

PORTLAOISE

PARISH

**link
up**

29th September 2019

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Safeguarding Sunday



**SEASON OF
CREATION**

1st September - 4th October

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Papal Visit of John Paul II to Ireland.

In autumn 1979, two and a half million people gathered across Ireland to welcome Pope John Paul II on his historic visit to this island. It was the first time a Pope had ever visited the country and one of the most culturally significant events in the history of modern Ireland.

'I came here to proclaim peace and love, to speak to you about the Son of God made man, about your life in Christ. Yes, as successor of the Apostle Peter, I came to confirm my brethren in the faith, and to ask all Ireland to lift up its heart to a new vision of hope.' Pope John Paul II



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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

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26th September 2019 Portlaoise Parish



No €15,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Joan O'Reilly
Tina Walsh Lalor
Anita Skelly
Aidan McCarrick
Cathy Murphy
Thomas O'Connor
Kate Guilfoyle
Mick Lalor
Thomas Doheny
Martin Delaney

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**10
Match 3s
€100
each**

PROMOTER

Joan O'Reilly
Betty Lynch
Laura Skelly
Anthony Preston
Parish Centre
Paddy O'Connor
Ross Moylan
Martley's Shop
Mary Arthur
Anne O'Keeffe

Next Week's Jackpot

€16,000

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From the first draw of 2020, (Thursday 2nd January),
there will be an extra number added to our lotto.
Select 4 numbers from 1-32.



**St. Michael,
St. Gabriel,
and
St. Raphael.
September
29th**

Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are called saints because they are holy, but they are different from the rest of the saints because they were not human; they were Archangels. Each Archangel, we are told, has a specific mission or an 'essence'. Archangel Michael is the angel of protection. This powerful being of light, whose name means 'Who is like God', has a purpose to protect as the 'defender of the light and goodness'. Gabriel's name means 'the power of God'. Gabriel is the announcer, the communicator of good news. We can ask him to help us be good communicators as he was. Raphael, whose name means 'God heals', is invoked when we need healing, not only for ourselves but for others too.

Priests of the Parish



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



Fr. Ciprian Matei
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)



Visiting Priest

Fr. Benny Antoney

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



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. Jooly 057-8692151
(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times)
All Masses and services from the Parish Church
are live streamed www.portlaoiseparish.ie



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

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

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EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

- 6:30pm: Karen Fagan, Michelle Bartley, Phil Culleton,
John Culleton, Martin Sinnott & Ruaidhri Tierney.
8.30am: Eugene Keyes, Anne Fennell & Pauline O'Sullivan
10am: Tony Heffernan, John Startin, Josie Keane,
Mary Ging & Elizabeth Corrigan.
11:15am: Armando Sanchez, Evelyn Keyes, Eugene
McDonough, Christine Saunders & Anna Hennessy.
12.30pm: Anna Cedro, Bernadette McEvoy, Liam Greene,
Ann Marie Lynch, Dennis Maloney & Vivienne Ohaa.

Hospital Ministers for the Month of October

- Sunday: Justina Ohaa & Noreen Doherty
Wednesday: Mary Cushen & Breda Cooley

Ballard Lodge Nursing Home for October

Anne Hyland

Funeral Ministers of Holy Communion for October

Dennis Maloney & Maura O'Brien

READERS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

- 6:30pm: Josie Fitzpatrick & Ann O'Keeffe
8.30am: Mary Bradley & Ann O'Sullivan
10am: Rita Muldowney & Sheila Heffernan
11:15am: Bill Kelly & Helena Corbett
12.30pm: Paul Quail

COLLECTORS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

- 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 & Paddy O'Connor



Feast of the Guardian Angels Wednesday 2nd October

One of the most consoling ideas drawn from Scripture is that of the guardianship of angels; the doctrine which teaches that man in this world is guided and protected by invisible beings.

The concept of an angel assigned to guide and nurture each human being is a development of Catholic doctrine and piety based in Scripture. Jesus' words in Matthew 18:10 best support the belief: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

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.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Elsie Annie Nolan, Colliers Wood
Eiramay Louise Kelly, Hillview Drive

Michael Aidan Doran, Rathevan Close
Oliver Florin Michael Kinlan, Lake Crescent
Sadie Esther Lalor, Dublin Road
Megan Gabrielle O'Connell, Bruach na hAbhainn

who were baptised last weekend

The Maternity Department at Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise is holding a **Service of Remembrance on Sunday 13th October at 3pm in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.** This service is held in memory of all babies who have died, and of all pregnancy losses. We warmly invite you as parents, families & friends to attend in remembrance.

