

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

7th February 2021

**Fifth Sunday
In Ordinary Time**

**TRIDUUM IN HONOUR OF
OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

Wednesday 10th -
Friday 12th February

MASS EVERYDAY AT 10AM

with Lourdes Prayers

WEDNESDAY 7.30PM

Candle Light Rosary

THURSDAY 7.30PM

Holy Hour for the Sick

FRIDAY 7.30PM

Stations of the Cross



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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



A Matter of Life and Death

Now more than ever in living memory we are all consumed by the need to stay well and to keep our friends and family well too. It's great news that our scientists have come up with a vaccine



that will eventually help beat Covid. It's great news that we now have developed the means to save thousands of lives. Surely if Jesus was around today in person, he would give those scientists a big pat on the back. But perhaps Jesus would have something to add. A vaccine might save us from getting ill and dying, but it cannot add to our lives. Our bodies are merely vehicles in which to get us through life. It is important to look after a vehicle, but what greater point is there in looking after a vehicle that isn't heading anywhere? What we do with our lives is more important than how long we can stay fit and well, however important that is to us as humans.

Jesus behaves unexpectedly in today's gospel. Having cured Simon's mother in law, the whole town turns up at his door eager for miracle cures, and Jesus obliges. This it would seem is his golden opportunity. This is his chance to have everybody eating out of the palm of his hand. Instead, Jesus gets up early and goes off to a deserted place, and when Simon comes looking for him, Jesus suggests that instead of returning to his new found fans, that they move on to the next village. This might seem odd to many, but it is to become apparent that curing the sick was not top of Jesus' agenda.

To achieve anything in this world our health of course is important, but Jesus didn't heal people simply to promote some health and fitness regime. Healing was only part of his primary ministry to teach. Jesus' healing miracles were signs of his identity and of God's power and compassion. His acts of healing were often to teach the importance of faith and discipleship.

Saint Bernadette made a prayer that we could do well to adopt. She said "Lord, I do not ask that I never be afflicted, but only that you never abandon me in affliction."



We welcome into our Parish Community

Irene Ungureanu, Bellingham
Vitoria Kurlovica, Rosdarragh Vw
baptised last weekend



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for February 2021

In his February message, the Pope asks for society to protect women who are the victims of violence. Although at least 155 countries have approved domestic violence laws and 140 have legislation regarding workplace sexual harassment, to give two examples, this does not mean that these laws always conform to international norms and recommendations, nor that they are applied and enforced. This month Pope Francis invites us to join in his prayer "... for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded by all."

Thought for today!

Its not how much you have that makes people look up to you, it's who you are!



A bit of History!

On THIS DAY IN 2005

Britain's Ellen MacArthur became the fastest person to sail solo around the world.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Ps. 146:1-6

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Mark 1:29-39

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. We are very appreciative of the continued support of so many during this difficult time



New Envelope Boxes covering the coming year - up to the end of January 2022 - are now available in our Church porches and Parish Centre. The boxes contain envelopes for each week and also for the Priests collections and other special collections during the year. We don't know when we will be able to gather safely in Church for Mass again and even then it is highly unlikely that we will be passing collection baskets. So we have to find a new way of supporting our Parish. One excellent way is to take a box of envelopes and make your contribution by placing the envelope in one of the collection boxes provided in our Churches or returning to the Parish Centre. By writing your name and address on your first envelope contribution we can assign that number to you and record your contributions which will enable us to take advantage of the 'Revenue Tax Back' facility. We would recommend this method of contributing but there are of course other ways of supporting.

Some other ways to contribute to our Parish

Direct payment by cheque or cash

Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church

Donation facility on our website (you can set up a regular payment via this facility also)

Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre (or see below)

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)

If you make a direct transfer to one of our accounts or submit a S/O to your Bank, please inform the Parish Office

057 862 1142

or email info@portlaoiseparish.ie

STANDING ORDER SET UP FORM

To the Manager _____

BANK

BRANCH ADDRESS

I / we hereby authorise and request you to debit my / our account

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BIC

IBAN

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Account Name

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Please insert your name here— it will appear for reference on the Parish statement

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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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- Understanding of the learning and teaching of traditional music
- A toolkit for the musician as educator

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- Help traditional musicians teach more effectively and efficiently
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- Reflective practice

Commencing:

Saturday, 13 February 2021, 11am-1pm,
running weekly on Saturdays until Saturday 20 March 2021

Course is free of charge, however spaces are limited.

