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PARISH
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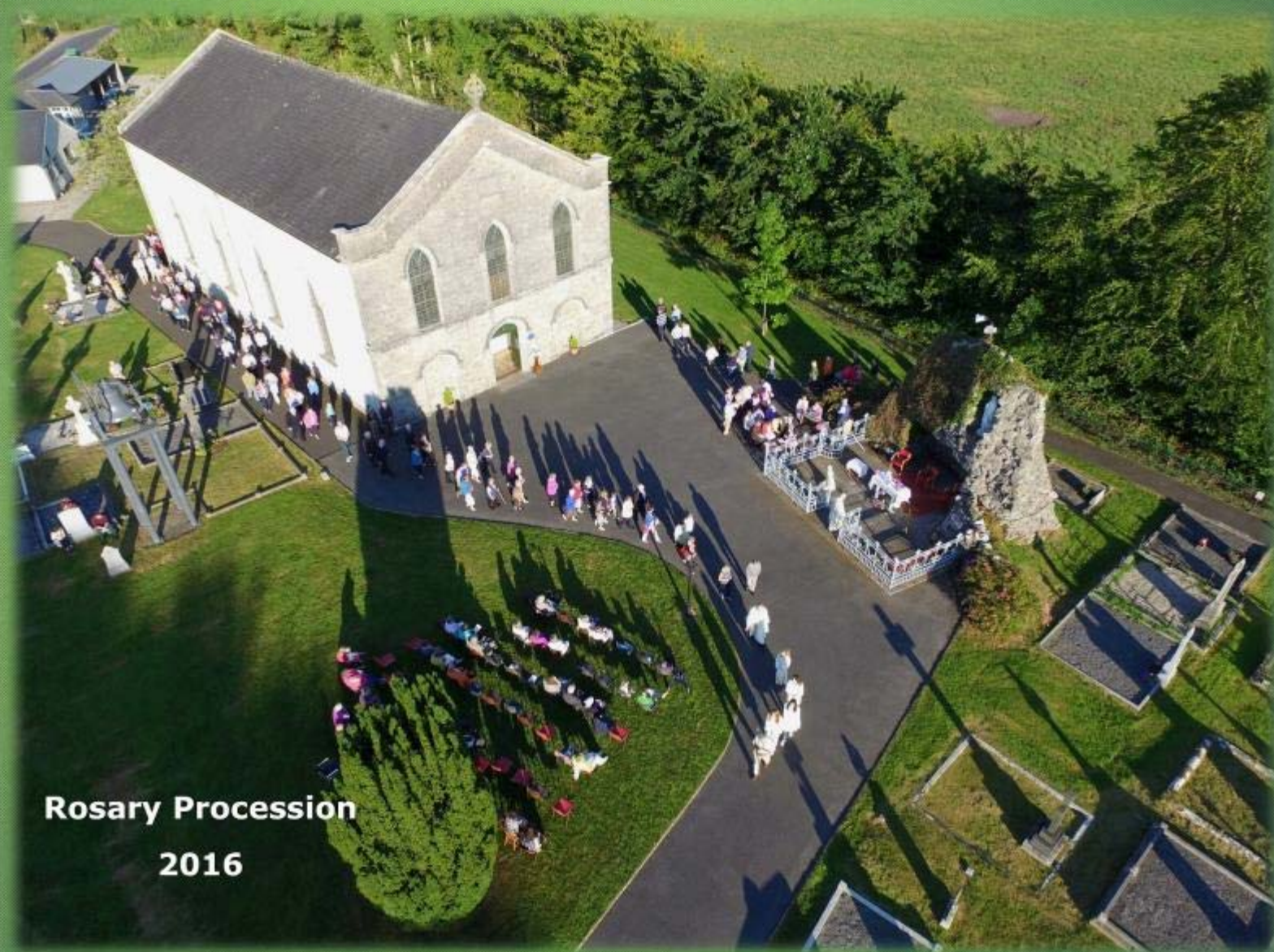
11th August 2019

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Feast of the Assumption — next Thursday 15th August.

Cemetery Mass in the Heath. Rosary and procession at 7pm followed by Mass.



