

PORTLAOISE
PARISH
**link
up**

28th February 2021

Second Sunday
of Lent



MIGHTY MEN & MIGHTY MACHINES

Some essential repair and renewal work done on the Parish Church this week with the help of man and machine!! Thank you!

"Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes bless the work of our hands" Psalm 90



The Parish Centre 057 8621142
E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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A Vision of Hope



If you are always eager and motivated and pro-active then this isn't for you. If you on the other hand suffer from bouts of lethargy, are often paralysed by feelings of fear, anxiety or self-doubt, then today's gospel carries a powerful message of hope.

Most of us probably fall into the second category. We start

a project in a flush of excitement and commitment, but when the hard work sets in and success eludes us, we become discouraged. We take on a big financial commitment thoroughly convinced that we can deal with it, but begin to have sleepless nights, dreading the bills and fearing the bank manager. We enter into new relationships and quickly get disappointed when elements of that relationship demand more of us than we thought. We embark on a challenging career but become fearful and filled with self-doubt. Eventually we lose the hope that had originally driven us. Take Heart! We are no different from the early disciples. Jesus had been telling his disciples what being the 'Messiah' really meant, and it didn't entail hurling the Romans out on their ear, it entailed dying on a cross. Is it any wonder the disciples were feeling discouraged! Jesus knew that his disciples needed to see beyond the fear. He knew that he needed to re-ignite a vision of the rewards of their work, and he knew that vision needed to stay with them always to motivate them in times when their ministry weighed heavy. In short, Jesus needed to remind them how important their job was, and so he gave them the spiritual experience we now call the 'transfiguration'. This was a vision of himself in a dazzling light flanked by Moses and Elijah and God's voice from the clouds... "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."

Like the early disciples, we have to look beyond our fears if we are to work through them. God gave each of us a talent, and with that a talent comes a vision of what we can do and what we can achieve. This is the vision we can call upon when we lose hope. This is the vision that will carry us beyond our fear.

LENTEN STATIONS

For the support of our Priests

Envelopes are available in Church porches for those who haven't got Development Boxes and wish to contribute to the Priests Collection. You can drop this envelope in one of the collection boxes provided in our Churches or returning to the Parish Centre during Lent.

Trócaire Boxes are available in the Church porches or you can pick up a box in the Parish Centre.

Thank You!



Lent: A Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love

In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for his creation which we have often mistreated. To experience Lent in hope entails growing in the realization that, in Jesus Christ, we are witnesses of new times, in which God is "making all things new" (cf. Rev 21:1-6). It means receiving the hope of Christ, who gave his life on the cross and was raised by God on the third day, and always being "prepared to make a defence to anyone who calls us to account for the hope that is in us" (1 Pet 3:15).

ENROLMENT FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

Our enrolment for First Holy Communion and Confirmation will close on March 28th. If you have not already handed in your enrolment form to the school or to the Parish Centre then please hand it in to the Parish Centre as soon as possible.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

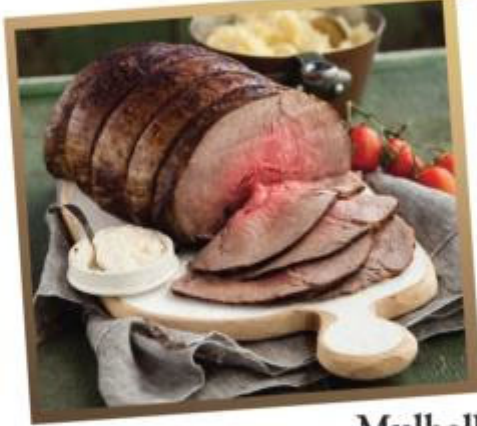
Ps.114:9 Rm 8:31-34

Mk 9:2-10



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<p>SPORTS PEOPLE; May need to be aligned biomechanically to prevent problems and cushioned for shock absorbency.</p>	<p>CHILDREN; Who are in toeing, out toeing, have poor posture or gait or where parents notice excessive wear.</p>

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

086-8675060

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Starts March 15th.

