

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
link
up

19th January 2020

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Our shrine to the Sacred Heart, which contains our very old picture (from the former Parish Church) has been enhanced by the addition of a Sacred Heart lamp, beautifully in harmony with our Blessed Sacrament area. Thanks to a generous donor who has given it to Parish. It was crafted by artist Michelle O'Donnell (Glasshammer Studios, Rhode, Co. Offaly).

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142 E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie
Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie**

Portlaoise Parish

Results for

16th January 2020



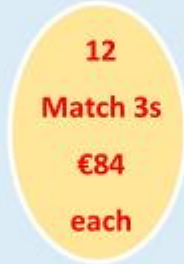
One €20,000 Jackpot Winner

Annie O'Neill (Lotto Gift)

WINNERS

- Breda Barry
- Murt & Hazel Kelly
- Caroline Begadon
- JB Curtin
- Ann McCormack
- E. N. C. & Sadbh
- Barry Kearns
- Malachy McNulty
- Joe Doyle
- Seamus Dickson
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PROMOTER

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Next Week's Jackpot €19,000



Conversion of St Paul

January 25th

When we are struggling to find change in our lives, we could hardly do better than look

to the story of Saul, the great persecutor of Christians, who saw the light on the road to Damascus. The story of the conversion of Saul, from the persecutor of Christians to the zealous and holy instrument of evangelisation, Paul, shows the strength of God's power in our lives, and how He can change anything. Although misguided, Saul had always been sincere and committed. In him God saw a tremendous instrument for all that he wanted to accomplish. The lesson here is to remember that for God, nothing is impossible.

Priests of the Parish



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



Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C. Tel: 057 8509998



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



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 office hours in emergency only

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and in our Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person Mick Daly dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722 E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie Twitter: @portlaoiseparis Facebook: PortlaoiseParishLaois

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

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



Secretary: Julie Conroy Monday to Thursday 11am-1pm & 2.15pm-5pm 057-8692154

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie Advertising deadline: 12noon Wednesday subject to availability of space

PARISH SHOP - 057 8621142



Cast In Stone

Our identity is shaped by the people we live and work with. Our identity is shaped by how we deal with family and workplace relationships over a space of many years. As a child, loved and cherished, we become strong confident and assertive. As a child who is not loved, we become insecure, secretive and even delinquent. As a spouse or parent, we can become caring supportive and strong, or we can become embittered, devious, angry or fearful.. As an employer or an employee we can become cooperative or competitive, kind or ruthless, sharing or greedy. Before we know it our identity is cast in stone, and others routinely refer to us as a nag, a bully, bossy, henpecked, stubborn or spineless. If we are very lucky people might label us as 'the salt of the earth' or 'a rock'.



Today Jesus looks at Peter and says, "You will be called Cephas". Jesus sees him as a 'rock'. How his friends must have rolled round laughing. Peter? A rock? Peter was impetuous, naïve and not always the most trusting of Jesus' disciples. If Peter was a rock he was a very crumbly one! Interestingly, slowly but surely, Peter grows into the rock Jesus believes him to be. We are being taught something very important. Peter's identity is very much rooted in his relationship with Jesus.

We might look at our own identity and not like what we have become. We might wish we could be different but feel trapped by circumstance, or expectation. The good news is that by working on our relationship with God, we can become the people we always knew we could be.

Bitesize: The particular human chain we're part of is central to our individual identity.
Elizabeth Stone

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 in the Parish Church at 5pm.

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday after 10am

& 6.30pm Masses.



We welcome into our
Parish Community

James Robert Sythes
Raheenduff.

who was baptised last weekend

St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622)

Friday 24th January

Francis de Sales took seriously the words of Christ, "Learn of me for I am meek and humble of heart." As he said himself, it took him 20 years to conquer his quick temper, but no one ever suspected he had such a problem, so overflowing with good nature and kindness was his usual manner of acting. His perennial meekness and sunny disposition won for him the title of "Gentleman Saint."

