

**PORTLAOISE**  
**PARISH**  
**link**  
**up**

**9th June 2019**

# **Pentecost Sunday**



A huge gathering again this year for our Annual Cemetery Mass. We thank Bishop Denis who led our celebration this year. Also our thanks and congratulations to the Cemetery Committee and to all who have St. Peter & Paul's looking so well.

More photos on page 18 and our website.



**The Parish Centre 057 8621142**  
**E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

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



6th June 2019

Portlaoise Parish



**€10,000 Jackpot Winner**

**Congratulations**

**Violet Lynch Promoter: Carmel Whelan**

**WINNERS**

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Eamon Houlihan  
Elizabeth Hayden  
Mary Delaney  
Noreen Byrne  
Pat Lacumber  
Joy Burke  
Dan Donaher  
Mary Delaney  
Caroline Byrne

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Match 3s  
€100  
each

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On Line Loto  
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Marie O'Brien  
Eileen Preston  
Paul Dooley  
Day Care Centre  
Declan Fitzpatrick  
Mary Arthur

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**Next Week's Jackpot**  
**€10,000**

*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



**Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm**  
Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722  
E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto: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](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)**



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

**Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday**  
Subject to availability of space

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

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Religious gifts and books.

## Happy Birthday Church

### Some Pentecost Facts.

The word "Pentecost" is derived from the Greek word for "fifty."

The Day of Pentecost, as recorded in Acts 2, occurred 50 days after Jesus' resurrection and 10 days after His ascension.

The day celebrates the sending of the Holy Spirit to the disciples following Jesus' ascension.

The Day of Pentecost is seen as the culmination of the Easter season.

In many calendars, the day is listed as "Whitsunday." This comes from the phrase "White Sunday," and refers to practice of the newly baptized appearing in their white, baptismal garments on that day.





## June — Month of the Sacred Heart

On June 1st 2008, at his weekly Angelus address, Pope Benedict XVI urged Catholics "to renew, in this month of June, their devotion to the Heart of Jesus." The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a moveable feast, but it most often takes place in June, and so June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart.

## Unlocking Your Talent

The disciples have locked themselves in an upper room for fear of the Jews. We know exactly where they're at. We too are good at making prisons for ourselves. We make prisons where feelings of inadequacy, apathy, guilt, pride or confusion rule our lives. We lock ourselves into debilitating patterns of behaviour where fear and other self defeating traits become habit.



The disciples are behaving very much how we behave when we are facing difficulties. Then everything changes. Jesus comes amongst them and breathes the Holy Spirit into them. Suddenly a group of frightened and inactive disciples begin to do amazing things. Suddenly they can reach out around the world regardless of language culture or race.

This isn't just a story about something that happened a long time ago, it's a promise. We each have a component that fits into God's greater picture. We each have a talent that lends itself to God's purpose. Unlocking that talent is a daily challenge. How do we use our skills to best advantage? How do we knock down the barriers that prevent us reaching our true potential? Where do we look for direction, focus and discernment? How do we find courage, faith, energy and foresight? The answer to all these questions is the 'Holy Spirit'. The same Holy Spirit that enables the early disciples liberates and empowers us. The Holy Spirit is God's presence in our lives whenever we ask.

## 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.

Fr. Paddy will celebrate his final Mass on Thursday morning at 10am. A thanksgiving for his ministry here in our parish. You are invited to a cuppa after this Mass.



## We welcome into our Parish Community

Kyra Jade Guilfoyle

The Elms, Forest Park

Ben Kevin Bowe, Derrygarron

Sam Brian Dunphy, Ballydavis

Cathal Kevin Young, Mell Street

### Who were baptised last weekend

### Sunday 2nd June 2019

Offertory Collection €1,650.00

Development Fund €2,006.00

€3,656.00

Cemetery Collection €5,337.00

(After expenses, the collection will be divided  
between the Cemetery Committee and the Parish)

Thank you!





