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up**

27th January 2019

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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27th January - 3rd February 2019



Photo: Our Schools banners on display during last year's celebration.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

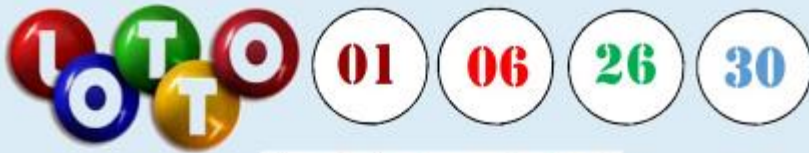
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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie

24th January 2019

Portlaoise Parish



One Jackpot Winner €10,000

Jack Kelly Promoter Anthony Preston

WINNERS

Jack Benjamin
Eileen Brennan
May Tyrell
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Lynda Campbell
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08
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Nora Walsh
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Next Week's Jackpot €10,000

St. Brigid

Friday 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 Patron of our Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin.



Priests of the Parish



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



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



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



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



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

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

Outside of Office Hours

In emergencies only

To contact the Priest on duty
057-8621364

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

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

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



Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm

057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

Religious gifts and books.



The Presentation of the Lord Saturday 2nd February

Sometimes called Candlemas, celebrates the infant Jesus being taken to the Temple by his parents according to Jewish custom.

Candlemas Day occurs 40 days after Christmas and marks the end of the Christmas cycle.

**Blessing of Candles at the 10am
Mass in the Parish Church next Saturday.**

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday— Thursday

7.30am & 10am

Friday (First Friday)

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.

The Heath: 7pm

Ratheniska: 7pm.

Saturday

10am

SUNDAY MASSES

Scoil Bhride, Knockmay (Saturday) 7.30pm

St. Peter & Paul's Parish Church

Vigil (Saturday) 6.30pm

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

Church of the Assumption,

The Heath: 9.30am

Church of the Holy Cross,

Ratheniska: 10am.

Polish Mass, 3rd Sunday of the Month at
5pm.

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday after 10am & 6.30pm
Masses.

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.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

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

Hospital Ministers for the Month of February

Sunday: Noel O'Rourke & Mary Donovan

Wednesday: Maureen O'Keeffe & Rita Conroy

Ballard Nursing Home

Armando Sanchez

Funeral Ministers of Holy Communion for February

Mary Ging and Barry O'Callaghan

READERS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

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

COLLECTORS FOR THE MONTH OF 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 & Margaret Holohan.

BLESSING OF THROATS



Next Sunday (3rd February)
is the Feast of St. Blaise.
Blessing of Throats will take
place after all Masses except 10am &
11.15am in the Parish Church to allow
for traffic congestion.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Calum James Bonnie,
Hawthorn Way, Esker Hills

Who was baptised last weekend

Sunday 20th January 2019

Offertory Collection	€2,843.00
Development Fund	€3,236.00
	€6,079.00

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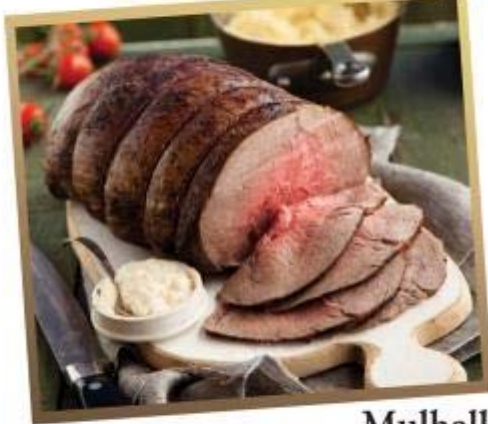
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SPORTS PEOPLE;

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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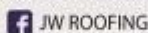
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HANDING ON
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God's Promises Fulfilled



People make promises every day. Sometimes we give something to another person as a sign of our promise, sometimes we sign our name to seal our promise, other times we just give our word to another person that we will do something.

