

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
**link
up**

22nd November 2020

Our Lord Jesus Christ **KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

**A kingdom of Justice,
Love and Peace**

From the Preface of today's Mass



New Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, the Pope's alms giver, was treating the poor and homeless of Rome to a dinner, Pope Francis surprised them with a visit and joined in their meal.

**'As long as you did it to one of the least of my brothers
and sisters you did it to me.'**

**From today's Gospel
Matt. 25**

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142
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Sneak Preview

If we are honest none of us relish the idea of judgment or accountability. Perhaps we have this uncomfortable feeling that we are not really doing all we could or all we should. The even

more frightening realisation is that if we suspect we are not doing all we could we probably aren't!

On the Day of Judgment humankind will be assembled and the good will be told "Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you I was hungry and you gave me food, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." The criteria for final judgement is crystal clear, we will be simply judged on very simple acts of love and compassion. We are asked to see Jesus in the beggar on the street, the starving children on our TV sets, the refugees in our city hostels and the sick or vulnerable people in our parishes and communities. It sounds easy, so why do we so often fail to respond?

We fail to respond to need, when we find it difficult to share our resources or our time. We fail to respond when we cannot recognise need or when we jump onto some kind of moral high ground. We fail to respond when we are so wrapped in our own lives that opportunities to recognise need in others simply passes us by. Worst of all, we fail to respond when we simply can't be bothered.

Today's gospel is like a sneak preview of an exam paper, but having a sneak preview isn't enough, if we want to pass the test, we need to respond to the needy on a daily basis in order to recognise Jesus in our lives.

'Are you the King of the Jews?'

'My Kingdom is not of this World'

A kingdom of truth and life

A kingdom of holiness and grace

A kingdom of justice, love and peace

(From today's preface)



Advent:
Waiting in
Hope



Advent Preparation Evenings

**Beginning before the
First Sunday of Advent**

Wednesday 25th November

Wednesday 2nd December

Wednesday 9th December

Wednesday 16th December

at 7.30pm

*** Behind closed doors until
restrictions are lifted.**

Parish Radio 106.5FM

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If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.

*The Dalai Lama
Tibetan Buddhist religious leader (1935 -)*



**This week Masses
for the Dead List will be
celebrated on**

**Tuesday, Wednesday
& Thursday at 10am.**

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Prison Officers, Nurses, Shop Workers, Farmers etc. may require additional cushioning and correction.

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SPORTS PEOPLE;

May need to be aligned biomechanically to prevent problems and cushioned for shock absorbency.

CHILDREN;

Who are in toeing, out toeing, have poor posture or gait or where parents notice excessive wear.

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Sun. 29th Nov. 2pm-4:30pm

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Sun. 6th Dec. 2pm-4:30pm

Thurs. 10th Dec. to Sat. 12th Dec. 11am-4pm

Sun. 13th Dec. 2pm-4:30pm

2021

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TIME TO THINK!

JOE BIDEN.A MAN OF FAITH

He carries a rosary in his pocket, one that belonged to his dead son, Beau. On election day, he went to Mass, as he does every Sunday.

In his victory speech, as he became President Elect of the United States, he quoted from Ecclesiastes: "The Bible tells us that to everything there is a season - A time to build, a time to reap, a time to sow, and a time to heal. This is the time to heal in America."

For only the second time in US history, a Catholic will occupy the White House when Joe Biden is sworn in as the country's 46th president. A man of profound faith, he has pledged to restore the "soul of the nation" after four years of rancour.

At his side will be a vice-president who, as well as being the first woman of colour to hold the position, comes from a family that has embraced the Baptist church, Hinduism and Judaism.

Catholic bishops in the US were quick to congratulate the president-elect, acknowledging that he will be only the second president to be a Catholic, John F. Kennedy being the first.

"At this moment in American history, Catholics have a special duty to be peacemakers, to promote fraternity and mutual trust, and to pray for a renewed spirit of true patriotism in our country," said José Gomez, archbishop of Los Angeles and president of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Biden's catholic faith is at the core of his life and is likely to shape the way he governs as president.

