

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
link
Up

26th January 2020

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week we thank God for the gift our Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools are to our Parish.

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Catholic Schools Week 2020

26 January – 2 February 2020

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God **Living in Harmony with our Neighbours** Liv
ners **Living in Harmony with All Generations** Liv
rations **Living in Harmony with the Earth** Living
th **Living in Harmony in our Catholic School** Liv

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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

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Portlaoise Parish

Results for

23rd January 2020



No €19,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Rose Maher
 Angela Pigott
 Lynda McCormack
 Margaret Crossan
 Tom Cribbs
 Catherine Cahill
 WP Kelly
 Irene Dwane
 Mary C Ferns
 John Nolan
 Sorcha Keegan
 Jackie McEvoy
 Pat Delaney
 Paddy and Margaret O'Rourke
 Caroline Dunne
 Helen Geddes
 Fia & Tadgh Keogh
 Anita & Joe
 Anne Young
 Michael O'Connor
 Padraig Feehan
 Claire Scully
 G Marrum
 Brian Lynch
 Hillary Brennan
 Patsy O'Connor
 Rosemarie Hossey
 Peter Middleton
 Mary O'Connor
 J Fitzpatrick
 Paddy Quarney
 Pauline Phelan
 Agnes Kiely
 Tommy & Eddie

MATCH 3s €1,000

34
 Match 3s
 €30
 each

Next
 Week's
 Jackpot
 €20,000

PROMOTER

Christy Byrne
 M. Fallon
 Bernie Lalor
 Maura Loughlin
 Elizabeth Hillard
 Mary Hennessy
 Peggy Kelly
 Online Lotto
 Online Lotto
 Parish Centre
 Mary Dunne
 Mary Dunne
 Mary Delaney
 Lotto Gift
 Geraldine O'Neill
 Brown's Shop
 Betty Lynch
 Laura Skelly
 Carol O'Shea
 Paddy O'Connor
 Niamh Doyle
 Mary Flanagan
 Parish Centre
 Parish Centre
 Brian Conroy
 Frances Byrne
 Mary Hossey
 Pam Killeen
 Pacelli Walsh
 Conroy's Pharmacy
 Mary Arthur
 Margaret Doheny
 Margaret McGrath
 Eddie Kirwan

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

congratulations



*Congratulations to the U19 Scoil Chríost Rí
 Basketball Team for winning the All-Ireland this
 week.*



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR FEBRUARY

- 6:30pm: John Culliton, Phil Culliton, Martin Sinnott, Caroline McCormack & Kitty Timmons.
 8.30am: Thomas McEvoy, Anne Fennell & Ann Brennan
 10am: Josie Fitzpatrick, Tony Heffernan, Marion Donohue, Jane Murphy & Mary O'Donovan
 11:15am: Maureen Brophy, Bernadette Regan, Dan Hooban, Lily Whelan & Armando Sanchez
 12.30pm: Michael McEvoy, Bernadette McEvoy, Vivian Ohaa, Joe Conroy & Mary McGrath

Hospital Ministers for the Month of February

- Sunday: Eugene McDonough & Mary O'Donovan
 Wednesday: Maureen O'Keeffe & Rita Conroy

Ballard Lodge Nursing Home for February
Liam Greene

Funeral Ministers of Holy Communion for February
Mary Ging & Kathleen McEvoy

READERS FOR FEBRUARY

- 6:30pm: Mary Collins & Joan McCarthy
 8.30am: Sandra Hanniffy & Kevin Langan
 10am: Noel O'Rourke & Trudy Nealon
 11:15am: Imelda Monaghan
 12.30pm: Michael Costello & Bernitta Ohaa



COLLECTORS FOR FEBRUARY

- 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 & Bill Kelly

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday – Friday
7.30am & 10am

Saturday
10am

SUNDAY MASSES

Scoil Bhríde, 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.

**The Presentation of the Lord
Next Sunday (2nd February)**

**Blessing of Candles at all Masses next
Sunday.**



Fáilte

We welcome into our
Parish Community

Luke Sean McElhannan
Ashewood Walk

who was baptised last weekend

**Development Fund
Envelope Boxes
available at the
Church Porches**



We invite you to take a box for your Weekly contribution to the Parish Development Fund. The boxes also contain envelopes for the other collections during the year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sunday 19h January 2020

Offertory Collection	€2,870.00
Development Fund	€3,505.00
	€6,375.00

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

St. Brigid

St. Brigid

**Saturday 1st February
Patroness of our Diocese**



St. Brigid is renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving and care for the sick. She was born c.454. When she was young her father wished to make a very suitable marriage for her but she insisted in consecrating her life to God.