I'm sure you know what a wedding ring looks like? When a man and woman get married, they usually make promises to one another. They say something like, "I promise to love

you for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health as long as we both shall live." Then they exchange rings as a symbol of that promise.

You are too young to have a credit card, but one day you probably will. Most adults have a credit card which they use to buy things. When you buy something using your credit card, you have to sign a ticket. When you sign the ticket, you are promising that you will pay for the items you purchased using the credit card. Your signature is your promise.

People make promises every day. Do they always keep their promises? Unfortunately, some people don't. God makes promises too. The Bible is full of God's promises. Does God always keep his promises? Yes he does! One of my favourite verses in the Bible is one that says, "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor. 1:20) That is what our Gospel teaches us today.

Jesus was in the city of Nazareth on the Sabbath day so he did what he always did on the Sabbath. He went to the synagogue. He stood up and began to read the words of the prophet Isaiah from the Scripture. He read where it says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord a favour has come."

When he had finished reading, he sat down. All eyes were on Jesus. Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture that you have just heard read has been fulfilled this very day!" Jesus came to earth to fulfill the promises of God. All of God's promises are fulfilled in him.

Wouldn't it be great if you and I were as faithful in keeping our promises to God as he is in keeping his promises to us?

OUR PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, thank you for your faithfulness in keeping your promises. Help us to be faithful in keeping our promises to you. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



Jesus in the Synagogue



Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the _____ day he went into the _____, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet _____ was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to _____ good news to the _____. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the _____ and recovery of sight for the _____, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is _____ in your hearing."

Dates for
your
diary.....

Confirmation Candidates

Ceremony of Light and Penitential Service for all Confirmation Candidates will be on **Thursday 28th February** at 7.30pm

First Holy Communion Candidates

First Penance for all First Holy Communion Candidates will take place from **Monday 11th March to Thursday 14th March**

Monday 11th March - 6.30pm Holy Family Junior School (in the Parish Church)

Tuesday 12th March - 6.30pm Scoil Bhride School (in the Parish Church)

Wednesday 13th March - 6.30pm Heath NS & Ratheniska NS (in Heath & Ratheniska Churches)

Thursday 14th March - 6.30pm Gaelscoil, St. Francis & Other Schools (in the Parish Church)



TIME TO THINK!

IT'S NEARLY SPRING...A TIME OF HOPE

Friday February 1st we celebrate St. Brigid's Day, a day which brings great hope. St. Brigid brings with her a story of compassion, generosity, healing and renewal. These early February days marks the beginning of Spring. Yes, it may still feel cold but already brighter evenings, emerging green shoots and snowdrops, announce a time for new beginnings. I'm glad the darkness of winter once again is being transformed by the light of our new spring. Spring is a season of Hope and renewal. We are in the true sense of Scripture called out of darkness into Gods wonderful light.

As the evenings lengthen and new signs of life appear in our Gardens we welcome a new Spring. The following ancient story tells how the simple Spring air can refresh and indeed heal;

"The King needs daintier food," said the Court Cook, so he served broiled peacock on toast, and pomegranates and cream, and wild honey, and cheese-cakes as light as feathers, and a sponge cake made with the eggs of a bantam hen. But the King would eat none of them.

"The King needs medicine," said the Court Physician, so he searched the countryside for growing things and he brewed rose-leaf tea, and he made a potion of everlasting flowers mixed with rosemary, and he distilled wild honeysuckle with dew gathered at sunrise, but the King would drink none of these.

"Perhaps music would divert the King," suggested the Court Wise Man. "It might make him forget whatever is troubling him." Immediately the palace was filled with music, some of it very beautiful and all of it played by very famous people. But at the end the King was still weak and sorrowful. A harpist from a far country came and played music that sounded like the mighty wind on high mountain tops and the rushing flow of great mountain streams. But the King only thanked the harpist and requested that he be paid for his pains and his journey and go back to his home. Later, there came a trumpeter who gave great battle calls on his trumpet, but the King covered his ears to shut out the sound and looked more sad than ever because the sound of the trumpet gave him a headache. So it seemed as if not even music would make the King well, and no one knew what to do.