To book your space contact: communityed@loetb.ie or call 085 8054579



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Friday	8.30am to 6pm
Saturday	9am to 12 noon

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PLEASE NOTE

We are continuing the printing of our weekly linkup magazine over the coming weeks, 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.

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The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church, **Saturday 13th January** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners.



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.

Laois Alzheimer's Society; Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) Laois Alzheimer's Society is closed but if you need to meet Ann please ring in advance on 086-8372168 as she is working from home. We have 3 vacancies for Home Care workers. This is through a Community Employment Scheme. Applicants need to have a full driving licence and use of a car. Please contact Ann Munnely on 086-8372168 or e-mail; amunnely@alzheimer.ie

Online Song singing Project - Under the Laois Keep Well Community Resilience Campaign, members of Laois Alzheimer's Society are invited to participate in an on-line song-singing project called Musical Memories. Facilitated by Music Generation Laois, led by musician Nuala Kelly, the project aims to connect people through music from their homes in these difficult times. There is an inter-generational aspect with local schools taking part, that not only creates Musical Memories but preserves them with songs such as 'Will Ye Go Lassie Go', 'Some Enchanted Evening' and 'We'll Meet Again' handed down to the next generation. If you would like to take part or find out more, please e-mail nukelly@loetb.ie or call Nuala on 087-2264752.

International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking; February 8th is the Feast Day of St. Josephine Bakhita, patron Saint of all who are trafficked. Josephine Bakhita was taken by slave traders as a young girl in her native Sudan and sold into slavery in Italy. She was eventually set free and became a sister. Despite the horrible treatment she endured she forgave her captors and worked tirelessly for the poor and suffering. On this her Feast Day, let us pray that she will intercede for all who are trafficked, that they may be freed from their chains and restored to their true dignity.

Some stark statistics re. modern slavery; 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, 150.2 billion US\$ in illegal profit per year (99 million from sex trafficking), 1 in 4 victims of modern slavery are children.

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

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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)
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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:
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Looking for Jesus

A few years ago, "Where's Wally?" books were very popular. You still see them in bookstores and libraries. How many of you have seen a "Where's Wally?" book? If you have, you know what Wally looks like. He always wears a red and white striped ski cap and a matching sweater. Wally has a rather goofy smile and wears thick, black-rimmed glasses. In these picture books, Wally is always in every picture, but he is very hard to find. You can spend a lot of time looking for Wally. Looking for Wally can be a lot of fun, but in real life, looking for someone can be much more serious. Our Gospel today tells about a day when a lot of people were looking for Jesus. They were looking for Jesus because they needed something that only he could give them.

Jesus had been travelling around the countryside teaching, preaching, and healing the sick. He had become very popular, and everywhere he went there were great crowds of people. They came to hear him teach about God's love and to be healed of their diseases.

One day Jesus went to visit in the home of Simon Peter. When he got there, Peter's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever, so they told Jesus about her right away. Jesus took her by the hand and helped her up. Immediately the fever left her. She was healed and went in and began to fix dinner for everyone. When the people heard that Jesus was at Peter's house, a large crowd of people began to gather outside the door. People brought their sick friends to Jesus, and he healed many people who had all different kinds of diseases.

The next morning, Jesus woke up before anyone else. He went outside to spend some time alone with his Father in prayer. Later, Peter and the other disciples went looking for Jesus. When they found him, they said, "Everyone is looking for you."

Jesus answered and said, "Let's go to the nearby towns and villages so that I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So Jesus travelled all around Galilee teaching, preaching, and healing people.

People today are still looking for Jesus. They are looking for Jesus because they need something that only he can give them - forgiveness for sin and everlasting life. Are you looking for Jesus? The Bible says "If you search for him with all your heart and soul, you can find him." (Deut. 4:29) You can find him right here - in the Bible.



Dear Father, many people today are searching for Jesus.
We pray that today will be the day that they find him.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

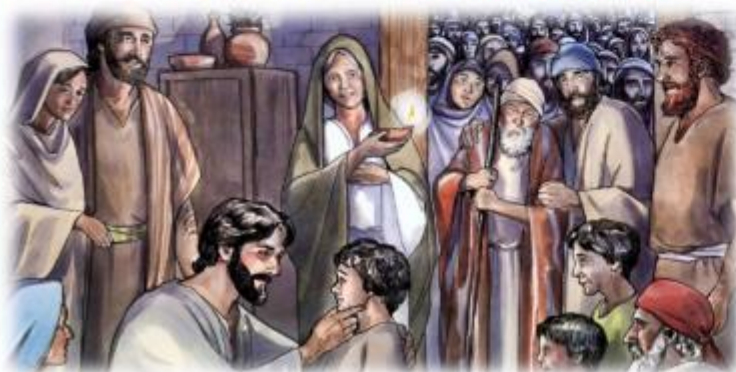


Show others you care

The whole town gathered at the door to watch. So Jesus healed many people who were sick with various diseases. **Mark 1:33-34**