"I'm as much a cultural Catholic as I am a theological Catholic," he wrote in his book, *Promises to Keep: On Life and Politics*. "My idea of self, of family, of community, of the wider world comes straight from my religion. It's not so much the Bible, the beatitudes, Ten Commandments, the sacraments, or the prayers I learned. It's the culture."

Biden recently wrote: "My Catholic faith drilled into me a core truth - that every person on earth is equal in rights and dignity, because we are all beloved children of God."

As president, he added: "These are the principles that will shape all that I do, and my faith will continue to serve as my anchor, as it has my entire life."

Several of Biden's campaign ads featured footage of his meetings with Pope Francis. In a 2015 interview, Biden said Francis was "the embodiment of Catholic social doctrine that I was raised with. The idea that everyone's entitled to dignity, that the poor should be given special preference, that you have an obligation to reach out and be inclusive."

Biden has frequently shared how his faith gives him strength dealing with personal tragedies, including the death of his first wife and daughter in a 1972 car crash and again in 2015 when his son, Beau, died from cancer.



Anthea Butler, professor of religious studies at the University of Pennsylvania, said Biden's language of hope and healing "speaks a lot to his Catholic faith". She told BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme: "I think he wants to set a tone that is not simply conciliatory but that is faith-based."

Kamala Harris, who will be Biden's vice-president from January, identifies as a black Baptist, with a family background of Hinduism and Christianity. She is married to a Jewish man. This speaks to the ways in which religion is fluid in America, and the ways in which people are holding things together in interfaith marriages and interfaith families.

The world, looks with a sense of hope and expectancy for the Biden administration, to once again build positive and creative bridges where healing and reconciliation can unite a divided and fractious union. As Pope Francis so eloquently stated to the U.S. Congress five years ago, "the challenges facing us today call for a renewal of that spirit of co-operation, which has accomplished so much good throughout the history of the United States." I pray for that renewal of co-operation and for the president-elect as he assumes the great honour of representing and leading the people of the U.S..

Prayer of Peace

Lord make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon,
Where there is doubt, faith,
Where there is despair, hope,
Where there is darkness, light,
And where there is sadness, joy.
O divine master grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love,
For it is in giving that we receive and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



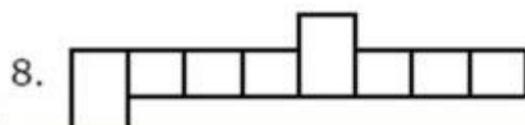
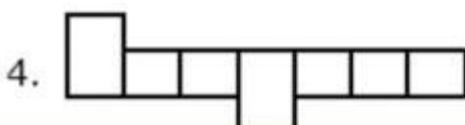
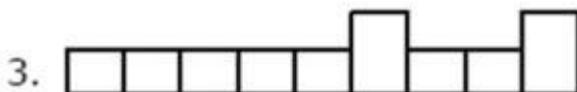
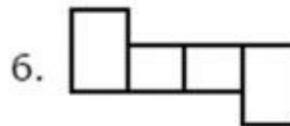
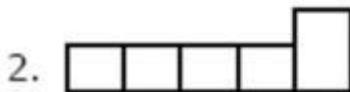
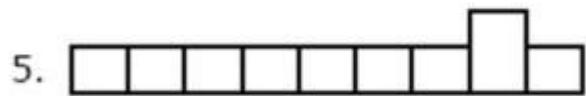
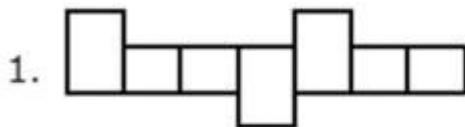
CHRIST THE KING



Today's Gospel is about a King who was born many years ago. This king was different from most. What made this king different? Well, for one thing, he didn't live in a palace. He didn't wear a beautiful robe or a jewelled crown. He had no servants to wait on him - and no soldiers to fight his battles. He didn't even have a country over which to rule and there were no coins engraved with his face or his name.

I imagine that most of you have probably guessed who this king is. The King is Jesus. He is not just any king, he is the King of Kings. His kingdom is not on earth, his kingdom is in heaven. That is why many people never chose to make him their king. When Jesus was here on earth, the people were all looking for a king who would set up a kingdom on earth. A kingdom where they would share the wealth and power. Jesus finally wore a crown, but it was a crown of thorns. A cross became his throne and above his head was a sign for all to read, "This is the King of the Jews." Some people still refuse to recognize Jesus as King. But all around the world today the Word is spoken, "Jesus Christ is still the King of Kings."