Gladheart was the little boy who tended sheep in the valley. He was the youngest of five brothers, and there was little room and less food for them in their father's house. But Gladheart had been given his name because he always smiled over a crust of bread, even when he was a baby. Now that he was a little lad of ten with a great flock of ewes and lambs to tend and drive through sun and storm, he had smiles and kind words for all, and he played his fiddle all day long until its sweet tunes filled the valley.

"I must go and play before the King," Gladheart said one day.

"They will only laugh at your small fiddle," said his brothers, but the eldest said he would tend the sheep for a day, and Gladheart set out for the palace.

"The King will have naught to do with a shepherd lad dressed in goatskin and bearing an old fiddle," the guards



at the door said. But Gladheart touched the strings with the bow and such a blithe tune came forth that the guards opened the door, and Gladheart went inside to play before the King.

At first the sight of the King sitting so bent and sorrowful on the throne with a face as frowning and sad as a storm frightened Gladheart. But he took courage and stood as straight as he could in front of the throne, and began to play on the fiddle a tune that he had learned while he was in the fields with his sheep.

It was a lovable tune, like a dozen birds and a little wandering wind and the voice of a rippling brook all joined with the sounds of the little earth singers, the bees, the katydids, and the crickets. As the King listened, his bent shoulders straightened and his face became bright with smiles. He reached out his hands to Gladheart. "I heard that tune once before when I was a boy," he said. "It makes me well to hear it now. What is it about, lad?"

"It is about the spring, your majesty," said Gladheart. "It is the song that I learned from the fields when winter was over. If your majesty will come with me to my sheep pasture, you may hear it there every day."

No one could understand why the King was suddenly so well or why he went often to sit with Gladheart and the sheep, but they were all very happy over it. And they gave Gladheart the riches and the honour that they had promised whoever could heal their King.



Prayer to St. Saint 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

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 15,400 followers or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

Fr. Paddy's book *"All will be well"* on sale in the Parish Shop or online at www.portlaoiseparish.ie



Cuisle Cancer Support Centre

Block Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: 057 8681492

www.cuislecentre.com / e-mail: info@cuislecancersupportcentre



Prostate Cancer Support Group

Have you been affected by Prostate Cancer?

The Cuisle Cancer Support Centre is running a 4-week programme

Starting Wednesday 30th

January 2019 at 12.30pm.

Aimed at men diagnosed with prostate cancer, the programme provides education and support, to enhance the physical wellbeing and quality of life for prostate cancer survivors. It is also an opportunity to meet other men in similar situations and share experiences.



Walking Group Strides for Life



Our walking group brings participants through a structured walking programme gradually increasing fitness over time. The programme aims to bring each cancer survivor to a level of fitness where they can help reduce their risk of recurrence and improve their health and quality of life. Suitable for survivors of every fitness level, taking into account each participants fitness ability and increasing the pace every week over a 15 week period. It is hoped that the walking programme will help cancer survivors take positive steps towards better health.

**Starting 4th February and
every Monday at 10am**

Thrive & Survive

Thrive and Survive is a six week self management programme of 2.5 hours per session. The workshop helps people who are cancer survivors to better manage their health and daily lives. It gives participants the skills to co-ordinate all the things needed to manage their health as well as keep active in their lives and relationships. The programme has been developed and researched in Stanford University and is facilitated by two trained facilitators with their own experience of cancer.

**Starting Monday 28th January at
10.30am**

**Programmes are now available to cancer survivors who wish to sign up.
Please call 057 86 81492 if you would like to attend as places are limited.**



Heath Ladies Gaelic Football LGFA

**U12 training for girls born 2007/2008
Monday 21st January, 7pm-8pm at The
Heath G.A.A. grounds.**

New members welcome. For details
contact; Dan 086-6067637
Claire 086-8600298.