She received the veil and spiritual formation probably from St. Mel and stayed for a period under his direction in Ardagh. Others followed her example and this led her to found a double monastery in Kildare with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. She died in 524. The St. Brigid's Cross was used by Brigid to explain the Christian faith. Along with Saints Conleth and Lazarian, Brigid is Paton of our Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin.

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Ingrid Slimming World Groups Portlaoise



Pauline Flanagan



General Election
Candidate
Laois/Offaly



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ELDERLY PEOPLE;

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.

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- **Hospital**
- **Health (mental and physical)**
- **Housing**

For me the most important issue once again in this election is our health services. It is central to all our well-being and that of our families and loved ones. A serious threat remains to the status of our General Hospital in Portlaoise and our 24/7 A&E in particular. This is not acceptable.

Neither are the staff shortages, the lack of sufficient beds, the trolleys on corridors and the long waiting lists for so many treatments and especially for mental health supports.

There is a dire shortage of beds for our senior citizens in Mountmellick, Shaen and Abbeyleix and huge waiting lists for home care packages so as they can live at home.

Hundreds of beds and nurses were removed from the health service and have never been restored. **This** is why there is such chronic delays and difficulties in the health system as the staff of all grades do their best to cope.

The health service, housing, homelessness and high rents; the high cost of childcare, to stop the pension age being increased to age 67 and the challenges of climate change are my main issues. I am running a no poster campaign and I respectfully ask for your support and No 1 vote to help be address these concerns.

ClIr Noel Tuohy – Working for You 24/7.
086 6069666

Tuohy
Noel


Labour

CateKIDS

HANDING ON
THE FAITH

Portlaoise Parish www.portlaoiseparish.ie



St. Brigid - Saturday 1st February

Born: 453 Died: 523

Next Saturday is the feast of St Brigid. St. Brigid is the Patron Saint of Ireland and of the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. A few years after St. Patrick arrived, a little girl named Brigid was born at Faughart, County Louth, in Ireland. Her father was an Irish Lord named Dubtach and her mother was a Christian slave named Brocca. As Brigid grew up, her love for Jesus grew deep. She once heard St. Patrick preach and never forgot his teaching for the rest of her life. She looked for Jesus in the poor and often brought food and clothing to them. One day she gave away a whole pail of milk and then she began to worry about what her mother would say. She prayed to the Lord to make up for what she had given away. When she got home, her pail was full again. Another day Brigid gave away her fathers precious sword to a poor man so he could sell it to buy food. She was always helping the poor. Brigid's father wanted her to marry but Brigid had decided in her heart to give herself entirely to God. She did not want to marry anyone. Brigid finally got her wish and her father let her enter a convent. Brigid became a nun under Saint Mel and shortly afterwards she founded a monastery on land given to her by the King of Leinster. The land was called *Cill Dara* (Kildare) or the "the church of the oak".



Prayer to St. Brigid

**You were a woman of Peace, you brought harmony
where there was conflict,**

**You brought light to the darkness, You brought hope to the downcast,
May the mantle of your Peace cover those who are troubled and anxious
and may Peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.**

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us.

Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit. Amen

Making a St Brigid's Cross is a custom in Ireland. The St Brigid's Cross is made out of plants called rushes (*Juncus effusus*) for hanging above the entrances to dwellings to invoke the help of St Brigid in warding off disease. St Brigid's Day is celebrated on the 1st February each year and the crosses are made at that time. Rushes were traditionally used to make the St Brigid's Cross. These were collected from wetlands and cut into pieces, 8-12 inches long. Rushes can be hard to get for city dwellers so ordinary drinking straws are a good substitute. Use rubber bands to tie up the ends.