- This programme involves: 2 online (live) exercises classes per week which train balance, fitness, strength and flexibility.

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- This multimodal training study has received funding from the Government Of Ireland's Sláintecare Integration Fund under grant agreement number 21.



Please email ruthtruefitness@gmail.com to book your place and for more detailed information.

Deadline for applications is March 10th, 2021.



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PLEASE NOTE

We are continuing the printing of our weekly linkup magazine during current restrictions, working remotely. We ask that all Anniversaries/ adverts/notices are submitted via e-mail to;

linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

or phone to 057-8692154

before 12 noon Wednesday.

If you are phoning, please leave a voicemail with your phone number, as this phone will not be attended on a full time basis and we will return your call.

Thank you for your co-operation and stay safe.

AN SEAN CHISTIN

Zoom St. Patrick's Day Set Dancing

On St. Patrick's Day at 12 noon dancers from all over the world will dance together our traditional set dance via zoom.

To accommodate this I am teaching the dance every

Tuesday by free zoom class at 7pm. All are welcome to join in.

Check out my facebook page "Learn to dance St. Patrick's Day" or I can be contacted by e-mail **seanchistin@gmail.com** or text **087-6482038**

Lets keep our dancing shoes at the ready and join in this world-wide celebration of our culture on St. Patrick's Day at 12 noon.

Thanking you; Maureen Culleton

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Be Your Best You - Zoom Workshop - March 7th 2021; An innovative 'Mind Body Soul' half-day zoom workshop will bring together Abbeyleix-based Eilish Fitzpatrick and Paula Byrne and Portlaoise's David Delaney, who promise a chance to '(re)connect, learn, heal and grow' in a relaxed and friendly environment. Eilish will focus on gentle movement and an introduction to yoga practice. Paula runs 'Apple Blossom Holistic', which focuses on forming habits that nourish mind, body and spirit, her section of the workshop will range from mindfulness to meditation techniques. David, who runs 'Be Your Best You', will focus on the mind as he explores goal planning, habit stacking, setting challenges and finding clarity amid lockdown confusion. The workshop will run from 10am to 1pm, with registration at 9.45am and the 'early bird' price is €49 (full price €75). People can book securely with Stripe or on Revolut by contacting Eilish, Paula or David at their website; www.beyourbestyou.ie/events

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People; ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary, seven days a week, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

New SOSAD Ireland voluntary mental health and bereavement centre opening soon in Portlaoise; The SOSAD Laois free telephone counselling service is now active for anybody in distress or who simply needs to talk. Phone SOSAD Laois 083-8664157. Facebook SOSAD Laois

The Council phone line 057-8664000 is open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, for the Laois Community Response Support Helpline, to facilitate the most appropriate community response to the needs of vulnerable people living in the community, where their usual sources of support have become unavailable due to Covid-19 and also to deal with normal council queries. **Call or e-mail; covidsupport@laoiscoco.ie**

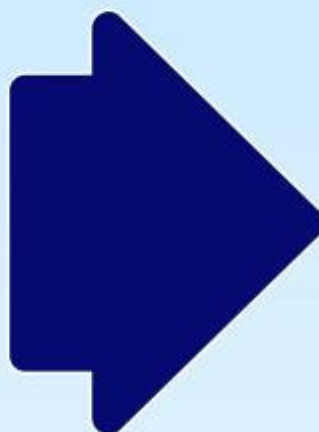
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Playing for Keeps

When I was a child, one of my favourite games was the game of marbles. I don't see children playing marbles any more. Some of you may not even know how to play marbles. Let me explain how we used to play marbles when I was a child.

First, you draw a big ring in the dirt. Then each player puts the same number of his own marbles into the ring. The players then take turns shooting a marble, trying to knock the other marbles out of the ring.

