

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

20th September 2020

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is really great to be able to celebrate this very special day with our young girls and boys. Congratulations to the boys and girls of the Heath and Ratheniska Schools who received their First Holy Communion last Saturday. More photos on pages 10 & 11 and on our website. First Communions will continue to be celebrated over the next few weekends.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

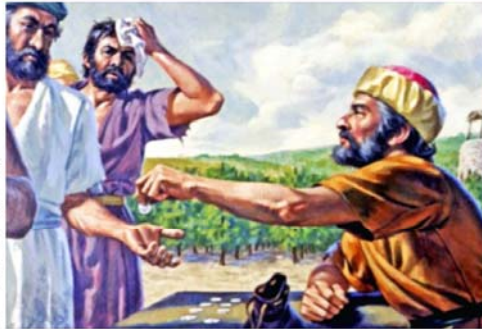
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Queuing for Heaven?

One of the most expensive department stores holds a sale and shoppers form a queue. The most ardent bargain hunters bring sleeping bags and queue overnight. Other shoppers arrive five minutes before the sale. When the store finally opens the doors the queue surges forward in a frenzy. Shoppers 'push in' from every direction greedy for the bargains. Does this make us cross? Of course it does and rightly so. The people who arrived first should get the bargains first. Most of us would agree that that is only fair. The problem comes when we try to use this same sense of 'justice' in earning a place in God's Kingdom. Surprise surprise! Gaining God's grace is not like queuing for bargains, neither has it got anything to do with how many more hours we have worked in a vineyard, nor has it got anything to do with measuring how many years we have served as disciples.



Once again we are reminded that things that count for so much in this world are turned upside down in God's world. We are taught not to think we are worth more as Christians than those who have found Christianity late in life. If we have lived life as God asks from the outset then we should simply count ourselves as lucky. For others, life's paths may have taken more difficult and painful twists.

The employer in today's parable pays his employees exactly the same amount regardless of the time they arrived at the vineyard. Jesus is telling us that there are no 'partial benefits' in God's kingdom. If we have earned a place in heaven we have earned a place, there won't be some places better than others. God's love is God's love. We are each promised the same measure of his grace.

"... So the last will be first and the first will be last." We would be foolish to expect some kind of pecking order at heaven's gates. We would be even more foolish to expect some kind of organised queuing system or loyalty cards for the longest serving. Those who arrive late should certainly not be regarded as somehow cheating the system. We must recognise God's generosity in giving a level field for all and emulate it. We must be happy for the latecomers, especially if we have played a part in attracting them by our shining example!

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday—Friday: 7.30am, 10am & 11am

Saturday: 10am

Sunday Masses

Saturday (Vigils) 4.30pm, 6pm & 7.30pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

The Heath: 9.30am, Ratheniska: 10am

We welcome into our Parish Community

Emily Sheila Ashe, Ballycarroll

Heidi Leigh Delaney, Lakeglen

Hollie Anne Heffernan, The Hermitage

who were baptised last weekend



Fr. Theodore Tomasik

We extend a warm welcome to Fr. Theodore Tomasik.

Fr. Theo is a native of Poland and was Ordained Priest there in 2018. He is a member of the Society of Divine Word (SVD). He came to Ireland last year and was based in Maynooth.

We know he will experience a warm welcome from our parishioners as he takes up an appointment among us.

Fáilte Romhat Theo

'My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you.' **Today's Gospel**

This Week 12th September

Contributions/donations €4,826.00

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



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Coronavirus
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OUR CLINIC POLICY



I hope you are all well and staying safe! We are delighted to inform patients the clinic is now open. While there may be an easing of restrictions based on the current pandemic, we are maintaining strict procedures at Taylor & Conroy Clinic.

We are continuing our Covid 19 clinic policy of pre-screening each patient and at present for the benefit of patients we are not treating patients that fall under the high risk groups.

Patients with appointments are required to wear a face mask and to remain in their vehicles until called by their practitioner.

Many thanks for your patience and understanding at this time.

For more information contact **Kellie or Darren 086-867 5060**



KELLIE TAYLOR BSC (Hons) Ost. M.O.C.I. and DARREN CONROY BSC (Hons) Ost. M.O.C.I.

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Calling all Golfers

The Heath Golf Club Charity Golf Classic

in aid of

Cuisle Cancer Support Centre &
Laois Alzheimer Society of Ireland

Friday 25th September 2020



Four Person Team Event

€80.00 per Team

Timesheets on BRS at the Heath

www.theheathgc.ie

Phone 057 8646533



Best Men's Team - Best Ladies Team - Best Mixed Team

Prizes kindly sponsored by **SHAW'S** Department Store

Raffle lines will be on sale in the Heath Golf Club and in the Alzheimer's
Resource centre with lots of prizes. Please support both charities if you can.

