

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
link
up

14th April 2019

Palm
Sunday

A full house on Wednesday and Thursday nights at Holy Family Schools Nagle Hall for a wonderful evening of Music and Song. Well done to the over 400 boys and girls of 4th and 5th classes at Holy Family Senior School who were also joined by pupils from Scoil Bhríde, Mountrath. Congratulations to Des Sutton, Principal and all the teachers and School Staffs.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie

11th April 2019

Portlaoise Parish

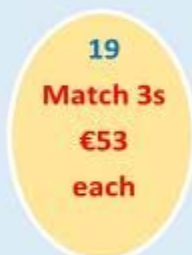


No €14,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Kathleen Dunne
Mary Foley
Tegan Jane Ready O'Brien
Elaine McLoughlin
David Oglesby
Liam O'Grady
Anne Oisín Síomha & Niamh
Ursula Downey
Joe Downey
Alan Dumford
Teresa Sage
Kathleen O'Brien
Ciss & Mary Dunne
Cyril Dunne
Patricia Delaney
Pauline Phelan
Phyllis O'Rourke
Anne Gaffney
Caoimhe Aisling & Anne O'Keeffe

MATCH 3s €1,000



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PROMOTER

Paul Dooley
Declan Kelly
Bernie Lalor
Bernie Lalor
Anne Brennan
Anthony Preston
Anne Brennan
Margaret Downey
Bernie Lalor
Maura Loughlin
Parish Centre
Lily Whelan
Mary Dunne
Peggy Kelly
Anne Kelleher
Mgt Doheny
Mary Arthur
Mary Arthur
Anne O'Keeffe

Next Week's Jackpot

€15,000

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Priests of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.
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

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. Julie 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
11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm
057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

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PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Tuesday 16th April
7.30pm in the Parish Church

CONFESSIONS

Holy Thursday
10.30am—12noon
and after 7:30pm Ceremony

Good Friday

10.30am—12noon

After 7:30pm Ceremony

Fr. Marek will hear confession for the
Polish Community from 6pm.

Holy Saturday

10:30am – 12noon
& 7:30pm - 8:30pm



Chrism Mass



You are warmly invited to join with Bishop Denis and the priests of the diocese in the Cathedral, Carlow at 7:30pm on Monday, April 15th to celebrate the Chrism Mass - this is the largest diocesan celebration during the year!

We welcome into our Parish Community

Darran Brendan Ryan, Derrygarron

Amelie Elizabeth Lynch, Aghnaharna Drive

Ailís Kate Brennan, Maryborough Crescent

Saorlaith Dorothy Ryan, Rathevan Heights

Lilyanne Kate Fahy, Aghnaharna Drive

were baptised last weekend



Traditional Eastern European Blessing of Food by Fr. Marek Zygodlo (Diocesan Polish Chaplain) on Holy Saturday at 12.30pm. All are welcome.



Tradycyjne Wielkanocne

Swiecenie Pokarmow przez ks. Marka Zygodlo (Duszpasterza Polonii) odbędzie się w Wielka Sobota o godz. 12.30. Serdecznie zapraszamy.

Easter Collection

For the support of our Priests

Easter Collection for the priests of the parish will take place at all Masses on Easter Sunday. Envelopes in Church porches for those who haven't got a Development Box. Thank you for your continued support.

Masses and Ceremonies For Holy Week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

Tuesday 7.30am, 10am

& Penitential Service at 7.30pm

Wednesday 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

Easter Triduum

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

Morning Prayer at 10am

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Parish Church: **7.30pm**

The Heath: **7pm** Ratheniska: **7pm**

GOOD FRIDAY

"Commemoration of the Lord's Passion"

Parish Church: **3pm & 7.30pm**

The Heath: **7pm** Ratheniska: **7pm**

HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil

Parish Church: **9pm**

EASTER SUNDAY

Dawn Mass: **6am** at the Grotto at The Heath Church

Usual times for Masses in the Parish Church, The Heath and Ratheniska
Polish Mass at 5pm in the Parish Church

Trócaire

Please bring Trócaire boxes to Mass on Holy Thursday. Place them in the basket provided in the Church.