Sunday 22nd September 2019

Offertory Collection	€2,830.00
Development Fund	€3,167.00
	€5,997.00

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

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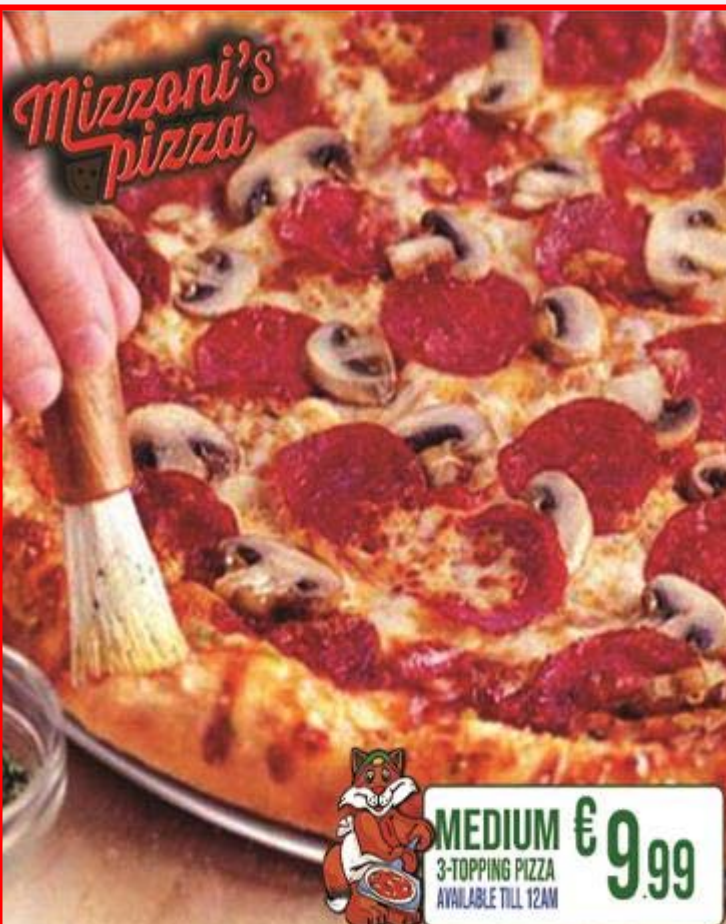
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THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

Do you use an alarm clock to wake you up in the morning? A lot of alarm clocks have a button on them called a snooze alarm. When your alarm goes off, you can hit that button and go back to sleep. In about ten minutes, the alarm will go off again. You can just keep on doing this and go right on sleeping.

Maybe it is nice to get that extra sleep, but there are two problems with snooze alarms. The first is that if you keep on hitting the snooze alarm, you may be late or miss out on something completely. The second problem is that if you keep hitting the snooze alarm, you may get so used to the sound of the alarm that you don't even hear it at all and you will sleep right through the alarm.

Did you know that God sometimes sounds a "wake up" alarm in our lives? He speaks to our heart and says, "It is time to wake up and follow me." Some people hit the snooze button and say, "Not now Lord, call me again - a little bit later." Some people hit that "snooze button" so many times that they get to where they don't even hear God's voice. When they finally wake up, they find out that it is too late. That is what happened in our Gospel today. Jesus told a story about a rich man who wore the finest clothes and lived in luxury. A beggar named Lazarus lay outside the rich man's gate. Lazarus was hungry and his body was covered with sores. He was hoping that the rich man might have pity on him and that he might be able to satisfy his hunger with the leftovers from the rich man's table. But every day the Rich man passed by Lazarus without even giving him a thought. I imagine that he passed by Lazarus so many times that he eventually got to the point that he didn't see him at all.

The Bible says that Lazarus died and went to heaven. The rich man also died, but he went to hell. In hell, he looked up and saw Lazarus in heaven with Abraham. He asked Abraham to let Lazarus dip his finger in water and come and touch it to his burning tongue, but Abraham said, "No." Then he reminded the rich man how he had enjoyed such good things on earth while Lazarus had nothing.

The rich man then asked Abraham to allow Lazarus to go back to earth and warn his five brothers so that they would not end up in hell with him, but again, Abraham said, "No." The rich man finally woke up, but it was too late.

God is still sending "wake up" calls to people today. Let us pray that they will listen to his voice and follow him before it is too late.