The Cuisle Cancer Support Centre Tel: 057 8681492

"A Cancer diagnosis can leave you worried and feeling alone. We provide information and
support to people diagnosed with cancer, their families and carers"

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland National Helpline 1800 341 341

For any information on dementia contact Ann Munnally on 057 866 3398/086 8372168
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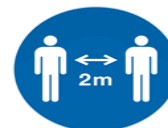
E-mail; elainewalshsoprano@gmail.com

Coronavirus COVID-19

Protect yourself and others



Wash your hands often
with soap and warm water or
use hand sanitiser to
avoid contamination.



Keep a distance of
2 metres (6ft) between
you and other people.



Do not shake hands, hug
or make close contact
with other people where
possible.



Cover your mouth and
nose with a tissue or sleeve
when coughing or sneezing
and dispose of used tissue.



Avoid touching eyes,
nose, mouth or any
part of your face with
unwashed hands.



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There's an Arabian puzzle to explain the nature of love.

When an old man realised he did not have much longer to live, he decided to divide his herd of eighteen camels among his three sons. He kept the camel he loved the best for himself and had only seventeen left.

As was the custom, he gave one half of the herd to his eldest son, one third to his second son and one ninth to his youngest son. How did he manage this? He added his one camel to the seventeen to make eighteen again. Nine camels went to his eldest son, six, to his second son and two to the youngest son. One camel was left - the one the old man loved best, and he took it back for himself. The moral of the story? If you give away that which you love, it will be returned to you.



*If You Give Away that Which you
Love, It will be Returned to You*



Have a Cuppa in aid of Laois Hospice Foundation

This year Laois Hospice coffee morning takes place on

Thursday 24th September

Ireland's Biggest Coffee Morning sponsored by Bewley's

Host a socially distanced or virtual coffee morning and raise funds for Laois Hospice Foundation.

This year due to Covid-19 restrictions coffee morning hosts are encouraged to host socially distanced or virtual coffee mornings to ensure the safety of attendees and government guidelines are adhered to.

It is hoped that this year's events whether held in small groups in homes or virtually with colleagues or friends will raise much needed funds for Laois Hospice.

Please shine a light on hospice services because it has been such a dark six months.

If you would like to be a host please contact;
Seamus O' Donoghue, Laois Hospice on 086-8709311 for supply of coffee. All monies collected in Laois are spent on hospice services to the people of Laois.

***Thank you for your continued support to
Laois Hospice***

**And remember every cup counts and
please keep safe!**

thank you 😊



First Holy Communion in our Parish last Saturday

Heath NS & Ratheniska NS





Photos courtesy of Agnieszka Kaczmarek

More photos on our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie



IS GOD FAIR?

"It's not fair!" Have you ever said those words? Be honest, now! Maybe your brother or sister was invited to go to the cinema with a friend and you weren't invited. What was the your reaction? "That's not fair! Why can't I go too?"

Perhaps you came home from school looking forward to watching your favourite show on TV and your mam says, "You can't watch TV until you have finished your homework."

"Aw mam, that's not fair! By the time I finish my homework my favourite show will be over!"

When we say, "It's not fair!" it usually means that something is not going our way or we want something that someone else has.

In the Gospel today, Jesus told a story about a landowner who was hiring men to work in his vineyard. He hired some of them early in the morning, some in the middle of the day, and some he hired just before quitting time.

When it was time to pay the workers, he paid them all the same. Can you guess what the workers who were hired early in the morning said? Your right, they cried out, "Hey! That's not fair! You paid the workers who worked only one hour the same as those of us who worked all day."

The owner of the vineyard said, "I am not being unfair to you. I paid you what I agreed to pay you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Are you jealous because I am generous?"

The question for today is this: "Is God fair?" Of course he is! But do you know what else? The gospel tells us that he is more than fair, the gospel tells us that "God is love." Does God love us because we love him?" No, the Bible says, "This is real love-not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins." Wow! That's not fair-that's love.

If we got what was fair, none of us would get to heaven. I'm glad that God doesn't give me what is fair, but gives me his love and grace, in spite of what I deserve!



Father, we thank you for loving us so much that you sent your Son to give us everlasting life. In his name we pray. Amen.