When a shooter knocks a marble out of the ring, he picks it up and puts it in his pocket. If his shooting marble stays inside the ring, he was allowed to keep shooting. If not, the next shooter takes his turn. When all the marbles have been knocked out of the ring, they are counted and the one with the most marbles is the winner.

Before a game of marbles begins, one player will sometimes ask the other players, "Are we playing for fun, or are we playing for keeps?" If you just play for fun, when the game is over, the winner gives the marbles back. But if you play for keeps, the winner gets to keep all of the marbles he has won.

Some people live their life as if it were a game of marbles. They spend their whole life trying to be the one with the most marbles. They think that the one with the biggest house, the fanciest car, and the most money in the bank is the winner. They think they are playing "for keeps," but when they come to the end of their life, do you know how many of their marbles they get to take with them? None of them! They spend their whole life trying to win all of the marbles, but in the end, they are left with nothing!

Jesus said that if we want to be real winners we must be willing to give up everything and follow him. When we follow Jesus, we may not have a lot of the things that some people think are important. We may not live in a big house or drive a fancy car, but we will have something that is much better than that, we will have treasures laid up for us in heaven. When we get to heaven, there will be a mansion waiting for us to move in and we will walk around on streets of gold. Best of all, we will have everlasting life with Jesus. You see, when we give our lives to Jesus, HE "plays for keeps."

Some people will give anything to get more marbles, but Jesus asked "What good will it do them if they gain the whole world, but lose their soul?"



My Prayer

Dear Father, help us to realise that the only life that lasts is a life lived for you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.




SOME OF THESE SUGGESTIONS WHAT YOU MIGHT DO FOR LENT:

I will share a smile.
I will pray for those who are hungry.
I will help my mammy.
I will put some money in the Trócaire Box
I will pray for those who have died.
I won't eat sweets.
I will play with my little brother/sister
I will help my teacher.

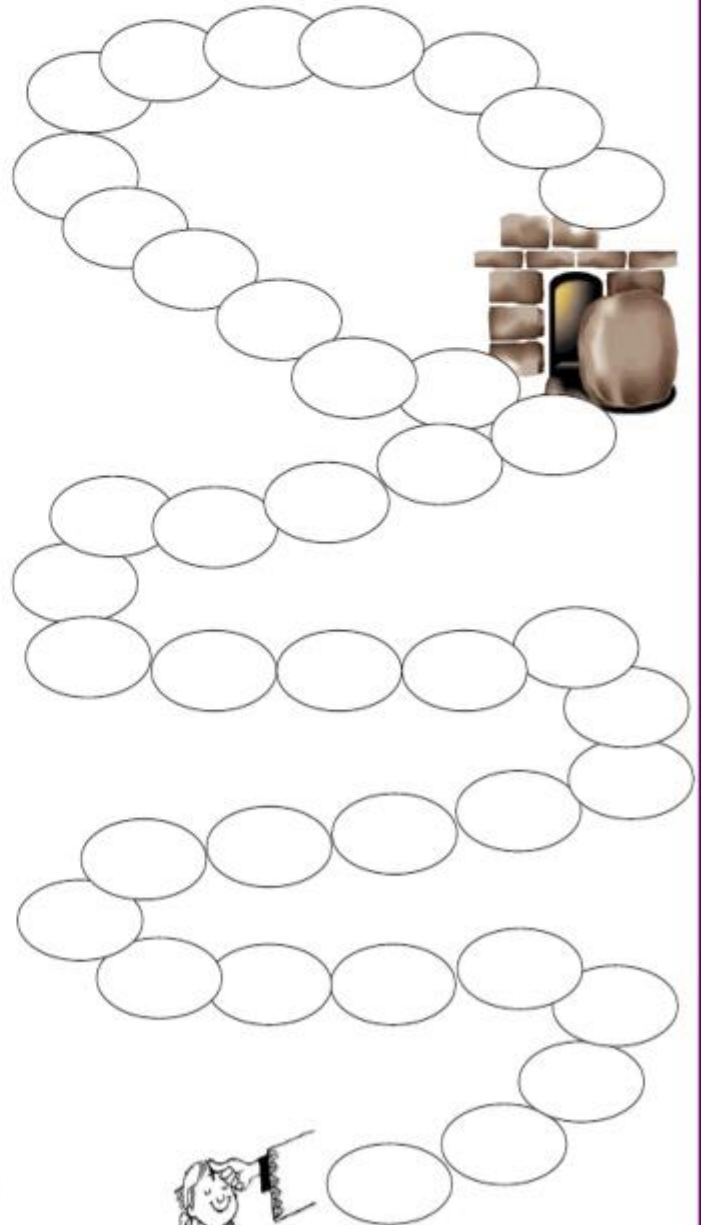
I will share my lunch with my friend.
I will write a letter to my nana.
I will clean my room without complaining.
I will be kind to someone.
I will go Mass.
I will give my daddy a hug.
I will make a card for my granddad.
I will say I am sorry when I am wrong.



