

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
**link
up**

5th May 2019

**THIRD SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



**May is the
Month of Mary**

**Rosary at the
Grotto after the
6.30pm Mass on
Saturdays and
Other evenings
at 8pm.**



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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

2nd May 2019

Portlaoise Parish



No €17,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

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Una Lawlor
Margaret Byrne
Christy Paisley
Karen Parkinson
Nicola Byrne
Fr. Joe Brophy
Sr. Catherine

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Christy Paisley
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Nicola Byrne
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**Pope Francis' Prayer
Intention May 2019**

Pope Francis has gone to Africa several times since his first visit in November 2015. The Majority World, the global south, has been a focus of his apostolic journeys. But he does not go to proselytise, to convert. On his most recent visit to the predominantly Muslim country of Morocco, he asked Catholics to avoid trying to

convert people, saying this "always leads to an impasse".
"The issue of migration will never be resolved by raising barriers," he said in a speech. Once again, he is hoping and praying that the Church may be that "seed of unity" rather than a proselytising competitor among religions vying for the allegiance of people.

This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis's prayer intention '**...That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent.**'

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

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Ever been entrusted with a big job and completely messed up? If you've made big mistakes in the work place, the chances are that you won't be entrusted with that job again. If you make a



mistake in family circles, the people who love you most probably will give you a second chance but they might be keeping a watchful eye on you just the same.

In the days after Jesus' death and resurrection Peter must have been suffering huge guilt. He had been one of Jesus' most ardent followers and yet it was Peter who had denied Jesus three times during his arrest and trial. When we have had a difficult or traumatic time it is human nature to retreat into our comfort zones. This is exactly what Peter is doing in today's gospel. Jesus might have hoped that his disciples would be out and about spreading the good news, but Peter is back on the lake doing what he knows best.... fishing!

When we hit difficult times in our lives and all we are able to do is hide from the world, what we need most is for someone to give us a helping hand. What we might need is for someone to let us know that we are still valued. When we give someone who has lost their self esteem a special job, we can give them a new lease of life.

In today's gospel Jesus appears to Peter and the disciples from the shore whilst they are out fishing. Peter, as impetuous as ever, jumps into the water and swims to meet him. The others follow in the boat. On the shore Jesus takes some bread, and some fish that his disciples have just caught, and they share a simple meal. Then Jesus turns to Peter and asks "Do you love me?" Three times he asks the same question, and three times Peter replies that he does. It's as though Jesus is giving him the opportunity to make amends for his three denials. Jesus is offering more than forgiveness. He's offering healing and recovery. Then he says to Peter "Feed my lambs," and "tend my sheep." Jesus gives Peter an important job, the job he has been training him for all along – to give the growing community of disciples his support, guidance and leadership. Imagine how delighted Peter must have felt on this day. Perhaps he hadn't let Jesus down after all. Jesus still loved him and valued him. This was Peter's big second chance and new lease of life.

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday—Friday
7.30am & 10am

Saturday
10am

SUNDAY MASSES

Scoil Bhride, Knockmay (Saturday)
7.30pm

St. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
Vigil (Saturday) 6.30pm
8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm
Church of the Assumption,
The Heath: 9.30am
Church of the Holy Cross,
Ratheniska: 10am.

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

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday after 10am
& 6.30pm Masses.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Billy Patrick Morrissey
Aghnaharna Drive