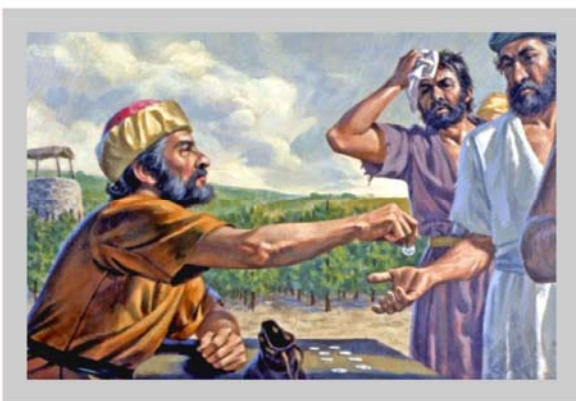


The Workers in the Vineyard

"These men who were hired last worked only one hour", they said 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' **Matthew 20:12**



MONEY	D	V	O	M	O	N	E	Y	Q	K	J	F	E	Q	L
HOUR	R	Y	H	Q	P	G	Y	Y	V	V	D	B	S	K	P
EQUAL	E	U	G	V	H	E	H	E	A	V	E	N	U	I	H
WORKERS	C	S	S	Z	Q	N	M	J	N	R	U	N	N	N	O
VINEYARD	E	A	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	R	S	F	G	U
LANDOWNER	I	M	I	D	T	R	I	Z	V	E	B	M	A	D	R
HEAVEN	V	W	R	S	X	O	U	F	N	P	D	T	I	O	V
GRUMBLE	E	O	S	P	M	U	Q	W	M	E	E	B	R	M	C
KINGDOM	D	R	D	G	B	S	O	K	R	R	T	Q	E	R	A
GENEROUS	E	K	R	Y	P	D	M	I	T	H	V	L	U	S	W
WAGES	H	E	Y	V	N	P	H	E	G	E	B	Q	E	A	A
HIRED	O	R	C	A	V	S	Y	I	C	M	W	G	P	K	L
UNFAIR	N	S	L	H	N	Q	R	G	U	B	A	R	W	J	K
RIGHT	U	H	G	S	Z	L	W	R	U	W	H	I	F	E	G
RECEIVED	G	B	Z	Y	G	D	G	T	X	R	E	V	Q	B	N



Congratulations to the boys and girls from Holy Family, Portlaoise, Shanahoe, Abbeyleix and Raheen schools who received their First Holy Communion this weekend. We hope you and your family have a lovely day.

Children's Prayer after Communion

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may delight for all eternity in that share in your divine life, which is foreshadowed in the present age by our reception of your precious Body and Blood. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**





TIME TO THINK!

The life story of Matt Talbot

Matt Talbot was born May 1856 in Dublin Ireland. He was one of twelve children, six of whom lived to adulthood. His father was a heavy drinker and, as a result, the family grew up in poverty. Typical of his era, Matt spent just one year at school. There was no compulsory education and he was unable to read or write. He entered the workforce at age twelve, employed by E & J Burke, a firm which bottled beer. His drinking began with taking the dregs from the bottom of bottles, which had been returned. Within two years, he graduated to whiskey and by the time he was sixteen, he came home drunk regularly.

By the time he was in his twenties, he spent all his wages and spare time in O'Meara's Pub. As far as the neighbours in that area of Dublin were concerned, Matt Talbot was a habitual drunk. Today with our understanding of the illness of alcoholism there is little doubt that he was already a chronic alcoholic. Drink had become Matt's only interest in life. When his wages were spent, he borrowed and scrounged for money. He pawned his clothes and boots. He supplemented his wages by doing extra work after hours. Among other things he minded horses outside a tavern, while the owners enjoyed themselves inside. The tips he received bought him more drink. He became a thief, once stealing a fiddle from a blind man. On Saturday he would come home with just a shilling from his wages for his mother. His life had become unmanageable. His drinking companions had several hobbies: swimming, playing cards, and girl friends. Matt had only one - alcoholic drink.

By the time he was twenty-eight, he was well on the road to self-destruction, when a traumatic incident changed his life. On a Saturday morning in 1884, he waited outside O'Meara's without a penny in his pocket. He had been unemployed that week. His problem, he told himself, would be quickly solved. When he had money, he shared it generously with his drinking friends. Therefore, he reasoned, they would not reject him in his misfortune. But they did. One by one, they passed him. Some greeted him; others ignored him. Perhaps he had scrounged money from them too often, but they left him standing on the corner. Matt Talbot was stunned and shocked. Years later, he said that he was "cut to the heart." But, it was a moment of grace. After some time thinking about his problem, he realised that he was totally enslaved to drink. He made his way home slowly. His mother was preparing the lunch when he arrived. In nineteenth century Ireland it was common for someone who wished to stop drinking to take a solemn pledge before a priest to abstain for a period of time. Mrs. Talbot could not believe her eyes when Matt came home sober on that fateful Saturday morning. "Ma, I'm going to take the pledge for life," he said. He headed off to a nearby seminary where the priest persuaded him that he should take the pledge for ninety days only.

