

**PORTLAOISE**  
**PARISH**  
**link**  
**Up**

13th January 2019

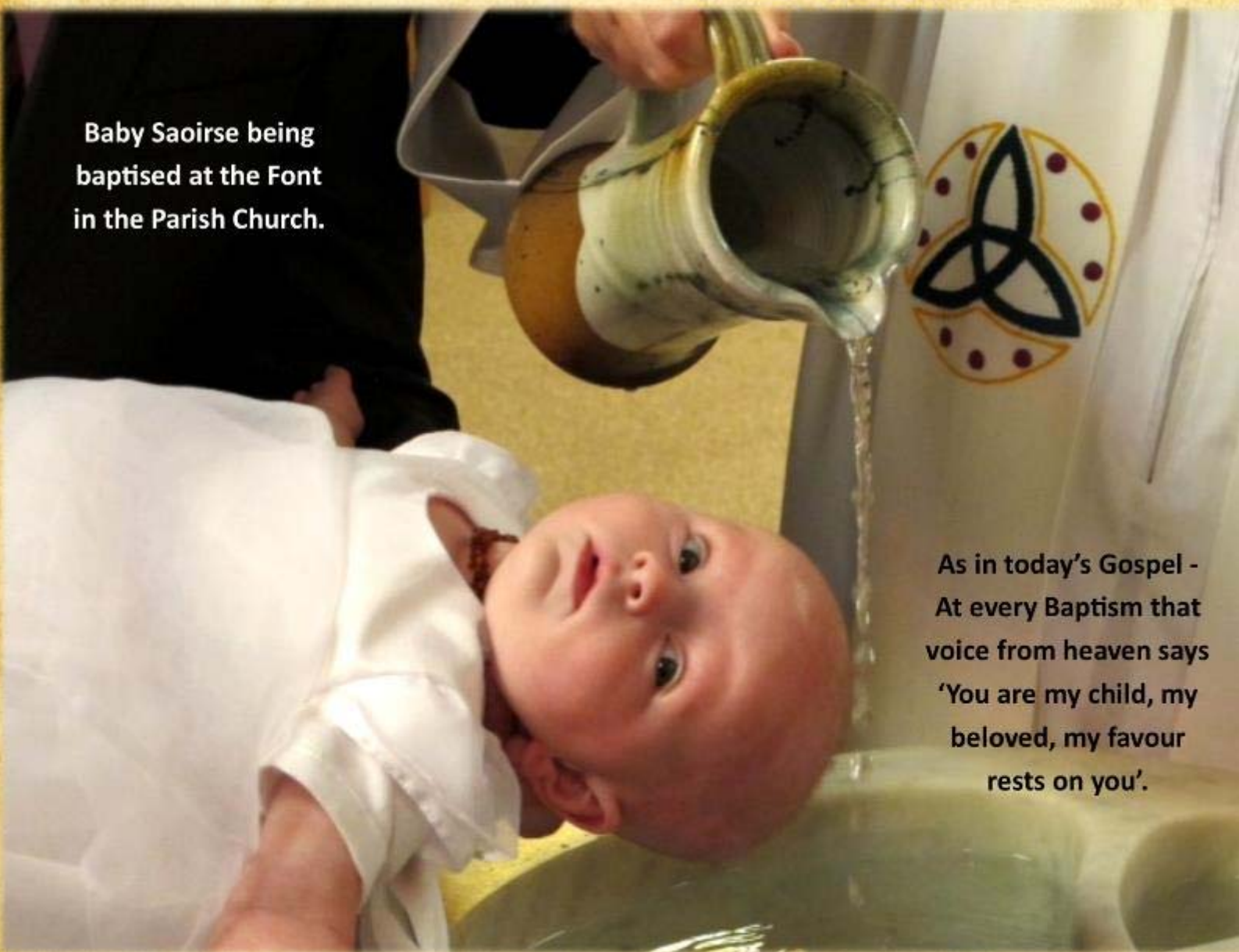
# BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

## Blessing of Babies

Today (Sunday) at 2pm in the Parish Church

All are Welcome

Baby Saoirse being  
baptised at the Font  
in the Parish Church.



As in today's Gospel -  
At every Baptism that  
voice from heaven says  
'You are my child, my  
beloved, my favour  
rests on you'.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142  
E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)

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Parish and Diocesan Websites: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)



10th January 2019

Portlaoise Parish



**One Jackpot Winner €10,000**

**Susan Fenlon**

**Promoter Tom Fenlon**

**WINNERS**

Michael Nolan  
Junior Dowling  
Shay Bartley  
Martin Dowling  
Danny O'Loughlin  
Kevin & Ann Marie Lynch  
Liz & Mary  
Eddie Tynan  
Peter & Breda  
Martin Deery  
Olive O'Flaherty  
Sean & Kathleen Clancy  
Elaine Byrne  
Elaine  
Maureen Carroll  
Ben Talt  
Bridie O'Brien  
Fr. Pat Hennessy  
Lila Lynch  
Kathleen Bennett  
Tim Drennan  
Jerry Dooley  
Peg Lyons

**PROMOTER**

Lotto Gift  
Tom Fenlon  
Elizabeth Bartley  
Bobby Haslam  
Browns Shop  
Betty Lynch  
Liz & Mary D  
Una Tynan  
Peter Ryan  
Kathleen Rigney  
All Books  
Peggy Kelly  
Parish Centre  
Mgt Bartley  
Martley's Shop  
Carmel Whelan  
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*Priests of the Parish*