Donnacha Thomas Bowe
Berryridge Avenue, Maryborough Village

Riley Pierce Boland
The Pines, Forest Park

Sophie Louise Killeen,
Hawthorn Drive

Arden Ben Doyle
Blueberry Hill, Esker Hills
were baptised last weekend

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€19,383.14 Thank You

Sunday 28th April 2019

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	€6,776.00

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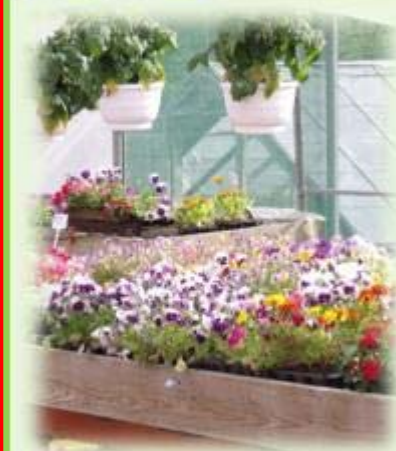
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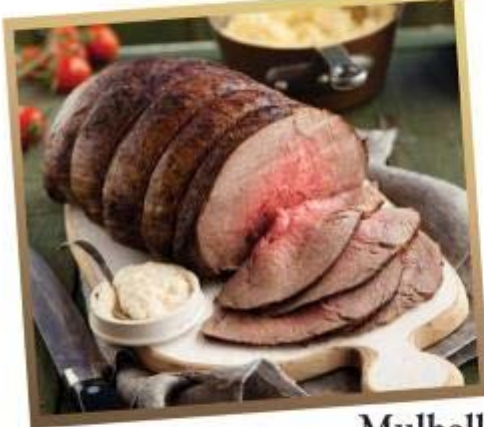
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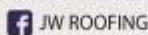
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2nd OUTING

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Saturday 20th July

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6th OUTING

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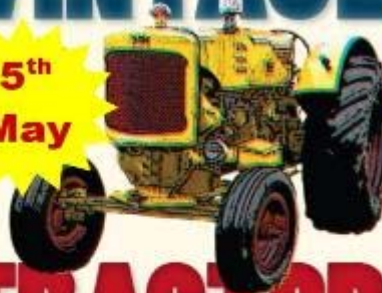
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I LOVE YOU!

A few years ago, there was a song that became very popular. The name of the song was "Love in Any Language." Can you say, "I love you" in any different languages? Today we can learn at least five different ways to say, "I love you."

In Irish, you would say, "Mo grá thú!"

In German, you would say, "Ich liebe dich!" Can you say that?

In Polish, you would say, "Kocham Cie!"

In Spanish, you would say, "¡Te amo!" That is pretty easy -- try it.

In sign language, you would say, "I love you" like this.

I know that you can all say, "I love you!" in sign language!



You know, it is pretty easy to say, "I love you," but it is sometimes a lot harder to show it by our actions. That is what our Bible story is about today.

After Jesus was raised from the dead, he appeared to his disciples several times. On the third time that Jesus appeared to his disciples, he was with them on the shore by the Sea of Galilee. He turned to Peter and said, "Peter, do you love me?"

Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Then, Jesus said to Peter, "Feed my lambs."

Jesus asked Peter again, "Do you love me?"

Again, Peter answered, "Yes Lord, I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep."

A third time Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?"

Now Peter was very sad that Jesus asked him this question again, but he answered Jesus again, "Lord, you know all things, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Why did Jesus ask Peter the same question three times? I think he wanted Peter to understand - and he wanted you and me to understand -- that it isn't enough just to say, "I love you." We must show our love for Jesus by showing our love for one another and caring for one another.

Do you love Jesus? Then feed and take care of his sheep!

Now, that is love that can be understood in any language.



Dear Jesus, help us to show our love for you by loving and caring for one another. Amen.



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TIME TO THINK!

MARY - QUEEN OF THE MAY

May is marked with "alleluias" as we celebrate the Resurrection and live into the Easter joy we proclaim. May is also marked by the church in its dedication of the month to Mary. Mary's "yes" to God's invitation forever changed the course of history. Today, Mary offers us three essential pathways for living our faith.

Mary shows us how to listen;

Mary was a young girl living in a culture where she could have been stoned to death for having a child out-of-wedlock. She knew the cultural and societal consequences of her "yes." She knew what could happen if Joseph didn't understand. She had reason to fear her parents' reactions. When the angel appeared to Mary, we read in scripture how she was deeply troubled. Somewhere deep within she found the courage, inner strength, and grace to respond with full assent, "Let it be done to me according to your word." Mary showed us what it means to listen with full intensity to what God is asking, God's invitations may very well demand everything of us. Deep pondering, heart-centered attentiveness, and courageous listening are required of us, too.