Those three months were sheer hell. We understand today the withdrawal symptoms of addiction, but in 1884 Matt Talbot had no one to share his suffering - the hallucinations, the depression and nausea. But he had an iron will, a rock-like stubbornness that stood him well down through the years. "I know that I will drink again when the three months are up," he would remark to his mother. To fill in the time he used to spend in O'Meara's, Matt went for a walk every evening after work. During one of those walks his resolution almost broke. He passed Bushe's Public House about a mile from his home just as it opened. He caught the strong smell of beer and saw the crowded bar. The barman was busy serving the local men, and he paid little attention to this stranger waiting at the counter. Matt felt humiliated for the second time within a few weeks. Deeply hurt, he stormed out of the bar down the street and into a Jesuit Church. That evening he made another resolution, never to carry money with him. He kept that resolution for the rest of his life.

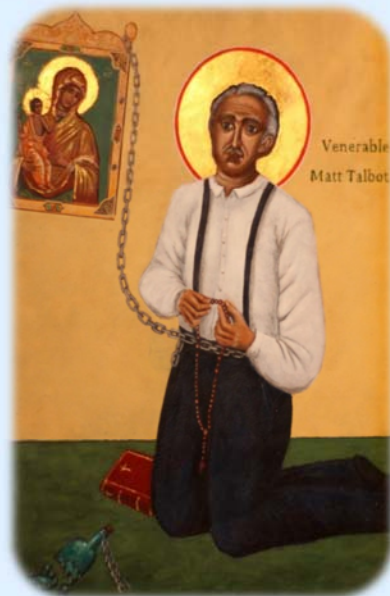
Dropping into a Church to rest during his walks became a habit. Matt was neither fit nor religious-minded. He grew tired quickly and since he could not rest in a Tavern or sit down on a public street, a church provided the haven he sought. Gradually he began to pray, to ask God to help him.

To find the strength to remain sober he decided to attend Mass every morning before work and to receive Holy Communion. This was very unusual in the 1880's when the average good layman went to Mass just on Sunday and received Communion only at Easter and Christmas. At the end of three months, Matt took the pledge to abstain from alcohol for six months and finally took it for life.

Matt Talbot now turned all his effort to increasing his union with God and developing his life of prayer. The strict ascetical life of the early Irish monks attracted him. Their love of prayer with the emphasis on penance and humility, and manual labour dedicated to God, appealed to him. He turned to a Jesuit Father, Father James Welshe to help him. His austere daily program may shock us today in an affluent society that demands comfort. He allowed himself just four or five hours sleep at night and arose about 5am to prepare for early Mass. Then he would return home for breakfast. Afterwards he would set off for work in the lumberyard of T. & C. Martin. He was a conscientious worker. Many years later, one of his former foremen described him as "the best worker in Dublin" who was often chosen to set the pace for others. But at a time when Dublin labourers were often exploited, he was not a "bosses" man. He had learned to read and write and was quite ready to discuss the rights of workers. Since he was a member of many religious associations, he attended a meeting almost every evening. When he came home about 9pm or 10pm it was time for his spiritual reading. His spiritual reading ended about 1am, and he retired for four hours rest before beginning his daily routine again. He did not go to work on Sunday but went to one of the City Churches and would kneel in an obscure corner from the first Mass at 6am until mid-day.

Despite his austerities, Matt was a small tough man - "as strong as a little horse", according to a fellow worker. He had an iron will and a constitution to match. Neither the other workers in T&C. Martin's, nor the fellow dockers on Dublin's waterfront had an idea that he was leading a life modelled on the early Irish monks. He was a happy little man, although more silent than others. "Matt smiled at everything except a dirty joke," a friend remarked. But many workers knew about his generosity. Matt lent them money to buy clothes or shoes for their children or to pay overdue rent.

Matt Talbot died suddenly from a heart attack in Granby Lane on the way to Mass on Sunday, June 7th, 1925. He was buried in what was virtually a pauper's grave in Glasnevin Cemetery a few days later. The story of his life came to light because when his body was undressed, three chains were discovered wrapped around it. Inquiries disclosed that he practiced a devotion known as the slavery to Mary. The underlying idea was that a person who considered himself a spiritual slave to the Mother of God would remain close to her and to Jesus, her son. The devotion included wearing one fine, loose chain. It was typical of Matt Talbot to wear three. In 1972 his remains were removed to a tomb in Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Sean McDermott Street. In 1975 the Holy See conferred the title "Venerable" on him, which means that from a purely human point of view, Matt Talbot has the qualifications of a Saint. If this Opinion is confirmed by the Miracles required by Canon Law, he will be canonised.





ABBEYLEIX/RAHEEN NOTES

ABBEYLEIX/RAHEEN NOTES

Adoration;

Ballinakill every Friday, 3pm to 6pm.

Shanahoe every Thursday 10-11am and Sunday 2.55-4pm. Divine Mercy recited on the hour and Holy Rosary on the 1/2 hour.

Divine Mercy and Holy Rosary is recited daily in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix, on the Parish webcam at 3pm.

Raheen Parish Bicentenary (1820-2020) Miscellany: In 1816 the old church at Shanahoe, St. Fintan's, was built by Fr. Braughall (the pilgrim priest) and it continued in use until 1966. The site was obtained from Mr. Bourden of Springmount.