Rosary Procession
2016

The Parish Centre 057 8621142
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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie

8th August 2019 Portlaoise Parish



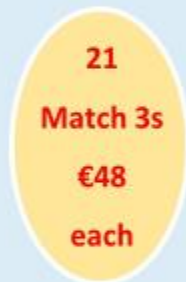
One €10,000 Jackpot Winner

Matt Brophy Promoter Paul Dooley

WINNERS

Lucy & Peggy
Liam Clooney
Maureen Dunne
Noeleen Dunphy
Frank Cullen
Agnes Gleeson
Paddy O'Connor
Deirdre Donohue
Edel McCarthy
Pat & Mgt Farrell
Mrs. Hennessy
Conor O'Brien jnr.
Ula Cupa
Maravic Dela Cruz
Patricia Byrne
Caitriona Finn
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Bernie Lalor
Paddy O'Connor
Lil Gleeson
Betty McCarthy
Peter Ryan
Peter Ryan
L. O'Brien
Peter Ryan
Maravic Dela Cruz
Rocky Kehoe
Parish Centre
Paul Dooley
Gabrielle Cosgrave
Breda Conroy
Mgt Doheny
Breda Conroy

Priests of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.
Tel: 057 8692153



Fr. David Vard C.C.
Tel: 057 8661139



Fr. Eddie Lalor C.C.
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Tom O'Connor P.E.
(Parish Chaplain)

Visiting Priests



Fr. Benny Antoney



Fr. Thulani Gubula

To contact the Priest on Duty:
Parish Centre during office hours
Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours
in emergency only
Tel: 057 8621364

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 Secretaries Michelle Bartley
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Jooly 057-8692151
(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times)

All Masses and services from the Parish Church
are live streamed www.portlaoiseparish.ie



Secretary: Julie Conroy
Monday to Thursday
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Pope Francis' Prayer
Intention for August 2019
Schools of True Human Growth

August is the best month for taking your foot of the 'work pedal' a bit and concentrating on family. Older member families won't be around forever, and if we are not careful we will be left with regrets that we

left things un-said. All too quickly our children grown up and leave the nest, and if we are not careful we will have missed out on things we wished we had shared. The 'here and now' is the best time to celebrate family life. Family life is important. It's within our own families that we build each other's sense of value. It's within our own families that we grow stronger. It's within the family that our children learn what is important and what isn't. This month we are invited to share Pope Francis' prayer intention, "... **That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly 'schools of true human growth'.** "



Image of the Assumption at
Our Lady's Altar - Parish Church

Thursday 15th August Feast of the Assumption

How do we live our lives? Do we feel overworked, overwhelmed anxious and tired? Do we feel unable to make an impact on the world around us? Do we suffer from negative feelings of inadequacy, failure, boredom or of panic? When we are at our lowest ebb we might ask for God's help, but few of us would consider completely

putting our trust in God or expecting any fulfilment in return. It's exactly this that makes the Blessed Virgin Mary so special. Mary's trust in God and her lifelong fidelity have made her the model disciple.

Mary presents to us the key to life's challenges when she says, "...He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty...." Mary addresses two driving forces that come up again and again in our lives and our society; self-interest and the use of power to get our own way.

How would Mary behave if she were suddenly amongst us today? Almost certainly she would be leading the way, making Jesus' vision of a world free of poverty and abuse a reality. Almost certainly she would be showing us how to live faithful and fulfilled lives. Mary is the model of trust and fidelity.

Saying 'yes' to God is important, but in some ways it's not the hardest part. Making discipleship real day in and day out as Mary did is the really hard part, and our challenge for today.

Pray for our Examinees

Best wishes to all students receiving their Leaving Certificate Results this week. We pray that the Lord will bless all our young students with courage and hope and guide them in their life choices.

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday - Wednesday: 7.30am & 10am

Thursday Feast of the Assumption

7.30pm (Vigil on Wednesday)

8.30am, 10am, 12.30pm & 7.30pm

Ratheniska: 10am

Cemetery Mass Heath: 7.30pm

Friday: 7.30am & 10am

Saturday: 10am

SUNDAY MASSES

Scoil Bhride, Knockmay (Saturday) 7.30pm

St. Peter & Paul's Parish Church

Vigil (Saturday) 6.30pm

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

Church of the Assumption,

The Heath: 9.30am

Church of the Holy Cross,

Ratheniska: 10am.

