opportunity to attend Fís, an inspiring event organised by Conradh na Gaeilge. The day began with an engaging panel discussion hosted by Peadar Ó Caomhánaigh, featuring speakers such as Caitríona Kenny, Róisín Seoighe, Éadaoin Fitzmaurice,



Following this, students explored a wide range of interactive stands divided into themes of Careers, Community, and Future. Organisations such as TG4, Bloc, Gaelbratach, Kinia, Óglaigh na hÉireann, and An Garda Síochána were among those present. The event provided students with a fresh insight into the wide range of opportunities available through Irish, from careers to community involvement, clearly demonstrating the important role the language plays in contemporary life. Overall, the celebrations reflected the deep-rooted passion within Dunamase College / Coláiste Dhún Másc for the Irish language, showing that it is not just a subject, but a vibrant and valued part of daily life in the school community.



and DJ Próvaí. The discussion highlighted the growing presence of Irish across social media, music, and community life. A particularly powerful message was that although Irish is an ancient language, it is very much alive in the modern world, and its future lies in the hands of young people: “Beatha teanga í a labhairt.”



Irish in a real-world setting, but also highlighted the relevance of the language in modern media and communication.

Aonad students Cuileann, OJ, Aoife, and Kayla travelled to Galway to attend the Muintearas event, where Irish-medium schools from Education and Training Boards Ireland across the country came together to celebrate the language and



Time to Think...

Easter 2026 - a time of Grace



Easter 2026 finds itself in the context of a troubling war in the Middle East. The sacred and holy city of Jerusalem has felt the consequences. Christians prohibited from public worship and a palpable sense of tension and unease throughout this war-torn region. Pope Leo, in his Easter message, reminds Christians that we are all called to be agents of peace, reconciliation and compassion. Easter is a triumphant season, fuelled with an Amazing Grace, that in a moment in history, God himself triumphed over sin and darkness. Ours is that everlasting victory and with joy Hallelujah is our song.

Easter is a time of hope and new life, an opportunity to begin again in a new way. The Angel said to the wounded followers of Jesus "Why Look among the living for the dead" Easter reminds us in a very powerful way that we belong to a place that is so much bigger than whatever situation we may find ourselves in. That place is about gentleness, hope, love, compassion and love. That sacred place is told through the eyes of faith. Faith is a necessary and wonderful gift. Faith will carry us up any mountain, no matter how overwhelming the climb maybe. Faith brings with it a sense of perspective and a deep confidence, that no matter what "All will be well". Easter is about new possibilities and opportunities. Easter is rich in gifts and blessings. There is no recession in the Lord's love. Where the shadows of conflict, war, sickness and uncertainty prevail, the Easter message, contains a dawn that promises brighter days ahead.

"Peace be with you". These were the first words of Jesus to his disciples, after the resurrection, when he met them behind locked doors on the evening of that first Easter Day. He showed them the marks of the crucifixion on his hands and side - the evidence of his suffering - and he said to them, "Peace be with you". In the midst of their fear, sorrow and pain, he wanted them to find peace. Despite all that had happened in previous days, the words and sentiments he offered were words of comfort and love and not anger or hatred.

The words, "Peace be with you", represent much more than a simple, customary greeting. They express a deep desire and hope for an end to pain, for calm after the storm, for a time of reconciliation and healing.

This Easter the world we live in is overshadowed by conflict in so many places - from across the Middle East to much closer to home in the war that has ravaged Ukraine for over four years now. In all those regions, heartfelt cries are heard for an end to the violence that has already caused the deaths of tens of thousands of people, widespread destruction of homes and businesses, as well as the separation and displacement of countless families.

Too many people live in fear of what the future holds in store. Hope is hard to find in the rubble of a bombed hospital or school, or in the tears of those whose loved ones have been killed through acts of violence.

The cross of Calvary continues to cast a long shadow over the world. Yet the sadness of Good Friday will give way to the joy of Easter morning. The Easter story begins "while it was still dark", but it is soon bathed in the light of the resurrection. Love defeats hatred. It overcomes the darkness of despair. Nothing, then, should be permitted to rob us of hope that goodness will triumph over evil. This is Easter Hope: the "hope that does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5).

We must persevere, therefore, in our prayers and efforts to build lasting peace in the world, always looking to that day when swords will be beaten into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks.

This Easter, let us renew our determination to live in a world where all life is valued, where mutual respect and understanding are treasured, and where peace is a living reality. May the words and actions of all people mirror those of our risen Lord, now and in the days to come: "Peace be with you".

The late Pope Benedict beautifully described Easter joy...