Memories from the people of Bondra and Colt; I am compiling a book on Bondra and Colt, and its people. I would like to invite you to share your stories, photos etc. of past and present events in the areas. If you send me original photos, I will return them safely to you. Please write on the back of the photo the details of who are in them and the year if possible. Also if you have any stories of growing up in that time please share also, or even the history of your family in the area. Please send anything you may have to Judy Preston-Grace, Borris Road, Portlaoise or e-mail judiegrace122@gmail.com, or phone 085-1449503. The closing date for receiving all information will be October 30th 2020.

For Sale; Solid Fuel Stanley Cooker. Contact; 057-8620318.

Children from Shanahoe school preparing for their Holy Communion



Bikes for Africa Project; Abbeyleix Tidy Towns in Association with Abbeyleix CE Scheme are currently participating in the Bikes for Africa project run by Rotary Ireland. If anyone in the Parish has a bike they no longer require they can have it collected by phoning Abbeyleix Parish Development Company on 087-2767473. Alternatively, people can drop off their bicycle at Knocknamee House, Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. These bike will then be brought to the nearest drop off centre before being refurbished and sent to school children in west Africa. Rotary Ireland, a collection of local voluntary groups under the International Rotary banner, has been running the Bikes for Africa Project for the last number of years, in partnership with Fr. Sean Devereux from Wexford and his former colleagues in The Gambia in Africa. Over 4,000 bicycles have been donated to the cause during that time.



A big thank you
for all your help and support.

Thank you to all those who contribute to our Parish lotto, your support is greatly appreciated. If you would like to become a lotto promoter, please contact Fr. Paddy.



COLT GAA CLUB LOTTO RESULTS 14/9/2020

Winning Numbers ; 15--27--30
There was no Jackpot Winner

€20 winners;

Aisling Sinnott c/o John Sinnott
Ollie Doyle c/o Michael Dooley
Leah & P.J. Moffitt c/o P.J. Moffitt
Sophie McDonagh
c/o John Sinnott

**Next Week's
Jackpot €2,100**



Deadline for receipt of notices;
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~ Entry to both Tuesday and Friday Draws
~ 6 lines played online in each draw including the lotto plus
~ Only 100 tickets available
~ All winnings pooled
~ Closing date October 18th
~ Syndicate starting date November 3rd
Tickets on Sale Sunday 13th & 20th in Parish hall from 10am - 11am

This is a fundraiser syndicate
T&C available on request from
www.facebook.com/shanahoe parish hall





PORTLAOISE NOTES

PORTLAOISE NOTES

Adoration; every Sunday in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, from 2:45pm to 4pm.

For Sale; Solid Fuel Stanley Cooker. Contact; 057-8620318.

Portlaoise Literature Studies

Group; This year we are celebrating our 30th anniversary. We have seen many people come and go down through the years but congratulations to Ann Hanniffy, Ann Twiss and Gloria James who have been members of the group from its inception.

Unfortunately due to Covid-19, we cannot publicly mark the occasion, but Covid will pass and when it does we will celebrate in style. At this time we would like to remember all past members and in particular to offer our condolences to the families of those members who are no longer with us. R.I.P.

Laois branch of Guide Dogs annual church gate collection should be taking place next weekend in Laois, because of the Covid-19 restrictions we have postponed this unfortunately. We would be very grateful if you could make a donation of €4 through our App by texting WOOF to 50300 or by making a donation with our collection Dogs in the shops in Portlaoise or by logging on to the Guide Dogs website. Thank you to all our volunteers and supporters over the 35 years. Guide dogs are still continuing to train Guide Dogs and assistant Dogs for Autism and this is made possible by your generosity.

An Garda Síochána Laois Offaly

www.garda.ie



BOGUS CALLERS

Unfortunately, everyone can receive visits from bogus callers and our older persons are frequently targeted by them.



BOGUS CALLERS

Bogus callers will say anything to get into your home or onto your property.

"There's been an accident, can I call an ambulance?"

"I've broken down, can I use your phone?"

"I've had a fall, could I have a glass of water?"

"I'm from the council, there's a burst main, I need to turn off your supply"

Some will keep you talking at the front door while their accomplice sneaks in the back door. In all cases you need to be wary of strangers calling to your home. They will be offering services such as power-washing, painting, selling goods etc. Take precautions;

- Do not open the door to anyone before you've checked who it is and what they want. Use your door viewer and chain/limiter.
- Check identification, where appropriate.
- Do not leave strangers unattended at your doorstep.
- Ensure your back door is locked when you answer a call at the front door.
- Keep gates to back yards closed.

We advise and encourage people not to engage with such callers. Don't open your door to anyone before you have checked who it is and what they want. They can be intimidating and refuse to take no for an answer. We ask you to be vigilant when out and about and report suspicious persons/vehicles to us immediately. REMEMBER IF IN DOUBT KEEP THEM OUT!

GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Man available for all types of garden maintenance and general handy work.

References available. Call;

Ray 085-2055198

COVID 19 - During this unprecedented time the office of South Leinster MABS - Laois office is available to you for limited face-to-face meetings. We can still contact you by phone, mobile, text, whatsapp, e-mail, zoom. We request that where possible, communications are sent to us electronically, or by phone, so that we will be in a position to respond to you in a timely manner.



Phone 0761 07 2620

E-mail; portlaoise@mabs.ie

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

USEFUL RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS

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- * Hospital Emergency Departments
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1800 247 247
- * The Samaritans 116 123
- * Your Mental Health Information Line
1800 111888
- * Midlands Living Links 086-1600641
- * Pieta Suicide Bereavement Liaison Officer for the Midlands;
Bernie Carroll 086-4180088 or e-mail;
bernie.carroll@pieta.ie
- * Websites; www.yourmentalhealth.ie
www.nosp.ie



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The candidate must have:

Experience; At least three years relevant experience in a development/ childcare management role.

Qualification; A relevant third level qualification.

Knowledge; An in-depth knowledge and understanding of early childhood care and education policy/legislation and best practice and of the national quality and curriculum frameworks.

Skills; Excellent communication, organisational and facilitation skills. Excellent analytical and report writing skills. Advanced computer literacy & proficient in all Microsoft programmes.

Full Job Description/Specifications available upon request from claire@napaisti.ie

Application by CV and cover letter to claire@napaisti.ie

Closing date for receipt of applications;

Friday 25/09/2020 at 5pm



Charlie Chaplin lived 88 years.

He left us 4 statements:

- (1) Nothing is forever in this world, not even our problems.
- (2) I love walking in the rain because

no one can see my tears.

(3) The most lost day in life is the day we don't laugh.

(4) Six best doctors in the world....;

1. The sun, 2. Rest, 3. Exercise, 4. Diet, 5. Self-respect 6. Friends.

Stick to them at all stages of your life and enjoy a healthy life.

- If you see the moon, you will see the beauty of God.

- If you see the sun, you will see the power of God.

- If you see a mirror, you will see God's best creation. So believe it.

- We are all tourists, God is our travel agent who has already identified our routes, bookings and destinations... trust him and enjoy life.



Like us on
facebook
@portlaoiselinkup

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;



Fidelma Myler

Newpark, Portlaoise



Margaret Graham

Dundrum, Dublin and
formerly Rathbrennan,
Portlaoise



Jan Seweryn

Esler Hills, Portlaoise



Roy Bulfin

Green Road, Abbeyleix

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



The deadline for receipt
of Anniversaries and
Acknowledgments for
our next publication
(27th September) is;

**12 noon Wednesday
23rd September**

Please e-mail memorials/acknowledgements
for both the Portlaoise linkup and the
Abbeyleix/Raheen linkup, with a photo to
linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

If you do not have access to e-mail and would
like to submit your notice in the office, we ask
that you please have your completed notice
written out before arriving to the office and
please ensure that you book your Anniversary
Mass at reception prior to arrival. Thank you.

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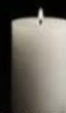
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**In Loving Memory of
SEAN O' REILLY**

Borris Rd., Portlaoise. 12th Anniversary occurs 24th September.

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



*There are some we meet in passing,
and forget as soon as they go,
There are some we remember with
pleasure and feel honoured and
privileged to know,
You were that kind of person who
left beautiful memories behind,
And there are many days which
bring fond memories of you to mind.*

Sadly missed by his loving wife Nancy, sons Aidan and Noel and all his family, extended family & friends.

May Sean Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARTIN CAHILL**

Kylevalley, Stradbally, Co. Laois. 4th Anniversary.

4th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Holy Cross Church, Ratheniska, Sunday 27th September at 10am.



*"In memory and celebration of someone
who made this world a brighter and
better place"*

Love and miss you, Mary, Julieka, Jamie, Elizabeth, Martina, Joleene, sons-in-law, daughter-in-law and grandchildren xxxxx

May Martin Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
PATRICK (Pad) DOYLE**

58 St. Brigid's Place. 7th Anniversary occurred 17th Sept. 2020.

And his Sister

ANN WHELAN

85 St. Brigid's Place. 19th Anniversary occurred recently.



*Gone are the days we used
to share, but in our hearts
you are always there,
The gates of memory will
never close, we miss you
more than anyone knows,
With tender love and deep
regret, we who love you, will never forget.*



Sadly missed, never forgotten by your brother Joe and Kathleen.