Mary shows us how God's word must be shared with others;

When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, they did not simply exchange a simple greeting, but one of deep faith. God's word is meant to be shared. It cannot be contained within us if we are to be filled with the life it offers. We must share it with others, we are invited to ponder the word of God so that we might share it joyfully with others.

Mary shows us how to live in God's word;

Mary lived moments of profound joy as well as profound sorrow. From losing Jesus in the Temple to the journey to Calvary, Mary lived these sorrows and anguished deeply. Mary formed and raised Jesus from the simplicity of her daily life. She was a person in conversation with God, with the Word of God, and also with the events through which God spoke to her. From the Annunciation to Pentecost, Mary appears as someone whose freedom is completely open to God's will and shows us how to live in God's word.

In this month of May, may we turn to Mary in our times of joy and sorrow and ask her to continue to show us the way to her Son. As we strive to grow in faith and live more fully in God's word, may we, like Mary, bring Christ to others.



Pope Francis prayer to Mary...

Dearest Holy Mother, Most Holy Mary, you undo the knots that suffocate your children. Extend your merciful hands to me. I entrust to You today this knot [mention your request here] and all the negative consequences that it provokes in my life. Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for me. Virgin Mary, Mother of fair love, Mother who never refuses to come to the aid of a child in need, Mother whose hands never cease to serve your beloved children because they are moved by the divine love and immense mercy that exist in your heart, cast your compassionate eyes upon me and see the snarl of knots that exists in my life. You know very well how desperate I am, my pain, and how I am bound by these knots. Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of his children, I entrust into your hands the ribbon of my life. No one, not even the evil one himself, can take it away from your precious care. In your hands there is no knot that cannot be undone.

Powerful Mother, by your grace and intercessory power with Your Son and My Liberator, Jesus, take into your hands today this knot. [Mention request here] I beg you to undo it for the glory of God, once and for all. You are my hope. O my Lady, you are the only consolation God gives me, the fortification of my feeble strength, the enrichment of my destitution, and, with Christ, the freedom from my chains. Hear my plea. Keep me, guide me, protect me, o safe refuge! Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for me. Amen.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 15,700 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



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



**Lena
Connolly**
(née White)

Stradbally Road

James Joseph Rowe
Mill Lane, Killone

Tom Croke
*Formerly Main Street, Portlaoise
and Dublin*

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

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to
the death notice at www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
EILEEN RYAN

*Ridge Road, Portlaoise, whose birthday occurs
9th May; 8th birthday away from home.
We remember her with love and pride.*



Though a lifetime of dreams have
ended, a new dream is born in
our heart,
For that dream we pray, that
we'll meet one day, never
again to part.

*Loved and missed always by all
her loving family.*

May Eileen Rest in Peace

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**In Loving Memory of
KEVIN O'ROURKE**

Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 15th May 2019.

*Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on Saturday
11th May at 6.30pm.*

*Sadly missed by his loving wife
Jane and family.*

Rest in Peace Kevin



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IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS

CHRISTINE CONROY 5th Ann. occurred 29th April 2019

THOMAS CONROY 21st Ann. occurred in March 2019

Late of 'Jalna' Mountrath Road, Portlaoise,



Christine's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's

Parish Church this

Sunday 5th May at 11.15am

Never more than a thought away,

Sadly missed by your loving family.

May Christine and Thomas Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT In Loving Memory of KATHLEEN DOWLING

Ballymaddock, Stradbally. Died 10th January 2019.



Kathleen's husband Paddy, her sons and daughters along with our families and extended family would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who sympathised with us in our recent sad bereavement.

Many thanks to all our friends, relatives and neighbours who called to the house; those who sent Mass cards and messages of sympathy; the

people who travelled long distances and all who attended the Requiem Mass and funeral at the Heath Church.