## Kids Summer Swim Lessons

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July 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> | 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> | 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> inclusive

Aug 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> | 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> inclusive

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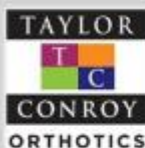
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## The Power Source

Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with his Father, he told his disciples that they would do even greater things than he had done when he was on earth. Now Jesus did some pretty great things, didn't he? He healed the sick. He turned water into wine. He made the blind to see and the lame to walk. Where were the disciples going to get the power to do such great things? Jesus promised them that he would ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit would give them the power to do great and mighty things.



It happened just as Jesus said it would. On the day which is called Pentecost, the disciples were all together in one place. The Bible tells us that there was a sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind and it filled the place where the disciples were gathered. Then, there were flames of fire that appeared and rested upon each of them. When these things happened, the disciples were filled with power and began to preach and teach about Jesus. They were able to do things that they had never done before because of the power of the Holy Spirit in them.

Did you know that you and I have that very same power available to us today?

The Bible says that "all who are led by the Spirit are children of God." We who are the children of God have the power to do great and mighty things, not in our own strength, but through the power of the Holy Spirit that is within us.

## My Prayer

Dear Father, we pray that we will be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit just as the disciples were on the day of Pentecost.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.





Y K J T N K H J G A M A Z E D  
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H R J C I W D F B E Q V C O G  
H E A R O S T F I L L E D A R  
P W S L G T P O C C K R X X S  
Y S B P P F H I N U W I P F L  
L V C D E N D E R G U I J C W  
K A Z Z I A U W R I U L N R Y  
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R E Q R L A D E W E E N U Y Y  
C H J P E Y G H I N T O H F H  
F A H T I M L E U Y S T R G B

## The Day of Pentecost



All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

**Acts 2:4**

Choose the word that best matches the definition

<b>SPEAK</b>	<b>LANGUAGE</b>
<b>PENTECOST</b>	<b>HEAVEN</b>
<b>BLOWING</b>	<b>SOUND</b>
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>HOLY</b>
<b>SPIRIT</b>	<b>HEAR</b>
<b>FILLED</b>	<b>WIND</b>
<b>FIRE</b>	<b>TONGUES</b>
<b>AMAZED</b>	



## Gifts of the Holy Spirit

**Wisdom** is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. The gift of wisdom helps you to avoid the things that could lead you away from God.

**Understanding** is the gift of comprehension, or the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Church. The gift of understanding helps you be tolerant and sympathetic of others. It helps you sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.

**Right Judgment** is the gift of prudence. The gift of right judgment helps you make choices to live as a faithful follower of Jesus.

**Courage, or Fortitude**, is the gift that helps you stand up for your faith in Christ. The gift of courage helps you overcome any obstacles that would keep you from practicing your faith.

**Knowledge** is the gift of knowing and enlightenment. The gift of knowledge enables you to choose the right path that will lead you to God. It encourages you to avoid obstacles that will keep you from him.

**Reverence or Piety**, is the gift of confidence in God. This gift of reverence inspires you to joyfully want to serve God and others.

**Wonder and Awe, or Fear of the Lord** is the gift of wonder and respect that encourages you to be in awe of God. The gift of wonder and awe moves you to so love God that you do not want to offend him by your words or actions.







# TIME TO THINK!

## WORDS OF APPRECIATION

It is with a deep sense of privilege and appreciation, that I reflect on the past 7 very happy and fulfilling years of ministry here in Portlaoise Parish. A living parish, engaged, relevant and vibrant. I appreciate the friendship and support extended to me from the Heath and Ratheniska, special and sacred places. Parish is all about people, people come first. Mons. John, a great mentor and friend often remarks "To be an effective priest simply is to be a good parishioner". Being present and available to the needs of people often at vulnerable moments is indeed what I will bring with enthusiasm and joy to the parishes of Raheen and Abbeylax. In challenging times for the Catholic Church, I found it so inspirational to live among a fantastic community where faith and friendship supported and encouraged my priestly life. Later this month I celebrate my 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination, I can without hesitation say the past 7 years have been so very happy for me.