My Prayer

Dear Father, when you sound the alarm telling us it is time to wake up and follow you, may we never be guilty of hitting the snooze alarm saying, "Later, Lord." Instead, let us rise up and follow you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.





The Rich Man and Lazarus

"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.'"

Luke 16:25

"Father Abraham, have mercy on me..."



... Send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame."

Luke 16:24

Communion and Confirmation Candidates

Communion and Confirmation forms were distributed to all schools over the last couple of weeks. If you have not completed your form yet, please do so, and drop the form into the Parish Centre.



Rainbows Ireland
Supporting Children with Bereavement and Parental Separation

Rainbows offers a 9 week listening, group support programme for children for children following a bereavement of parental separation.

Children of a similar age and loss experience are 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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Time: **Wednesdays at 3.15pm**

Contact: **Orla Coughlan/Margaret Dooley**
0833758421

In 4th, 5th or 6th Class and interested in becoming an Altar Server?



Application forms available in the Parish Centre and on-line if you wish to join. Training will be provided shortly.

We warmly welcome new servers!



Will start on Sunday 29th September and will be held every Sunday at 11:15am Mass. Children in Junior Infants, Senior Infants & First Class will be invited to the Play and Pray room in the Parish Church. The leaders will help them explore the Bible stories of the day through music, song and art activities. All are welcome.





TIME TO THINK!

PRESS THE PAUSE BUTTON!!!

Time moves by too quickly, this week we will begin the month of October.

Sometimes it's good to hit the pause button. The following reflection might inject calm and inspiration for our lives;

A young woman walked confidently around the room holding a glass of water while leading a seminar on stress management. Everyone guessed she was going to ask the ultimate question, 'half empty or half full?' She fooled them all. "How heavy is this glass of water?" she inquired with a smile. Answers called out ranged from 8 oz. to 20 oz.

She replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm.

If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it the heavier it becomes."

She continued, "And that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on."

"As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden - holding stress longer and better each time practiced.

So, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the evening and into the night. Pick them up again tomorrow if you must.

And remember;

1. Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully... It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

Pause and Remember

Every situation in life is temporary.

So, when life is good, make sure you enjoy and receive it fully.

And when life is not so good, remember that it will not last forever and better days are on the way.

-Jenni Young-

Agaps

6. If you lend someone €20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird - sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
16. Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
17. We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colours, but they all have to live in the same box.
18. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
19. Save the earth..... It's the only planet with chocolate!

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 16,400 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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Safeguarding Sunday

Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin

Sunday 29th September 2019

Message from Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin



Dear Parishioners,

I welcome this initiative to have an annual Safeguarding Sunday in our Diocese. Each year it will remind us all that the key to safeguarding is good public awareness of the potential danger to children and the importance of good practice across the diocese. On this, our first Safeguarding Sunday event I, along with the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee want to say thanks to close to 200 people who have voluntarily worked for the safeguarding cause in the Diocese over the years. Special thanks to those who continue to serve at this time.

We also should never forget the hurt and damage caused to so many people who have been abused as children and the enormous impact this has on their lives. The Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin fully acknowledges the devastation caused by abuse and takes the role of establishing a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults within the church very seriously. The Safeguarding of Children involves all of us working together to ensure that children grow up with their right to dignity respected.

I thank and applaud all of you for making this possible,

✠ Denis Nulty

Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin

Statement from Clergy Representative on the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee

The priests of our diocese, share with our parishioners, the disappointment, disgust and hurt, felt because of the grievously criminal actions of a few in our midst. With our parishioners, we also feel betrayed and let down.

In response, the priests of our diocese are committed to supporting, encouraging and putting into place the highest standards of safeguarding, so that all our parishioners, children and adult leaders who work with them, will feel safe and confident in their ministries. So that children will be encouraged and welcomed to take their full part in liturgies and other church and parish activities.

Diocesan Prayer of Healing for Victims of Abuse

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your peoples wounds, and transform brokenness into wholeness.

Give us, as a diocese, courage and wisdom, humility and grace to always act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and efforts.

Grant that all who have been Harmed by abuse may be healed.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

"I learned that religion isn't restricted to a church, but rather it's the way we live our everyday lives. It's about making others feel welcome, encouraging positive wellbeing among others and having fun whilst doing it all. I now try to ring all these learnings with me everywhere I go." JPII Award Participant Graiguecullen Parish Youth Group



Where to find local information:

www.kandle.ie/safeguarding



Safeguarding in the
Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin
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Please feel free to take one.