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday after 10am
& 6.30pm Masses.



We welcome into our Parish Community

**Who were baptised
last weekend**

**Kai Carter McCormack
The Garden Village**

**Sadie Mae Dolores Grennan
Colliers Wood**

**Grace Rose McEvoy
Buttercup Avenue, Esker Hills**

**Brody Michael O'Neill
Marian Avenue**

**Senan Kenneth Corrigan
Stradbrook, Stradbally Rd.**

**Rose Chioma Okonkwo
Cosby Avenue, Fairgreen**

Sunday 4th August 2019

Offertory Collection	€2,575.00
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	€5,692.00

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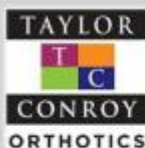
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comfort & Correct the Mechanics of the
feet. Conditions such as arthritis and
diabetes may require softer coverings.

SPORTS PEOPLE;

May need to be aligned biomechanically
to prevent problems and cushioned for
shock absorbency.

CHILDREN;

Who are in toeling, out toeling, have poor
posture or gait or where parents notice
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Treasures In Heaven

Do you have a piggy bank at home? How often do you put money in it? I know some people who, at the end of each day, put all of the change from their pockets into a piggy bank. It may not be a lot of money, but when you add to it every day, it is amazing how quickly it builds up.



Whether we use a piggy bank or a savings account at the bank, it is a good idea to have a plan to save money for unexpected emergencies or when we want to do something special. One thing we have to be careful of is that the treasure that we are building doesn't become the most important thing in our life. Jesus warned about that in teaching his followers about money. He told them that they should not worry so much about building up treasures on earth, but that they should concentrate on building up treasures in heaven.

Treasures in heaven? How do we build up treasures in heaven? Jesus taught that one way to build up treasures in heaven is to give money to the poor. Can you think of some other ways that we might build up treasure in heaven? I think we build up treasure in heaven when we do things to help others. Things like:

- Visiting the sick
- Helping to feed the hungry
- Being cheerful and thoughtful to someone who is sad
- Praying for one another
- Working in a shelter for the homeless
- Being a friend to someone who is lonely
- Forgiving someone who has hurt you
- Saying you're sorry when you hurt someone



All of these are things that we can do here on earth that will be stored up as the "treasures in heaven" about which Jesus spoke. They may not seem like much, but if we do something for someone each and every day, it is amazing how quickly they add up.

PRAYER

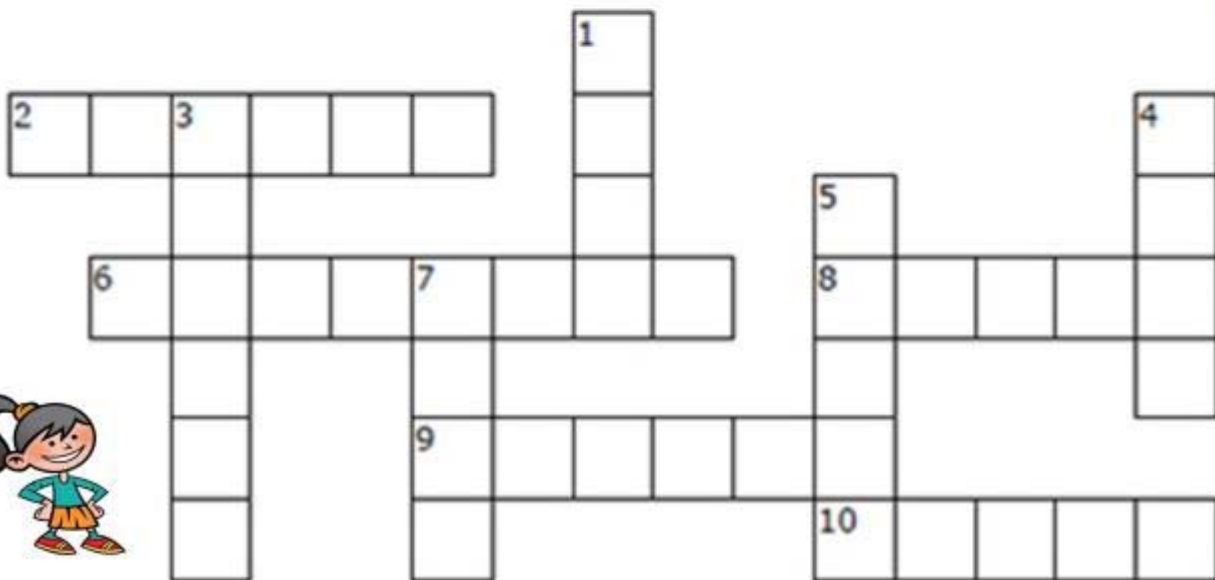
Father, we may never have much in the way of earthly treasure, but help us to be faithful each day in building up treasures in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**For where your
treasure is,
there your heart will
be also.**