A Children's Prayer for Lent

Lord, please show me what I
should give up for Lent
And when I've given it up
Remind me to pray to You instead
 To thank You
To love You
To hear from You
Each and every day in Lent.
Amen.

LENT



TIME TO THINK!

STIR YOURSELF



Brendan Kennelly's poem *Begin* launches us into our Spring-time. This past week has seen changes in the weather. The extra light each morning and evening is most welcome. We used to associate Lent with Fast, Sin and Confession, which was a very poor way of celebrating life and God. So a different little Confession these days might go this way (like Augustine's idea of Confession – being awed by what God does in us): Tell God how thankful we are for this day; for the people among us. For life. For health. For fresh air. For the wonders of nature. For beauty. For fun. For laughter. For kindness. For the surprises. For now. Here and this moment. In this place. Our place. Our moment. Thank you. Any ingratitude then leads to Lord have mercy. Our way forward could be: Ten minutes of indulgence every day in gratitude. For whom and for what and for where. Are you grateful? Colour in every day with that ten minutes. This is a real Lenten journey. Everyone will feel better. Those around us, will feel better and the world will be a brighter place. We have to set up a counter-culture to the painful sadness of the news.

The change in the weather and the extra light every day, is invigorating. This is not a time to be static or sedate. Get out and ramble for an early morning walk, listen to the little birds sing. The early mornings are calm even if the weather is wet and windy. The trees don't intrude. I talk to the crocuses these mornings and they talk to me. They tell me that they had come out to play. The snowdrops are their companions but are less voluble. I expressed surprise that they had appeared in spite of the cold and wind. They reassured me that it was their time. They then decided to tell me what to do. Lent (as they understand it) is now my time; our time. It is our Spring. It may be cold. It may be stormy. It may be Covid-contaminated. But this is our time. They challenged me to get on with life; to wake up Spring in myself; to taste the best of each day; to reach into the depths of myself; to bloom where I am. They nodded then over to the daffodils and said that they were next on the rotation-list of nature. Their buds were waking up. The very talkative flowers had a message which seemed to

say: Stir yourself and be the Spring in life. Even the flowers are now giving orders. They will leave the praying to the rowdy starlings who visit daily.



"Begin"

Begin again to the summoning birds
to the sight of the light at the window,
begin to the roar of morning traffic
all along Pembroke Road.

Every beginning is a promise
born in light and dying in dark
determination and exaltation of springtime
flowering the way to work.

Begin to the pageant of queuing girls
the arrogant loneliness of swans in the canal
bridges linking the past and future
old friends passing though with us still.

Begin to the loneliness that cannot end
since it perhaps is what makes us begin,
begin to wonder at unknown faces
at crying birds in the sudden rain
at branches stark in the willing sunlight
at seagulls foraging for bread
at couples sharing a sunny secret
alone together while making good.

Though we live in a world that dreams of ending
that always seems about to give in
something that will not acknowledge conclusion
insists that we forever begin.