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



**CRUCIFIED
KINGDOM**

**PARADISE
FORGIVE**

**KING
CRIMINALS**

**CHRIST
SAVED**

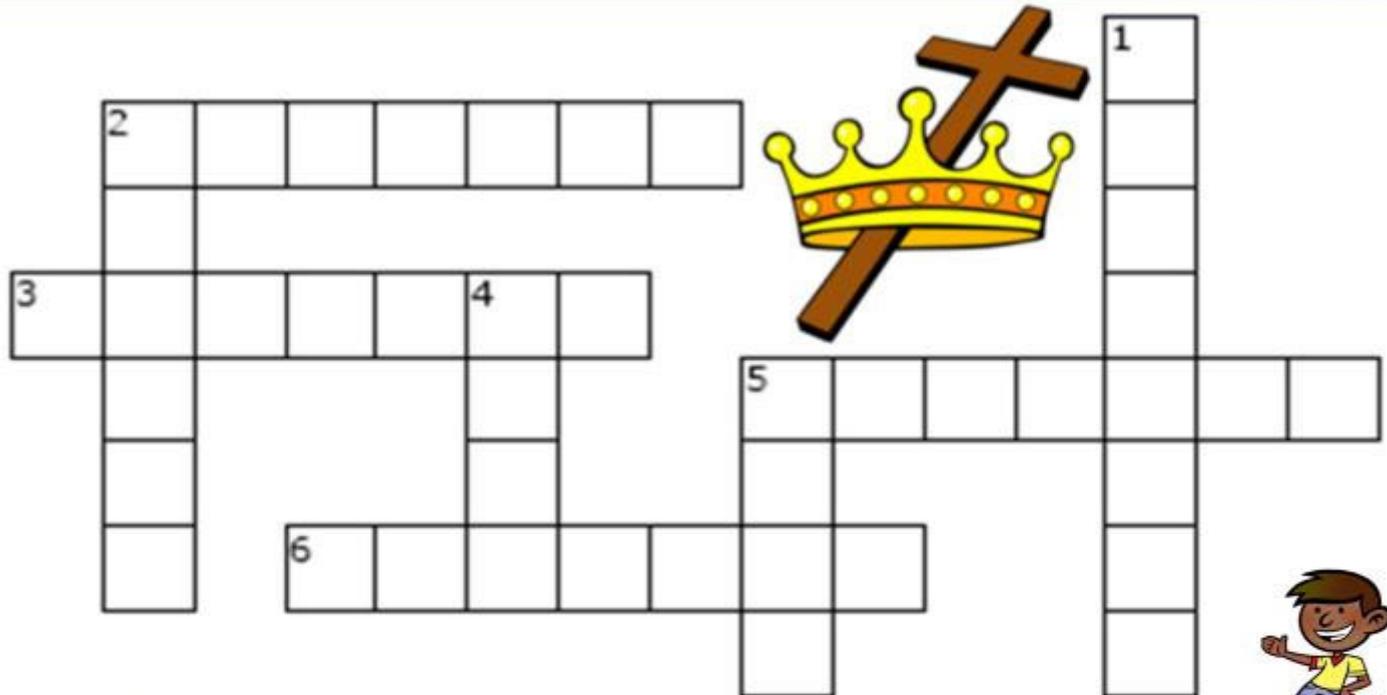
Christ the King



Christ The King

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals - one on his right, the other on his left.

Luke 23:33



ACROSS

2. Things such as dresses and trousers that you wear
3. To kill someone by tying or nailing them to a cross
5. A person who is in an army and wears a uniform
6. To stop blaming, or not punish someone for something they have done.