Luke 12:34

**This puzzle is based on Luke
12:32-34**

TREASURES — IN — HEAVEN



ACROSS

2. The home where we will live forever with God.
6. Valuable things such as gold, silver, jewels, or money.
8. The organ that pumps blood through the body.
9. Small in size.
10. A group of sheep that live or feed together.

DOWN

1. Having little money or possessions.
3. Filled with fear.
4. The An insect with wings similar to a butterfly, usually flies at night and is attracted to light.
5. Someone who steals.
6. To exchange or deliver something for money.

HEAVEN

TREASURE

SELL

MOTH

FLOCK

THIEF

HEART

AFRAID

LITTLE

POOR

Jokes of the day



Question: Why did the tree go to the dentist? Answer: To get a root canal.

Question: Which game did the cat want to play with the mouse? Answer: Catch.

Question: What do you call a sheep with no legs? Answer: A cloud.

Question: What's a rabbits' favourite car? Answer: Any make, just as long it's a hutchback!



TIME TO THINK!

THE HOMELESS CRISIS

July 19th marked the third anniversary of the launch of Rebuilding Ireland, the government's plan to address the housing and homeless crisis. Any honest assessment of this policy will conclude that it has been an abject failure. The Government's approach has left the Irish housing system in an even deeper crisis.

Fr. Peter McVerry SJ and the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice (JCFJ) have expressed their deep criticism of the government's homelessness action plan, Rebuilding Ireland, on the third anniversary of its launch. According to Fr. McVerry in an Irish Times article, he stated the plan has been "an abject failure".

Since the plan was launched, the official figures for homelessness have increased a full 65%. And this does not include such hidden homelessness as migrants with refugee status who are unable to move out of direct provision for want of a home, people who are unable to leave the family home or have to bunk with relatives so as to stay off the street, etc. And to this again such matters as exorbitant rental costs and the failure to roll out public-sector-built social housing, and the Irish housing crisis is truly (in Fr. Peter McVerry's words) a "national shame". The government, which seems committed to leaving things in the hands of the private sector, have absolutely no effective response to it.

Working with Fr McVerry, the JCFJ has published a detailed proposal regarding the Rebuilding Ireland plan. From their press release:

The centre's review highlights the fact that homelessness has been normalised in the time since the plan launched. In the past three years, it has increased by two-thirds and now stands at more than 10,000 people, a figure that does not include many thousands more who make up the 'hidden homeless'. Since 2016, social housing has been redefined, and is now provided privately, due to the HAP scheme, on which the Government spends more than €2 million a day. "The official figures for those who are homeless has been above 10,000 for most of this year, which is 65% higher than when the plan intended to solve this problem was launched. That the figure is so high, ought to be a cause of national shame to a society as wealthy as contemporary Ireland." Fr Peter McVerry SJ

The responsibility of building more homes has been left almost exclusively to private developers, something which has been catastrophic for market affordability. The rental crisis has reached new heights, and the creation of rental pressure zones, which 65% of the homes available to rent in Ireland are now located within, has added to this. The number of listings on the Airbnb website skyrocketed during the past three years, making profit for those who are homeowners and making properties unavailable to those in need of a home.



The JCFJ urges the Government to adopt a fundamentally different approach to housing policy which does not have the market at its core. It must: vastly increase the construction of publicly owned housing; introduce legislation making it illegal to evict households into homelessness, for at three years; expand the mortgage-to-rent scheme; integrate intergenerational community planning, and; make housing policy the frontline of environmental policy.

