

PORTLAOISE  
PARISH  
**link  
up**

25th August 2019

## Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wishing all our young parishioners and their principals, teachers and all school staff every blessing as they begin to return to school this week.

All are most welcome to come to our blessing of school bags which will take place next Saturday (31st August) during the 6.30pm Mass in the Parish Church.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)

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[fb.com/portlaoiselinkup](https://fb.com/portlaoiselinkup)

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



22nd August 2019 Portlaoise Parish



**No €10,000 Jackpot Winner**

**WINNERS**

Joe Kelly  
Paddy Lalor  
Eamon Nolan  
Liz Dowling  
Lil Scully  
Eddie Dunne  
Callie Hanlon  
Conor Dwyer  
J. Dunne  
Brendan Carroll

**MATCH 3s €1,000**

**10**  
**Match 3s**  
**€100**  
**each**

**PROMOTER**

Teresa Kelly  
Lotto Gift  
Anthony Preston  
Parish Centre  
Mary Flangan  
Niamh Doyle  
Mary Collins  
Parish Centre  
Anne Carroll  
M. Hanlon

**Next Week's Jackpot €11,000**

**Follow Us** @PortlaoiseParish  
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*Priests of the Parish*



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



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



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



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

*Visiting Priests*



**Fr. Benny Antoney**



**Fr. Thulani Gubula**

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

**Parish Centre**



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

**MANAGER Declan Kelly**

**Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley**  
**Agneszka Kaczmarek**

**Accounts Michelle Conroy**

**Sacristans Parish Church**

**Sr. Sybil and Sr. Jooly 057-8692151**

**(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times)**

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



**Secretary: Julie Conroy**

**Monday to Thursday**

**11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm**

**057-8692154**

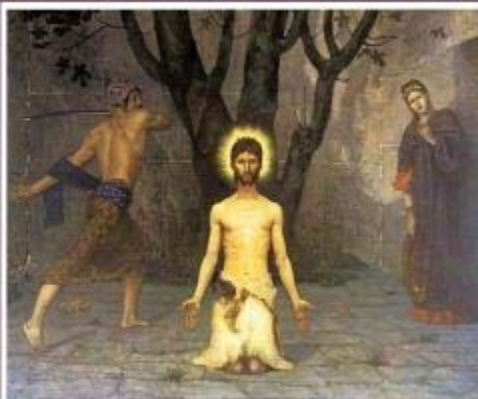
**Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday**

**Subject to availability of space**

**E-mail: [linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

**PARISH SHOP**

**Religious gifts and books.**



**The Passion of**  
**St John**  
**the Baptist**

**Thursday**

**29<sup>th</sup> August**

Each of us has a calling to

which we must listen. No one will ever repeat the mission of John, and yet all of us are called to that very mission. It is the role of the Christian to witness to Jesus. Whatever our position in this world, we are called to be disciples of Christ. By our words and deeds, others should realize that we live in the joy of knowing that Jesus is Lord. We do not have to depend upon our own limited resources, but can draw strength from the vastness of Christ's saving grace.





### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

- 6:30pm: Frances Doheny, Breda Cooley, Kitty Timmons,  
Frank Keane & Margaret Devaney;  
8.30am: Margaret Carroll, Lisa Connolly & Kathleen Dunne;  
10am: Noel O'Rourke, Brenda Scully, Chris Lannigan,  
John Delaney & Sandra Hannify;  
11:15am: Mary Maher, Richard O'Dowd, Ann O'Dowd,  
Pat Maher & Helena Corbett;  
12.30pm: Justina Ohaa, Mary Ann Dunne, Bridie Dollard,  
Elaine McGinn & Liam Greene.

### Hospital Ministers for the Month of September

- Sunday: Justina Ohaa & Mary Bradley  
Wednesday: Michael Holohan & Margaret Holohan

### Ballard Lodge Nursing Home for September

Eugene Keyes

### Funeral Ministers of Holy Communion for September

Armando Sanchez & Jane Murphy

### READERS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

- 6:30pm: Joe Brennan & Billy Bohan  
8.30am: Marie Croke  
10am: Mary O'Halloran & Patricia Carroll  
11:15am: Mary Cullen & Eugene Keyes  
12.30pm: Paddy O'Connor