DOWN

1. Someone who commits a crime
2. The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament
4. The emotion you feel when you are frightened or worried
5. To keep someone from being killed or injured; to rescue

FORGIVE

SAVE

FEAR

CRIMINAL

SOLDIER

CLOTHES

CRUCIFY

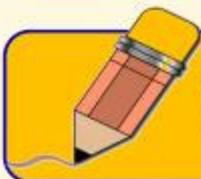
CHRIST

Night Prayer

God our Father I come to say,
 thank you for your love today,
 thank you for my family,
 and all the friends you give to me,
 guard me in the dark of night,
 and in the morning send your light.

Amen.





COMMUNITY NOTES

Sean Doyle Light Engineering, Ballacolla, 087-2068972: Clothes line poles, wall mounted clothes lines, retractable clothes lines, winders, pulleys for old lines, bicycle stands, saw horses etc.

f seandoylelightengineering

Raheen Parish Bicentenary (1820 -2020) Miscellany

• Rev. Benjamin Joseph Braughall (the Pilgrim Priest) lived in Raheen from 1807 until his appointment as Parish Priest of Graiguenamanagh in June 1818. In a letter to his bishop written in Lisbon in November 1827 he asked for his compliments to be passed "to my old friends and parishioners of Graiguenamanagh and Raheen, to Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Clooney, Miss Rosseters, Mr. Maher and family of Killeaney, Mr. and Mrs. Lalor of Raheen, and Mrs. Moffitt also of Raheen, and all inquiring friends."

• Rev. John Lalor who was Parish Priest of Clonenagh from 1762 to 1770 is buried in the church ruins of Cromogue. His grave stone inscription reads: "Here lyeth the body of Rev. John Lalor, Rector of Clonenagh who departed this lyfe February the 15th 1770 aged 62 years. Requiescat in Pace."

• Since 1820 the following have served as Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin: James Doyle, Edward Nolan, Francis Haly, James Walshe, James Lynch, Patrick Foley, Matthew Cullen, Thomas Keogh, Patrick Lennon, Laurence Ryan, James Moriarty and Denis Nulty.

• Rev. Edmund Corcoran is buried in the church ruins of Cromogue. He was Parish Priest of Clonenagh 1712 to 1747. His gravestone inscription reads: "The Rev. Father Edmund Corcoran departed this life December the 8th 1747 aged 79 years. Who lived 35 years priest of this parish."

f "Like" us on Facebook @portlaoiselinkup

Dear Senior Citizens: It is with a heavy heart that we the committee have to inform you that our annual Christmas dinner, which has run for 57 years without a break, has to be cancelled this year, due to restrictions posed by the Covid-19 Pandemic.

We hope that next year we will go ahead as usual and welcome you all back again. Have a peaceful and safe and healthy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Eugene Lacey, Chairman and all the committee.



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Greetings from

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Oh what a year 2020 has been for us all Right now we should be putting the final touches to our Christmas Show 2020, but sadly we've had very little singing in the Kitchen this year and we miss it.....and each other.

We will miss seeing you all, and the fun we have together.

But our wish is that you stay Healthy, stay Safe and stay Strong.

Let's meet up in 2021 and sing hopefully in better times.

We wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas from the Choir Family to your Family!



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St Vincent de Paul Portlaoise would like to thank our parishioners for your extreme generosity during 2020. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and vital in helping us succeed. We as an organisation depend upon your donations.

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to raise funds in our usual way. Our St. Vincent de Paul Shop, would normally raise much needed funds for our society but it has been closed for months due to level 5 restrictions, all other annual fundraisers have been prohibited which include; church gate collections, bag packs and flag days. With these restrictions in place we have suffered huge financial loss.

While we have made some great strides, we still have a lot to accomplish, we have found it incredibly difficult to ask people and businesses for donations this year but we now need your support.

Your donations are put to very good use in the local community and because of you, we are able to provide food, heat and electricity to people who live on small, fixed incomes. 100% of your donation goes towards local people and families. We also assist families with education costs where possible. Sandwiches are provided daily to some of our community schools.

Some people in our community need support both with financial and volunteer services, with your help we will be able to respond immediately, while also supporting people's efforts to lift themselves out of poverty. We believe that all lives are equal and that no one should live in poverty, this is why we are on the ground with our volunteers empowering people to tackle their own hardship and fight poverty, with over 117 years of experience, and Conferences all over our County, we are positioned to reach out to the needy in our community.