Sunday 12th January 2020

Offertory Collection	€3,035.00
Development Fund	€3,731.00
	€6,766.00

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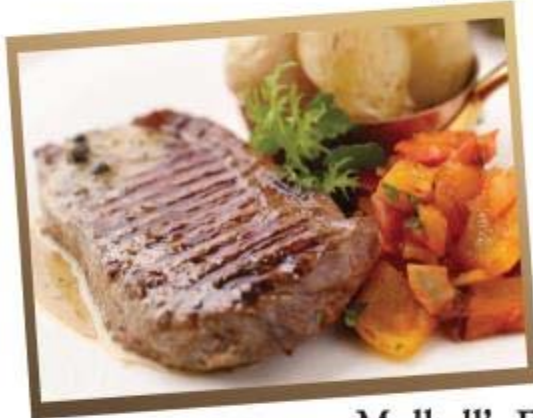
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SPORTS PEOPLE;

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

CHILDREN;

Who are in toeing, out toeing, have poor posture or gait or where parents notice excessive wear.

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God's Eyewitnesses



It is important for us to keep up with what is happening in the world, isn't it? One of the best ways to keep up is by watching the news. A typical news broadcast may have several live, on-the-scene reports. The announcer might say something like, "Fire destroyed a building today in Tralee. RTE Eyewitness News reporter, Paschal Sheehy, is at the scene. Paschal?"

Paschal would say, "Thank you, Eileen. I am talking to Maeve Mullally who witnessed the fire. Maeve, can you tell us exactly what you saw?" The eyewitness would then tell everyone what she saw. It really helps us to understand what happened when we have an eyewitness report, doesn't it?

Even though there was no TV during the time that Jesus lived, eyewitness reports were still very important. One day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him. He said to the people with him, "Look! There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one I told you about. I didn't know he was the Messiah, but when I baptised him, I saw the Holy Spirit coming down from the heavens like a dove. It came down and landed right on his shoulder. I saw it with my own two eyes and I tell you, this is the Son of God." When the people heard John's eyewitness report, it helped them understand and believe that Jesus was truly the Son of God.

Most people come to know about Jesus because someone else tells them about him. Perhaps it's their parents, a school teacher, a pastor, or a good friend. Who is someone who has told you about Jesus? Maybe your parent, a friend or a teacher.

These people whom you named have given an eyewitness account of how Jesus changed their life. God wants all of us to be a part of his "Eyewitness News Team."

What would you tell someone about what Jesus means to you? Whatever Jesus has done for you, tell others so they can know Him too.

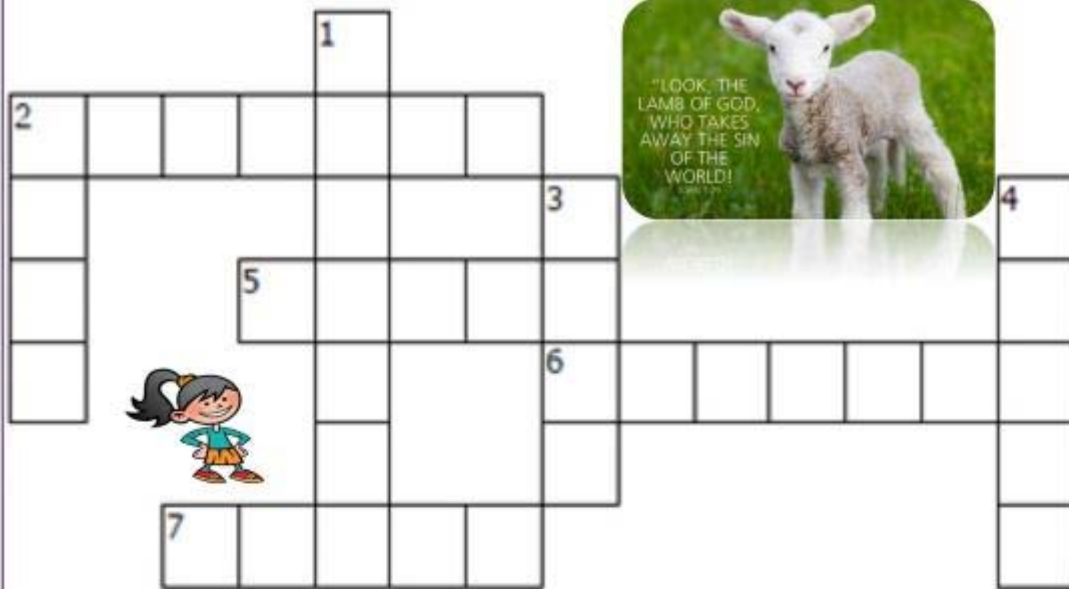
OUR PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son. Help us be witnesses so that others will come to know Your love as we do. Amen.