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



Alan Ryan
*Kilminchy and
formerly Beladd*



Anne Hughes
Oaklawn, Ballyfin

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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In Loving Memory of **MARTIN GORMAN**

56th Anniversary, 3rd October, 2019



*A silent grief that's in our hearts,
No human eye can trace,
For many a broken heart is hid,
Beneath a smiling face.*

Sadly missed by your loving family
and extended family.

May Martin Rest in Peace



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In Loving Memory of **PATRICK (Paddy) BYRNE**

113 St. Brigids Place, Portlaoise.
29th Anniversary occurs 30th September 2019.



*We have so many memories to
last our whole lives through,
Each one is a reminder of how
much we're missing you.*

*Always loved and missed by your loving wife Mary
And family.*

May Patrick Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **BRENDAN BOWE**

77 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise. 6th Anniversary occurs 5th October.
6th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 5th Oct. at 6:30pm.



*Never more than a thought away,
And those who have loved you dearly are
thinking of you today, and always.*

*Love from your wife Eilish, sons Gary
and Shane, grandchildren and extended
family.*

May Brendan Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **DENIS (Dinny) BRENNAN**

Borris Little, Portlaoise. 7th Anniversary occurs 30th Sept.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Saturday 28th September at 6.30pm

*We miss you in so many ways
We miss the things you used to say
And when old times we do recall
It's then we miss you most of all.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered
From your loving wife Mary and family*

May Denis Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of Our Dear Cousin **TOMMY MOYLAN**

121 Hillview Drive. 9th Anniversary occurs 27th Sept.



*To us you were someone special,
What more is there to say,
We only wish with all our hearts, that
you were here today.*

Sadly missed by The Tuohy Family

May Tommy Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **HELEN & PHILIP ROWNEY**

53 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
Died 20th September 1991 and 19th October 2012. R.I.P.
28th and 7th Anniversaries occur at this time.



*Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us everyday,
Each of us in our own way,
Have special thoughts of you
both today.*

*Always remembered by all
your loving family.*



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

May Helen and Philip Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory Of **BERNADETTE KELLY**

Parkside Apartments and formerly Capoley.
1st Anniversary occurs 5th October 2019



*God saw you getting tired and a cure was
not to be,*

*So He put His arms around you, and
whispered; "Come to me".*

*With tearful eyes we watched you, and saw
you pass away, and although we loved you
dearly, we could not make you stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating, hard
working hands at rest, God broke our hearts
to prove to us, that He only takes the best.*

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

*Sadly missed by her loving daughters Joan and Thelma,
son-in-law, grandchildren and all her loving family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Bernadette



In Loving Memory of **WILLIAM (Joe) FITZPATRICK**

The Hermitage, Borris Rd. Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary away from home - 2nd October 2019

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church this Sunday 29th September at 12.30pm.



*We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives
Until we meet again xxx*

*Sadly missed so much by his wife Mary,
sons Mark and William, daughter
Julie, grandsons Colin and Craig,
granddaughters Emma and Amy and
daughters-in-law Elaine and Mary.*

May Joe Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
KATHLEEN KAVANAGH née Brennan
Colt, Ballyroan



On behalf of the Kavanagh family, Louise thanks you most sincerely for all the kindness and support shown to us at the death of our mother, Kathleen. It was all greatly appreciated and to you all we are deeply grateful.

A special thanks to Fr. Michael Kelly and Fr. Paddy Byrne, Bishop Denis, Monsignor John Byrne and the Priests of Portlaoise Parish and all Fr. Brian's priestly colleagues for their wonderful spiritual support to Mammy always and especially during her last days.

Thanks to Fr. Willie Byrne PP of Allen. Thanks to the friends of ALMAS worldwide who were remembering us and Mam in their thoughts and prayers.

Thanks to Dr. Peter Kemple and the staff of Abbyleix Clinic who journeyed with us during Mam's illness. Also thanks to the staff of Laois Pharmacy.

To all our relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues who travelled to be present with us and made great efforts to be part of a wonderful and special celebration of life, we say thank you.

Thanks to Raheen Choir, the 10am Portlaoise Choir and musicians who truly made the funeral celebrations beautiful and memorable.

Thanks to our whist family with whom we spent many enjoyable and profitable nights. Mam really enjoyed those cards.

Thanks to Eamon Kelly for his professional support, to Agnes in Portlaoise Parish Centre, to Bridie, our sacristan and the altar servers.