Do not leave them around the Church at any time. Trócaire boxes still available in porches or in the parish centre.

Sunday 7th April 2019

Offertory Collection €2,957.00

Development Fund €3,402.00

€6,359.00

Thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish.

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Helen 087-2841387
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Prison Officers, Nurses, Shop Workers, Farmers etc. may require additional cushioning and correction.

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May benefit from Orthotics to support, 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 toeing, out toeing, have poor posture or gait or where parents notice excessive wear.

KELLIE TAYLOR BSC (Hons) Ost. M.O.C.I. and DARREN CONROY BSC (Hons) Ost. M.O.C.I.

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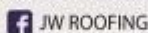
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Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. "Matt 10:32"



The Praise Parade

Jesus and his followers were travelling to the city of Jerusalem. The city was going to have a big celebration called Passover that would last for a whole week. Have you ever been to a party that lasted a whole week? Well, as they were travelling, they came to a place called the Mount of Olives. They stopped there and Jesus gave his disciples some special instructions. "Go into that village over there," he told them. "As you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying that donkey?' just say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

So the disciples went and found the young donkey, just as Jesus had told them they would. And sure enough, as they were untying it, the owner asked them, "Why are you untying that donkey?" Hmm. . . now what was it they were supposed to say? Right! They simply answered, "The Lord needs it."

The disciples took the young donkey to Jesus and they put coats on its back so that Jesus would have a nice, soft seat as he rode it into town. Word spread quickly through the town that Jesus was coming. He had become quite famous because people had heard about his healing the sick and even raising the dead. As Jesus entered the town, a large crowd had gathered. People began to throw their coats on the road in front of Jesus. They cut branches from the palm trees and waved them and they began to shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord."

It must have looked like a parade as Jesus went through the streets of Jerusalem with everyone waving and cheering. But as exciting as all this was, the people really did not know who Jesus was. They thought he was going to set up an earthly kingdom and that he would do great things for them here on earth. They did not understand that his kingdom was in heaven. In just a few days, these same people who were shouting, "Hosanna!" would be shouting, "Crucify him!" because he wasn't the kind of king they wanted.

The Good News today is that Jesus is King. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Today we are here to praise him and we shout, "Hosanna!" Do you know what that word means? It means "Save now!" That is why we shout hosanna, because Jesus saves us, Jesus alone.



Dear Father, our voices join with the voices of the people in Jerusalem some two thousand years ago. Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. He is our hope and our salvation. In his name we pray. Amen.



Confirmation Candidates are invited to Mass at 7.30pm on Holy Thursday.

First Holy Communion Candidates are invited to 11.15am Mass on Easter Sunday.

Altar Servers: We look forward to seeing all our servers at the ceremonies and Masses during Holy week and Easter Sunday. We hope all our young parishioners enjoy their Easter Break!