Over the Christmas period we normally support more than 250 families locally. At the moment we are trying our best to do all we can to raise much needed funds in other ways, we ourselves are operating a click and collect facility to try and raise as much funds as possible while our shop cannot open. You can log onto our Facebook page @SVPVincentPortlaoise where you can view and reserve items for sale.

Here are some ways you can donate to St. Vincent de Paul;

You can donate online using our IBAN number: IE73AIBK93327917987070

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We would like to say a very sincere "THANK YOU" from our Portlaoise Conference for your continued support and dedication, without your assistance our work would be impossible. Your donation will be vital in helping us succeed, and will make an incredible difference to the people's lives you are changing for the better.

Our helpline number is 087 765 5793, for anyone that feels they may need assistance. You can speak to us in total confidence.

Please note: Our helpline and Conference services are operated by Volunteers. You can avail of this service by calling the helpline number, it is not possible to access our services through the St. Vincent de Paul shop.



Congratulations to Caitriona Heffernan and James Fitzpatrick,
 who were married on Saturday 14th November,
 in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin.
 Celebrant; Msgr. John Byrne.

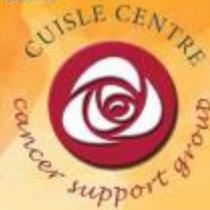
*We wish them every blessing
 for a very happy future
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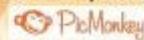
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 or purchase a lotto membership in the Parish Centre. If you are not in, you can't win!!

Until the bingo resumes the lotto draw will take place in the foyer of the Parish Centre
 every Thursday evening after 5pm and will be live streamed on the Portlaoise Parish
 facebook page; fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois



OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;



Jackie McEvoy
Park Upper, Stradbally



Patrick Fennelly
St. Brigid's Place,
Portlaoise



Nancy Boran
née Delany
The Downs, Portlaoise

*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

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Contact Matthew
087-2549195

David **087-2369887**

HENRY RANKIN
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Contact;
057-8620567
PAUL; 087-2562137
NIALL;
086-2770095

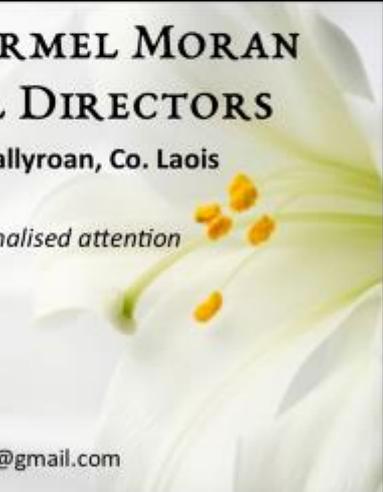


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Birthday Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
THOMAS CLEAR

17 Liogard, Portlaoise, whose birthday occurred 21st November.



*Time slips by and life goes on,
But in our hearts you are always there.*

*From his loving wife Mary, sons,
daughters, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law
and grandchildren.*

May Tommy Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
GERALDINE O' SHEA
née Marum

Glenbarrow, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise.
1st Anniversary occurs 25th November 2020.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish
Church, Wednesday 25th November
at 10am.

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

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by all her loving
family and friends.*

May Geraldine Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

**JOHN (JACK) &
MAURA TARLETON**
Rossleighan, Portlaoise.

29th & 27th Anniversary Mass
will be celebrated in

Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
Sunday 22nd November at 10am



*Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.
Loved and missed always by your loving family.*

May John and Maura Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
BRIDGET SEXTON

"Padua", Clonminam Road, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 24th November 2020.



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

*Our loved ones leave behind a light
that will never dim or fade,
It's kept bright by the love we feel
and the memories we made.*

*Sadly missed by and always remembered by Pat, Mary, Frank,
daughter-in-law Hilda, grandsons, great-granddaughters,
her sister Mary and extended family and friends.*

May Bridget Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
JOE BYRNE

24 Liogard, Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary occurs Tuesday 24th November 2020



*Since Heaven has become your home,
I always feel so alone,
And though we are not far apart,
You will forever hold a piece of my heart.*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Sunday 22nd November at 10am.*

Always remembered by his loving wife Olive.

May Joseph Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
NANCY DUNNE

Rockview Drive, Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.