### COLLECTORS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

- 6:30pm: Tommy Timmons & Stephen Dwane  
8.30am: Pat McEvoy & Jim Hyland  
10am: Tommy Hilliard & Michael Holohan  
11:15am: Billy O'Keeffe & Olive Maher  
12.30pm: Dan Devoy & Margaret Holohan

### Back To School... Thank God

**Back to School** - three little words guaranteed to elicit moans and groans from our children ... but for millions of children around the world, the option of an education is nothing more than a pipe dream. As a result of poverty and marginalization, more than 72 million children around the world remain unschooled. Sub-Saharan Africa is the most affected area with over 32 million children of primary school age remaining uneducated. Central and Eastern Asia, as well as the Pacific, are also severely affected by this problem with more than 27 million uneducated children. So of course children will groan but we should also say '**School**' Thank God.

### 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.

### CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday after 10am  
& 6.30pm Masses

### Annual Concern Church



Gate Collection will be held  
at all Masses this weekend.

Thank you for your support.



Fáilte

### We welcome into our Parish Community

Aoife Kate Dobbyn  
Lake Grove, Kilminchy

Kayce-Lee Mary Bridget Ward  
Colliers Court

David Lakatos  
Abbeycourt

Saoirse Mia Hyland  
Ballyfin

Evan Paul Sande  
Market Place

Fionn Manuel Del Castillo Whelan  
Rossleigh

Who were baptised last weekend

### Sunday 18th August 2019

Offertory Collection	€2,568.00
Development Fund	€3,136.00
	€5,704.00

Our thanks and appreciation to all who  
subscribe so generously to the Parish.



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*Abbeylax & Portlaoise  
Lions Clubs*



*Abbeylax House Gardens  
Open Day*

*By kind permission of Sir. David Davies*

*In aid of*

*Lions Club Charities*

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019, 1pm-5pm**

**Admission €5**

*Tea, Coffee and Refreshments are available  
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Shanahoe, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois



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Detached House €450,000

5 Castleway, Kilminchy,  
Dublin Rd, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



BER C2

Semi-Detached House  
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10 The Hermitage,  
Borris Rd, Portlaoise



BER C2

3 Bed / 1 Bath  
End of Terrace €180,000

50 Garden Village,  
Portlaoise



BER D1

3 Bed / 3 Baths  
Semi-Detached House €175,000

73 Lime Tree Avenue, Kilminchy,  
Dublin Rd, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



BER C3

UNDER OFFER

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Portlaoise, Co. Laois



SALE AGREED

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Portlaoise, Co. Laois



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diabetes may require softer coverings.

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# **EVENING HOBBY COURSES** **OPEN NIGHT**

**TUESDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**7:00PM - 8:30PM**

**Register and pay full  
fees on open night**

## SEPTEMBER

Manage Your Taxes <b>NEW</b>	Wed	7:00-9:00pm	6 weeks	11th Sept	€75
Interview Skills	Tues	7:00-9:00pm	6 weeks	10th Sept	€75
Art for Beginners	Mon	7:00-9:00pm	6 weeks	9th Sept	€75
Dress Making	Tues	7:00-9:00pm	10 weeks	10th Sept	€100
Spanish for Beginners	Mon	7:00-9:00pm	10 weeks	9th Sept	€100
Spanish for Improvers	Wed	7:00-9:00pm	10 weeks	11th Sept	€100
Photography for Beginners	Mon	7:00-9:00pm	6 weeks	9th Sept	€75
Bridge	Mon	7:00-9:00pm	10 weeks	9th Sept	€100

## NOVEMBER

Hair Care & Styling	Mon	7:00-9:00pm	6 weeks	4th Nov	€75
Christmas Cookery	Wed	7:00-9:30pm	6 weeks	6th Nov	€100



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



# OPEN EVENING

## Laois Music Centre

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# CateKIDS

Portlaoise Parish

HANDING ON  
THE FAITH



## Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

To help you understand the importance of today's gospel, if everyone was to stand up. Stand nice and straight. Then, bend at your waist until you are looking straight down at the floor. That isn't extremely uncomfortable, is it? You could easily stay bent over like that for a few minutes, but what if you had to stay bent over like that all the time? What if you had to stay bent over like that day after day and year after year for eighteen years? That would be quite a different story, wouldn't it? What if you went to the store and you needed something from the top shelf? You could not even see the top shelf, much less reach the items on that shelf! You would have to depend on someone to find and get the items you needed.