GOOD FRIDAY

WAY OF THE CROSS THROUGH OUR TOWN

1PM

**I. O'Moore
Place**

II. Lakeglen

**III. Old
Dunnes Store
Carpark
Mountmellick
Rd**

**IV.
Oak Leaf
Place**

**V.
Cherrygrove**

**VI.
Grotto
Square**

**VII.
Market
Square**

**VIII.
Sally
Gardens**

**IX.
O'Loughlin
Hotel**

**X.
Star Tattoo**

**XI.
Cally's
Barber
Shop**

**XII.
Polish
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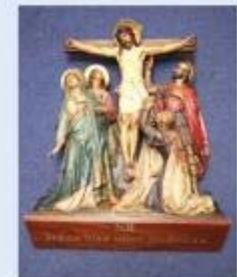
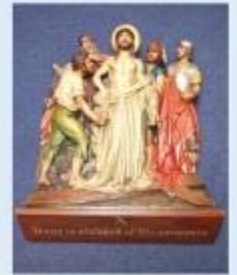
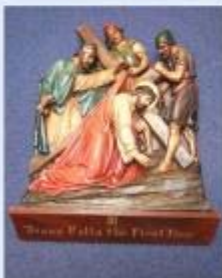
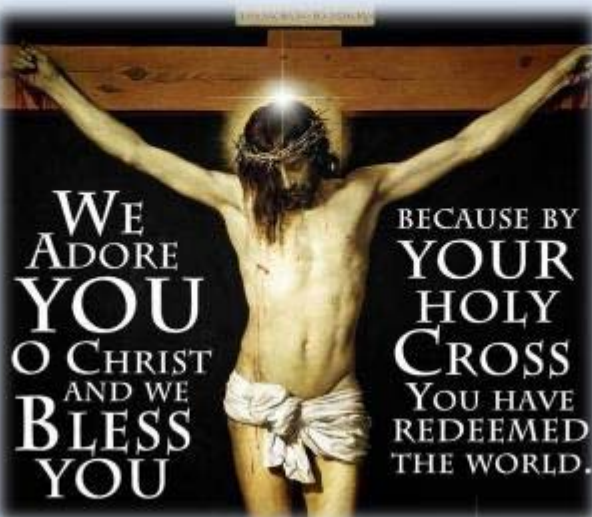
**XIII.
Parish
Church**

Replica images of the Stations in the Parish Church will be placed on 'The Way' from O' Moore Place to the Parish Church as indicated on this page. These Stations will be in place throughout this Holy Week.

The procession will stop at each Station for prayer.

We look forward to a large crowd joining in this Way of the Cross which will move through Main Street.

If you are not taking part in the whole procession you will be very welcome to join at any stage or at any individual station.





TIME TO THINK!

13 STEPS TO BRIGHTER DAYS

Take just a few minutes and apply one of the tips below and see how it brightens your day.

1. One minute of appreciation. Take a minute, sit down and just reflect on what you appreciate and those who you love. Give thanks for the many things we may take for granted especially health of mind and body. This will fill you with gratitude and redirect your focus to the positive side of things.

2. Express your appreciation. Tell your partner, family member or friend what you came up with. It will brighten his or her day. And as his or her face lights up with a big smile you'll feel happier too because emotions are contagious.

3. Take 5 minutes to see how you can help someone out. Offer some practical help, some good advice, look something up for him or her, be encouraging and supportive or just lend a listening ear.

4. Slow down for 3 minutes. Walk and move slower for just these few minutes. Let your thoughts slow down. Use the 3 minutes to enjoy what is happening all around you. Truly take it in with all your senses. There is much simple wonder we miss each day because we are so preoccupied with our thoughts and plans for the future. After those 3 minutes are up, continue at the slower pace if you like.

5. Be the smile you want to see in your world. Smile more towards the people you meet and you'll get more smiles back. You'll feel better. They will too. And they will probably smile more towards the other people they meet that day. So don't wait for other people to smile more, be the smile you want to see in your world instead.

6. Make someone else happy. Don't stop at just smiles.

- Give someone a big hug.
- Give him or her a small or a bigger gift of some kind. Cook their favourite food if they have had a bad day.

7. Start your day with setting a low bar for happiness.

As you open your eyes and wake up to a new day tell yourself:

"Today I will have a low bar for happiness".

I have been using this one for quite some time now and it makes the regular day happier. I take fewer things for granted – like my food, the weather, the small gestures in my world and the small moments – and often pause to appreciate them more.

And it does not make me passive action-wise.

Instead it makes me feel more inspired, motivated and inner resistance decreases. And so I get more of importance done.

8. Be the day you want to see.

Don't wait for someone else to create the day you want to have. Instead, get the ball rolling yourself.

Take action and take the first small step or steps forward:

- Arrange an evening down at the pub or a picnic in the spring grass.

- Set up a movie night when the rain is pouring down.