VINCENT'S

SUPPORTING THE WORK OF **SVP** THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Ozanam House Dublin Road Portlaoise Co Laois

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. A number of local businesses have come on board this year and we very much appreciate your kind donations.

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to raise funds in our usual way, your contribution allows us to give practical help and real understanding to people in our community who need support. With your donation we will be able to respond immediately, however small or big their concern is, we will ease their suffering together.

Your donation is guaranteed for use in our local community, working with people, who have hit hard times and families that may be struggling with food, heat, or electricity.

Over the Christmas period we supported more than 220 families locally. At the moment we are trying our best to do all we can to raise money in other ways, while our shop cannot open due to level 5 restrictions. Our St Vincent de Paul Shop, would normally raise much needed funds for our society.

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

You can donate online using our bank, AIB Portlaoise, IBAN number: IE73AIBK93327917987070

You can tap a donation on the credit card machine in our shop. (when open)

You can use the St Vincent de Paul donation box in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church.

You can donate by mail to St Vincent de Paul, Ozanam House, No. 1 Dublin Road, Portlaoise.

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.

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



Peter Lalor
The Green, Kilminchy



Rafal Dyc
Clonad

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

**In Loving Memory of
PATRICK (Fiddler) DELANEY**

8 Clonroosk, Portlaoise.
18th Anniversary occurs 28th February 2021.



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

We thought of you today, but that is nothing
new, we thought about you yesterday and
days before that too.

We think of you in silence, we often speak
your name, all we have are memories and
your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake, from which we'll never part,
God has you in His arms, we have you in our hearts.

*Lovingly remembered by Mam, Dad, sister MaryAnn, brothers
Clement, Alan & Don, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.*

May Patrick Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH MALONE**

"Cumbria" Green Rd. Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurred 24th February 2021.



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

Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us, we will
always remember you.

Always remembered by all his loving family.

May Joseph Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOSIE DUNNE** *née Clooney*
Poormansbridge, Abbeyleix.
1st Anniversary occurs 3rd March 2021



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in the Church of the
Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix, on
Saturday 6th March,
depending on Covid restrictions.

Never Forgotten

You'll never be forgotten,
That simply cannot be,
As long as I am living,
I'll carry you with me.

Safely tucked within my heart, your light will always
shine, a glowing ember never stilled, throughout the end
of time.

No matter what the future brings, or what may lie ahead,
I know that you will walk with me, along the path I tread,
So rest my angel, be at peace, and let your soul fly free,
One day I'll join your glorious flight, for all eternity.

*Forever in our hearts. From Marie, Fint, Liam,
Noreen, Fran and families.*

Rest in Peace Josie

**In Loving Memory of
ANNIE TARLETON**

Late of Rossleighan, Portlaoise, who died 27th Feb. 2001.
R.I.P. Masses offered. 20th Anniversary occurs at this time.



Time slips by and life goes on,
But from our hearts you are
never gone.

*Loved and remembered always, your nephews Jim and
Eddie, and their Families.*

May Annie Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOSEPHINE LALOR**

1 Borris Little, Portlaoise.
Died 28th February 2012; 9th Anniversary



Nine years have passed now Josephine,
since we had to part,
Though time may heal the deepest
wound, it doesn't mend a broken heart.

Never Forgotten

Your loving husband Martin.

Rest in Peace Josephine

In Loving Memory of

KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3rd March 2018

3rd Anniversary occurs at this time.



It does not take a special day to bring you to our minds, A day without a thought of you, is very hard to find.

Loved and remembered always by Eddie and Mary.

May Karen Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3rd March 2018.

3rd Anniversary occurs at this time.



Our hearts still ache in sadness, And secret tears still flow, What it meant to lose you, No one will ever know.

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

Sadly missed by her husband Owen, son Matthew, parents Anne and Brendan, brother Alan, extended family & friends.

May Karen Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3rd March 2018

3rd Anniversary occurs at this time.



I thought of you today Karen but that is nothing new, I thought about you yesterday and days before that too.