In today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the synagogue on the Sabbath when he saw a woman who was crippled. She had been bent over double for eighteen years and was unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over to him, touched her and said, "Woman, you are healed!" Instantly she could stand up straight. She was so happy that she began to praise God!

You would think that everyone in the synagogue that day would be happy and join the woman in praising God. Not so! The leader in charge of the synagogue was very angry that Jesus had healed the woman on the Sabbath day. He told the crowd, "There are six days of the week for working. Come on those days and be healed, but not on the Sabbath."

Jesus answered the leader of the synagogue, "You hypocrite! All of you work on the Sabbath! Don't you untie your ox or your donkey and lead it out for water? Doesn't this dear woman deserve to be healed, even on the Sabbath?" The leader was shamed, but the other people were happy and rejoiced at all of the wonderful things that Jesus did.

Jesus knew that rules are important, but he knew that the needs of people are more important. You and I need to learn that lesson as well. Whenever we see someone in need, the most important thing is to help them, no matter when or where it may be.

### PRAYER

Father, help us to follow the example that Jesus has set for us. Help us to place the needs of others ahead of any rules we may have. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



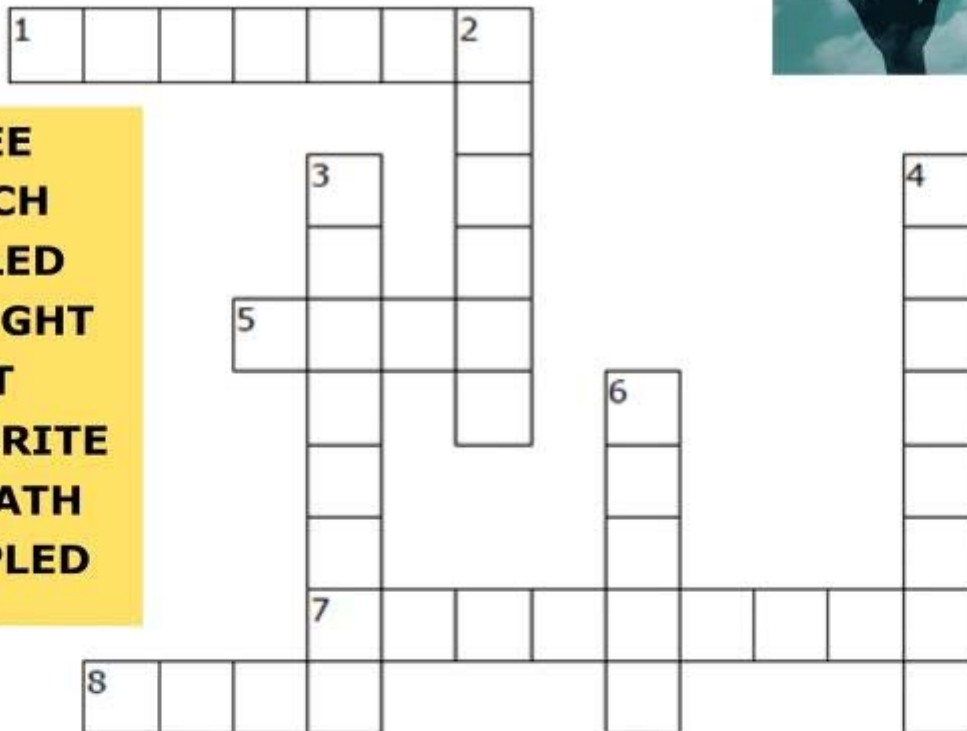
## Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.



Luke 13:12-13

**FREE  
TEACH  
HEALED  
STRAIGHT  
BENT  
HYPOCRITE  
SABBATH  
CRIPPLED**



### ACROSS

1. The day set aside for rest and worship.
5. Not limited or controlled by anything.
7. A person who pretends to be what he is not.
8. To be changed from an originally straight position.

### DOWN

2. To be cured from illness or injury.
3. Not bent or curved.
4. To be disabled, especially in the feet, legs, or back.
6. To instruct or give knowledge to another person.