Take a walk or a run in the early morning to get your energy levels for the day and week up.

9. Say yes to something new.

Something you haven't eaten before. A new song or album. A new author or movie. A new sport. A new way to



work or through your town.

By actively going outside of what is normal for you or your comfort zone you'll discover new, wonderful things in life quite often.

This will bring happiness into your life and if you develop this habit then in my experience it will be easier to move outside of your comfort zone in bigger ways too.

10. Say no to a should.

The should in life can really drag that happiness and energy down and make everything feel like heavy work.

But do you have to do all of those should on your to-do list? Or are you maybe stuck in a rut and are doing some of those things just out of old habit?

Ask yourself one of my favourite questions: Will this matter in 5 years? Or even 5 weeks?

By zooming out like this you make it easier to see the true value of doing something. To see it for what it really is.

And so your questioning makes it easier to simply relax and to say no to doing something because you realize that it isn't that important anyway.

11. Take a 2 minute laugh-break. Few things will so simply bring happiness and relieve stress as laughing. So:

- Revisit one or two of those small video clips that always makes you laugh or smile.

- Head over to your favourite funny comic online or in your bookshelf.

Listen a bit to a podcast or a stand-up show that you know you find funny.

12. Do what you deep down think is the right thing.

Instead of letting quick and judgmental words come of your mouth be understanding.

Instead of snacking on some candy eat a fruit or drink a glass of water.

When an impulse inside of you wants you do something that you know deep down isn't right for you then pause. Be still for a few moments. The impulse will pass.

And you can more easily choose to take the action you think is right in this situation.

Then appreciate that you did the right thing, give yourself a pat on the back and see how good it all feels. Continue to do this and you'll help yourself to build a stronger self-esteem.

13. Stand still for a minute, close your eyes and just enjoy the Spring Sun. I did it today and it was wonderful.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 15,600 followers 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



HOLY WEEK

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

Mass: 7.30am, 10.00am & 7.30pm

CHRISM MASS IN CARLOW CATHEDRAL AT 7.30PM
ALL ARE MOST WELCOME.



PENITENTIAL SERVICE TUESDAY 7.30PM IN THE PARISH CHURCH

HOLY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer	10.00am
Confessions	10.30am - 12noon and after 7.30pm Ceremony
Mass of the Lord's Supper:	
Parish Church	7.30pm
The Heath:	7.00pm
Ratheniska :	7.00pm

Quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament will follow the ceremony in the Parish Church and will conclude with Night Prayer at midnight

GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer	10.00am
Confessions	10.30am - 12noon and after 7.30pm Ceremony and also in Polish from 6.00pm
Stations of the Cross	1.00pm (Outdoor beginning in O'Moore Place) 3.00pm St. Fintan's
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion	
Parish Church:	3.00pm (led by Bishop Denis Nulty) and 7.30pm
The Heath:	7.00pm
Ratheniska:	7.00pm
Prayer around the Cross	
Parish Church	9.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer	10.00am
Confessions	10.30am - 12noon and 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Blessing of Food	12.30pm Fr. Marek (Polish Chaplain) will lead this ceremony

EASTER VIGIL 9PM IN THE PARISH CHURCH

EASTER SUNDAY

DAWN MASS 6.00AM IN THE HEATH

Polish Mass 5.00pm in the Parish Church

MASSSES AS USUAL IN THE PARISH CHURCH,
THE HEATH AND RATHENISKA



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Coffee Morning in Aid of the Cuisle Centre.

Easter Sunday morning, April 21st 2019

after the 6 o'clock Dawn Mass in
the Heath Hall beside the Church.

Bring a friend and come help this worthy cause.

Coffee Morning



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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

In

PORTLAOISE PARISH CHURCH

On

Sunday 28th April - 3pm



Ceremonies begin at 2:45pm with Confession followed by Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Mass with Fr. Paddy Byrne. Music Ministry; Margaret Brennan.