DANCING AT DIXIES

Napper Tandy's, Stradbally

in aid of
FATIMA INVALID FUND

on

**Wednesday,
13th February, 2019**

Dancing to:-

JOHN, TERRY, PADDY & EUGENE

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Thomas Lacey

•Dancing 9-12 **Tickets – €10.00**

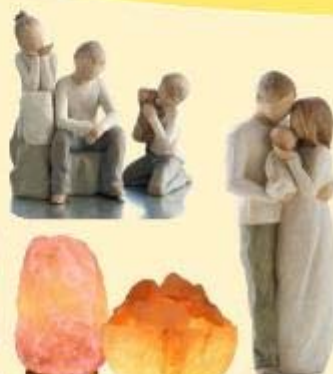
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Erkina Vets, Rathdowney 0505 46449

Fintan Graham, Mountrath 0578732386

Vetcare Portlaoise 0578664841

Kyle Vets, Durrow 0578734111

Port Vet Clinic 0578636633

Kieran Cummins, Mountmellick 0578644253

Portarlinton Vet Centre 0578652388

*Laois Residents Only

*Ring Vets directly for appointment

GROW Community Education Programme

COMMENCES: Tuesday, Feb 5th

TIME: 7.30 to 9.30pm

VENUE:

Portlaoise Parish Centre

**FREE to Attend
One or All Sessions**

- Week 1 Feb 5th: Understanding and Promoting Positive Mental Health
- Week 2 Feb 12th: Managing Stress and Anxiety
- Week 3 Feb 19th: Mindfulness
- Week 4 Feb 26th: Suicide: Recognising the Signs, Understanding and Supporting (Attendees must be aged 18 and over)
- Week 5 March 5th: Coping with Bereavement and Loss (Attendees must be aged 18 and over)



For more details and to book a place contact
Michelle on 086-4183805 or
email
michellemccormick@grow.ie





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Sun	11am - 5pm

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Msgr. John presenting
Lily Whelan with a
cheque for €11,000,
the lucky winner and
promoter of last week's
€10,000 lotto jackpot.



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



**Carmel
Fitzpatrick**
Borris Road



**Richard
Anderson**
Upper Beladd

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

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David **087-2369887**

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PAUL; 087-2562137
NIALL;
086-2770095



In Loving Memory of

PADDY O' BRIEN THE PROPHET

2 Millview, Portlaoise. 2nd Anniversary occurred 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

In Loving Memory of **ANTHONY (Tony) DUNNE**

Glendowns, Stradbally Rd., Portlaoise.



Tony's Months Mind Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church next Sunday 3rd February
at 11:15am.

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

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Tony Rest in Peace



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In Loving Memory of **PATRICK CULBERT**

Late of Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 26th January at 6.30pm.

*It's not what we write or even what we
say, it's what we feel inside as we think
of you today.*

*Lovingly remembered by your sons and
daughters xx*

May Patrick Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **NEVIN BREEN**

Formerly Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise and Galway
1st Anniversary occurred 19th January 2019



*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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT In Loving Memory of **PATRICK DUNPHY**

"Corrib", Clonminam Road, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Patrick Dunphy would like to express our sincere thanks to all those who have sympathised with us, travelled, sent Mass and Sympathy cards, floral tributes and messages of support on our recent sad loss.

Heartfelt thanks to all our extended family and friends for all their help and support during this sad time.

Paddy was blessed to receive unmatched medical care at the hands of his GP, Dr. Gerald White and staff, his Pharmacist Deirdre and the staff of Laois Pharmacy, the nurses and staff at Portlaoise and Tullamore Regional Hospitals. We express our enduring gratitude to the Oncology and Palliative Care teams in Tullamore Regional Hospital, who cared for him so well during his last days. Thanks to Fr. Jimmy Dollard who administered the comforting last rites to Paddy before death.

A sincere thanks to Fr. Tom O' Connor who recited the Rosary at the house and to Fr. Paddy Byrne, Fr. Tom O' Connor, Fr. Eddie Lalor, Fr. O'Reilly, Fr. Jimmy Dollard and the visiting Priests of the Parish who celebrated the funeral Mass.