## Parish Schools Re-opening dates

- Holy Family Jnr & Snr on Thursday 29th August  
 Heath on Thursday 29th August  
 Scoil Bhride on Friday 30th August  
 St. Francis on Friday 30th August  
 Gaelscoil on Monday 2nd September  
 Ratheniska on Monday 2nd September

**Blessing of school bags will  
take place in the Parish  
Church at the 6.30pm Mass  
next Saturday (31st August)**





# TIME TO THINK!

## CHRISTIANITY - A MIGHTY CHALLENGE

Christianity is the only religion which worships the scapegoat, the one who is hated, excluded, spat upon, blamed for everything, ridiculed, shamed, and made expendable.

Christianity is the only religion that focuses on imitating the victim and which sees God in the one who is surrounded by the halo of hatred.

There are some important lessons to be learned from this, not the least of which has to do with where we see truth, goodness, and God. We need, today, some correctives since we live in a culture which, not unlike most cultures in the past, scapegoats some persons to the benefit of the others and then identifies God and holiness with those who have created the scapegoats.

God is not to be confusedly identified with the myths of success, power, glamour, and popularity. Never confuse God - or what is holy - with current cultural religion, which, antithetical to Christ, worships the included, the glamorous, the ones who aren't shamed and ridiculed, and the ones who seem important and indispensable.

The God of our culture and the God that is preached in so many of our churches is not the God who dies on a cross, is hated, spat upon, and is excluded and scapegoated out of ignorance. No, our culture does not worship a crucified God. The God Jesus revealed is still, in our very own culture, excluded, mocked, scapegoated, made expendable, and often killed, mostly in the name of God and truth.

Where do we see this?

Our own culture, like every other culture past and present, creates a category of persons that it deems expendable and then subsequently victimises through exclusion, ridicule, scapegoating, and often through actual death.



The ones who constitute that category shift slightly from time to time, but there is always a common denominator: it includes always those who are the weakest.

Thus, for instance, our culture marginalises and scapegoats the sick, the poor, the handicapped, the unborn, the unattractive, the non-productive, the aged. These we deem expendable and subsequently take away full status within the human race.

Worse still, we identify God and holiness with those who are doing the excluding, as for instance the ruling party. But this is antithetical to true religion and true wisdom.

Where is God? God is on the side of the victim, standing with the one who is excluded, and specially present in the one being ridiculed, and dying, in the one who is being put to death.

True Christianity knows this. It worships the scapegoat - the one who is surrounded by the halo of hatred.

**Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 16,300 followers or @AbbeyleixP 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)**





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Diploma in Public Management	6	IPA/UCD
BA Honours in Public Management	8	IPA/UCD
Certificate in Business Studies	6	IPA/UCD
Diploma in Business Studies	6	IPA/UCD
Bachelor of Business Studies	8	IPA/UCD
Diploma in Law Specific Purpose Award	7	IPA/UCD
Certificate for Accounting Technicians Year 1	6	ATI
Diploma for Accounting Technicians Year 2	6	ATI
IPASS Stage 1	6	IPASS
IPASS Stage 2	6	IPASS
Certificate in Interpersonal Communications	7	UCC
Higher Diploma in Relationship Mentoring	8	UCC





## Annual Cemetery Mass in the Heath



Photos courtesy of Agnieszka Kaczmarek

More photos on our website [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)



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



**Joan Kennedy**  
Bellingham  
Mountrath Road



**Richard (Ricky)  
Dwane**  
Colliers Wood



**Martin Lawless**  
Rosenallis and  
Portlaoise



**Aoife Hume**  
The Downs

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

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**  
*Our sympathy to their families.*

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to  
the death notice at [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)

**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR**



**Danny Marum**  
Abbeyleix Road

The Parish has lost a great friend with the sudden death of Danny Marum last Friday. Danny was the first evening caretaker/receptionist at the Parish Centre from its beginning in October 2005. He endeared himself to the patrons of the Centre in its early days and played his part in making it such a valued and important part of the local community.

Danny retired from this post in 2011 but continued to play an important role in parish life. On a voluntary basis, Danny was in charge of the production of our 'lotto' ticket books, counting and stapling the books - a job he took very seriously and accomplished with great care and accuracy. Little did we think that as he tended to this work on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August, it would be his last day in the Centre.

Our thanks Danny, not just for your work but for all you meant to us. May He Rest in Peace.

**† KEEGAN'S †  
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David **087-2369887**

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## In Loving Memory of PATRICIA LaCUMBER

1 Parnell Crescent, Portlaoise.

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurred 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019



Patricia's 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish  
Church this Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August at 6:30pm.