I found despite the challenges of a busy life, that the infrastructure and support from the staff of our parish centre was invaluable. We are blessed to have such sincere, generous and capable people who not only manage the administration of a busy parish but personally with great patience managed and supported so much that I was involved with in parish life. I am also so grateful to Marian who looked after my home as my house keeper and friend with loyalty and great care. Unity of purpose is key to mission. I have been blessed to enjoy great fraternity and personal friendship with my brother priests here in Portlaoise. I am most grateful to Mons. John Byrne, he has been a constant source of strength and support to me. His leadership and professionalism is a great example to me in my new role as pastor.

In a large parish there are so many opportunities where service can be given. I particularly enjoyed my chaplaincy to many of our local schools. Portlaoise is blessed to have great school communities. In a time when catholic ethos of education is demeaned by mainstream media and liberal agenda, I value greatly the fundamental contribution catholic ethos brings to the life of young people. This is an inclusive ethos, that transcends creeds and cultures, but focusses on the holistic needs of every child, I suggest that's why on the ground, the vast majority of parents, continue to enrol children in catholic schools here in Portlaoise. I applaud our Principals, teaching and auxiliary staff and especially members of Board of Managements and Parents Councils who in the spirit of volunteerism support these very important places of learning. Chaplaincy in our local hospital has been a great privilege. Sharing the gentle love and compassion of Christ is key to the mission of the church.

The entire staff of our local hospital have and continue to support our chaplaincy presence. So much negativity is often projected onto our health service, but on the ground we in Portlaoise are blessed to have such a service on our door step. Our A+E saves lives, this essential service must never be compromised. I applaud the heroic work of the hospital action committee, I will continue to pledge my wholesome support from the parishes of Abbeylax and Raheen. Our health service must never be compromised between those who can afford a private luxury service and those who are pushed to prolonged waiting lists. The poor and working class citizens suffer most. It saddens me, as I encounter the growing complexity of family life, that no full time social workers are staffed in our hospital. I see first hand their absence, it is shameful in 2019 this reality is felt in our local hospital !!!

Outsiders see things a little differently...You belong to a wonderful community. Be proud of your Great Town!!! Avail of the lovely amenities in the Town and close by on the Heath, Emo Court and Slieve Blooms. I love the pathways in our town parks and commend the great work by our local Tidy Town committee. For me priesthood is a sacred gift and one that I give thanks to the Lord for calling me to live. Ministry opened many doors to peoples hearts particularly in vulnerable moments. The Lord is with us, God loves us as we are. This is a radical love that has a preferential option for those who find themselves on the margins. I feel both angry and sad for the plight of residents in the local Direct provision centre. A prolonged regime that imprisons hope and opportunity to vulnerable brothers and sisters of humanity seeking new beginning. The Gospel is about embracing the margins. I value the support given by the members of St. Vincent de Paul society and I'm proud to have been associated with PATH in their heroic outreach to our homeless crisis.

The mission of Church must always be to respond with love where people find themselves to be. Love transcends the rigidity of the law, which for too long has alienated good people who feel estranged and disconnected from our Church. As followers of Christ we are called to err on the side of compassion, we are seriously challenged to disengage from idle gossip, we are called to be radiators of love, not drainers of cynicism and negativity. Be bold in your love and generous in your compassion. Never measure holiness by how many prayers we may say or how often we visit a church. True Holiness is measured by kindness.

I pray in gratitude for how happy and at home you good people made me feel in this great town. A visitor to this lovely parish once said, "All will Be Well"...

**Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 15,900 followers or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)**

**Fr. Paddy's book *"All will be well"* on sale in the Parish Shop or online at [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)**








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***Calling all 2019 Confirmation Candidates and Young People***

***Would you like to become a Young Pioneer?***

***The Young Pioneer was founded to help young people who wish to abstain from alcohol until they reach the age of 18 years and who want to remain free from drugs for life.***

***If you would like to become a Young Pioneer please complete the attached application form and return to your School Office by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019.***

***Enrolments of the Young Pioneers will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019 during 7.30p.m mass in the Parish Centre.***

**Message for Parents / Guardians – *This can be a very important choice / decision for your son / daughter.***

**Application Form for Young Pioneer Membership**



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Application** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:**      **Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

**I (Parent / Guardian)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Consent to my son / daughter named above to enrol as a member of the Young Pioneers.**

**Signed:**      **Parent / Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact No. for Parent / Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*



# Catherine Fitzgerald

I am humbled and honoured to have been re-elected to serve you on Laois County Council. Sincere and heartfelt appreciation to everyone who voted for me; my campaign team, friends and family - Thank You.

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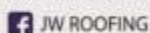
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*Tom Kendzia*



returns to  
Portlaoise Parish for  
a Music Workshop  
and Reflection on  
**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June**  
at 8pm in the Parish Church.

Tom was previously here in 2016 and has  
a new collection of music to share.

Portlaoise Parish are very kindly  
sponsoring the event and choirs from all  
parishes are welcome.



## Our Annual Cemetery Mass 2019



Photos courtesy of Tim Keane & Agnieszka Kaczmarek

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





To St. Francis School, Portlaoise, who were recently awarded their first Amber Flag for the promotion of Positive Mental Health in 2019.

*Pictured below the Amber Flag Committee - L-R; Michael Greene, Brian Tshilumba, Aoife Harrington, Zoe Harford, Gwen Boyhan, Daniel Webster.*



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Free ECCE **Am:** 9 – 12pm

**PM:** 12.30 – 3.30pm

Part Time Hours Available: 12 – 2pm

After School Hours: 1.30 – 5.30pm

For more information:

Contact Elaine on: 089-4555639

*Congratulations*

To Róna Brennan, Portlaoise and Killian Shields, Castlebellingham, Co Louth, who were married in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

*Celebrant: Fr. Paddy Byrne.*



*We wish them every good wish and blessing for a happy future together.*



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



**Louis G. Culliton**  
*Glendowns and formerly  
Mountmellick and Eyne.*



**Celia Downes**  
*(née Cassidy)  
Mountmellick Road*



**Vincent 'Finch'  
and Sully Rossi**  
*Mill Court*



**Sr. Maura  
O'Connor**  
*(Sister of Fr. Tom  
O'Connor)  
Dublin and late of  
Co. Roscommon*

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



**MONTHS MIND MASS**  
for Teresa Khandker (née McCormack),  
will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June at  
10am. May She Rest in Peace.



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**In Loving Memory of  
ELLEN GAYNOR**

32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurred 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm.

Wonderful memories of Mam so dear,  
Treasured still with a love sincere,  
In our hearts you are living still,  
We loved you too dearly to ever forget.

*Lovingly remembered today and forever by your loving daughters,  
son-in-law, granddaughters, great-granddaughters and  
great-grandson xxx*

*Rest in Heavenly Peace Mam forever*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN DUNNE**

St. Christopher's, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.

*Sadly missed by all his loving family  
and friends.*

*Rest in Peace John*

**In Loving Memory of  
Our dear brother**

**PATRICK (Pat) PAISLEY**  
Late of St. John's Square, Portlaoise.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019.



*Quickly and quietly came the call,  
Without farewell you left us all,  
A sudden call from God on high,  
You had no chance to say goodbye,  
Without farewell you fell asleep,  
But memories of you we will always  
keep.*

Also remembering at this time;  
Our Parents Christy and Kitty and our brother Mike.

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

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.

*Loved and sadly missed by all their loving families  
and friends.*

*May they all Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
BILLY LYNCH R.I.P.**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise. (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church this Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 6:30pm.



*Bill*

Although you can't be here with me,  
we're truly not apart,  
Until the final breath I take, you'll be  
living in my heart.

Loved always and missing you, from  
Betty xxx

*Dad*

Nothing can ever take away, the love a  
heart holds dear,

Fond memories linger every day, remembrance keeps him  
near.