Why Divine Mercy? Jesus spoke directly to St. Faustina, "I want this image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy. On that day, the depths of My Mercy will be open to all. Whoever will go to confession and Communion on that day will receive complete forgiveness of sin and all punishment. Mankind will not enjoy peace until it turns with confidence to My Mercy."

"I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not be lost. I also promise victory over its enemies here on earth, but especially at the hour of death, I myself will defend your soul as My own glory."

Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday: Preparation begins on Good Friday.

1. Commence a novena of Divine Mercy Chaplets with the Special prayers (found on the leaflets in the Church/online).
2. Confession on the day if possible or as close to the day as possible. St. Faustina herself went the night before!
3. Receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday.
4. Venerate the Divine Mercy Image- this will be done publicly on the day.
5. One must perform at least one Act of Mercy toward their neighbours during the 9 days of preparation (either by word/deed or prayer).

Also:

6. The Sermon by the priest on that day should be on Divine Mercy.
7. The image of Divine Mercy is to be ceremoniously blessed on the day and should be exposed.

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*Know that I am with you always;
yes, to the end of time*
Matthew 28:20

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



BRIDIE O'BRIEN

New Road, Portlaoise

*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 SHE REST IN PEACE

Our sympathy to her family

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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24th 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
Tuesday 16th April at 10am.

*Lonely is the home without you,
Life to us is not the same,
All the world would be like Heaven,
If we could have you back again.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Michael Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory Of JOHN O' LOUGHLIN

Clonad, Portlaoise. 6th Anniversary occurs at this time.



*No matter how life changes,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our hearts,
Is always kept for you.
We thought we had forever,
But only the blink of an eye,
But now you are watching over us,
In a place you call home.*

Sadly missed by all your loving family

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Church this Sunday 21st April at 12.30pm

May John Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

A dear husband, father & grandfather

BRENDAN DELANEY

Late of Green Mill Lane & St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
23rd Anniversary occurred 14th April 2019



Brendan's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 14th April at 12.30pm.

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

*Sadly missed, never forgotten by your loving wife Anne, Angie,
Kelley, Tracy, Brendan, Séan, Laura and grandchildren.*

Also remembering his mother Mary Delaney, Green Mill Lane, whose
anniversary occurred 13th April. Rest in peace.

May Brendan Rest in Peace

You are the
Light
of the World



In Loving Memory of ELIZABETH MARY McEVOY

64 Beladd, Summerhill Lane, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary away from home



*If raindrops fall in heaven Lord
please take my mothers hand and
dance with her upon a cloud so high,
Then when the storm is over if a
rainbow should appear some where
off in the distant sky.*

*Gently take her by the hand and lead
her on her way so that she might
find the rainbows end.*

*Then as she smiles in wonder at the treasures Heaven
holds, wrap her safely in your arm and dance with her
again,*

*For you see she was an angel Lord here upon this earth
And though I'll be forever grateful she was mine, I simply
was not ready when I had to let her go and I still think
about her all the time.*

*So tell her that I love her Lord more than she'll ever
know, then gently place a kiss upon her cheek, for though
she is in heaven now I want her to know she still means
the world and all to me.*

In Loving memory of My Most Precious Mum

*I am sending a dove to heaven with a Parcel on its wings,
Be careful when you open it, its full of beautiful things
Inside are a million kisses wrapped up in million hugs to
say how much I miss you and to send you all my Love.*

*Mum, I hold you close within my heart and there you will
remain to walk with me throughout my life until we meet
again. Just close your eyes and you will see all the
memories that you have of me*

*Just sit and relax and you will find I'm really still there
inside your mind,*

*Don't cry for me now I'm gone for I am in the land of
song,*

*There is no pain, there is no fear so dry away that silent
tear.*

*Don't think of me in the dark and cold for here I am, no
longer old*

*I'm in that place that's filled with love known to you all as
"up above".*

Elizabeth's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Thursday 25th
April at 7.30am and 10am Masses.