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Tel: 057 8692153



**Fr. Paddy Byrne C.C.**  
Tel: 057 8661139



**Fr. David Vard C.C.**  
Tel: 057 8509998



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



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

**To contact the Priest on Duty:**  
**Parish Centre during office hours**  
**Tel: 057 8621142**

Outside of Office Hours

**In emergencies only**

To contact the Priest on duty  
**057-8621364**



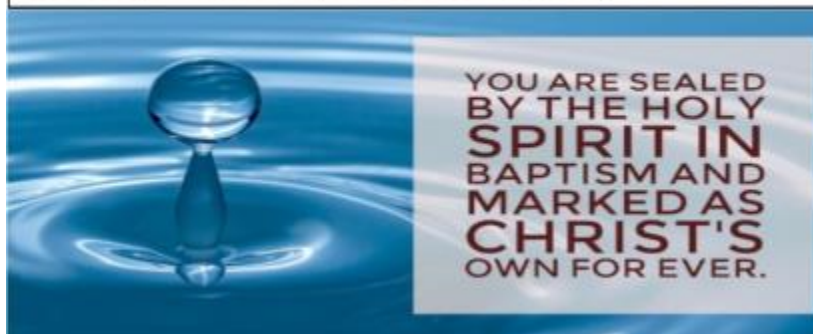
**THE SIGN OF PEACE**

During this time of heightened risk of 'the flu' we are suspending the shaking of hands at the Sign of Peace. It is an appropriate time at Mass to place ourselves at Peace with all people.

**Baptisms in our Parish**

Baptisms are celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's Church, every weekend - see details on our website [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie).

In The Church of the Assumption, The Heath on the first Sunday of the month & Holy Cross Church Ratheniska on the second Sunday of the month immediately after the Sunday Mass. To make arrangements please collect a form at the Parish Centre or for more information phone 057 862 1142 or email [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie). You will be invited to meet a member of our Baptism Team prior to the Ceremony



**Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm**  
**Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722**  
**E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)**  
**Twitter: @portlaoiseparis**

**MANAGER Declan Kelly**

**Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley**  
**Agnieszka Kaczmarek**

**Accounts Michelle Conroy**

**Sacristans Parish Church**

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

**All Masses and services from the Parish Church**  
**are live streamed [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)**



**Secretary: Julie Conroy**  
**Monday to Thursday**  
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**057-8692154**

**Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday**

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What does Jesus' baptism say to us? Jesus' thirty years of preparation before his public baptism remind us that it takes time to get ready for God's mission. How many countless hours did Jesus spend in prayer? What study, what thought, what agony must he have undergone before appearing in front of John to ask him to baptize him. It is never too late for any of us to say, "yes" to God.

January is a time for new beginnings and fresh resolution. John the Baptist was an expert on this. John's ministry was all about repentance and life changing reform ... that's what his baptism was all about. But anyone who has ever seriously tried to change themselves will know how difficult change really is. Can we really entertain any hopes of becoming braver if we have spent our whole lives avoiding confrontation? Can we really become kinder if we have spent our whole lives only thinking of our own needs? All of us can point to parts of our life that remain stubbornly unchanged year in and year out. Those who were baptised by John were baptised as a sign of their intent to change from their old ways, but knowing how difficult change can be, we can't help wondering how successful they must have been. Perhaps John appreciated this too when he said "I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

We are told that the same Holy Spirit that empowered Jesus at the outset of his ministry, is the same Holy Spirit that is given to us in our baptism. This is an inspiring thought. Validating our baptism anew every day, knowing that we are filled with the Holy Spirit ..... perhaps change isn't beyond us after all.

## Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

### Monday—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.

Polish Mass, 3rd Sunday of the Month at 6pm.

### CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday after 10am & 6.30pm Masses.



## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Required

If you are interested in serving the parish, please leave your name and contact details into the Parish Centre or if you wish, you can email your details to [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie) or phone 0578 621142 (during office hrs)

### Sunday 6th January 2019

Offertory Collection €3,055.00

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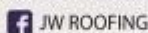
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## IT COULD BE YOU



*Pictured Left L/R;*

Emer, Eoin, Sam and Barry O'Loughlin receiving last week's lotto prize from Agnes on behalf of their dad Danny O'Loughlin.



*Pictured Right;*

Maura Loughlin, promoter and her grandchild Maria receiving her lotto prize from Fr. Paddy.

*(missing from photo, Owen and Cian)*



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## New Beginnings

January is an exciting time. It is the beginning of a brand new year. Some people like to make New Year's resolutions or promises to themselves about what they plan to accomplish in the new year. The number one resolution that people make is, "I am going to lose weight." I don't think too many people succeed, since it seems to be the number one resolution year after year. I know that it usually makes my top ten list of things I would like to accomplish in the new year.



Even if you don't make any New Year's resolutions, this is an exciting time. It is a time that we can forget our past mistakes and look forward to new opportunities that lie ahead of us. It is a time of new beginnings.

Jesus experienced times of new beginnings in his life too. One of those times was when he was baptised. There were a couple of very important things that happened when Jesus was baptised. First of all, the Bible tells us that the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove and landed upon him. The second thing was that God spoke and said, "You are my Son. I love you and I am well-pleased with you."