Also remember our mother Mai Doyle and our brothers Jack, Mickey, Jim and nephew Paul Doyle whose anniversaries occurred recently

May Patrick & Ann Rest in Peace

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

**For a very special Mum
In Loving Memory of**

ELIZABETH (Mary) McEVOY née Ryan
64 Beladd, Summerhill Lane, Portlaoise.
22nd Sept. 1941 - 6th Birthday away from home.

Mum



*In loving memory on your birthday
A thoughtful smile as I think of you,
A prayer before I sleep,
But still a place within my heart,
where I silently weep.
I think of you as living in the hearts
of those you love,
For nothing loved is ever lost, for a Mum I loved
so much.*

Mum, your memory is sealed within my heart.

*Happy Birthday to my Mother
Four 79th Birthday in Heaven Mum*

To my dearest Mother in Heaven,

It's your birthday today,
I hope that you can hear me,
As there are things I'd like to say.

I really miss and love you,
How much you'll never know,
You were so special to me,
How I wish you didn't go.

Even though you're there, not here, I know that you will see,

The special thoughts I have for you, and what you meant to me.



Happy birthday in Heaven Mother

I wonder what it's like to have a birthday in Heaven,

It must be quite a sight,
Angel choirs that sing to you,
Happy birthday dearest one, with angel family and friends around you,
How happy you're sure to be,
Happy birthday my precious Mother, from me down here below,
I miss you so badly and still love you so.

Have a happy birthday in Heaven Mother,
Wishing you a day as sunny as your smile, as warm as your heart, and a day as wonderful as you are.

God bless Mother, wishing you all the best today and always, on your birthday in Heaven.
Love from your son James xxx



May Elizabeth Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
BERNARD FITZPATRICK**

Killone, Stradbally, Co. Laois (3rd Anniversary)



Bernard's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, The Heath, **Sunday 20th Sept. at 9.30am.**

*Although you can't be here with us,
We're truly not apart,
Until the final breath we take,
You'll be living in our hearts.*

Sadly missed and remembered by his loving family and friends.

May Bernard Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
GERARD BENNETT**

7th Anniversary occurs 25th September 2020

Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Saturday 26th September at 6pm**



*Ger,
It does not take a special date for us to think of you,
For there hasn't been a day gone by that we haven't thought of you.
No matter how life changes,*

No matter what we do, a special place within our hearts is always kept for you.

Forever in our hearts, Sadie & family.

May Gerard Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
KATHLEEN LYNCH**

Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.



*26th Anniversary occurred
18th September*

*Thinking of you today
and always.*

From all your loving family.

May Mam Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ANNE HUGHES**

Oaklawn, Ballyfin Rd., Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 19th September 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this **Sunday 20th Sept. at 11:15am.**

*Our thoughts are ever with you,
Though you have passed away,
And those who have loved you dearly,
Are thinking of you today.*

Rest in Peace Anne

**In Loving Memory of
DAD**

JOHN (BARNEY) BRENNAN
(35th Anniversary)

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

Died 18th September 1985.

Also

**OUR BROTHER
OLIVER PATRICK
BRENNAN**

Died 25th September 1963.

*There is a little plot of land,
no one knows its worth,
That is where our loved ones lie,
The richest soil on earth,
Memories lie in a beautiful place,
Where thoughts and love are true,
Again and again, we stand at that plot,
Just to spend time with you.*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this **Saturday 19th September at 6pm.**

Sadly missed by all their loving family and extended family.

May Barney & Oliver Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
CHRISTINE FARRELL**

39 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.

13th Anniversary occurred 16th September 2020.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Parish Church, **Sunday 20th Sept. at 12:30pm.**

You left behind some aching hearts that loved you most sincere, we never shall and never will forget you, Mother dear.

Loved and sadly missed by her sons, daughters, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, sister Eileen, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

May Christine Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of ÁINE HETHERINGTON

(Hegarty)
Clonkeen, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Áine Hetherington Hegarty would like to thank the many friends, neighbours and well-wishers who attended the funeral Mass and burial, sent Mass and sympathy cards, floral tributes and dedicated songs, especially those who provided emotional support for us during this very difficult time. For those who spoke the kindest words, and

those who were not there but thought of Áine and us that day, whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you.

For those that helped remember the radiance and beauty of Áine's life. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

"Before we ever carried the pain we carried you. And in our hearts we carry you still, for most days we spend in gratitude that you were ever here.

Your gentle ways, your kindness, love, beautiful talents, embracing hugs and compassion will guide us, bringing new strength, knowing that you never parted in the beating of your heart. You will walk with us throughout life until we meet again.

Always an angel, now you're in Heaven.
Áine, your true colours are so beautiful"

Aine's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Rathdowney on Friday 18th September at 7:30pm.

In Loving Memory of TERESA MOFFITT

Raheen, Abbeyleix.

7th Anniversary occurs 26th September 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen, on Saturday 26th September at 7:30pm.

*You are missed each and every day,
For you were someone special, who
meant more than words can say.*

Fondly remembered by all your family.