*Our thoughts are ever with you,  
Though you have passed away,  
And those who have loved you dearly,  
Are thinking of you today.*

*Sadly missed, forever loved and remembered by all her loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Patricia*

## In Loving Memory of JOHN MAHER

Grange, Stradbally.

6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.



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

*Sadly missed by his loving family.*

*May John Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of CHRISTY DWANE

28 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.

13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019.



*Wherever we go, whatever we do,  
Memories keep us near to you.*

*Sadly missed by his wife Kathleen, sons  
Chris and Robbie, extended family,  
Kayleigh and Aideen and grandchildren  
Mia, Emily, Taylor and Leo.*

*May Christy Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of

**CHRISTOPHER (Christy) GING**  
Irishtown, Mountmellick and formerly  
New Road, Portlaoise.

7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019



*You're not just a memory  
silently kept,  
You're a part of our family,  
we will never forget.  
Gone from our sight and  
from our touch,  
But in our memories,  
loved so much.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise on  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 6.30pm .

*Sadly missed and always remembered by his  
loving family and friends.*

*May Christy Rest in Peace*

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

### In Loving Memory of

**MARGARET LYNCH (nee Doheny)**

23 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.

10<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from home occurred 23<sup>rd</sup> August.



*This day is remembered and quietly kept,  
No words are needed, we shall never forget,  
For those we love don't go away,  
They walk beside us every day,  
Unseen and unheard, but always near  
So loved, so missed, and so very dear.*

*Sadly missed by her husband Mick, children, grandchildren,  
brothers, sisters & relatives and friends.*

*Also remember other deceased relatives & friends at this time.*

*May Margaret Rest in Peace*

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## In Loving Memory of ELIZABETH (Betty) KEEGAN

8 Beechfield and formerly Market Sq. Portlaoise.

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019



*Though your smiles are gone forever,  
And your hand we cannot touch,  
We shall never lose sweet memories,  
Of you, we loved so much.*

*Gone from our home those smiling faces,  
The cheerful pleasant ways,  
The hearts that won so many friends,  
In bygone happy days.*

*Your voices keep whispering gently,  
Loved ones be brave and true,  
At the end of life there is sunshine,  
We'll be waiting and watching for you.*



Also remembering her loving husband, Peter Keegan, who died 18<sup>th</sup> February 1992.

*Fondly remembered and always in our thoughts,  
from all your loving family*

*May They Rest in Peace*

## JESUS SAID THE FIRST SHALL BE LAST

MATTHEW 20:16 - SO THOSE WHO ARE LAST NOW WILL BE FIRST THEN,  
AND THOSE WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of my Beautiful, Kind, Caring and Funny Mother ANNIE GREENE

74 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurred 21<sup>st</sup> August 2019.



Today's the anniversary of the day I lost you,  
And for a time it felt as though my life had ended too,

But loss has taught me many things and now I face  
each day, with hope and happy memories to help  
me on my way,

And though I'm full of sadness that you're no  
longer here,

Your influence still guides me and I still feel you near,  
What we shared will never die, it lives within my heart,  
Bringing strength and comfort, while we are apart.

*Also remember our father Thomas, whose 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
occurred in July.*

*Always in my heart; from your heartbroken daughter AnnMarie,  
son-in-law Peter, son Michael, grandchildren Tanya and  
Courtney and great-grandchildren Kelsie and Kayla.*

*May Mummy and Daddy Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of JOE CARROLL

35 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 10am.

*Your life was one of kindly deeds,  
A helping hand for others needs,  
Sincere and true in heart and mind,  
Beautiful memories left behind.*

*Sadly missed by Mary, Marie, Tracy, Liam, Des and all  
his loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Joe*



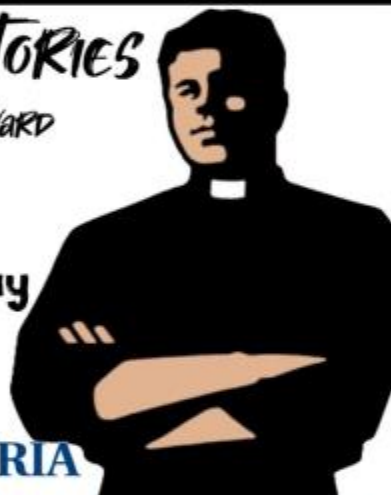
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## Novena to St. Mother Teresa Commences Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August

Commemorative Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 10am.