*"Dear brothers and sisters,
Easter does not work magic.
Just as the Israelites found the desert awaiting them
on the far side of the Red Sea,
so the Church, after the resurrection,
always finds history filled with joy and hope,
grief and anguish. And yet, this history is changed,
it is marked by a new and eternal covenant,
it is truly open to the future.
For this reason, saved by hope,
let us continue our pilgrimage,
bearing in our hearts the song that is ancient and yet
ever new:*

"Let us sing to the Lord: glorious his triumph!"
Pope Benedict XVI 20010



*Our Prayers are asked for those
who recently died*



*Kay Maher
Ballinakill Rd. Abbeyleix*



*Mary Kenneally
Ballytarsna, Abbeyleix*



*Mary Bergin
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise*



*Michael (Gilpin) Conroy
Ballydavis / formerly O'Moore
Place, Portlaoise*



*Aine Bowden
Athy and formerly Meelick,
Portlaoise*

*May They
Rest In Peace
Our Sympathies Are With
Their Families*

In Loving Memory of
DANIEL (DAN) FITZPATRICK

Old Rd, Ballydavis, Portlaoise

3rd Anniversary occurs 7th April 2026



A life well lived is a precious gift
Of hope and strength and grace
From someone who has made our world
A brighter, better place.

It's filled with moments, sweet and sad
With smiles and sometimes tears,
With friendships formed
and good times shared
And laughter through the years.

A life well lived is a legacy
Of joy and pride and pleasure,
A living, lasting memory
Our grateful hearts will treasure.

Always remembered and sadly missed by his loving family

***MONTH'S MIND
REMEMBRANCE***

In Loving Memory of

NORA TOBIN

Ballyroan

Month's Mind Mass will be
celebrated

Saturday 4th April at
5pm in Abbeyleix Church

&

Sunday 5th April at
the Dawn Mass 6am in
Ballyroan



*Remembered with
Love and Affection*

31ST ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of Our Father & Grandad

MICHAEL KERRY

Late of 48 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on Easter Sunday, 5th April at 10am



Though your smile is gone forever,
and your hand we cannot touch,
Still, we have so many memories,
of the one we loved so much
*Sadly missed by all his loving family and
friends.*

Rest in Peace Dad



In Loving Memory of

JERRY LODGE

'Curradubh', Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.

8th Anniversary occurred
3rd April 2026

No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew it,
And only God knows why.

Deeply regretted by his loving family.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND MONTH'S MIND**

In Loving Memory of

**MARY CARROLL
(NÉE DOYLE)**

35 Marian Ave, Portlaoise



Mary's family would like to express their sincere gratitude to all who sympathised with them and supported them in their recent bereavement.

Thank you to all who sent Mass cards, flowers and wreaths, phoned or uploaded messages online.

We are deeply appreciative of everybody who attended the wake and Requiem Mass whether in person or via the parish webcam.

A special thank you to Fr. Ciprian for celebrating the Requiem Mass and for his support to the family during this time.

Our heartfelt thanks to Sarah Troy for providing such beautiful music at the Mass.

We offer our sincere appreciation to all the staff of the Residence Portlaoise who looked after Mary with such kindness and dedication over the last two years.

A very special word of thanks to the staff of Hughes Pharmacy and Clan Pharmacy.

To all Mary's wonderful neighbours in Marian Avenue for all their help and support over the years.

We extend our thanks to Matthew and David for the compassionate manner in which they carried out the funeral arrangements and to the gravediggers for preparing Mary's final resting place with such care.

We are deeply grateful to all our family and close friends, for their ongoing support and kindness during this difficult time.

Please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation and deepest gratitude.

A Thanksgiving Mass will be offered for the intentions of all who supported us.

*May Mary's gentle soul
Rest in Peace*

In Loving Memory of

PATRICK (PADDY) CARRIGAN

Capoley, Portlaoise, Co Laois,

(late of Ballyfoyle, Co. Kilkenny)

5th Anniversary occurs 7th April 2026

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on
5th of April at 10am in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church

We think of you in silence

We often speak your name

But all we have are memories

And your picture in a frame.

Your resting place we visit

And put flowers there with care

But no one knows the heartache

As we turn and leave you there.

Sadly missed, loved and remembered

by his loving wife Lizzie and family

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam



In Loving Memory of

**PHYLLIS (PHIL) CULLETON
(NÉE BOWE)**

St. Martins, Rossleighan, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 15th April 2026

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in

Sts. Peter and Paul's Church on

Saturday 11th April at 6.30pm.

Death ends a life, not a relationship,

All the love you created is still there,

All the memories are still there,

You live on in the hearts of everyone you have touched and nurtured while you were here.