Rest in Peace Teresa

*You are the
Light
of the World*



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of Our Daddy

KENNETH (Ken) CLEAR

44 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.

49th birthday occurs 22nd September 2020.

7th birthday away from home.



Thinking of you and missing you, on this special day, wishing we'd said all the things we never got to say,

The day you left and gained your wings, our hearts just broke in two, We wish you could have stayed with us, but Heaven needed you.

Today would have been such a special day, but now it brings sadness and sorrow,

If we could share just one more day, if there was one more tomorrow.

But Birthdays are a time for reflection, to look over a year that's past, and we can't believe another year has gone by, the time it goes so fast.

You left us with the memories, and we love you dearly still, no matter how much time goes by, you know we always will,

You were a very special person with kindness in your heart, and the love we had together grows stronger now we're apart,

But memories of happier times in our hearts will stay, We'll treasure each and every one until we meet again some day.

We know we cannot bring you back although we wish it everyday, a piece of us went with you the day you went away.

So we'll say Goodbye for now and blow a kiss to Heaven above.

We wish you Happy Birthday Daddy and send you all our love.

Happy 49th Birthday Daddy

Forever in our thoughts

Lots of love Becky and Dylan

In Loving Memory of

**RICHIE
GRAHAM**

Ridge Rd, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs
24th September 2020

And his wife
**PHYLLIS
GRAHAM**

29th Anniversary occurs 1st October 2020



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Thursday 24th September at 10am.

*No more tomorrows for us to share,
But yesterdays memories will always be there.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by Cora, John,
Ciara, Darragh, Seamus and all their loving family.*

May Richie & Phyllis Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
ALAN (Tom) RYAN

Limetree Avenue and formerly of Beladd, Portlaoise.
1st Anniversary occurs 19th September 2020.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, this Saturday 19th September at 6pm.



*Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part,
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our hearts.*

*Sadly missed by his loving wife Kate,
son Tommy, daughter Lucy,
parents Angela and Tommy, brother Mark, sisters
Sharon, Linda and Tracey, family and friends.*

May Alan Rest in Peace



I'm sending a dove to Heaven
with a parcel on its wings ..
Be careful when you open it
it's full of beautiful things.
Inside are a million kisses
wrapped up in a million hugs ..
To say how much I miss you
and to send you all my love.
I hold you close within my heart
and there you will remain ..
To walk with me throughout my life
until we meet again.

In Loving Memory Of
PETER CULLEN

6 Oaklawn, Portlaoise. 9th Anniversary occurs at this time.



9th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise,
Sunday 20th September at 11.15am.

*Your hand we cannot touch, still we have so many
memories of the one we loved so much,
Your memory is our keepsake, with which we'll
never part, God has you in his keeping, we have you
in our hearts.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Peter Rest in Peace



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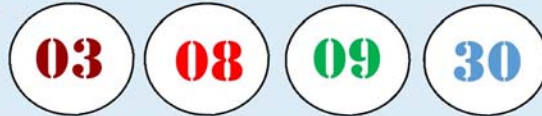
*"Your sun will never set
or your moon go down.
I, the LORD, will be
your everlasting light,
and your days of sorrow
will come to an end."*

~ Isaiah 60:18

Portlaoise Parish



Results for 17th September 2020

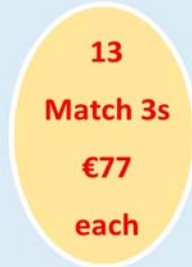


No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

John Bohan
Pat Regan
Joe & Mary Quinn
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Patricia Leahy
Tony Preston
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Mary Thompson
Mary Cripps
Geraldine Glynn
Frances O'Sullivan

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Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Frank Cullen
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Lil Gleeson
Anthony Preston
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Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C.
Tel: 057 8509998



Fr. David Vard C.C.
Tel: 057 8661139



Fr. Theodore Tomasik SVD
Tel: 057 8622301

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

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and our Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Mick Daly dlp@kandle.ie

Support for the Parish

Thank you to all support our Parish, particularly at this difficult time. Many have been very generous. Nevertheless since March (lockdown) our income has been severely curtailed - income is at about 60% in comparison with the previous year.

Some ways to support at this time:

Envelopes available at Church porches

Online at www.portlaoiseparish.ie via the Donate button

Standing Order—forms available at the Parish Centre.

Cashless point at the back of the Parish Church.

Also of course if you would like to play the Parish Lotto see above.

THANK YOU



Saint Matthew

21st September

Jesus Calls Matthew to follow him — a tax collector, an outsider, a reviled member of the community. People are shocked even scandalised. Jesus doesn't have much cop-on.

Jesus responds to the murmuring

"Go and learn what this means". "I desire mercy, not sacrifice".
"For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."
(Matt 28:20)

A lesson for us all!

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

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



Secretary: Julie Conroy

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