This event marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry here on earth. Up until that time, he had not performed any miracles, but with God's stamp of approval and with the spirit of God upon him, Jesus began to perform great miracles. From this new beginning, many people began to understand that Jesus was truly the Son of God and they began to follow him.

Our own baptism represents a new beginning for us as well. When we are baptised, it shows the world that just as Jesus rose from the dead through the glory of God the Father, we also live a new life in him. (Romans 6:4) God may not always be well-pleased with us, but I think that He looks down with an approving smile when he sees us trying to walk with Jesus.

New beginnings — God gives us opportunities for new beginnings. Let us make the most of them as we live a new life in Christ through the power of his Holy Spirit.

### OUR PRAYER

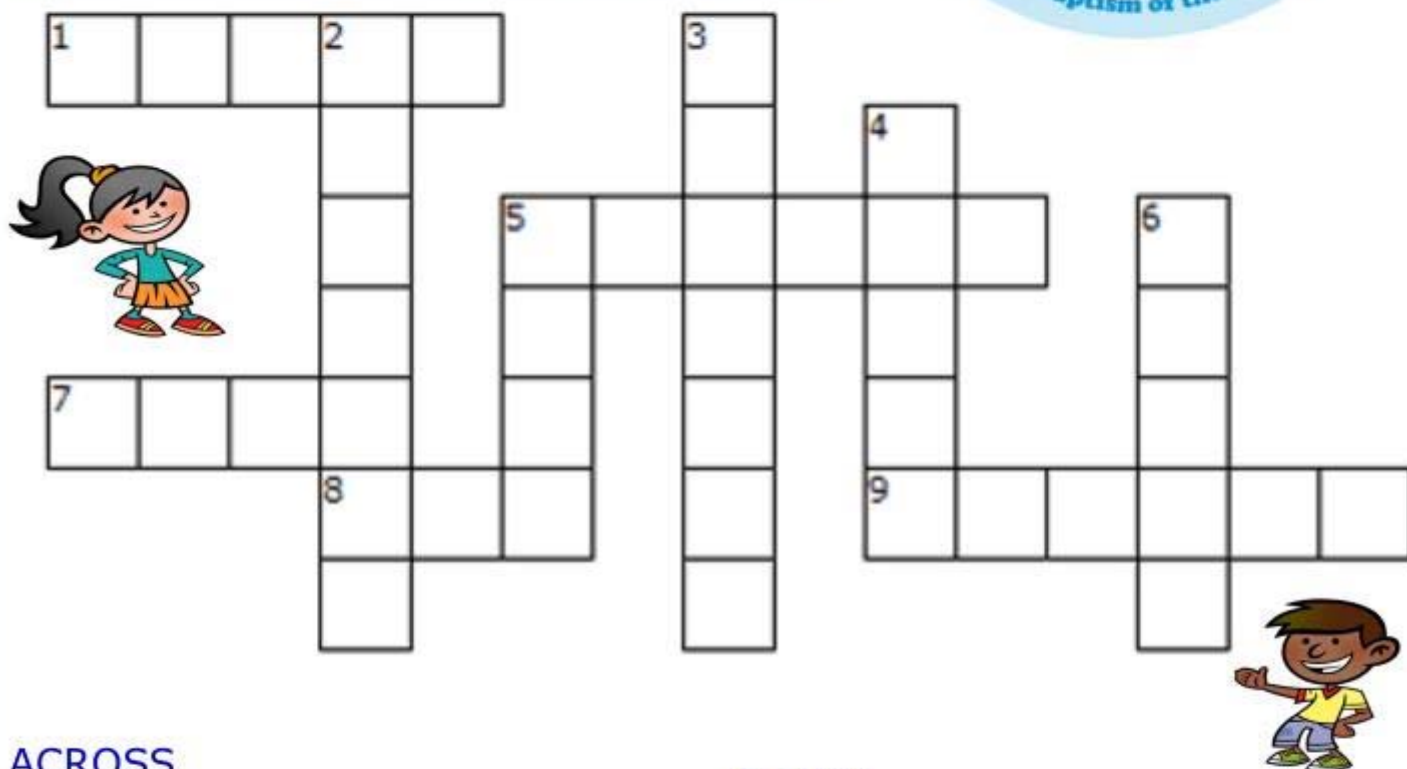
Dear Father, thank you for new beginnings. Help us to make the most of them — not through our own strength — but through the power of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.





# The Baptism of Jesus

*As Jesus was coming up out of the water,  
he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit  
descending on him like a dove.  
And a voice came from heaven:  
"You are my Son, whom I love;  
with you I am well pleased."  
Mark 1:4-11*



## ACROSS

1. What was heard when Jesus was baptised.
5. The river where Jesus was baptised
7. The Spirit cam down from heaven like a \_\_\_\_\_.
8. To break one of God's commandments.
9. To turn away from sin.

## DOWN

2. To admit that you have done wrong.
3. To pardon for sins.
4. The liquid used to baptise someone.
5. Name of the man who baptised Jesus.
6. A sticky, sweet fluid made by bees.

**FORGIVE  
CONFESS**

**JORDAN  
WATER**

**JOHN  
SIN**

**DOVE  
VOICE**

**REPENT  
HONEY**





# TIME TO THINK!

## POPE FRANCIS' 10 NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

In a very frank interview published in the Argentine weekly "Viva", Pope Francis gave out 10 very sensible pieces of advice on how to live a happy life. Contrary to what most might think, none of them show intent to convert to religion and it is in no way implied that only through being a Catholic, will you be able to achieve a blissful life. The unconventional Pope's advice got as specific as telling people to turn their TVs off when they sit down to eat. While some may find it hard to rest on Sundays or find time to play with their kids, it's more about the general idea of finding time to rest and spend quality time with your family.