You Will Need

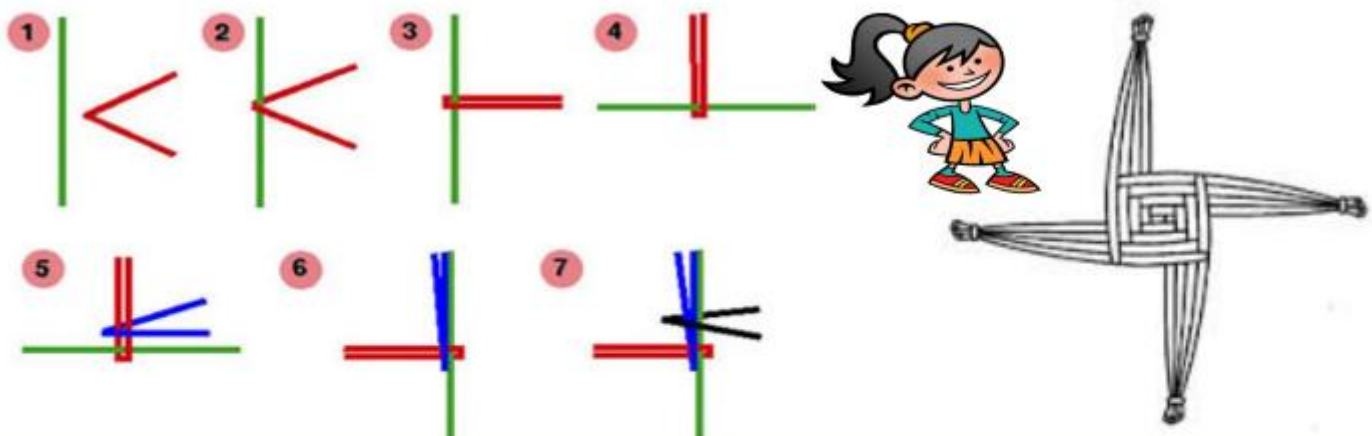
9 drinking straws & 4 small rubber bands

What to Do

1. Hold one of the straws vertically. Fold a second straw in half as in the diagram.
 2. Place the first vertical straw in the centre of the folded second straw.
 3. Hold the centre overlap tightly between thumb and forefinger.
 4. Turn the two straws held together 90 degrees counter clockwise so that the open ends of the second straw are projecting vertically upwards.
 5. Fold a third straw in half and over both parts of the second straw to lie horizontally from left to right against the first straw. Hold tight.
 6. Holding the centre tightly, turn the three straws 90 degrees counter clockwise so that the open ends of the third straw are pointing upwards.
 7. Fold a new straw in half over and across all the straws pointing upwards.
 8. Repeat the process of rotating all the straws 90 degrees counter clockwise, adding a new folded straw each time until all nine straws have been used up to make the cross.
- Secure the arms of the cross with elastic bands. Trim the ends to make them all the same length.



The St. Brigid's Cross is now ready to hang.



Rainbows offers a 9 week listening, group support programme for children following a bereavement. On this occasion we will not be running a group for children impacted by Parental Separation. Children of a similar age are placed in groups. Rainbows is suitable for children from age 7 years.

Rainbows is not counselling or professional therapy.

Visit www.rainbowsireland.ie for more information on the Rainbows Service.

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Venue: **Holy Family Junior School, Portlaoise**

Time: **Thursdays at 3.15pm** Contact: **Orla Coughlan 0833758421**





TIME TO THINK!

THE WORLD HAS CHANGED AND SO MUST THE CHURCH

The following article was recently penned by Fr. Brendan Hoban. It's a very honest reflection from a man who is almost 50 years ordained a priest.

'Pope Francis keeps on beating the same drum, but is anyone listening? His Christmas message was that 'the world has changed and so must the Church'.

If you wouldn't mind, dear reader, could you please read those two short sentences again? Is there anything complicated about them? No. Is there anything that any Catholic, ordained or non-ordained, could possibly misunderstand? No. They simply sum up what Francis has been saying since he was elected Pope. And saying again and again and again. So if Catholics see something that needs to change, what should we do?

A template emerged a few years ago from a chat Francis had with his friend, Bishop Erwin Kräutler, who worked most of his life in the Amazon basin. Kräutler lamented the scarcity of priests in his area and the resulting fact that so few could attend Mass. Francis told him to work through the Brazilian bishops. The result was the discussion at the Amazonian synod and the expectation that by March of this year, Francis will announce the ordination of married men for specific regional areas.

Here's another question. At what stage will it become clear that Ireland qualifies as such a regional area and have the help of a married priesthood?

While opinions on the answer to that question may vary, one thing is clear, priests are disappearing in Ireland. We're an endangered species. Just give it a decade or more. Rather it's on how the failure to address this issue by the leadership of our Church is impinging on the immediate victims (the present priests) caught in the slipstream of an on-going decision by the Irish bishops to continue to avoid 'the elephant in the living room'.