Rest in Peace Elizabeth

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MICHAEL (Mick) GRIFFIN

19 Marian Place, Portlaoise, whose 28th Anniversary occurs
17th April 2019



*Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
And we will always remember you.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church on Wednesday 17th April at 10am.

*Sadly missed and always loved, Mary & Tommy, Ger & Olive,
Geraldine & Tommy, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great
great-granddaughter*

May Michael Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of TOM MITCHELL

4 Stradbally Rd. Portlaoise,
whose 20th anniversary occurred 12th April 2019



*Treasured thoughts of one so dear,
often bring a silent tear,
Thoughts of scenes long past,
Years roll on but memories last.*

Sadly missed by his son Kevin and family

May Tom Rest in Peace

Birthday Remembrance

In Loving Memory of ELIZABETH (BETTY) HACKETT

Drogheda Court, Monasterevin.

1st Birthday away from home occurred on 8th of April 2019



*Though your smile is gone forever and your
hand we cannot touch,
Still we have so many memories of the Mam
we loved so much.*

*Sadly missed by Mary, Susan and Pat,
grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and
friends.*

May Elizabeth Rest In Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MICHAEL (Spike) DONOGHUE

Late of Beladd, Portlaoise
7th Anniversary away from us (17th April)



*Seven years have passed
now Dad, since we had
to part,
Seventy two long months
of grieving with a broken
heart,
We talk about you often,
We think about you still,
You shall never be
forgotten.*

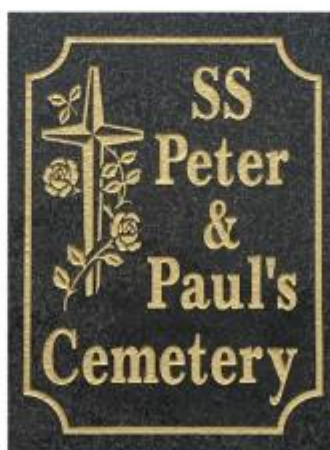
*Sadly missed by your sons Micheál and
Raymond, daughters Elaine, Sandra and Joy,
sons-in-law Sean, John and Pat,
daughter-in-law Jacinta, grandchildren Oran,
Jack, Pauric, Rita, Ellen, Tom, Fionn, Sarah,
Bett, Molly, Daisy, Luke and Ella.*

May Dad Rest in Peace

Dawn Mass



**Easter Sunday 21st April,
6am**



The **AGM**
of
**Portlaoise Cemetery
Committee**

will be held on
Tuesday 16th of April
at 7.30pm upstairs in
Kavanaghs, Main Street.

Members of the public
are invited to attend if
they would like to get
involved.



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. **Please note change of venue.**

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.

Divine Mercy Novena: We will be praying the Divine Mercy Novena every day in the Portlaoise Church at 3pm commencing on Good Friday, 19th April and concluding on Saturday 27th April.

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

Sean Doyle Light Engineering, Granstown, Ballacolla, Laois. 087-2068972: Clothes line poles, wall to wall clothes lines, winders, pulleys etc., retractable clothes lines, bicycle stands etc. *Facebook;* seandoylelightengineering

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Portlaoise Tidy Towns A.G.M.: Monday 15th April at 8.15pm in the Parish Centre. If you love where you live and feel you would like to be involved in improving our great town why not come along and join our group. All our welcome.

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 or learn Whist at Sue Ryder centre every Thursday 2.30 to 4.00pm all are welcome

April: 17th: A special programme to celebrate the Easter Season, which features dancing, an Easter bonnet parade and a fun quiz with Anne and Maureen. The afternoon is guaranteed to have fun and laughter with plenty of memories to keep us all in good spirits.

Upcoming Event: On April 24th, Portlaoise ARA is celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the foundation of the club. This is a major milestone in our history, and promises to be a very entertaining and exciting day for all our members. It will feature live music, a DVD highlighting a 15 year story of achievement, followed by delicious afternoon tea, with catering by Café Latte. All members should collect their invitations, and ensure the 24th is printed in the diary. This is an event not to be missed.