A very special word of thanks to those neighbours and friends who gave us such practical support during the course of the funeral, in bringing food and refreshments to the house which was so much appreciated and to the Heath GAA club for the superb organisation of the parking on the day. Many thanks also to Treacy's Bar & Restaurant for the continual supply of lovely food; also the Killeslin hotel.

Thank you also to all the Carers for the excellent care and attention given to Kathleen, in her home, during the course of her illness; to doctors; Grimes and Miller, the staff of Stradbally Medical Centre and Jim and staff at Hughes Pharmacy.

Thanks also to Fr. Eddie Lalor who was a wonderful comfort in our home during that sad time and who, with Msgr. John Byrne, officiated at the funeral Mass; Nuala Kelly for the beautiful music and singing and Catherine Young and the lovely altar servers. Thank you to Whelehan Funeral Directors, Stradbally.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually, we hope that this acknowledgement will be accepted as a token of our deepest gratitude to you all.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for your intentions.

May Kathleen Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of MICHAEL O' REILLY

Liogard, Portlaoise. 9th Anniversary occurred 2nd May.



Along the road of suffering, you found a little lane,

That took you up to Heaven and ended all your pain.

You may be out of sight,

We may be worlds apart,

But you are always in our prayers, and forever in our hearts.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 5th May at 11:15am.

Sadly missed by his loving wife and family.

Please also remember his father Thomas and his sister Marie whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of ANNE HARDING and her daughter PATTY

46 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.

12th and 10th Anniversaries occur respectively.

There is a path of beautiful memories from here to Heaven above,

That keeps us very close to you and it's called the path of love,

Your shadows walk beside us ever since the day you died,

Oh angels take this message to our mam and sister up above,

Tell them we miss them and give them all our love.

Anniversary Mass was celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Friday 3rd May at 10am.

Sadly missed and always remembered by their loving family.

May Anne & Patty Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of LIAM CONROY

10 New Row, Green Rd. Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary occurs 5th May 2019.

Also remembering Liam's birthday - 18th May.



Daily thoughts and silent tears,

Always wishing you were here,

Life goes on, we know that's true,

But never the same since losing you.

Liam's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 5th May at 10am.

Sadly missed by your loving wife Mary and son Brian.

Silently we grieve and brush away our tears,

The memories he left behind, will last throughout the years

From his daughter Shirley, son-in-law John and grandson

Conor, extended family and friends.

May Liam Rest in Peace

Birthday Remembrance ANNIE GREENE

74 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
To a Special Mother on her 79th Birthday.
3rd birthday away from home.



I cried when it happened,
I still do everyday,
My world was totally shattered,
The day you went away.

Little reminders lay around,
The photographs remain,
I talk about the old days,
That bring you back again.

I know that you're with Jesus now, and happy in His care,
If we could just the once, call and see you there.

Just to wish you happy birthday,
And I'd hug you for a while,
Oh oh! The joy once again, to see your lovely smile.

*Sadly missed and loved always by her heartbroken
daughter AnnMarie, son-in-law Peter, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren.*

Also remember her husband Thomas whose birthday
occurred in April.

May Mommy & Daddy Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of CLEMENT KEHOE

Late of Main Street, Stradbally, Co. Laois
4th Anniversary occurs 10th May 2019



Loving Memories of you
Clement

*We will never forget
Sadly missed along life's way
With silent thought and
deep regret
We think of you every day
No longer in our lives to
share, but in our hearts
you are always there.*

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

*Loved and remembered by your wife Evelyn, sons
Paul, Niall, Mark, Clem, daughters Nessa, Nicola,
grandchildren & extended family and friends.*

May Clement Rest in Peace



LOUGH DERG PILGRIMAGE SEASON 2019



PORTLAOISE PARISH THREE DAY PILGRIMAGE

Saturday 1st – Monday 3rd June 2019

Departing

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to our daily lives.