Sadly missed by her Husband John,

Sons John, Shane Paul and Philip Anthony.

Brothers and Sisters and her grand children.

Rest in Peace Phyllis



In Loving Memory of

EAMONN FARRELL

115 Rossvale, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurs 4th April 2026

Eamonn was a husband
and father so very rare,

Content in his home and always there,

On earth he toiled,

In Heaven he rests,

God Bless you Eamonn,

You were the best.

Loved beyond words and cherished forever

Your loving wife Kim,

daughters, Roisin, Rachel, Amy & Reiltin

grandchildren Opie, Bonnie, Alva, Jax, and Juno xx

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND MONTH'S MIND**

In Loving Memory of

MARIE (NENA) READY

163, St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise

Marie's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
St. Peter & Paul's Church on
Sunday 12th April at 12.30pm



The family of the late Marie Ready would like to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone who sympathised with us on our recent and very sad loss.

Her husband Paddy, sons Patrick and William, daughter Katie, her partner Paddy and her grandchildren Bridget and Kyle are deeply grateful to all our family, friends and neighbours who supported us during this difficult time.

Thank you to all who attended the wake, funeral and burial sent Mass cards, sympathy cards and messages of condolence. Your kindness, presence and prayers brought us great comfort.

A sincere thanks to Fr. Ciprian for a beautiful and meaningful Requiem Mass for Marie.

A special word of thanks to Heather Fogarty for the beautiful singing and to Michelle Bartley for all her help with the funeral arrangements.

We would also like to thank Keegan Funeral Directors for their professionalism, kindness and guidance throughout the funeral arrangements.

A special word of thanks to the staff of the Oncology unit of Tullamore Hospital for the care and compassion shown to Marie during her illness, to Dr. Byrne and all the staff in the Maryborough Family Practice and Chemco Pharmacy for all their help and kindness.

We would also like to thank Bosco's catering for providing the food after the funeral and to the staff at the Parish Centre for their hospitality and facilities which allowed family and friends to gather and share memories of Marie.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation.

*Forever loved and sadly missed.
Rest in Peace Marie*



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND MONTH'S MIND**

In Loving Memory of

JOHN MEEHAN

Newpark, Portlaoise

Who died March 3rd 2026

John's Months Mind Mass
will be celebrated

in St. Peter and Paul's Church on
Sunday 12th April 2026 at 12.30pm.

The family of the late John wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported, sympathised with, and visited during our sad loss.

We are deeply appreciative of the kindness and support of John's many dear relatives, neighbours, friends and former colleagues who travelled long distances to attend at the funeral home, John's funeral mass, and burial.

We wish to give a special word of thanks to the members of The Heath Golf Club and Portlaoise AFC who provided a Guard of Honour for John at his funeral.

Thank you to all who visited, rang, texted, sent Mass Cards, sympathised and shared treasured stories and memories of John online and in person with us. Your kind support shown to us has been of immense comfort to us all at this very sad time.

We would like to thank Monsignor Byrne, the priests of the parish, Declan, Michelle and the staff of the Parish Centre for their help and assistance, in particular, Fr. Adrian McNamara, who travelled from Stoke on Trent, in the UK, to celebrate John's requiem Mass and leading the rosary at the funeral home and the removal prayers.

To Georgina Ireland and Mary Wisely, thank you so much for uplifting the celebration of the Mass with your beautiful singing and music.

Sincere thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their professionalism, courtesy, and kindness shown while leading us through John's final journey.

Our gratitude is also expressed to the gravediggers who prepared John's resting place.

A word of thanks to Dr Burke and Dr Lawlor and all the staff at Cedar Clinic, and to Marcus and staff at Breslin's Pharmacy, for all their care and attention over the years.

Our gratitude is also expressed to the Laois Palliative Care Team for all their support in John's final weeks.

It would be impossible to thank everyone individually who helped, supported or aided us at this time.

Please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest and most sincere gratitude to you all.

The Holy Sacrifice of Mass has been offered for all your intentions.

Rest in Peace John



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
TONY WALSH
Church Street, Ballinakill
Sunrise: 29th July 1945 –
Sunset: 02nd March 2026

Tony's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated
on Easter Sunday at 11am in
St. Brigid's Church, Ballinakill

The family of the late Tony Walsh wish to express our sincere thanks to all who sympathised with us and supported us in our recent bereavement.

We are deeply grateful to our relatives, friends, neighbours and colleagues for your kindness, sympathy and generosity. Your visits, messages, cards, food and flowers and attendance at dad's wake, funeral and burial were a great comfort to us.