God's Eyewitness News

Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I have seen and I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God." **John 1:32-34**



ACROSS

1. The man who baptised Jesus
4. A clear, colourless, odourless and tasteless liquid; H2O
7. A young sheep
8. A bird that is a symbol of peace
9. A male descendant
10. To break one of God's commands

DOWN

2. The place where God is
3. The earth and everything on it
5. The creator of heaven and earth
6. To make a statement based on personal knowledge



**SIN
GOD**

**HEAVEN
DOVE**

**LAMB
TESTIFY**

**JOHN
WORLD**

**WATER
SON**

A Prayer for Students and Teachers

God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge.

Let us ask him to bless those who seek to learn and their teachers.

For students, that the Spirit of God may grant them the gifts of wisdom of understanding.

For teachers, that they may share their knowledge with gentleness, patience, and concern for their students. Amen.

Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an international Christian ecumenical observance kept annually between 18th January and 25th January. It is an octave, that is, an observance lasting eight days.



Catholic Schools Week begins next Sunday. All children are invited to the 6.30pm Mass next Saturday (25th January) in the Parish Church as we begin this week of celebrations.



TIME TO THINK!

8 YEAR OLD'S EXPLANATION OF GOD

A second class student in primary school recently wrote the following wisdom.....

One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth.

He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think that is because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at other times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this.

Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Jesus is God's Son. He use to do all the hard work like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in Heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.

You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to Church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God.

Don't skip Church or do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can.

It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

But you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And this is what I know about God.

A Wise Parable

Once, there was a renowned monk who lived in a beautiful monastery with many of his pupils. His teachings were known to be very effective and many of his students grew up to become great masters themselves.

One day, one of them was caught stealing from his fellow-students and they reported him to the monk. But he took no action against the boy. A few days later the same boy was again caught stealing. And again the head monk did nothing to punish him.

This angered the other students who drew up a petition asking for the dismissal of the thief. They threatened to leave en masse if the boy was allowed to stay in the monastery.

The teacher called a meeting of the students. When they had assembled, he said to them: "You are good boys who know what is right and what is wrong. If you leave, you will have no trouble in joining some other school. But what about your brother who does not even know the difference between right and wrong? Who will teach him if I don't? No, I cannot ask him to go even if it means losing all of you."

Tears coursed down the cheeks of the boy who had stolen. He never stole again and in later life became renowned for his integrity.



Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 16,800 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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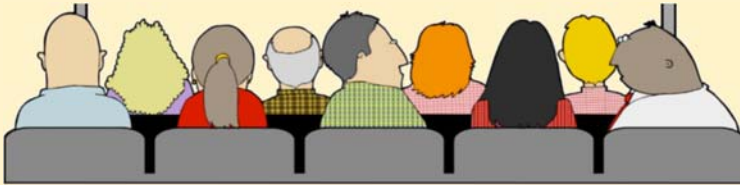
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TUE JANUARY 21, 2020
19.30-21.00

PUBLIC MEETING

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MORE ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, WHERE YOU ARE BASED, WHAT YOUR
SCREEN SECTOR INTERESTS ARE, WHAT RESOURCE CHALLENGES YOU
FACE, HOW LAOIS CAN DEVELOP AND RESOURCE ITS SCREEN
SECTOR, ETC.