**1. "Live and let live":** Everyone should be guided by this principle. There is a similar expression in Rome; *"Move forward and let others do the same"*.

**2. "Give yourself to others":** People need to be open and generous toward others, because if you withdraw into yourself, you'll get stuck and run the risk of becoming selfish. Remember, stagnant water becomes putrid."

**3. "Proceed calmly in life":** Pope Francis used to teach high school literature, and he often used an image from an Argentine novel by Ricardo Güiraldes, in which the protagonist, gaucho Don Segundo Sombra, looks back on how he lived his life.

"In "Don Segundo Sombra", there's something great about someone who rereads his life; he says that in his youth he was a stream full of rocks that he carried with him; as an adult, a rushing river; and in old age, he was still moving, but slowly, like a pool of water. He said he likes this latter image of a pool of water, to have "the ability to move with kindness and humility, a calmness in life".

**4. "A healthy sense of leisure":** The pleasures of art, literature and playing together with children have been lost, he said.

"Consumerism has brought us anxiety" and stress, causing people to lose a "healthy culture of leisure." Their time is "swallowed up" so people can't share it with anyone.

Even though many parents work long hours, they must set aside time to play with their children; work schedules make it "complicated, but you must do it," he said.

Families should also turn off the TV when they sit down to eat because, even though television is useful for keeping up with the news, having it on during mealtimes "doesn't let you communicate with each other".

**5. "Sundays should be holidays":** Workers should have Sundays off because "Sunday is for family," he said.

**6. "Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people":** "We need to be creative with young people. If they have no opportunities they will get into drugs" and be more vulnerable to suicide, he said. "It's not enough to give them food," he said. "Dignity is given to you when you can bring food home" from one's own labour.

**7. "Respect and take care of nature":** Environmental degradation "is one of the biggest challenges we have," he said. "I think a question that we're not asking ourselves is: 'Isn't humanity committing suicide with this indiscriminate and tyrannical use of nature?'"

**8. "Stop being negative":** "Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, "I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down," the pope said. "Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy".

**9. "Don't proselytize; respect others' beliefs":** "We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating. But the worst thing of all is religious proselytism, which paralyzes: 'I am talking with you in order to persuade you,' No. Each person dialogues, starting with his and her own identity. The church grows by attraction, not proselytizing," the pope said.

**10. "Work for peace":** "We are living in a time of many wars," he said, and "the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive" and dynamic.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 15,350 followers or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)

Fr. Paddy's book *"All will be well"* on sale in the Parish Shop or online at [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)



# Congratulations



Above; Claire Farrell and Keith Lawlor, Grenville, Portlaoise, who were married on 4<sup>th</sup> January in Clough, Ballacolla.  
Celebrant; Fr. Paddy Byrne.



Above; Sarah Conroy and Patrick Gray, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise, who were married on 31<sup>st</sup> December in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath.  
Celebrant; Fr. David Vard.



Above; Laura O' Connell and Simon Crawford, Rinuccini Court, Portlaoise, who were married on 31<sup>st</sup> December in the Parish Church.  
Celebrant; Fr. Paddy Byrne.

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



**ANTHONY  
(Tony) DUNNE**  
Glendowns



**DYLAN  
DALY**  
Broomville



**PATRICK  
BOWLER**  
New Road



**KATHLEEN  
DOWLING**  
Ballymaddock

**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](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)



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NIALL;

086-2770095



## In Loving Memory Of

My Mother

**FRANCES O' BRIEN**

94 Cherrygrove, Portlaoise.

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurred 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019



*Those precious memories of  
you, will always bring  
a smile*

*If only we could have you  
back for just a little while  
Then we could sit and talk  
again just like we used to do  
You always meant so very  
much and always will do too*

*The fact that you're no longer here will always  
cause us pain  
But you're forever in our hearts until we meet  
again.*

Thinking Of You Today and Always.

From your daughter Anne and Family

*May Frances Rest in Peace*





# **IN LOVING MEMORY**

## ***Of A Cherished Husband, Father and Grandfather***

### ***WILLIAM (Willie) O' REILLY***



***28 Lakeglen, Portlaoise. 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday away from home. 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019***



**Husband;**

My eyes are filled with tears again as I stand here where you lay  
 I think of you every second but miss you everyday  
 My body is full of sadness that you are no longer here  
 This pain is only soothed by the memories I hold so dear  
 If all my dearest dreams and wishes could come true  
 The only thing I'd wish for is to spend some time with you  
 For since you have been gone, life has never been the same  
 And I'd give all that I have just to see you once again  
 I miss you so very much, for the all the times we once shared  
 have left the sweetest memories that can never be compared  
 So as I pay this visit to your final resting place  
 I place my hand upon your photo and touch your smiling face  
 Happy 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Willie. Thinking of You Always