We offer our sincere appreciation to Kilminchy Lodge Nursing Home, who looked after dad with such compassion and dedication. Thank you also to the HSE carers who were a great help and support also while dad was at home. Thank you to O'Donnell's Pharmacy and to Dr. John Madden and their staff for their ongoing assistance and care.

A special word of thanks to the Ballinakill GAA Club for their Guard of Honour, it was very much appreciated on that wet March morning.

A special thank you to Fr. Petru Medves, Fr. Paddy Byrne and Fr. Sean Conlon for celebrating the Requiem Mass and for all their support to our family during this time.

Our heartfelt thanks to the choir for providing such beautiful music and song at the Mass. Thank you also to Michael Carter, sacristan, for your help and assistance.

We are deeply grateful to all who took part in any way in the Mass – it meant a great deal to us, thank you.

We extend our sincere thanks to Dermot and Ray Duggan for the professional and compassionate way they carried out the funeral arrangements and to the gravediggers for preparing dad's final resting place with such care.

Thank you to The Abbyleix Manor Hotel for your hospitality and exceptional service.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our heartfelt appreciation.

The holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

You were always there when we needed you, no task too great or small.

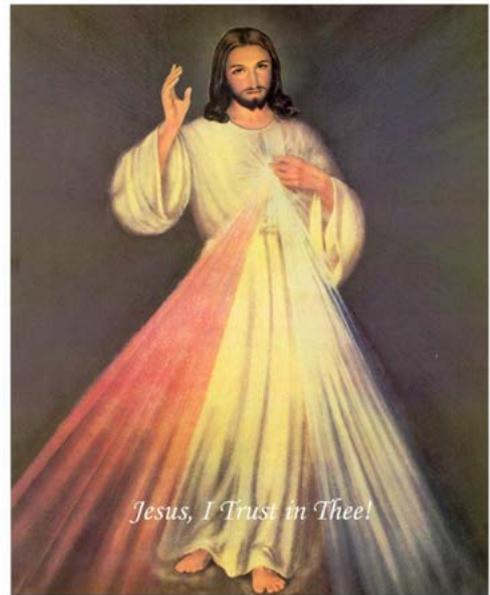
With a loving heart and willing hand, for us you did it all.

God bless and keep you father dear, and thanks for all you've done.

We know that God has given you, the crown you've truly won

May Dad's gentle soul rest in eternal peace

Come Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday



Welcome to the Feast of Mercy being celebrated at:

Venue: St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.
Date: 12th April 2026
Time: Confessions at 2:30pm followed by Procession Up the Church at 2.45pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Mass.



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

BREDA WALSH
(NÉE KEOGH)

Late of Chelmsford, Essex
and Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.

Wishing you were here today
for even just a while,
so we could say Happy Birthday
and see your loving smile.

But we'll gaze upon your pictures
and think of you with love,
and hope you're celebrating
in Heaven up above.

Forever Loved, Never Forgotten
Always Missed

*Matty, Jason, Helena, Emma, Shane, Viola
and all the grandkids and extended family.*

Happy Heavenly Birthday Breda

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Stoma Support Group for Cancer Patients and Carers

**Tuesday 7th April @
2.30pm**

Group facilitated by Stoma Care Specialist Nurse Anna Bergin. This group will provide stoma advice on the issues that affect you every day – from leakages to skin protection and much more. It offers a safe and supportive space for individuals living with a stoma and those caring for them.

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info@cuislecancersupport.ie

Cuisle Cancer Support Centre
Block Road, Portlaoise,
Co. Laois, R32 Y8P2



Portlaoise Parish

Results for 02nd April 2026



11 14 20 27

No €13,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Mary & Richard Phelan
Paul Dooley
Pat Bowler
Sadie & George Dempsey
Damien & Breda Allen
Ann Carroll
Danny O'Loughlin
Maureen Thompson
John Egan
Sun
Geraldine Greene
Keith Hughes
Nuala Brophy
Enda Keenan
T. Gorman
Roisin Fitzpatrick

MATCH 3s €1,000

16
Match
3s
Receive
€63

PROMOTER

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Paul Dooley
Pat Bowler
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Lily Whelan
John Loughlin
Peter Ryan
Peter Ryan
Martleys Shop
Susan Hartford
Keith Hughes
Greg Keenan
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Mai Murphy



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Next Week's Jackpot is €14,000

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 viewed on our website and our Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

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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

Scan this QR Code to take you directly to our Donate facility



Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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



LINK UP

Monday to Thursday

9am to 5pm

Contact: Mary Schwer

057-8692154

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully



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