Prayer for Homeless People

Hear our prayer today for all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.

For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.

For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.

For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.

For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them of who they are.

For those who are afraid and hopeless.

For those who have been betrayed by our social safety net.

For all these people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.

We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds that we will not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.

Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet.

Empower us to work for justice and peace through words and deeds, and through the political means we have.

Give us open hearts to greet and meet homeless people.

In your name we pray. Amen.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 16,200 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

Fr. Paddy's book *"All will be well"* on sale in the Parish Shop or online at www.portlaoiseparish.ie

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Familiar with observations, record keeping, Aistear
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Bachelor of Business Studies	8	IPA/UCD
Diploma in Law Specific Purpose Award	7	IPA/UCD
Certificate for Accounting Technicians Year 1	6	ATI
Diploma for Accounting Technicians Year 2	6	ATI
IPASS Stage 1	6	IPASS
IPASS Stage 2	6	IPASS
Certificate in Interpersonal Communications	7	UCC
Higher Diploma in Relationship Mentoring	8	UCC



**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;**



John Cassidy

*The Green, Kilminchy
and formerly Meelick*



Gerry Rowe
Kilmurray, The Heath

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil: for you are with me: your rod
and your staff - they comfort me.*

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Our sympathy to their families.

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to
the death notice at www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices

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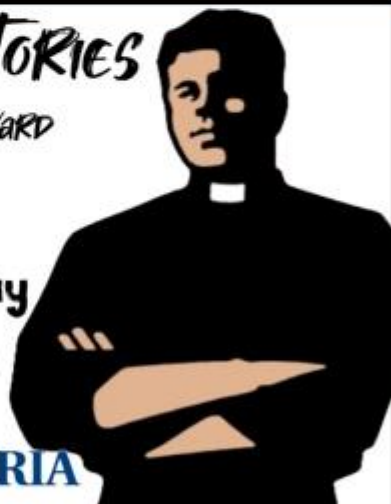
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In Loving Memory of PATRICK DOYLE

20 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

17th Anniversary occurred 9th August 2019.



Will those who think of Patrick today

A little prayer to Jesus say.

Sadly missed and always
remembered by all his loving family.

May Patrick Rest in Peace



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In Loving Memory of TOM BERGIN

66 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

20th Anniversary occurs at this time.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 11th August at 11:15am.

*Time passes, memories stay,
Quietly remembered everyday.*

From his loving wife Mary & family.

May Tom Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of **PATRICIA GING**

44 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.

3rd Birthday away from home; 12th August 2019



*Missing You on your
birthday in Heaven*

Today would have been such a special day, but now it brings sadness and sorrow, If we could share just one more day, if there was one more tomorrow.

But birthdays are a time for reflection, to look over years past, and we can't believe another years gone by, the time just goes so fast.

But memories of more happier times, in our hearts will always stay, we'll treasure each and every one, until we meet again someday.

So we'll say goodbye for now Patricia and blow a kiss to Heaven above, to wish you the happiest of birthdays and send you all our love.

Loved and missed by her parents John-Joe and Ann, daughters Emma and Lisa, sons Aron and Ross, grandson Michael, sister Joanne, brother-in-law Sean, niece Aoife, grand-niece Grace-Rose, nephews Gavin, Conor and Cian, uncles, aunts, cousins, and extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Patricia



Fatima Candle

The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church on **Tuesday 13th August** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners.



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In Loving Memory of **EUGENE O' CONNOR**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise. 5-2-1960 - 4/8/2011

8th Anniversary occurred 4th August 2019



*Sunshine passes, shadows fall,
Love's remembrance outlasts all,
And though the years be many or few,
They are filled with memories of you.*

*Loved, missed and remembered always
by Zoe, James and Ange*

May Eugene Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **GERARD & THOMAS LAWLESS**

Whose Anniversaries occur on 14th and 6th August respectively
(22nd & 7th Anniversary)



Anniversary Mass for Gerard and Thomas will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Sunday 11th August at 12:30pm.**



*Wonderful Memories woven in gold,
This is a picture we tenderly hold,
Deep in our hearts a memory is kept, to love, to cherish & never forget.*

Sadly missed by Mammy, their loving family, nieces, nephews, their godson Kameron and extended family and friends.