**Your loving wife Anne.**

**-Daddy;**

It isn't yet a year Daddy since you passed away  
 And every day we think of you in such a special way  
 Today it is your Birthday a day we always shared  
 A special day for you alone, to show how much we cared  
 But this year there'll be no cake, no gifts, no gathering together  
 No birthday kiss, no warm embrace those things can't last forever  
 But what you'll always have Daddy is the love within our heart  
 The special love that's just for you which death can never part  
 You see the world has many heroes, you'd know most of them by name  
 Its apparent that they gave their best and they deserve the fame  
 But among all the hero's this world has ever had  
 There's no one we admire more than you our precious Dad  
 You were more than just our hero, you never looked for praise  
 But you were heroic in your quiet strength and in your caring ways  
 You may not have been as famous as those you hear about or see  
 But you were everything and so much more that a hero ought to be  
 You kept your word, it was as good as gold on that you could depend  
 You were honest, and you were loyal too, we're proud you were our friend  
 When we hear about a hero and the special things they've done  
 It reminds us each time of you Daddy for you're our favourite one

**Happy 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Daddy,**

**Never More Than a Thought Away. We Love and Miss You Everyday.**

**Alan, Michael, Thomas, Lisa, Nicola, Jenny, Trevor, Becky, daughters-in-law, Mary, Fiona, Sara, Nicole  
 and son-in-law Trevor**

**Grandad;**

Is there a party up in Heaven, to celebrate today?  
 Did the angels bake a cake for you? Or sing to start your day?  
 We're celebrating you down here, as they must be up above  
 We truly hope your special day is filled with peace and love  
 This day was always special as we gathered round you here  
 We'd sing and laugh and celebrate your day with so much cheer  
 We miss those special moments that we shared throughout the years  
 It's hard to find that on this day our eyes now fill with tears  
 We're trying hard to smile for you, but oh that empty chair  
 We turn around and find ourselves, still shocked that you're not there  
 Please know we're all thinking of you as we go throughout each day  
 Today its extra special though on this your 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday

**Happy Birthday Grandad, Always in Our Thoughts.**

**Joanne, Leona Megan, Avril, Katie, Billy, Dylan, Sarah, Aimee, Leah, Abbey, Jayden, Sean, Carly, Braidan,  
 Caoimhe, Óisín and Maisie**



## In Loving Memory of **PAT DRENNAN**

*Cool-na-Carrig*  
Died 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 - 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



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

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Holy Cross,  
Ratheniska this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

*Always remembered by his loving wife Peggy, daughter  
Caroline, son-in-law Tom, grandsons Jim and Tom, sister  
Eileen and extended family and friends.*

*May Pat Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of **ROSANNA KERRY**

*née Phillips*  
61 Knockmay Estate, Portlaoise.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary away from home occurs 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019



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 by your sons, daughters, grandchildren,  
great grandchildren & extended family xx  
May Rosanna Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of **PATRICK & ELLEN MAHER**

Grange, Stradbally whose anniversaries occur at this time.  
Also remembering Eileen, MaryAnn and John.



*In God's care you  
rest above,  
In our hearts you  
rest with love,  
Never more than  
a thought away,*

*Loved and remembered everyday.*

*Lovingly remembered by all your family.  
May They Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of **MARTIN BRENNAN**

54 Borris Little, Portlaoise.  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019



*Along the road of suffering, you found a little lane,  
That took you up to Heaven and ended all your  
pain,  
You may be out of sight, we may be worlds apart,  
But you are always in our prayers and forever in  
our hearts.*

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Ann, Helen & Mark,  
Martin's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter &  
Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 6:30pm.*

*May Martin Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of **MICHAEL FITZPATRICK**

Whose 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019



*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 hearts.*

*Sadly missed by all his loving family.*

*May Michael Rest in Peace*

*I am with you always*

Matthew 28:20





## In Loving Memory of FRANCES DUNNE

Late of Silverdale, Abbeyleix Rd. Portlaoise.  
9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019.



A beautiful memory, dearer than gold,  
Of a Mother whose worth can never be told,  
There's a place in our hearts that no one  
can fill,

We miss you Mammy and always will.

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

*May Frances Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of FRANCES DUNNE

Late of Silverdale, Abbeyleix Rd. Portlaoise who died on  
14<sup>th</sup> January 2010. 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a dear sister and best friend.



To hear your voice, to see your smile,  
To sit and talk to you a while,  
To be together in the same old way,  
Would be our greatest wish today.

Loved and remembered always Chrissie,  
Yvonne, Trevor, Jack & Aine xxxxx

*May Frances Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of JOE KERRY

Late of 48 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Joe Kerry, would like to express their sincere thanks to all those who sympathised with us, sent Mass cards and messages of support. A special word of thanks to the Priests of the Parish for their kindness and support to us at this very difficult time.

Sincere thanks to Rankin Funeral Directors for their professionalism and the respectful and dignified manner in which they carried out Joe's funeral arrangements.

Thanks also to the gravediggers who took great care in preparing Joe's final resting place.

Heartfelt thanks to our cousins, Susan Griffin and Annemarie Kerry for their help and support throughout the funeral and the days leading up to the funeral, we will not forget your kindness to us all.

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

Joe's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

*Rest in Peace Joe*

## In Loving Memory of KATHLEEN O' BRIEN

Millview, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019



2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 6:30pm.

Though her smile has gone forever,  
And her hand we cannot touch,  
We still have so many memories of the  
one we loved so much.

Love and miss you always, Fiona, Andrew, Damien and  
sister Geraldine, son-in-law, daughters-in-law,  
grandchildren, family & friends.

*May Kathleen Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of CARMEL BRACKEN

Craydon Court, Portlaoise.

The family of the late Carmel Bracken would like to express their sincere appreciation for the many expressions of sympathy; Mass cards, floral tributes, telephone calls and messages received.