I think of you in silence, I often speak your name,

All I have are memories now and your picture in a frame. Your memory is a keepsake from which I'll never part, God has you in His arms, I have you in my heart Karen.

Loved and remembered always, Joyce, Des, Katie and Ashling.

May Karen Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of

ELIZABETH FARRELL

Green Mill Lane, Ridge Rd. Portlaoise.

Who passed away peacefully at her home on 27th January 2021.



Lill's husband William, daughter Gemma, sons William and Eoin, son-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and extended family, would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss of Lill.

Thanks to all those who sent Mass cards, messages, phone calls and letters of sympathy. To all who dropped food to the house and who sent floral tributes, thank you. Many thanks to all who lined the roads from her home to the church and to the graveyard, it meant a lot to us. Thank you to her friends in the walking club for their guard of honour.

Many thanks to Dr. Burke in the Cedar clinic, Dr. Sinead Brennan, St. Lukes, Dr. Tymon, St. James and all the doctors and nurses in Tullamore hospital. Thank you greatly to Sonja, Marina and all the palliative care team who helped take good such care of Lill, especially in her final days, it meant so much to have her at home with us.

Sincere thanks to Msgr. John Byrne and Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C. Thank you to Aisling Rohan for her beautiful singing in the church. Special thanks to Mathew Keegan and David Goode, Keegan undertakers for their professional manner in which they carried out the funeral, thanks you also to the gravediggers.

We want to say a special word of thanks to Lill's sister Tina, who helped us take good care of her and to Maureen who always helped keep her spirits raised.

As it would be impossible to thanks everyone individually please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation.

Lill's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 28th February at 10am, in Sts. Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise and can be viewed via webcam.

Rest in Peace Lill

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of
SEAN BUCKLEY

Portlaoise Road, Abbeyleix.

1st Birthday away from home occurs 5th March.



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

Loved and remembered by all your loving family.

Rest in Peace Sean

In Loving Memory of

BOB MULHALL

85 Marian Place, Portlaoise. Died 1st March 2013.

8th Anniversary occurs on 1st March 2021.



Dad, our thoughts are always with you, Your place no one can fill, In life we loved you dearly, In death we love you still.

Always loved and remembered by your loving family

May Bob Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN KELLEHER**

*Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurred 23rd February 2021.*



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

Our thoughts are ever with you,
Though you have passed away.

*Always remembered by all his loving
family and friends.*

May John Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
WILLIE GING**

*Late of 70 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
Who died 29th February 2008*



You were always there when
we needed you,
No task too great or small,
With a loving heart and
willing hands,
For us you did it all.

Loved and missed today & everyday.

From Liam and Helena and all your loving family.

May Willie Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
PADDY SAUNDERS**

*Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurred 24th February 2021.*



God saw the road was getting
rough,
The hill was hard to climb,
He gently closed your weary eyes,
and whispered;
"peace be thine".

Sadly missed always by all his loving family.

May Paddy Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM (Billy) AIRD
Doneraile, Broomville, Portlaoise.



On the first anniversary of William
(Billy) Aird; 3rd March 2020, Ciara,
Niall, Tara and Vanessa wish to
thank all those who offered their
condolences on the passing of their
beloved and much loved father,
grandfather and great-grandfather.
Thanks to all who sent Mass cards,
sympathy cards, condolences and

messages. Heartfelt thanks to Marcus Breslin and
staff at Breslin Pharmacy who were so kind and
helpful to Dad over the years.

To Dad's Carers and Public Health Nurses for all their
care and kindness over the last few years so that
Dad could remain in his own home for his final years
of life as he so wished for, and to The Irish Cancer
Society Nurses for the excellent care and kindness to
Dad in his final weeks of life.

Sincere thanks to the Priests of the Parish especially
Monsignor Byrne for celebrating William's funeral
Mass and special thanks to Fr. Tom O'Connor for his
regular visits to Dad in his final weeks. Thanks to
Sarah Ann Troy for her beautiful music ministry.
Our thanks to Rankin Funeral Directors, Tim and Paul
for their compassion and professionalism during
Dad's funeral.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually please accept this acknowledgement as a
sincere expression of our gratitude. The Holy
sacrament of Mass will be offered for your intentions.