Choose the word that best matches the definition:

- ___ 1. A place of meeting for worship in the Jewish faith
A. town B. village C. home D. synagogue
- ___ 2. The time of day when the sun disappears below the horizon
A. morning B. sunset C. dawn D. sunrise
- ___ 3. To cure from sickness or disease
A. sick B. prayer C. heal D. preach
- ___ 4. A condition when the body temperature is higher than normal
A. demons B. synagogue C. healed D. fever
- ___ 5. The body part used for holding things
A. feet B. head C. hand D. leg
- ___ 6. To be ill or have a disease
A. demon B. sick C. bed D. hand
- ___ 7. Evil spirits
A. diseases B. sick C. fever D. demons
- ___ 8. To give assistance; to aid
A. help B. preach C. hand D. synagogue
- ___ 9. To deliver a sermon
A. help B. fever C. heal D. preach
- ___ 10. A piece of furniture for sleeping
A. chair B. synagogue C. bed D. table



**Jesus heals
many people**



TIME TO THINK!

BE NOT AFRAID ...

Fear and anxiety about a possible future event or circumstance is often a greater suffering than the suffering we endure when (and if) the feared event or circumstance actually occurs.

Why? Because when we are anticipating the future, we are not yet being given the grace that God will provide when that event/circumstance actually occurs. Grace, like the manna in the desert, is given on a daily (or even moment by moment) basis, as we live out and experience our lives - *it is not provided for the future.*

Here is how St. Francis de Sales expressed it:

"Do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will deliver you from them. He has guided and guarded you this far in life. Do you but hold fast to his hand, and he will lead you safely through all trials. Whenever you cannot stand, he will carry you lovingly in his arms.

"Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. The same Eternal Father who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either he will shield you from suffering or he will give you the unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all useless thoughts, vain dreads, and anxious imaginations."

So, when we focus too much on the future and enter into anxiety, we are essentially torturing ourselves, or allowing the promptings of the Adversary to lead us to torture ourselves. It is at these times that we must exercise mental and spiritual discipline - not "walking" the path of the future on our own. We must pray for God's protection against such temptations, and trust in his loving-kindness and continual presence - that he will carry us through.

And even if we do respond less than perfectly when difficult situations actually occur, we must remember that God uses such trials to refine and build us up, not to destroy us. Like St. Peter on the water, if we begin to sink into the tumultuous waves because of fear and weakness, we have but to call on Jesus and he will save us, because he is trustworthy and he loves us.

We see this echoed in Sacred Scripture:

"Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life span? ... If God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will he not much more clothe you? ... So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." [Matthew 6:27-34]

"Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid, you are worth more than many sparrows." [Matthew 10:29-31]

"For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control." [2 Timothy 1:6]

I love the following very relevant prayer, especially during this difficult lockdown...

Slow Me Down

Slow me down, Lord!

Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.

Steady my harried pace, with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amidst the confusions of my day,

The calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tensions of my nerves, with the soothing music of the singing streams, that live in my memory.

Help me to know the magical power of sleep,

Teach me the art of taking minute vacations,

Of slowing down;

To look at a flower;

To chat with an old friend;

Or make a new one;

To pet a dog;

To watch a spider build a web;

To smile at a child;

Or to read a few lines from a good book.

Remind me each day that the race is not always won by the swift; that there is more to life than increasing its speed.

Let me look upward into the branches of the towering oak, And know that it grew great and strong, because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down, Lord,

And inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values,

That I may grow toward the stars of our greater destiny.





MINDING OUR MENTAL HEALTH DURING A NEW “LOCKDOWN”

For many of us, this “lockdown” feels different. Our energy levels are lower than in March. We are adapting again. Taking time and being kind to ourselves will help us recharge.

Reflecting on the 4 As can help us to recharge



Right now, we might feel angry, confused, worried, insecure, unsafe. We might have racing thoughts, difficulty focussing, feel tired, drained, & weary. These are all natural responses to uncertain times. Awareness is taking time to tune in with kindness to our thoughts, feelings & actions. Pay attention to your breathing and how you feel in your mind & body.