While the presenting problem is the virtual disappearance of priests – and it follows as night the day, the virtual disappearance of Mass and the Catholic Church in Ireland – the immediate victims of the bishops' abdication of responsibility are the present priests.

We've watched for decades as vocations to the priesthood have melted away. Now there are hardly any young priests, a few middle-aged, with most either elderly or old. (An indicator of the present age profile of Irish priests is that the new bishop of Clonfert, who's edging towards his 50th birthday, is younger than all the Clonfert priests!)

The simple truth is that the present priests are left carrying the can for at best the prevarication of their bishops or at worst their conspicuous lack of leadership. We remember a time when we had the wind on our backs: full churches, teeming vocations, and the respect of our people, the support and appreciation of society. We had our place in the sun, though, in retrospect, the jury is out on what that was worth.

Now, the present cultural context for the Catholic Church in Ireland is almost invariably hostile. What we say is ignored as our authority has diminished if not disappeared entirely; brash and ambitious movers and shakers use us as a handy punch-bag confident that their knee-jerk dismissal has popular support; those who support us opt to do so in silence or in private; and, at best, we're figures of fun, banished to the periphery of things, unless we're needed by the media for quirky appearances dressed in Roman collars and black suits. Now, as an ageing and progressively more fragile 'lost tribe', we're swimming against the currents of Irish life.



It isn't just that in the main, we're elderly and old, with few coming after us prepared to put their shoulders to the wheel. As we get older, with the number of priests ever-decreasing, our workload is ever increasing. The issues we're expected to deal with are becoming more complex; the demands of parishioners getting more and more out of hand. And we're now at the stage where it's obvious that the increased pressures and stresses of a priest's life in Ireland today are leading to a breakdown in health.

If there was some hope, some light even at the end of a distant tunnel, it might make the present situation more tolerable in the short-term. But all we can see is more of the same – fewer and fewer priests, older and older priests, ever-increasing workloads and progressively more and more ill-health.

We're not being offered any hope. There's no Plan B – just a vague, unconvincing sense that we all have to keep doing what we always did, keep saying what we always said, yet (against all the odds) keep expecting something different to happen, as if some day we'll meet a bend in the road that will lead to some promised land.

We're expected to give credence to vague and sometimes daft ideas about importing priests from abroad or amalgamating dioceses or other versions of the deck chairs being moved on the Titanic; nothing more significant than giving the impression that something is being done.

Priests are struggling to cope. Full stop. Over-work, difficult to get a break, health breaking down. Nothing to look forward to except late retirement and death. The thread-mill, it seems, is expected to continue until the very last.

'the world has changed and so must the Church'. All the evidence would suggest that we're at the beginning of the end, a fracturing of church life that wasn't just predictable but avoidable. Yet the Irish bishops still seem to be sitting on their hands.

Are there not a few bishops who might do a Bishop Kräutler on it and have a chat with Pope Francis about the implications of his Christmas message – 'the world has changed and so must the Church'?

What is it about that sentence that the Irish bishops don't understand or refuse to accept, even though almost every Catholic in Ireland seems happy to acknowledge? "

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @fpaddybyrne, now over 17,000 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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16 Rathevan View,
Borris Rd, Portlaoise



4 Bed / 3 Baths
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39 Dunmasc,
Dublin Rd, Portlaoise



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Portlaoise



5 Beds / 3 Baths
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**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;**



William Hughes
Oaklawn and
Johnstown, Kilkenny



Mary Mortimer
(née Guinan)
Borris Road



Maura Lanham
(née Gaffney)
Marian Avenue



Martin Walsh
St. Brigid's Place

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

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

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**In Loving Memory of
NEVIN BREEN**

Formerly Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise and Galway
2nd Anniversary occurred 19th January 2020



*Will those who think of Nevin today
a little prayer to Jesus say*

*Nevin, we miss you more than words could say
Sadly missed by his brothers and sisters
and families*

May Nevin Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
VERA BREEN**

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

8th Anniversary occurs 27th January 2020



8th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church this Saturday
25th January at 6:30pm.