To all who called personally, attended the funeral and to all those who travelled long distances to be with us.

A special word of thanks to Msgr. John Byrne, Fr. Paddy and all the Priests of the Parish, whose support and comfort was invaluable.

A warm thank you to our wonderful friends and neighbours who were so supportive to us in our time of need and continue to do so.

Our deepest thanks to Dr. David Booth and the Cedar Clinic for their care, attention and kindness.

Sincere gratitude to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their kindness and attention to detail.

Thanks to the soloist Aishling Ní Ruacháin and organist Catherine Quigley for the beautiful music.

Thanks also to the Altar servers and the gravediggers.

We as a family, trust that this acknowledgement will be accepted by all as a token of our appreciation.

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

Carmel's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

*May Carmel Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK (Paddy) CONNELL**

*Late of 57 Marian Place, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church  
on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 6:30pm.

*The rolling stream of life goes on,  
But still the vacant chair,  
Recalls the voice, the smile, the love,  
Of a Dad who once sat there,  
Loved and missed beyond compare.*

*Missed and loved everyday by your sons Richard, Pat and  
Kieran, daughters Geraldine, Philomena, Bernadette,  
Nora and Teresa, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.*

*Thinking of our dear Mam, Mary at this time.*

*May Paddy Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARY MEEHAN**

*Newpark, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and Mary's  
2<sup>nd</sup> birthday away from home occurred 10<sup>th</sup> January.*



*Life is not the same without you*

*The sun still rises in the  
east,  
And darkness falls at night,  
But nothing now seems  
quite the same, each day is  
not as bright.*

*The birds still sing, the  
flowers grow, the breeze  
still whispers too,  
But it will never, ever be the  
same world without you.*

*It's so sad that you had to go, your leaving caused  
such pain,  
But you were so very special and earth's loss is  
Heaven's gain.*

*Fondly remembered and always missed by her  
loving family xxx*

*Rest in Peace Mam*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN ROCHE**

**Mountrath Rd., Portlaoise. Died 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018.**



The Wife and family of the late John Roche would like to express their sincere thanks to all those who sympathised with them, sent Mass cards, attended the funeral home, Requiem Mass and burial, and sent messages of support on the recent sad loss of John.

We would like to thank all the doctors and nurses in A&E and all the staff on the Surgical ward of Portlaoise Regional Hospital for their excellent care and compassion to John during his final days.

Our deepest thanks to all the staff at Hughes Pharmacy and to Dr. White and his staff.

Our sincere gratitude to Fr. Eddie Lawlor and the Priests of the Parish, for their help, professionalism and support and to the Altar servers, choir, readers and all those who participated in John's funeral Mass. Our heartfelt thanks to John's work colleagues, friends and neighbours for their kindness and support shown to the family.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Matthew Keegan and David Goode funeral directors for their help, professionalism and support and to the grave diggers for preparing John's final resting place.

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

John's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 12:30pm.

*May John Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
DENIS LALOR**

**The Downs, Stradbally Rd., Portlaoise and formerly Ballyclider.**

I, Martin Lalor would like to thank all those who expressed their condolences in any way at the passing of my brother Denis.

Sincere thanks to Fr. Eddie for celebrating Denis' funeral Mass, ably assisted by the Altar servers and Joe Brennan with the readings, accompanied by the dulcet tones of the choir.

My thanks also to Matthew Keegan and David Goode, funeral directors, for their professionalism and attention to detail with the funeral arrangements and also to Brendan and Adrian Dunne who took such care in preparing Denis' final resting place. I thank you all.

Heartfelt thanks to Droimnín Nursing home for looking after Denis in his final months and to all the staff in Portlaoise General Hospital who were like family to Denis in his terminating hours, to everyone concerned, please accept my eternal gratitude.

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

Denis' Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 10am. Rest in Peace Denis.





# Portlaoise Further Education & Training Centre

Laois & Offaly Education & Training Board

To register for **Portlaoise** courses,  
please contact the Centre directly  
by phone **057 8661338** or by  
email **portlaoisefet@loetb.ie**

**All course information available on [www.loetb.ie](http://www.loetb.ie)**

Module Title	QQI Level	Start Date	Day(s)	Duration	Cost	Time
<b>Business Courses</b>						
Bookkeeping Manual and Computerised	5	23rd January	Wed	14 weeks	€180	6:30 - 9:30pm
<b>Childcare/SNA Courses</b>						
Special Needs Assisting	6	23rd January	Wed	14 weeks	€220	6:30 - 9:30pm
<b>Healthcare Courses</b>						
Safety and Health at Work	5	21st January	Mon & Wed	7 weeks	€150	6:30 - 9:30pm
Care of the Older Person	5	21st January	Mon & Wed	7 weeks	€150	6:30 - 9:30pm
Care Skills	5	25th March	Mon & Wed	7 weeks	€150	6:30 - 9:30pm
Palliative Care	5	25th March	Mon & Wed	7 weeks	€150	6:30 - 9:30pm
<b>Computer Technology Courses</b>						
Basic Computers		21st January	Mon	14 weeks	Free*	7:00 - 9:30pm
Word Processing	3	21st January	Mon	14 weeks	Free*	6:30 - 9:30pm
Digital Media	3	23rd January	Wed	14 weeks	Free*	6:30 - 9:30pm
Internet Skills	3	23rd January	Wed	14 weeks	Free*	6:30 - 9:30pm
Spreadsheets	3	23rd January	Wed	14 weeks	Free*	6:30 - 9:30pm
Learn to use Smartphones and Tablets/Ipads		20th January	Tues	12 weeks	Free*	7:00 - 9:30pm
<b>Hobby Courses</b>						
Art for Beginners		4th February	Mon	10 weeks	€100	7:00 - 9:00pm
Sewing (Beginners and Improvers)		5th February	Tues	10 weeks	€100	7:00 - 9:00pm
Beginner Spanish		4th February	Mon	10 weeks	€100	7:00 - 9:00pm
Spanish for Improvers		6th February	Wed	10 weeks	€100	7:00 - 9:00pm
Healthy Eating on a Budget		5th February	Tues	5 weeks	€60	7:00 - 9:00pm
Hair Care and Styling		6th February	Wed	5 weeks	€50	7:00 - 9:00pm
<b>Daytime Courses</b>						
Office Skills	4	21st January	Mon - Fri	14 weeks	Free	Daytime and Part-time
Basic Computers		21st January	Once a week Multiple	14 weeks	Free	
Basic Literacy and Numeracy		21st January	Days Available	14 weeks	Free	