May Gerard and Thomas Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **PAULINE HOOBAN**

121 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary occurred 6th August 2019.



*Memory is a lovely lane ,
where hearts are very true,
A lane we so often travel down,
because it leads to you.*

*Loved and remembered always,
your sister Mary and family.*

May Pauline Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **JOHN (SON) WALSH**

Summerhill, Portlaoise.

Whose 15th Anniversary occurs 12th August 2019.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Sunday 11th August at 10am.**

*Always in our thoughts
Forever in our hearts*

Sadly missed by his loving wife Rose & family.

May John Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
GERALDINE LEWIS née Buggy
The Heath, Portlaoise.



Geraldine's husband Derek, children Serena, Rachel and Darragh, grandson Killian, parents John and Maura Buggy, and family wish to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to so many kind people who sympathised with them over Geraldine's funeral.

The family were overwhelmed with the large number of expressions of sympathy, good wishes, kind thoughts, gifts, cards and flowers over the last number of weeks. The support of Msgr. John and all the Priests of the Parish is greatly appreciated.

The family are appreciative of the great attention received by Geraldine and the compassion shown by the staff in the Regional Hospital Portlaoise; A&E, ambulance staff and the staff at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin.

In addition, thanks to The Heath GAA and Laois GAA, The Heath Parish Hall Committee, friends and neighbours, Burkes Funeral Home (Mountrath), and Elaine Begley for her singing at the funeral Mass. The family are deeply indebted for the great kindness shown by so many at this sad time.

Geraldine's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated this Sunday, 11th August in The Church of the Assumption, The Heath at 9:30am.

Rest in Peace Geraldine

In Loving Memory of **ANN WHELAN**

Late of 85 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
18th Anniversary occurs 12th August 2019.

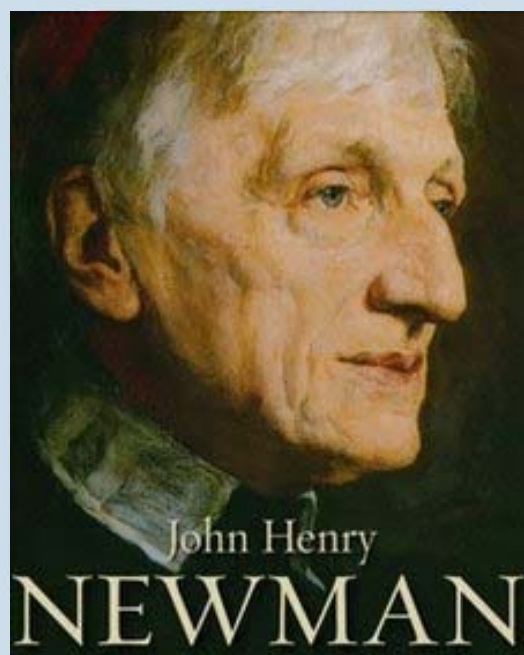
Sister;

No words or verse can really say,
how we feel on this sad day,
The happiest day we ever knew, was
complete as a family with you.
Deep in our hearts your memory is
kept, words are not needed, we will
never forget.

Sadly missed and never forgotten by your loving sisters
Ellen, Guggie, Mary and families.

May Ann Rest in Peace

Bl. John Henry Newman



Newman's

"Prayer for a Happy Death"

*Oh, my Lord and Saviour,
support me in that hour in the
strong arms of Your Sacraments,
and by the fresh fragrance of
Your consolations.*

*Let the absolving words be said
over me,*

*and the holy oil sign and seal me,
and Your own Body be my food,
and Your Blood my sprinkling;
and let my sweet Mother, Mary,
breathe on me,*

*and my Angel whisper peace to me,
and my glorious Saints smile upon
me;*

*that in them all, and through them
all,*

*I may receive the gift of
perseverance,
and die, as I desire to live,
in Your faith,
in Your Church,
in Your service,
and in Your love. Amen.*

— From Meditations and Devotions

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RELIGIOUS NOTICES

Adoration: Monday to Friday after 10am Mass, concluding with Rosary 7pm. Saturday after 10am Mass concluding with Rosary 6pm. Sunday commencing at 2:30pm, concluding with Rosary 7pm. From 2:30pm to 3:30pm on Sunday will be a special time of prayer for vocations to the Priesthood.