RSVP: Ann Lawlor, Creative Ireland Laois, project
manager by Friday January 17
alawlor@creativelaois.ie, 087 6564548

Blessing of Babies Ceremony in our Church last Sunday





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



Mary Tynan (née Grant)
Rathevan



Carmel Fitzpatrick
(née Dunne)
Annefield Terrace,
Dublin Road



Brigid (Bridie) Doody
Ridge Road



Paddy Rankin
Kilougan, Ratheniska

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

In Loving Memory of
ESTHER DUNNE (née Brennan)



Portarlinton and formerly 51 Dr. Murphy's Place

Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton, on
Sunday 26th January at 12:15pm.

Sadly missed by all her loving family.

Rest in Peace Esther



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In Loving Memory of
MARY McEVOY

Late of St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
18th Anniversary occurs 19th January 2020.



*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.*

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 18th January at 6:30pm.**

Sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

We also remember Mary's husband Alo, her two sisters, Alice and Esther whose anniversaries occur around this time and Mary's grandson Daryl Dargan.

Rest in Peace Mam

In Loving Memory of
MARGARET HOULIHAN

14 Oaklawn, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 18th January 2020.



The Day You Went Away
Today's the anniversary of the day
that we lost you,
And for a time it felt as though our
lives had ended too.

But loss has taught us many things,
And now we face each day,
With hope and happy memories,
To help us on our way.

And though we're full of sadness, that you're no longer
here,
Your influence still guides us, and we still feel you near.

What we shared will never die, it lives within our hearts,
Bringing strength and comfort, while we are apart.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving
husband James, sons, daughters, sons-in-law,
daughters-in-law, grandchildren and extended family.*

May Margaret Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
EOIN DOOLEY

Brittas Mountmellick. 6th Anniversary occurs 31st January 2020.



We thought of you today,
But that is nothing new,
We thought of you yesterday and will
tomorrow too,
We think of you in silence and make no
outward show,
For what it meant to lose you, only those
who love you know,
Remembering you is easy, we do it every day,
It's the heartache of losing you, that never goes away.

*Treasured memories of a loving son, brother and father, missing you
always, love, Mam, Dad, Diarmaid, Grainne, Sarah, Eileen,
daughter Molly and your extended family.*

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Joseph's
Church, Mountmellick, Saturday 25th January at
7:30pm and Sunday 26th at 11am.**

May Eoin Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
PATRICK (Paddy) CONNELL

Late of 57 Marian Place, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs 21st January 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
on Saturday 18th 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
DAN REDDIN

Old Knockmay Rd. Portlaoise.
34th Anniversary occurs 19th January 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 19th January at 11:15am.

*You were always there, no task too great or small,
With a loving heart and willing hands, for us you
did it all.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

May Dan Rest in Peace

*Anniversary Remembrance In Loving Memory of
A Cherished Husband, Father and Grandfather*

WILLIAM (Willie) O' REILLY

28 Lakeglen, Portlaoise. 2nd Anniversary away from home - 24th January 2020.



Husband; A life well lived is a precious gift of hope, strength and grace,
For someone who has made the world a brighter better place,
Life is filled with moments, sweet and sad with smiles and tears,
With friendships formed and good times shared with laughter through
the years.

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

Thinking of you today and always Willie

Your loving wife Anne.

Daddy; We do not need a special day to bring you to our mind,

The days we do not think of you are very hard to find,
Each morning when we awake, we know that you are gone,
No one knows the heartache as we try to carry on.
Our hearts still ache with sadness and secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you no one will ever know,
Our thoughts are always with you, your place no one can fill,
In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still.

There will always be a heartache and often a silent tear,
But always a precious memory of the days when you were here,
If tears would build a staircase and heartache make a lane,
We'd walk the path to Heaven and bring you home again.
We hold you close within our hearts and there you will remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again,
Our family chain is broken now, and nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one the chain will link again.

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 sons-in-law Trevor and Séan.