\*Free courses marked with an \* are available to individuals who are in employment full time, part time or self-employed and who have primary or post-primary education.

Discounts may apply to some fee paying programmes subject to criteria.

Register now for January 2019 or contact Portlaoise Further Education and Training Centre with any queries.

**T: 057 86 61338 E: [portlaoisefet@loetb.ie](mailto:portlaoisefet@loetb.ie) W: [www.loetb.ie](http://www.loetb.ie)**

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Education and Training Board

The programme is co-funded by the European Social Fund Programme  
for Employability Inclusion and Learning 2014 - 2020.





## 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 Wed. night at 8pm in the Prayer room of the Parish Church.

**"Meditating... Being Mindful... Seeking God":** Treo Nua (Knockmay 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.

## 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](mailto:accordportlaoise@hotmail.com)

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**GROW** Community Mental Health Support Group meet at 7:30pm every Wednesday in Portlaoise Parish Centre. Why not come along and learn more about positive mental health, well being, recovery and how GROW may help you achieve this. Free of charge. All welcome. Contact Michelle 086-4183805 or visit [www.grow.ie](http://www.grow.ie).

**Portlaoise Men's Shed** are open Tuesdays and Thursday at Portlaoise Equestrian Centre, Timahoe Road, from 11am to 3pm. Drop in for a chat and a cuppa and see some of the new projects and activities. New members welcome.

**Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club** are holding their annual Table Quiz at the Deadmans Inn, Ballyfin at 8:30pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. An entry fee of €40 applies for a table of 4 or €10 per person, with spot prizes on the night. Proceeds in support of local causes. For queries or any additional information on the Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, please call Pat O'Connor on 087-7824481.

## Portlaoise Active Retirement Association (ARA)

**Bowls:** Every Monday at 3pm in St. Mary's Hall, regular and new members are always welcome to come along and take part.

**Whist:** Play/learn Whist at Sue Ryder centre every Thursday 2.30-4pm. All are welcome.

**Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>:** A ready made solution for getting back into trim again after all the festivities of the Christmas Season has to be Maureen Culleton's dance routines and tuition sessions. Dancers taking part in the Bealtaine Show are asked to attend at 1.45pm.

**Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Time to exercise the vocal chords again with some new and many old favourite songs. Always guaranteed to be an enjoyable afternoon in the company of Caroline, our musical maestro.

**Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>:** The ARA Annual General Meeting takes place today. We hope to see a full turnout of members, to ensure that as many members as possible have the opportunity to express their views. The ARA Mission is one of continuous improvement for all of us.

## Portlaoise Parish Lourdes

**Committee:** A box will be in place in the Parish Church for anyone wishing to put their names forward for sponsorship or part sponsorship on our 2019 Pilgrimage to Lourdes from the 14/01/2019 until 11/02/2019. (Feast of our Lady of Lourdes). The box will be placed to the right of Our Lady's statue. An application can be made within these dates only. Anyone seeking further information can contact Sean on 086-3633785 or Pat on 086-3293063.

## Dancing at An Sean Chistin, Ballyfin:

Monday January 14<sup>th</sup> Set Dancing 8pm  
Tuesday Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> Line Dancing 11am  
Wednesday Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> Line Dancing 8pm  
All are welcome. For further info. Call Maureen on 087-6482038.

**Sing for Joy Choir:** Rehearsals commence next Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 11am in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise. The members, their carers and families look forward to many joyful occasions in 2019. Tel. Maureen 087-6482038.

**Sue Ryder Charity Shop:** Donations always welcome of ladies/gents good quality clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, jewellery, gift sets, curtains, household appliances, unwanted gifts, bed linen, blankets, furniture. Call Marguerite on 085-8662842.

**Bridge Lessons** at Portlaoise Parish Centre from 7pm to 9pm, commencing on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January. For further details contact Catherine 087-4121913.

**Pro Life Meeting** will take place in the Parish Centre on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Speaker; Carol Nolan.

**Midlands Living Links** Outreach Listening and Support Service for people bereaved by Suicide. Call; 086-1600641.



This  
Sunday  
13<sup>th</sup>  
January

In the Parish Centre  
after 11:15am &  
12:30pm Masses



In aid of World Youth Day - Pilgrimage to Panamá



## Part Time Position as Cleaner/ Caretaker in Gaelscoil Phortlaoise

10 Hours per Week (Monday to Friday/2hours per day)

The role will consist mainly of cleaning, stocking and maintaining of classrooms and toilet areas as well as some minor caretaking duties.