DATES & TIMES:

Sunday 5th May 2019 2PM - 9PM

Venue:

St. Fintans Church, Raheen, Abbeylax, Co. Laois





RELIGIOUS NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Teach Mhuire Praying Community: Mass for Healing Tuesday 7th May in St. Paul's Church, Emo. Holy Rosary at the Grotto 7:45pm followed by Mass 8pm. Celebrant: Fr. Eddie Lalor C.C. Portlaoise.

Special Mass in honour of "The Little Flower" will be celebrated in St. Joseph's Church, Ballyadams on Thursday 16th May at 7.30pm and individual blessing with "The Little Flower Bone Relic".

Solemn Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen, 9 Monday nights; 29th April - 24th June at 7.30pm. (Rosary 7.10pm). Singing will be led by Fr. Liam Lawton, accompanied by the Poor Clare Community and Parish choirs. **Speaker 6th May;** Olive Foley (Wife of the late Anthony Foley, former Munster & Irish Rugby Player).

USEFUL SERVICES

Accord: Going through a difficult time in your marriage/relationship? Counselling Services available at Accord, Parish Centre, Portlaoise, call 057-8661581 or e-mail us at; accordportlaoise@hotmail.com

Portlaoise Active Retirement Association (ARA)

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

Whist: Play or learn Whist at Sue Ryder centre every Thursday 2.30 to 4.00pm all are welcome

May 8th: Full dress rehearsal for the "Young at Heart" Variety Show at the Dunamais Theatre commencing 11am. This is the final preparation for the show which takes place on 15th.

May 15th: Portlaoise ARA will present our "Young at Heart" Variety Show at the Dunamais Theatre, commencing at 2pm, featuring singing, dancing, comedy sketches with lots of fun and laughter. A super afternoon's entertainment is assured.

Our 15th Anniversary Show was a tremendous success, enjoyed by a great turnout. We had an afternoon of musical entertainment as well as a potted history of our club compiled and presented by our esteemed secretary Trudy Nealon, which brought back some fond memories of times past, followed by tea and an appetizing array of savouries. We wish to thank everybody who organised, participated and facilitated this special day.

Family Fun Day in Raheen: Sunday 5th May featuring a Fun Run 6K Walk or Jog. Bouncing castles, stalls and side shows, also a car and tractor run, modern and vintage vehicles. Music and dancing on the field and a two band session that night in Eamon A' Chnoic in aid of the Lalor House Restoration Project. Enquiries to 087-9614235.

History Lecture Series at Portlaoise Library: 1919 and the Irish War of Independence-A National and Regional Perspective by Dr. Richard McElligott, **Tues., 14th May** at 7.30pm. This lecture will examine the beginning of the Irish War of Independence a century ago. It will chart the commencement of the IRA's military campaign against British Crown forces, Dáil Éireann's attempts to construct a viable counter-state to British rule and the key events of 1919. It will also explore the experiences of Laois and rural Leinster during the conflict.

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

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FATIMA MASS Wednesday 22nd May

Mass will be celebrated in the Parish Church for all parishioners travelling to Fatima.

Celebrant; Fr. Paddy Byrne.

Tickets will be distributed in the Parish Centre after Mass.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA FEAST DAY

**Pilgrimage to KNOCK SHRINE
Sunday 12th May 2019**

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VOTE No.1

Independent candidate

Judy **PRESTON-GRACE**

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As a first time candidate and an Independent at that, I would welcome your support in the upcoming local elections on May 24th.

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ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIEST'S SOCIETY

Monthly meeting will be
held Tuesday 14th May in the
Parish Centre after 10am
Mass. New members are
always welcome.

INTERESTED IN HERITAGE OR
WANT TO KNOW WHAT
LAOIS HERITAGE SOCIETY DO?
COME ALONG TO OUR

FUN OPEN QUIZ NIGHT

With Jack Nolan as MC

Wednesday May 8th @ 8 PM
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