Blessing with the relic will take place after Mass.



## Prayer to St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

(Prayed each day of the Novena)

Saint Teresa of Calcutta,

You allowed the thirsting love of Jesus on the Cross  
to become a living flame within you, and so became  
the light of His love to all.

Obtain from the Heart of Jesus  
(here make your request)

Teach me to allow Jesus to penetrate and possess my  
whole being so completely that my life too,  
may radiate His light and love to others. Amen  
Immaculate Heart of Mary, cause of our Joy,  
pray for me.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta pray for me.

Keep the joy of loving Jesus in your heart and say often  
during the day and night.

*"Jesus in my heart I believe in your tender love for  
me. I love you."*

St. Mother Teresa





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### RELIGIOUS NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**St. Pio's Glove** will be in the home of Betty Malone, Shindella, Rathangan, Co. Kildare (located on the Rathangan - Monasterevin Rd.) on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September from 11am to 5pm. Padre Pio items will be on sale on the day. For further information, call Betty 045-525094. All welcome.

**Teach Mhuire Praying Community Mass for Healing:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. in St. Paul's Church, Emo. Rosary at 7.45pm at the grotto, followed by Mass at 8pm. Celebrant: Fr. Eddie Lawlor c.c. Portlaoise.

**Medjugorje Group Pilgrimage 2019:** 7 Night Package Inclusive €705, 3<sup>rd</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October. Spiritual Director Fr. Sean Hyland cc. Contact Michael Nerney 086-8157305.

**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 mounted clothes lines, winders, pulleys for old lines, bicycle stands, saw horses etc.

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### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Portlaoise Active Retirement Association (ARA)**

**Bowls:** Every Monday at 3pm in St. Mary's Hall - regular & 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 pastime and meet new friends.

**Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>:** The countdown is on, one week to go to the start of the new ARA season. To help blow off the cobwebs and ease back into activity, we have Caroline plus guitar to provide an enjoyable and exciting afternoon. We hope to see a full house to get the show on the road.

### Asperger Syndrome - Volunteers

**Wanted** to set up a Committee with an interest in the establishment and the running of a monthly support group for people with Asperger's, their families and professionals to support people living in all areas - Carlow, Laois, Kilkenny, Kildare, Wicklow and Wexford. This support group will be established with support from Aspire Ireland. An open evening will be hosted in Carlow town this September 2019 by Aspire Asperger's Syndrome Association of Ireland. Please call 087-1127804 for more information and to arrange our first committee meeting.

### Laois PPN Disability SIG Meeting:

Laois PPN will host a Disability Special Interested Group (SIG) Meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm in the Midlands Park Hotel, with special guest speaker Sinead Kane in attendance. This is a free event and all are welcome to attend. Pre-registration essential. Contact Suzanne on 057-8665661 or e-mail; ppn@laoiscoco.ie

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**Annual Concern Church Gate Collection**

will be held at all Masses this weekend 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> August.  
Thank you for your support.

### CHIME Portlaoise Outreach Clinic

is now being held in the Citizens Information Centre, Kellyville Centre, Portlaoise, on the last Tuesday of every month from 10am to 12 noon. August Clinic **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>**. Services provided include: Minor Hearing Aid Repair on all hearing aids; Hearing Aid Batteries for sale - €2 per packet; Information on Lifetech Equipment; Information on Deafness, Hard of Hearing and Tinnitus. For details please contact Chime, Church Street, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Tel/Minicom: 057-9351606

Fax: 057-9326425

Text/Videophone: 057-9326421

Email: tullamore@chime.ie

### GROW Community Mental Health Support Group

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

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### **CLASSIC CAR PICNIC BALLINTUBBERT GARDENS**

**Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> September 1pm-5pm.**  
Don't miss this one-day-only event  
featuring original 1953 County Laois  
Fire Engine and cars from every  
decade since early 1900's. Admission  
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### **MAJOR WORK TO**

### **THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH.**

Plans for a major job of renovation, renewal and  
refurbishment to the Church of the Assumption, the  
Heath are progressing. It is planned that the Church will  
be closed immediately after Christmas this year and will  
reopen for the Easter Dawn Mass of 2020 (12<sup>th</sup> April).



We are inviting suitably qualified building Contractors who are interested in being  
considered for the job to contact the project managers AOCA (Aidan O'Connell and  
Associates)



Lismard House,  
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