Many thanks also to the choir for their lovely music and to Rankins Funeral Directors for their detailed and careful attention to all matters on our behalf.

Thanks to Paddy's neighbours and friends in Clonminam Road and Marian Avenue for their friendship and support during his retirement years.

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

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Paddy's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Sunday 3rd February at 11:15am.

May Patrick Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **VERA BREEN**

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

7th Anniversary occurs 27th January 2019



7th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Saturday 26th 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 **STEPHEN DWANE**

11 Mill Court, Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary occurs 30th January 2019.



*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.*

5th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 26th January at 6.30pm

Sadly missed by your loving wife Phil and family

May Stephen Rest in Peace

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

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.



1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 27th January at 10am.

*Wonderful memories of one so dear,
Treasured still with a love sincere,
In our hearts she is living yet,
We loved her too dearly to forget.*

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

May Angela Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
JOE McCABE

Raheenabrogue, Ballyroan, Co. Laois.
Died 2nd January 2019



The family of the late Joe McCabe wish to express their sincere gratitude for the expressions of sympathy and gestures of kindness shown to us following the passing of our dad, Joe.

On our behalf and that of Joe's brothers and sisters (Kathleen, Seamus, Evelyn, Michael and

Mary), we would like to acknowledge and thank the great number of people, relatives, neighbours, friends and colleagues who visited the Adoration Chapel attached to the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix, attended his Requiem Mass, sent Mass Cards and messages of sympathy.

A special word of thanks to V. Rev. J. Cummins for his support in arranging and officiating at Joe's funeral, to Fr. E. Lalor, V. Rev. S. Conlon, V. Rev. O. Maher, Fr. M. Delaney and Fr. K. O'Neill who respectfully participated in the Solemn Mass.

To Abbeyleix Church Choir and Declan Kelly who provided such beautiful music and to Nora Tobin who assisted us on both days. To Eamon Kelly, Undertaker, for his professionalism throughout and to the grave diggers.

To Rathdowney Coursing and Clonad GAA Clubs who provided such dignified and respectful Guards of Honour – their support was tremendous and would have "made Joe's day".

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all who attentively and professionally nursed and cared for Joe, especially in his latter years - Doctors John Madden and Anna Gullane, the staff of Abbeyleix and Portlaoise Hospitals, Area B Droimnin and Ballard Lodge Nursing Homes - their courtesy and politeness to Joe at all times is greatly appreciated. A special word of thanks to Fr. T. O'Connor who attended Joe at the time of his death.

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

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Joe's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated, Saturday 2nd February, 2019 in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix at 7.30pm.

Rest in Peace Joe

In Loving Memory of **FINTAN DOOLEY**

7 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurs 2nd February 2019.



*Beautiful thoughts of a brother so dear,
Cherished forever with love sincere,
Dear is your memory,
Sweet is your name,
Close to our hearts you will always
remain.*

*Always loved and never forgotten by all his
loving family.*

May Fintan Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **MARY DUNNE**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise. 2nd Anniversary occurs 26th January.



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

*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 granddaughter Mia xx*

Rest in Peace Mary

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

In Loving Memory of

ANNE GING

70 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise whose 12th Anniversary occurs 25th January 2019.



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

Loved and remembered today and everyday, your loving son Liam, daughter Helena and families.

May Anne Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

ESTHER SZWAGLIS

Late of 170 St. Brigid's Place. Died 29th January 1999.
20th 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

MARY (May) CONNELL

31 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.



14th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 26th 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

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

JOHN McSTAY

22 Mountain View, Ballyfin Rd. Portlaoise.
2nd Birthday away from home occurs 27th January



*Ties of love were broken John,
When you had to part,
It left a wound that will never heal
in our ever aching hearts.
Loved and missed beyond words,
your loving wife Christine, daughter,
sons and son-in-law and grandchildren.*

May John Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

MICHAEL DEMPSEY

3 Roselawn, Portlaoise and late of Rathdowney.
4th Anniversary occurs 1st February 2019



4th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 2nd 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



KILDARE & LEIGHLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2019

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1ST AUGUST 2019
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Organized by the Committee for Active Pilgrimage, 100-102 and 103-104 in compliance with the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Package Regulations 2018.