Grandad; You're thought about so often in loving memory,
For you were all the special things a Grandad ought to be,
We've all missed you being here since you went away,
But the happiness you brought us is remembered everyday,
So may you find a gentle peace in your eternal rest,
We'll always love you Grandad for you really were the best.

Joanne, Leona, Megan, Avril, Katie, Billy, Dylan, Sarah, Aimee, Leah, Abbey, Jayden, Sean, Carly,
Braidan, Caoimhe, Óisín, Maisie and baby Noah-Alan.

**Willie's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church on Friday 24th January 2020 at 10am.**

May William Rest in Peace

**Fondest Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
MARY FINNAN**

Late of 6 Borris Road, Portlaoise.



Deep are the memories,
Precious they stay, no passing of
time, can take them away.

*Sadly missed by all her friends and
colleagues.*

Rest in Peace Mary

In Loving Memory of

RICHARD ANDERSON

Late of 37 Upper Beladd, Portlaoise.
1st Anniversary occurs 19th January 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 19th January at 12:30pm.

An Eternal Memory

Until we meet again;

Those special memories of you will
always bring a smile,

If only I could have you back, for just a little while,
Then we could sit and talk again, just like we use to do,
You always meant so very much and always will do too,
The fact that you're no longer here, will always cause me
pain, but you're forever in my heart, until we meet again.

Sadly missed by your loving wife Cecilia and family.

Rest in Peace Richard

In Loving Memory of

PADDY O' BRIEN THE PROPHET

2 Millview, Portlaoise. 3rd Anniversary occurs 20th January.



No words can tell, no tears express,
The love, the loss, the emptiness,
You are not just a memory or part of
the past,

You are ours to remember as long as
life lasts.

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

May Paddy Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of

MARY HOGAN

Moneygall, Roscrea.

Died 20th January 2019



The family of the late
Mary Hogan; her daughter
Josephine Keane, Beladd
and son John Hogan,
Portlaoise, would like to
thank most sincerely all
those who sympathised with
them in their sad loss, to
everyone who attended at
the funeral home in
Roscrea, removal and burial
in Dunkerrin and to those
who sent Mass cards and

messages of support.

Heartfelt thanks to Portlaoise General Hospital for
their care of Mary and to Msgr. John Byrne and
the Priests of the Parish for their support at such a
difficult time.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this acknowledgement
as an expression of our deepest gratitude.

Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Rest in Peace Mary

In Loving Memory of

JOSEPHINE O' REILLY

Marian House, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise, whose anniversary
occurred 13th January.



A sudden call from God on high, we had no
chance to say goodbye,
Without farewell you fell asleep, but memories
of you we will always keep.

From your sons Martin and Jas, daughter Eileen, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren.

May Josephine Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

MICHAEL FITZPATRICK

Whose 9th Anniversary occurs 17th January 2020



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

**Final Deadline for all Anniversaries and
Acknowledgements is 12 noon Wednesday**



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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 2.50-4pm.

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.

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.

"Meditating... Being Mindful... Seeking God": In the Parish Church (old sacristy), Thursdays, 11am to 12 noon. New members welcome.

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

The Rosary is recited in St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe every Monday evening at 8pm. All are welcome.

St. Joseph's Young Priest Society: Please join us for a Holy Hour at 3pm every Friday, as we pray for vocations to the Priesthood and religious life. All are welcome.

An Spioraid Naoimh Praying Community Praise and Worship Meeting will be held in Portlaoise Parish Centre, Saturday 25th January, starting at 10:40am immediately after 10am Mass, concluding at 12.15pm. Format: Rosary, Praise and Worship with Music Ministry.

Teaching Topic: Praying for Healing
Spiritual Director; Fr. Ruairi O' Domhnaill

Contact Michael Nerney for details at 086-8157305. All are welcome.

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

Portlaoise Active Retirement Association (ARA)

Bowls:

Every Monday in St. Mary's Hall at 3pm - regular and new members are always welcome to come along and take part and become a member of the ARA Bowls team.