Proven work experience as cleaner required.

Please send CV, complete with contact details of at least two referees, by electronic mail to;  
[gaelscoilphortlaoise@hotmail.com](mailto:gaelscoilphortlaoise@hotmail.com)  
on or before Friday  
**25<sup>th</sup> January 2019**



**Enrolment in Timahoe NS** is now open and will close before mid-term on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**For enquiries contact;**  
**057-8627051**



### **ACTIVE PLUMBER**

Central heating, showers,  
taps, blockages.  
New installation or repairs.  
Contact Fergus;  
**087-6542742**  
**087-0959245**

### **BIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY GRINDS**

Achieve higher grades in  
biology and chemistry from  
an experienced teacher in  
the locality. Call or text;  
**087-0692287**  
(Monday-Friday after 4pm)

### **PLUMBER AVAILABLE**

All domestic, solid fuel,  
oil servicing, water  
softener installation.  
Contact Alan;  
**085-1141395**

### **PAINTING & DECORATING**

- Interior & Exterior
- Spray Painting
- Powerwashing
- 10 years experience

**089-4459958**

### **THE THRIFT SHOP**

**Peppers Lane, Portlaoise.**  
*Supporting palliative care locally.*  
We are in need of voluntary workers in  
our Portlaoise shop. If you have a  
couple of hours free time weekly, and  
would like to assist with sorting clothes  
and completing sales transactions,  
please contact **087-9586057**.

### **WINDOWS & DOOR REPAIRS**

- Hinges/Handles
- Letterboxes
- Slide Patio Doors Rollers
- Window & Door draught  
proofing

**083-3153211**

### **Hugh Thompson MIDLAND HEATING SERVICES**

*For all your Heating & Plumbing needs*  
Service and Repair of Oil Boilers,  
Oil Cookers & Gas Boilers  
*Plus Power Flushing of Heating Systems*  
Removing all the old sludge and water that has built up in  
your radiators and boilers over the years with clean water  
and Inhibitors to reduce fuel bills and save money.  
**Ballyfin, Portlaoise. Call:**  
**086-3758503**

### **TALKING POINT**

Personal and  
Couple Counselling  
Discreet and confidential  
Accredited and  
Garda Vetted, NAPCP.  
**Tony Moore 087-2928095**  
[www.talkingpointcounselling.ie](http://www.talkingpointcounselling.ie)

### **MIDLAND APPLIANCE REPAIRS**

Quick, Cost Effective  
Domestic Appliance  
Repairs. Contact;  
**087-9080211**

### **FOR SALE**

2 seater brown leather sofa  
2 fawn upholstered armchairs  
Lovely burnished solid brass  
standard lamp  
*Careful owner - perfect condition*  
€220 o.n.o. Contact;  
**086-2382570**

### **CHILDMINDER REQUIRED**

To look after two primary school  
children, 2-3 days a week.  
Required from 7:30am until bus  
drop off at 9am & from 3:15pm  
until 6:30pm. Abbeyleix Rd area.  
Contact;  
**087-9674344**

### **SCIENCE GRINDS**

Leaving Certificate  
biology and chemistry,  
Junior Cert science.  
*Contact*  
**083-3986165**

### **GARDENING AND HOUSEHOLD WORK**

For details and  
enquiries contact;  
**087-2384924**

### **CARER REQUIRED**

For elderly lady  
Monday-Friday  
Weekdays only  
11am-3pm, hours negotiable.  
References required.  
Contact;  
**087-6169037**

### **CHILDMINDER AVAILABLE**

Kind, reliable, trustworthy  
childminder available to mind  
children in minder's own home.  
Garda vetted, first aid training,  
15+ years experience, can do  
school and crèche runs,  
references available. Contact;  
**085-8118555**

### **STONES-TILING** **Juraj**

- Ceramic Tile & Natural Stone Installer
- Outdoor Paving
- Painting & Decoration
- Cleaning Service
- Fencing
- Grass and Hedge Cutting

**Call; 085-7059678**  
**E-mail; juraj.halenkovic@gmail.com**

### **MINDFULNESS COURSE**

Portlaoise Parish Centre  
6 weeks  
Starts Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January  
Times; 6:30pm-7:45pm  
or 8pm-9:15pm  
**Contact; Ger 087-6783310**

### **PORTLAOISE LITERATURE STUDIES GROUP**

Resumes Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> January at  
10:45am in the Parish Centre.  
New members always welcome.  
*'The year is gone, we will unite,  
To joke and laugh and read,  
And thread the path of literature,  
That doth to glory lead.'*  
(Louisa May Alcott - Little Women)



# KILDARE & LEIGHLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2019

LED BY THE BISHOP OF KILDARE & LEIGHLIN  
MOST REVEREND DENIS NULTY



  
Joe Walsh Tours



**1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2019**  
**5 NIGHTS**

€  
**€759**

per person  
sharing

**FOR BOOKINGS, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**JOE WALSH TOURS**



**PHONE:** 01 241 0802

**EMAIL:** [info@joewalshtours.ie](mailto:info@joewalshtours.ie)

**PILGRIMAGE DIRECTOR FR. PADDY BYRNE**



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