William's 1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on
Sunday 7th March at 10am in Sts. Peter and Paul's
Parish Church and can be viewed via the Parish
Webcam

*You have gone no further from us than to God, and
God is very near.*

Rest in Peace Dad

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

**In Loving Memory of
A Treasured Uncle
WILLIAM (Bill) DOYLE**
*13 New Road, Portlaoise.
Bill's birthday occurs 1st March*



Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
We will always love and remember
you.

*Loved and remembered today,
yesterday and in all our tomorrows,
from all his loving family.*

May Bill Rest in Peace

Lent

*A Time For Giving &
Forgiving*



**In Loving Memory of
CHRISTY BANNON**

72 Newpark, Portlaoise. Died 4th March 2004
17th Anniversary occurs at this time.



*Never more than a thought away,
Deep in our hearts you will always
stay,*

Loved and remembered every day.

*Sadly missed by his loving wife Pat
& all his family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Christy

† KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS †

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**

15TH ANNIVERSARY

**In Loving Memory of a dear Wife & Mother
GERALDINE CORRIGAN**

Rockdale, Portlaoise, who died 23rd February 2006



We hold you close within our hearts and
there you shall remain, to walk with us
throughout our lives, until we meet again.

We miss your smile, your loving ways,
We miss the things you use to say,
And when old times we do recall,
It's then we miss you most of all.

Always remembered by Michael, Brian, Michelle & family.

May Geraldine Rest in Peace

**HENRY RANKIN
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

We have opened a new office and show room on
Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise.
(opposite the E.S.B. and Condell tractors)

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



**In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH (Lil) GALLAGHER**

Mosse Lane, Portlaoise.
Died 25th February 1999.
22nd Anniversary occurs at this time.



*O far the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still*

*Always loved and remembered by
Frank, George and Mary.*

Rest in Peace Elizabeth

**DES & CARMEL MORAN
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Main St., Ballyroan, Co. Laois

24 hour service and personalised attention

057-8731115
Carmel 087-6144280
Des 087-2794532
moranundertakerslaois@gmail.com



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E-mail: info@kellysfuneralservices.ie



KEEP WELL

Help is at Hand

for your emotional wellbeing and mental health during COVID-19

Laois Community Call Helpline - 1800 832 010

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance / Fire / Gardaí: **CALL: 112 or 999**

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:
Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise: **057 86 21364**

MIDOC GP OUT OF HOURS SERVICES: **1850 302 702**

NATIONAL SUPPORTS

SAMARITANS (emotional Support service)
FREEPHONE: 116 123 or email: jo@samaritans.ie

CRISIS TEXT LINE: Free 24/7 text service providing support for people going through a mental health or emotional crisis
Text: **YMH to 50808**, anytime day or night | www.text50808.ie

PIETA 24/7 Free therapeutic support: **1800 247 247 / Text HELP to 51444 / www.pietahouse.ie**

AWARE HELPLINE: **1800 804 848 (10am-10pm) www.aware.ie**

ALONE support for older people: **0818 222 024**

LGBT Ireland Helpline: **1890 929 539 / www.lgbt.ie**

LOCAL SUPPORTS

Midland SIMON Community: www.midlandssimon.com
Regional Office: **090 644 4641 / Tullamore Accommodation Centre: 087 6359 760**

Citizens Advice Centre: Portlaoise Centre: **076 1075 590**

Family Resource Centres: www.familyresource.ie
Portlaoise Centre: **057 86 86151 / Mountmellick Centre: 057 86 24601**