Whist:

Play or learn Whist at Sue Ryder Centre every Thursday from 2.30pm to 4pm. All are welcome. Absolute beginners and improvers are catered for. Learn an enjoyable past-time and meet new friends.

Jan. 22nd: "Who do you think I am", a novel and exciting programme with a difference, to look back in time and recall a little story about your life, be it funny, sad, uplifting, exciting or indeed life changing, that you can share with us. Our lives are mainly influenced by luck, coincidence and circumstances, and do not normally follow any plan. A lovely opportunity to share life's little diversions with each other in friendship.

Portlaoise GROW Group: GROW Community Mental Health Movement support group meets weekly in Portlaoise Parish Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesdays. If you feel anxious, isolated or are suffering from stress why not come learn a practical psychology of mental health. Contact Michelle 086-4183805 or visit our website; www.grow.ie. [GROW Promoting Positive Mental Health].

Dancing at An Sean Chistin, Irej, Ballyfin, R32X5D6:

Monday; Set Dancing 8pm.

Tuesday; Line Dancing 11am.

Wednesday; Line Dancing 8pm.

Gentle exercise, fun and friendship guaranteed. All are welcome. For info. tel. Maureen 087-6482038.

Sing for Joy: Weekly rehearsals have now commenced in Portlaoise Parish Centre every Wednesday at 11am. The members, their carers and family eagerly look forward to a musical 2020. Sing for Joy is a community choir. Members from all caring facilities and situations in Co. Laois and beyond are very welcome. For this term we look forward to preparing songs for celebrating St. Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day. Further details from Maureen Culleton choir director, 087-6482038.

HSE

Suicide Prevention Training

Free 2-day workshop taking place on 21st and 22nd January in the Parish Centre. Contact Josephine Rigney (HSE) to register your place. Tel. 086-8157850 or e-mail josephine.rigney@hse.ie



yourmentalhealth.ie

Upcoming Events at Mount St. Anne's, Killenard, Portlaoise:

Lá Fhéile Bhríde - Celebrating our Celtic Consciousness on Saturday 1st February from 10am to 3.30pm. Brigid, champion of peace, justice and hope, invites us to connect with the sacred ordinariness of this world and our daily lives. Through practical and reflective methods, we explore the intuitive and creative aspects of our own spiritual being.

Facilitated by Ms. Geraldine Faherty
Cost: €40 (Includes materials)

Please bring packed lunch-Tea/Coffee will be provided.

Contact Catherine on 057-8626153.

Prayerful Meditation Day-Saturday 7th March, 10am to 3.30pm. A day designed to offer a space for you to relax, pray, think and feel in our beautiful peaceful surroundings. Booking is essential.

Facilitated by Sr. Anne Kearney.

Cost: €25. Please bring packed lunch, Tea/Coffee will be provided.

Contact Catherine on 057-8626153.

Laois Alzheimer's Society Resource Centre

at 47 Main Street Portlaoise is open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

Our next Social Club is Thursday 23rd January, 2-4pm in Abbeyleix Hospital, for people with Dementia and their carers. This is a very relaxed informal event where activities, fun and chat can be shared over a cup of tea. If you are in the area please join us. All welcome.

We are offering one weeks respite care to people who have a dementia diagnosis in Waterman's Lodge specialist overnight respite care centre, Ballina/Killaloe, Co Tipperary. To access respite care or for any information on dementia please contact Ann Munnely, Home-care Co-ordinator on 057-8663398 or 086-8372168 or e-mail Ann at amunnely@alzheimer.ie

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NOTICE

Portlaoise Parish Lourdes
Committee would like to advise
that our savings club for our
2020 Pilgrimage has now begun.
We will meet weekly in the Parish
Centre, every Thursday from
6:30-7:30pm for the next 21
weeks and any money saved is
not refundable or transferable.
This scheme is to try and help
people to save their fare or part
off weekly. The deposit of €200
must be paid towards your fare
before you begin the savings
scheme. Please see poster in the
Church for further info. regarding
deposit. Thank you.

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