Adoration in the Church of the Assumption the Heath Sundays from 2.50pm to 4pm.

Rosary: Please join the Prayer for Ireland team in praying the Rosary daily at 9.30pm on the Parish radio (106.5fm) or web cam.

Rosary at the Grotto: First Fridays and all Feast days to Our Lady, 8pm.

Legion of Mary: meeting every Wednesday at 8pm in the Prayer room of the Parish Church.

"Meditating... Being Mindful... Seeking God": Parish Centre. Thursdays, 11am to 12 noon. New members welcome.

Parish Bereavement Support: If you have lost a loved one, there is a confidential one to one support service available (by appointment), call 087-9878300.

Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting: Every Monday 8-9pm in the Prayer room of Portlaoise Parish Church.

Kildare Pilgrimage to Lough Derg: from Tues. 13th August to Thurs. 15th August, Feast of the Assumption. Bus leaving Monasterevin at 6.30am. For further details contact Michael on 087-669702 or Joe 087-3815887.

Cemetery Masses Raheen Parish: Cemetery Masses in August; Shanakill Thursday 15th August at 7.30pm, Cromogue Friday 16th August at 7.30pm and Clonad Wednesday 21st August at 7.30pm.

The annual crossing of Ireland with a statue of Our Lady of the hidden and mystical wounds will take place, 15th, 16th and 17th August. The **Abbeyleix to Killeigh** section is on **Friday 16th** as follows;

11am Rosary in Abbeyleix R.C. Holy Rosary Church.

12 noon Rosary at Our Lady's Shrine in the Square, Portlaoise.

2pm Rosary in Mountmellick.

3pm Rosary in St. Patrick's R.C. Church, Killeigh.

USEFUL SERVICES

Accord: Going through a difficult time in your marriage/relationship? Counselling Services available at Accord, Parish Centre, Portlaoise, call 057-8661581 or e-mail us at; accordportlaoise@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Portlaoise Library News: Board

Games Club: Weekly meet-up to play board games with like minded adults in Portlaoise Library, on Wednesdays at 7.30pm, scrabble, ticket to ride, chess and many more. All welcome. Booking advised.

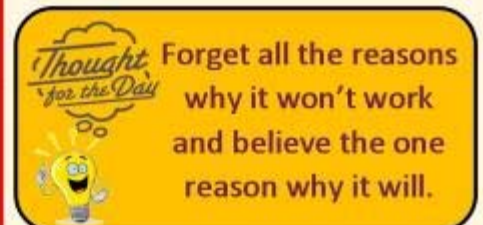
Heritage Week at Portlaoise Library 17th-25th August: Laois and National Heritage Guides are now available in the library. An exhibition of Main Street, Portlaoise 'Down the years' is currently taking place until 31st August. You can check the library webpage; www.laoislibraries.ie for further details of events. Booking is essential for some of the events as places are limited. Contact the library on 057-8622333 or e-mail; laoislibrary@laoiscoco.ie.

Laois/Offaly Branch of Retired Nurses Association are having an afternoon outing to Japanese Gardens with refreshments on Tuesday 20th August. Meal on way home. All grades welcome. Further details from Joe McGill 087-2682206, Charlotte Griffin 087-2068974 or Marie Costigan 087-6219253.

GROW Community Mental Health Support Group

meets every Wednesday at 7.30pm in Portlaoise Parish Centre. Why not come along and learn more about positive mental health, wellbeing, recovery and how GROW may help you achieve this. Free of charge. All welcome. Contact Michelle 086-4183805 or visit our website, www.grow.ie for further information. [GROW Promoting Positive Mental Health]

Folklore by local children: A collection of folklore and local traditions compiled by primary school pupils of Mountmellick and Rosenallis areas between 1937 and 1939, will be on display in Mountmellick Library for the month of August. Opening night; Wed. 13th August, 7pm.



ANNUAL CHURCH GATE COLLECTION FOR The Fatima Invalid Fund

will be held at all Masses in Portlaoise, The Heath, Ratheniska & Rath, Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th August.

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