*Missing you is a heartache that will
never go away, you are always in our
thoughts and live forever in our hearts.*

*Sadly missed by all her loving family, children, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren and her many friends.*

May Vera Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ESTHER SZWAGLIS**

Late of 170 St. Brigid's Place. Died 29th January 1999.
21st Anniversary occurs at this time



*Esther, deep in our hearts your memory
is kept,*

To love and to cherish and never forget.

*Sadly missed by your loving husband Leslie,
sons, daughters, sons-in-law,
daughters-in-law and grandchildren.*

*Also remembering her sisters Alice and Mary
and her son-in-law David around this time.*

May Esther Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL DEMPSEY**

3 Roselawn, Portlaoise and late of Rathdowney.
5th Anniversary occurs 1st February 2020



5th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on
Saturday 1st February at 6:30pm.

*Looking back on all our years and
things that we've been through, of all
the choices that I made, I'm glad I married you.*

Sadly missed by your loving wife Marie.

*Will those who think of Dad today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

*Lots of love Dad, from Joe, Patricia, Mickey, Helena and
Aine, daughters-in-law, son-in-law and grandchildren.*

May Michael Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
KATHLEEN BRENNAN**

Rathleague, Portlaoise, whose 10th Anniversary occurs
26th January 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 26th January at 10am.

*Those we love never die, for as long as we live
and remember, they are with us.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by all her loving
family and friends*

May Kathleen Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
TERESA MAHER**

"Rookfield", Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs 7th February 2020



*We miss you from your fireside chair,
Your loving smile and gentle air,
Your vacant place no one can fill,
We miss you Teresa and always will.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 1st February at 6.30pm.

*Always loved and remembered by her sons, daughters,
daughters-in-law, sons-in-law and grandchildren.*

May Teresa Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARY (May) CONNELL**

31 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.



15th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 25th January at 6:30pm.

*January comes with sad regret, the day,
the month we'll never forget,*

*In our hearts you will always stay,
loved and remembered forever each day.*

Sadly missed by your loving family and friends.

May Mary Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
EDWARD SWEENEY**

26 Coote Street, Portlaoise whose 22nd Anniversary occurs
26th January 2020.



*Will those who think of Edward today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

*Loved and remembered today and
everyday by his daughter Teresa and
son-in-law Paddy.*

Lord have mercy on his soul

May Edward Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
STEPHEN DWANE**

11 Mill Court, Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurs 30th January 2020.



*It is sad to walk the road alone
instead of side by side,
But to all there comes a moment
when the ways of life divide.
You gave me years of happiness, then
came sorrow and tears,
But you left me beautiful memories,
I will treasure through the years.*

6th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 25th January at 6.30pm

Sadly missed by your loving wife Phil and family

May Stephen Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARY DUNNE**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise. 3rd Anniversary occurs 26th January.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 26th January at 11:15am.

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

*Each time we look at your picture, you seem to smile and say;
"Don't be sad but courage take, and love each other for my sake".*

*Sadly missed by your loving husband Frank and daughters
Rhona & Janet and grandchildren Mia, Sam and James xxx*

Rest in Peace Mary

**In Loving Memory of
ANGELA DUNNE** née Carey

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.



2nd Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church this Sunday
26th January at 11.15am.

*Within our store of memories,
She holds a place apart,
For no one else can ever be,
More cherished in our hearts.*

*Sadly missed by her loving husband Paddy, son John
and grandchildren.*

May Angela Rest in Peace

REMEMBER ME

Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all the laughter,
We've shared throughout the years.

Now I am contented

That my life it was worthwhile,
Knowing that I passed along the way
I made somebody smile.

When you are walking down the street

And you've got me on your mind,

I'm walking in your footsteps

Only half a step behind.

So please don't be unhappy

Just because I'm out of sight,

Remember that I'm with you

Each morning, noon and night.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

JULIA MARGARET "BELL" DOHENY

23 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise. Birthday occurred 24th January.



*Mother: A mother like ours is more than a memory,
She is a living presence. Our mother is always with us.
She's the whisper of the leaves as we walk down the
road; she's the smell of bleach in our freshly
laundered socks; she's the cold hand on our brow
when we're not well.*

*Our mother lives inside our laughter and she is
crystallised in every tear drop.*

*She's the place we came from - our first home, and
she's the map we follow with every step we take.*

*She's our first love and our first heartbreak, and nothing on earth can
separate us....not time, not space - not even death.*

Always remembered and never forgotten.

*From her daughters, sons, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren, relatives and friends.*

Also remembering other deceased relatives and friends at this time.