Loved always from your sons xxx

*Dad*

Every year gets harder, since you were taken away,  
A Dad so very special, in our hearts you'll always stay,  
We think about you always and miss you everyday.

Love always Lisa and Ann-Marie xxx

*Grandad*

You're never far from mind Bill and spoke of everyday,  
You left us many memories that will never go away.

Missing you grandad Bill.

Love from your grandchildren and great-grandchildren xxx

*May Billy Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE (Tommy) CONROY**

21 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019.



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

*Sadly missed by Mammy, Daddy, Michael,  
Eddie, Andrew, Paul, Jimmy, Theresa and  
Minnie, his daughters Shannon and Caoimhe,  
uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews.*

*Rest in Peace Tommy*

**In Loving Memory of  
JACK & SHEILA DUFF**

Whose 3<sup>rd</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversaries (respectively) occur at this time.  
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish  
Church on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.



*It feels like yesterday that I said  
goodbye but I did,  
Let our memories fly,  
To a grandfather & grandmother  
we'll never forget, you still live  
forever in our hearts.*



From Martina, Declan, Aisling and Robyn x

*May Jack & Sheila 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.

**"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.

**Solemn Novena** to our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen, 9 Monday nights; 29<sup>th</sup> April - 24<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> June;** Julieann Moran - World Missions Ireland.


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

**An Spioraid Naoimh Praying Community Praise and Worship Meeting** will be held Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June from 7pm to 9pm in Portlaoise Parish Centre with guest Fr. John Mockler CC and spiritual director; Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill. For details tel. Michael Nerney 086-8157305.



*Fatima  
Candle*

The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners.



### 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

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### COMMUNITY NEWS

**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 2.30pm to 4pm, all are welcome.

**12<sup>th</sup> June:** Another opportunity to stretch the vocal chords singing some old and new songs, in the pleasant company of our singing and guitar maestro Caroline. An entertaining musical afternoon is assured.

**19<sup>th</sup> June:** Now that the excitement of our successful show has abated, it is time to dust down the dancing shoes again and trod the boards with Maureen, who has a range of dances to demonstrate that will be sure to entertain the members.

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

### THE ROUND HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

*presents;*

*An Irish Night of Music and Song*

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 8pm.

Also available for bookings, tel.

**Claire 086-1718718**

### Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club

are holding their 9<sup>th</sup> annual road run on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, starting at 2pm at the Community Hall, Ballyfin. Visitors and spectators free and welcome to come along. Proceeds in support of local charities. For queries or information on the Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, please call Pat O'Connor at 087-7824481.

**Pioneer News:** The annual presentation of pins to celebrate 10 years, Silver (25 years), Gold (50 years) and Diamond Jubilee (60+ years) of pioneer membership will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June during 7.30pm Mass in the Parish Church. The presentation is open to members of the Pioneers who joined in Portlaoise Parish and also those who may be living outside the parish now and also for Pioneers now living in Portlaoise Parish who joined in another Parish. Anyone wishing to avail of a Jubilee pin, please forward your name before Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June to Paddy Lalor 087-2868092. Any person wishing to join as a member of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association can do so by contacting Paddy or any of the committee members.

**As part of Cruinniú na nÓg** a day of FREE creativity for children and young people across Laois, Music Generation Laois and Laois School of Music invite children and young people to drop in and get musical with 'Try an Instrument' workshop in the Dunamais Arts Centre, **Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> June between 11am and 1pm.** A wide range of instruments will be available, including ukulele, Uilleann pipes, piano and guitar with tutors from Music Generation Laois and Laois School of Music on hand to give advice and mini tutorials. For more information, visit [www.dunamais.ie](http://www.dunamais.ie) and/or call 057 866 3355.

**Lost:** Large Round Gold Brooch lost on Tuesday afternoon, 21<sup>st</sup> May, between Lyster Sq. and Main Street of sentimental value, reward offered. Tel. 087-6245197

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