SVP Laois: Portlaoise: **057 86 60486 / Mountrath: 086 6616270**

Laois Traveller Action Group: **057 86 82210 / www.ltag.ie**

Laois Partnership Company: www.laoispartnership.ie
Portlaoise: **057 86 61900**

MABS Money Advice and Budgeting Service: **076 107 2620 / www.mabs.ie**

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

GROW: **1890 474 474 www.grow.ie**
SHINE: **midlands@shine.ie**

HSE INFORMATION AND ADVICE

Covid-19: **1850 241 850 / email: hselive@hse.ie**

Mental Health: **1800 111 888 / www.yourmentalhealth.ie**

HSE - DRUG & ALCOHOL LINE: **1800 459 459 / www.drug.ie / www.drinkaware.ie / email: helpline@hse.ie**

HSE PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE (emotional support and advice)
email: mlmpsychosocial@hse.ie

COUNSELLING SUPPORT

Teac Tom Counselling Support: Stradbally: **056 779 6592 www.thethomashayestrust.com**

ONLINE Support and counselling www.turn2me.org / www.mymind.org / www.suicideorsurvive.ie

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES

JIGSAW Offaly: **057 93 52871 / email: offaly@jigsaw.ie / www.jigsawonline.ie** (outreach service to Laois)

Youth Work Ireland Laois: **057 86 65010 / www.ywilaois.ie**

CHILDLINE: **1800 666 666 Free (24/7) Text 'Talk' to 50101 / www.childline.ie**

Spunout: youth information website: www.spunout.ie

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Irish Hospice Foundation: **1800 807 077 (10am-1pm)**

Midland Living Links: **086-1600 641 www.bereaved.ie / www.childhoodbereavement.ie**

Suicide Bereavement Liaison Officer (PIETA):
Midlands: **086 418 0088**

SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT

SEXUAL VIOLENCE HELPLINE (men and women)
1800 778 888

WOMENS AID: **1800 341 900 (24/7) / www.womensaid.ie**

MEN'S AID: **(01) 554 3811 / email: crisis@anyman.ie**

Domestic Violence Service: National Helpline: **1800 341 900**

Laois Domestic Violence Support Service:
057 86 71100 / www.laoisdomesticabuseservice.ie



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níosa Feara
& Forbairt

Building a
Better Health
Service

Sláintecare



Riádas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



pobal
government supporting communities



Healthy
Laois

Portlaoise Parish



Results for

25th February 2021

12

21

23

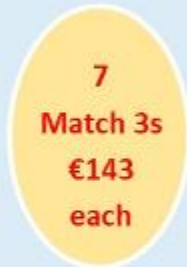
26

No **€20,000** Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Ronan Cosgrave
Emma Daly
Hilary Gray
Rose Dunne
Maureen Carroll
Agnes Kennedy
Marie & Martin

MATCH 3s €1,000



Play PARISH



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Martley's Shop
Martley's Shop
Jerry Dooley
Mary Haslam

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Next Week's Jackpot **€20,000**

Support for the Parish

We have traditionally depended on the passing of the collection baskets at Sunday Masses for support. *Thank you* to the many who have found new ways of continuing to support the Parish during this time of Lockdown. The generosity of so many means we continue to be well supported and can pay our way at this time.

Ways to contribute to our Parish

Envelope boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre

Direct payment by cheque or cash

Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church

Donation facility on our website

Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre

Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account:

IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU

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 8661605

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

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparish

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

LENT



WAYS TO ENGAGE IN OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Consecration to St. Joseph - to celebrate the Year of St. Joseph

33 days of prayer to St. Joseph will take place everyday after the morning Rosary. Even if you have missed the beginning of this devotion, you may join at any time. The book 'Consecration to St. Joseph' containing the reflections and prayers is available at the Parish Centre Shop

Triduum to St. Joseph

19th - 21st of March

Three days to celebrate and to pray through the intercession of St. Joseph

Confessions

Every Friday, from 6pm to 7pm a priest will be available for Confession in the Prayer Room, in the Parish Church

Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent on Friday at 7.30pm we will pray together the Stations of the Cross



Due to current restrictions all ceremonies will be celebrated virtually
www.portlaoiseparish.ie