Thanks to Laois Hire, Bosco's Catering and all our kind neighbours who minded us during those days.

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.

Fr. Brian will celebrate Mam's Month's Mind Mass on Saturday Oct 5th at 7:30pm in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen. (R32YY79)

Rest in Peace Mam

In Loving Memory of **WILLIAM (Billy) Kelly**

59 Newpark. 8th Anniversary occurs 8th October 2019



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church this Saturday 5th October at 6.30pm

*Your gentle face and patient smile
with sadness we recall,
You had a kindly word for each and
died beloved by all.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Billy Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **A Treasured Father GERARD KELLY**

12 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 28th September
and birthday occurs 1st October.



Also his beautiful Grandson **WAYNE KELLY**

170 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs 27th September.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Saturday 28th September at 6:30pm.

*Your names are often spoken, we talk about you
still, you haven't been forgotten and you know you
never will.*

*No words or verse could ever say how much we miss
you both everyday, deep in our hearts your memories
are kept, we love you both too dearly to ever forget.
Loved and remembered yesterday, today and all our
tomorrows.*

Love Maryann, Deirdre, Angeira, Paula,
Annmarie and all your grandkids xxx

Rest in Peace Gerard & Wayne

In Loving Memory of **MARGARET (Pearl) WALSH** née Dempsey

Ridge Rd. Portlaoise. 6th Anniversary occurs 5th October 2019.



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

*Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always, forgetting you never.*

Sadly missed by her loving husband Jim and all her loving family.

May Margaret (Pearl) Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **PATRICK RYAN**

12 Ridge Road, Portlaoise. 1st Anniversary occurs 28th September.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Saturday 28th Sept. at 10am.



*Those we love remain with us,
For love itself lives on,
And cherished memories never fade,
Because a loved one is gone.*

Loved and missed by all your loving family.

May Patrick Rest in Peace

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.

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.

Teach Mhuire Praying Community Mass for Healing will be celebrated in St. Paul's Church, Emo on Tuesday 1st October, rosary at the grotto at 7:45pm followed by Mass at 8pm. Celebrant: Fr. Eddie Lalor cc Portlaoise.

Relic and Blessed Oil from Holy Face International Shrine Tours France: Prayer meeting and talk on Holy Face Devotion in St. Patrick's Church, Ballyroan Portlaoise, Thurs. 3rd October at 7pm. All welcome.

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

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

Caroline's Holistics M.N.R.R.I.: Reflexology, Indian Head Massage, Hopi Ear Candle Treatment. Treatments are one hour, cost €50. Appointments 11am to 8pm. Call; 086-4055618 (Abbeyleix).

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.

Oct. 2nd: This is a new fun and game show day where we will learn and practice new games which will add fun and variety, and also help us to compete with other teams we meet in different competitions.

Oct. 9th: A great fun afternoon occasion singing with Caroline, the many new songs as well as the tried and tested beautiful melodies that we all know and enjoy so much. Everybody can participate as it is not a competition and the primary purpose is enjoyment.

Understanding Self-Harm Free Seminar for Parents will explore the topic of self-harm with a focus on why people self-harm, prevalence rates, myths, functions, motivation in Laois Education Centre, Tuesday 8th October, 7-9pm. Booking essential. Tel. 057-8672402.

The PTAA (Pioneer) Annual Church Gate Collection in aid of promoting temperance locally and nationally will be held at all Masses in Portlaoise Parish on the weekend of 5th/6th October next. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Anam Cara is part of the all-Ireland organisation that provides support services to bereaved parents and families. On **Tuesday 1st October** they are facilitating an information evening for bereaved parents in The Mullingar Park Hotel, Westmeath. This evening will see an experienced bereavement professional give some insights and practical information to what helps and what does not help after the death of a son or daughter. Please note this event is open to all bereaved parents, regardless of the age of their child or circumstances of their death.



Girls Church Choir

New members required now before practice starts for Christmas. There is no fee for the choir. Practice Friday afternoons, 3-3:45pm in the Church. Mass Sunday 10am. Tel. **Catherine; 087-2648194**

Volunteers needed at Parents

First: Would you be interested in volunteering with parents first for 1-2 hours each week? We are looking for parents or grandparents to pass on their valuable knowledge and experience in bringing up children. Please phone Dolores or Rhona on 057-9322996.

Tullamore Phoenix Market

supporting local charities, is open every Saturday from 10am to 3pm, located in Kilcrottan close to the Tullamore Court Hotel and beside Food Market. Bargains Galore! Any queries tel. Mary 087-9050910.

Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, 2nd Steam Threshing Festival:

Date change to 5th and 6th October due to unforeseen circumstances. Adults €5, under 12s free. Proceeds in support of local charities. For queries or information on the Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, please call Pat O'Connor at 087-7824481.

Ratheniska Foróige Club Info.

night for potential members and their parent/guardians will be held on Friday 4th October from 7.30-8.30pm in St. Aongus Hall, Ratheniska. Any young person interested in joining must be accompanied by their parent/guardian on the night where they will get to experience some of what Foróige has to offer. Membership is open to young people aged 12yrs+, in secondary school. For more information contact club leaders;

Caitriona Fingleton 086-8177382

Brian Phelan 087-6469701

Rosie O'Brien 086-2997677

(Foróige Regional Youth Officer)

E-mail; rosie.obrien@foroige.ie

Volunteer Drivers: The Irish Cancer Society is looking for volunteers to drive patients to and from their chemotherapy treatments in all public hospitals nationwide. Volunteers will need their own car but all expenses are paid. If you have 2 free days each month (Monday-Friday) and an active e-mail address we would love to hear from you.

Please call Laura 01-2310594, e-mail transport@irishcancer.ie or visit www.cancer.ie for more information.

Cuisle Fayre Charity Shop: No. 1 Church Avenue (side of old Shaws). Donations of good quality household items required, also good quality ladies and gents clothing. Cuisle Fayre volunteers greatly appreciate the generosity of their patrons.



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Good quality Turf in
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Black Stanley Donard
Solid Fuel Cooker,
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Contact Catherine;
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Two seater couch
(as new), colour;
floral design in
cream, green and
terracotta. Will sell
for a good offer.
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dark pine, will sell for
reasonable offer.
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PORTLAOISE SINGERS

A sixty strong mixed choir are
soon commencing
rehearsals for their
46th Christmas Concert.
New members are
welcome, no knowledge
of music is necessary.



**Call 057 8621841
for further details.**



St. Mary's C.B.S. Portlaoise

Open Night; Wednesday 2nd October '19, 6pm-9pm

For 1st year enrolment for September 2020.

Application forms are available on request from the school office, 057-8635041 and our school website;
www.portlaoiseCBS.com. Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 12 noon Friday 18th October.



RAMPS & RAILS

Are you worried about
winter conditions, slippery steps?
Try and avoid slips, trips or falls.

Concrete ramps with steel
handrails installed to provide
safe access for everyone.
For more information, call David;
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Mahogany king size
bed, bought in a
vintage shop for quick
sale, if interested, tel.;
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CHILDMINDER REQUIRED

In the Ballyfin area, to mind
two children, one pre-school
going and the other is 18
months. Required for 1-2 days
per week. If interested, call
Cathy 085-7392322



Your Help is Needed !!!

People who have
attended the Cuisle
Cancer Support
Centre are planning
to organise a very large fund
raiser in Co. Laois and all proceeds
will go to The Cuisle Cancer Care
Support Centre in Portlaoise.

This wonderful Centre is totally
funded by voluntary donations and
it does tremendous work. The aim
of the centre is to provide a warm
safer, and welcoming environment
for people diagnosed with cancer
and their families.

This event will take place in the six
weeks before Christmas and we
are looking for volunteers from all
parts of Laois to help us achieve
our aim to raise a considerable
sum of money for the centre.

If you can help please let us know
by phoning in your name to either
The Cuisle Centre 057-8681492
or Gerry 057-8730643.

Divine Mercy Mass: Wednesday 2nd October in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, rosary at 7pm, followed by Mass at 7:30pm and
blessing with St. Faustina's relic. All are welcome. Celebrant:
Fr. John Mockler. Music: Margaret Brennan.

Below is the winning prayer for the environment, as chosen during the
Ploughing Championships.



Prayer in a poem for the ploughing

A garden bright, a lovely sight,
Care and time given to the earth,
Colour and beauty all around,
The glory of God, easily found.

Guide me when out and about,
That I may notice the sun coming from south,
That I may feel rain, fresh air, clay on my fingers,
That I may see the colour of a butterfly as it lingers.

Our earth is precious, life too,
Help me be mindful of what I do,
The wonder of creation around me everyday,
Trust our Higher power come what may.

Let me dig deeper,
Root for Christ my keeper,
In a changing and challenged world,
Bless the day that we have today.



By Siobhan Hayes



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