May Julia Rest in Peace



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LSPCA Cat Neuter Scheme

27th January - 7th February

€30 Males and Females



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IT COULD BE YOU



CONGRATULATIONS

To Annie O' Neill who was the lucky winner of last week's **€20,000** lotto jackpot!
Pictured left; Julie Conroy presenting Annie with the winning cheque and Barbara Moore, promoter of the ticket with her cheque for **€2,000**.

Play lotto online or purchase a lotto membership and you too could be a winner!
 6 month/yearly memberships available in the Parish Centre - the ideal gift for any occasion.



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Contact Us

To discuss how we can help you grow your business

RELIGIOUS NOTICES

Adoration: Mon. to Fri. after 10am Mass, concluding with Rosary 7pm. Saturday after 10am Mass, concluding with Rosary 6pm. Sunday at 2:30pm, concluding with Rosary 7pm. Sunday, 2:30-3:30pm - special time of prayer for vocations to the Priesthood.

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.

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/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.

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, Ballacolla - 087-2068972: Clothes line poles, wall mounted clothes lines, retractable clothes lines, winders, pulleys for old lines, bicycle stands, saw horses etc.

Facebook; seandoylelightengineering

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.

29th Jan: The ARA AGM takes place today. We hope to see a full turnout of members, to ensure that as many members as possible have the opportunity to express their views. The ARA Mission is one of continuous improvement and enjoyment for all of us, and this can only be achieved if many members are prepared to lend a hand on a regular basis. Portlaoise ARA have been in existence for 16 years and we must all ensure it continues to provide an essential and fulfilling outlet for our age group for many years to come.

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].

Family Carers Ireland Support Group Meeting will take place in Portlaoise Parish Centre on Friday 31st January from 11am to 1pm.

**St. Francis Special School
New Road, Portlaoise**



Enrolment for September 2020 will close at 3pm on Friday 13th March, 2020. Enquiries to 057-8621847

Laois/Offaly Branch of Retired Nurses Association

will hold it's branch meeting in Portlaoise Parish Centre, Monday 3rd February at 2:15pm, to discuss the agenda for this AGM and National Conference. New members welcome. Car parking available.



**LAOIS ARCH CLUB
MONTHLY DISCO**

**Thur. 30th January, 8-10pm
In the Midlands Park Hotel,
Portlaoise.**

Admission €5. Drinks and snacks provided. All members and helpers need to sign in and out.

**PLEASE NOTE:
Our March Disco will be held one week early on 19th March.**



For further information contact;

Orlagh 087-6836156

Mary 087-2188794

Trish 087-6756955

Result of Cuisle Fayre Shop Christmas Raffle 2019:

- 1st; Large Hamper with Mulhalls Supervalu €50 voucher - Mary Sheeran
- 2nd; €50 Voucher for Hughes Pharmacy - Eithne O'Hara
- 3rd; €50 Voucher for Chocolate Brown - Teresa Fleming
- 4th; Chocolate Hamper - Patricia Lodge
- 5th; Mixed Hamper - Sarah O'Rourke
- 6th; €30 Voucher for McElwees Pharmacy - Anne Moore
- 7th; €20 Voucher for Laura Jane Boutique - Noreen Murphy
- 8th; Killarney Crystal Vase (Shaws) - Shane Daly
- 9th; €30 Voucher for Connolly Meats - Shauna Delaney
- 10th; €30 Voucher for Corrib Oil - Ida Thompson
- 11th; Table Lamp (Design Options) - Rose McEvoy

AND THE WINNERS ARE ...



We thank all those who purchased tickets and we congratulate the winners. We appreciate the contributions from all the above sponsors as well as the following; Georgina Lowry, Tommy Comerford, O'Deas Restaurant, Horans Giftware, Supervalu Mountmellick, Breda's Gift Shop, Adrian Dunne Pharmacy, Dan McCarthy Pharmacy and Downeys Centra.
On behalf of the Cuisle Fayre Shop, Sheila Whelan, Manager.

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BALLYFIN GAA CLUB



6K Fun Run/ Walk

Sunday 2nd February
At GAA grounds, Ballyfin at
11:30am sharp.
Registration from 10am at the
community centre



Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

The deadline to place
adverts, classified adverts
and anniversaries is
12 noon Wednesday
subject to availability of
space or 5pm Tuesday to
guarantee inclusion.

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