Died 21st November 2013



Mam, your physical presence is dearly
missed in our lives, but your spiritual
presence and guidance is with us always.

*Also Remembering her
Husband*

DANIEL DUNNE

Died 21st March 2002



*Loved and missed by all your loving
family and friends.*

May They Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
EILISH HEARNS

Colt, Ballyroan

3rd Anniversary occurred 17th November 2020



*Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us everyday,
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved and missed and very dear.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered
by all her loving family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Eilish

In Loving Memory of
ANGELA HYLAND

Mountmellick - Portlaoise
6th Anniversary occurs 21st November 2020

6th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 21st November at 10am.



*We often sit and reminisce and have a laugh or two.
Telling family stories of the things we used to do.*

They bring a smile, sometimes a tear, how we wish you were still here.

Loved and missed by your nieces, nephews and God-children in Portlaoise, also
your sister Eileen and family, Birmingham.

Not forgetting her sisters Mary and Nancy, brother-in-law Joe and Granny Hyland
whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May Angela Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
NOEL WHELAN

Ballybrittas and formerly Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
20th Anniversary occurs at this time.



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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by
his sister Maura, Joan and Marie.*

May Noel Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
JAMES GEDDES

47 Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise.
Whose 10th Anniversary occurs 26th November 2020 and
remembering at this time his 30th Birthday away from
home on the 7th December 2020.



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

James' Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church on
Sunday 29th November 2020 at 10am.

*Sadly missed by his loving parents Tom and Helen
and all his family.*

May James Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
GEORGE BUGGY

9 Green Rd., Portlaoise.
8th Anniversary occurred 19th November 2020.

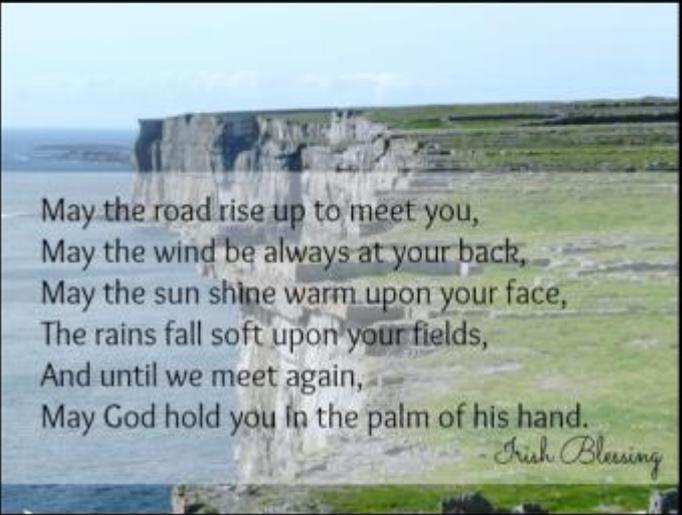


Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 21st November at 10am.

Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered everyday,
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts you are always there.

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

May George Rest in Peace



May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Irish Blessing

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PLEASE NOTE

Anniversary Masses included on memorial notices must be booked in at reception and written on your notice prior to submitting it to the office.

We thank you for your co-operation.

Portlaoise Parish

Results for

19th November 2020

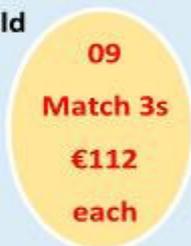


No €12,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Mila & Ray Broomfield
Rosaleen Dunne
Ciara Whyte
Gerry Dillon
Matt Brophy
Anita Maher
Eileen Brennan
Jessie Dunne
John Gosling

MATCH 3s €1,000



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PROMOTER

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Peggy Kelly
Parish Centre
Lotto Gift
Annette Lalor
Bernie Lalor
Mary Arthur
Pat Watkins

Priests of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.
Tel: 057 8621142



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
viewed on our website and our Church
Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Mick Daly dlp@kandle.ie

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

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times
057 8600119)



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

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Support for the Parish

Thank you to all who 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 Parish Lotto can be played Online—see results sheet above!

THANK YOU

Prayer for Today's Solemnity

Almighty ever-living God,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,
grant, we pray,
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,
may render your majesty service
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

(Collect Prayer for Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King)

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