Laois Local Forum for people using Mental Health Services, family members, carers: Open meetings held monthly in Trilogue Centre, Bridge St., Portlaoise, 6pm-7:45pm, Thurs. 25th April, 23rd May and 27th June (*No booking required*). New members always welcome. Tel. 087-3761552

E-mail mhengage.mlm@hse.ie
www.hse.ie/mentalhealthengagement

Portlaoise Library News.

Keeping Kids Safe Online Bob Flavin who runs a successful YouTube channel will be speaking to parents about safety online. He will advise of things to look for in children's online use and of ways to promote their safety. This talk will take place on Wednesday 24th April, 6.30pm. Booking is advised.

History Lectures series starting in May at Portlaoise Library Tuesdays, 7.30pm. A series of history lectures on a number of topics with guest lecturers. Booking recommended.

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



PATH will be in Lyster Square every Wednesday evening between 7:30pm and 9pm. We will have tea/coffee/soup/fresh bread and other items available free of charge. Please call down and meet our committee members & volunteers. All welcome.

Laois Alzheimer's Society Resource Centre at 47 Main Street Portlaoise is open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

Raheen Vintage Club will host a **Vintage Road Run this Sunday 14th April in aid of Laois Alzheimer's Society.** The run will commence from Colt GAA pitch, Raheen. Registration will start from 11am, departing at 12.30pm sharp. We are aiming to be back in Eamon A'Chnoic for 3pm. Registration Fee of €20 per vehicle and we will have donation buckets out on the day. We will also have a raffle on the day to raise more funds. For more information contact Chris 087-7691972 (Chairman) or Eddie 085-7648090 (Secretary) of Raheen Vintage Club.

Support Group will be on **Wed. 17th April, 7.30pm-9pm** in **Resource Centre, Portlaoise.** The support groups provide an opportunity to meet others in a similar situation, to access information and practical advice in supportive environment. Free to family members affected by dementia and memory issues. For any information on dementia contact Ann Munnelly, Homecare Coordinator on 057-8663398 / 086-8372168 or e-mail laois.branch@alzheimer.ie

SPECIAL KILDARE PILGRIMAGE (last remaining seats) based in Fatima 9th - 14th June 2019 will be in Lisbon for Feast Day of Saint Anthony. Mass in Santarem where the bleeding host took place and Prayers, Mass and Hungarian Stations of the Cross in Fatima.

Contact James Treacy 086-0572216

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

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PEOPLE FIRST EASTER OPENING HOURS

Good Friday	Closed 19 th April
Holy Saturday	Closed 20 th April
Easter Monday	Closed 22 nd April

Normal business hours resume
from Tuesday 23rd April
*Wishing all our members a
Happy Easter!*

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OUR LADY OF FATIMA FEAST DAY

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Sunday 12th May 2019**
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Applications with C.V.to
Anne McLoughlin, Midlands Visitor Centre, Midlands Prison, Dublin Road, Portlaoise

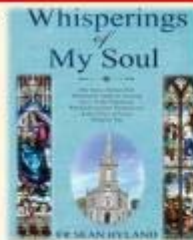
Closing Date:
Friday 19th April

Laois/Offaly Branch of Retired Nurses Association AGM

will be held in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise (on church grounds) on Tuesday 23rd April 2019 at 2pm. Parking Tickets available at reception desk. National President and Secretary will be in attendance.

Good attendance expected & new member always welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Watch out for Fr Sean Hyland's interview on the Late Late Show on RTE 1 on Good Friday night 19th April. He will be discussing his book "Whisperings of my Soul".



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In the box is the Happy Easter Story booklet which tells the Easter story in easy-to-read rhyme and with great illustrations.

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"If you landed here as Easter approaches, what would you think Easter is about? Chocolate, bunny rabbits, cute little chickens? Is that all? I believe there's more. That's why I've made this egg that reminds us why we celebrate Easter - because Jesus is alive again!"