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

"Meditating... Being Mindful... Seeking God": Treo Nua (Knockmay Centre). Thursdays, 11am to 12 noon. New members welcome.

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

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

Bus to Clonfert for a day of Prayer and Healing - Saturday 2nd Feb.: Leaving Athy 8am, Ballylinan 8:15am, Stradbally 8:30am, Portlaoise 8:45am, Mountrath 9am. Eileen 059-8625215 / 059-8625902. All 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

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Bridge Lessons at Portlaoise Parish Centre, 7pm to 9pm, commencing on Monday 28th January. For further details tel. Catherine 087-4121913.

Mountmellick Embroidery Classes have resumed in the Parish Centre every Monday night at 7:30pm. We look forward to seeing all existing members again and new members are always welcome.

GROW Community Mental Health Movement will host a Community Education Programme, five Tuesdays 7.30-9.30pm starting 5th February in Portlaoise Parish Centre. The course is entitled "Understanding and Minding Your Mental Health". It is free and all are welcome. For further details contact Michelle 086-4183805, e-mail michellemccormick@grow.ie or visit www.grow.ie

Portlaoise Active Retirement Association (ARA)

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

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

Jan. 30th: The ARA Annual General Meeting takes place today. We hope to see a full turnout of members, to ensure that as many members as possible have the opportunity to express their views. The ARA Mission is one of continuous improvement 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. The ARA has been in existence for 15 years and we must ensure it continues to provide an essential outlet for our age group for many years to come.

Feb. 6th: A good time of year to start Sports and Activity. It improves the mind and helps tone up the body after long winter months. Activity generates a positive attitude of wellbeing and helps us to get prepared for walks and other exercise as we look forward to warmer weather.

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

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

DOG FOUND



Brown and white female Jack Russell found on the Dublin road.
Contact Nancy 087-2239768.

Enrolment in Timahoe NS

Is now open and will close before mid-term on Friday 15th February
For enquiries contact; 057-8627051

Portlaoise Parish Lourdes

Committee: A box is currently in place to the right of Our Lady's statue in the Parish Church until 11th Feb. for those wishing to put their names forward for sponsorship or part sponsorship on our 2019 Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Applications can be made up to 11th Feb. only. Anyone seeking further information can contact Sean 086-3633785 or Pat 086-3293063.

Science-Technology-Engineering and Maths (STEM) Workshop:

Laois Education Centre in partnership with Portlaoise College is offering a unique opportunity for 5th class pupils to participate in this Workshop on Thursday 31st January 5.30-8pm. Booking essential. Tel. Yvonne 057-8672402 or e-mail; yvonne@laoisedcentre.ie or

Portlaoise Toastmasters: Do you feel nervous talking in group situations or doing any kind of public speaking? Do you have a presentation to give at work in the future? Portlaoise Toastmasters is the perfect place to develop your skills and build confidence in a supportive and warm environment and have fun while doing it. Our next meeting will take place on Monday 28th January at 8pm in the Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise. New members are always welcome, first two sessions are free. Please look us up on Facebook.

Portlaoise Men's Shed are open Tuesdays & Thursdays at Portlaoise Equestrian Centre, Timahoe Rd., 11am-3pm. Drop in for a chat and a cuppa and see some of the new projects and activities. New members welcome.

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Laois Arch Club Monthly Disco
Thursday, 31st January, 8-10pm,
in the Midlands Park Hotel,
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The Arch Club is a social club for
adults with an intellectual disability.
Here our members meet in a safe
and supportive environment. All are
welcome. For further information;
**contact Mary Heaney, Branch
Secretary at 087-2188794**



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10

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