AWARENESS



Acknowledging what comes up for us is an opportunity to express and validate how we feel and what we're thinking. We might talk to a friend, write it in a journal, paint, draw, dance, cry, have a nap, go with it, listen to others who are going through similar experiences on podcasts, radio, or through music. Give ourselves permission to say, 'Yes, this is hard'.

ACKNOWLEDGE



Acceptance is an opportunity to recognise what is within our control and what is outside of our control. We can then redirect our energy into what we can control. For example, we can choose to put our energy into nurturing ourselves and limiting our exposure to news and social media. This process involves patience, willingness, openness and time.

ACCEPTANCE



Action is about taking what we have learned and acting on it. This might look like reaching out to create a support bubble, asking for the help you need, setting boundaries for your life/work balance, going for a walk, adding healthy food options to your shopping list, or revisiting online social activities like quiz nights. There will be days where this looks like sitting on the couch. We can only walk the mile we're in. Do what works for you.

ACTION



OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;



Bernadette Duggan

née Byrne
Upper Beladd,
Portlaoise
(Timahoe and Athy)



John (Ulick)

Conroy
Beladd,
Portlaoise



Sinead Nolan

The Vale, Graiguecullen,
Carlow



Brigid (B) Lawlor

née Kennedy
Ballyroan Rd. Abbeyleix

*Come to me, all you who are weary and
burdened, and I will give you rest.*

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

My Husband

CHARLIE CLARKE

5 Abbeyleix Rd. Portlaoise.
26th Anniversary occurs 8th February 2021



*We miss your smile, your joking ways,
We miss the things you use to say.*

*Always remembered by his loving wife
Peggy and his daughter Dorothy.*

May Charlie Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

BRIAN LARKIN Snr.

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise
1st Anniversary in Heaven occurs
7th February 2021



Granddad

If we could have a lifetime
wish,
A dream that would come true,
We'd pray to God with all our
hearts, for yesterday and you,
A thousand words can't bring
you back, we know because
we've tried,
Neither will a thousand tears,
we know because we've cried.
You left behind our broken hearts, and happy
memories too, but we never wanted memories,
we only wanted you.

*Missing you always, love Fiona, Ethan, Damon,
Oisín and Odhrán.*

Rest in Peace Brian

In Loving Memory of

BRIAN LARKIN Snr.

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise
1st Anniversary away from home occurs
7th February 2021



No morning dawns, no night
returns, but that we think of you,
Those left behind are very good,
but none replaces you,
Many a silent tear is shed, when
we are all alone,
The one we love so very much,
The one we call our own.

*From your loving wife Catherine,
sons Michael and Alan, Brian Jnr. (RIP), daughter
Denise, grandchildren and extended family.*

Rest in Peace Brian



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ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of ALICE NEVIN

12 Mountain View Square, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary away from us.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Monday 8th February at 10am.

God looked around his garden and
found an empty place, He saw your
tired face and put His arms around
you and lifted you to rest,
God's garden must be beautiful,
He only takes the best,

He knew that you were lonely and life was not the same,
God reunited you with ould Mommy once again,
He saw the road was getting rough, and the hills were
hard to climb, so He closed your weary eyelids and
whispered "peace be thine",
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you, the day God called you
home.

*Sadly missed and always remembered, love from
Paddy, Kathleen and family and grandchildren.*

Rest in Peace Alice

In Loving Memory of MADGE McEVOY

Capoley, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs Saturday 13th February 2021.

Much loved and cherished Mother, Grandmother and Great-grandmother.



Anniversary Masses will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th February
at 10am.

Just a prayer from the family who loved
you, just a memory fond and true,
In our hearts you will live forever,
Because we thought the world of you.

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day,
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by;
Sarahann, Ailish, Mary, Joe, Breda and their families.*

May Madge Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of MARY DOOLEY

29 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

7th Anniversary occurs 9th February 2021



7th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on
Tuesday 9th February at 10am.

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

*Sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.
No more tomorrows for us to share but yesterday's
memories will always be there.*

*Always remembered by Jim and Maureen Lynch
and family.*

May Mary Rest in Peace



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In Loving Memory of **KATHLEEN BRACKEN**

née Dunne

Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise. 7th Anniversary occurs at this time.



*7th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
this Wednesday 10th February at 10am.*

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

Loved always by Larry, Frances & family.

May Kathleen Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **PHILOMENA HIGGINS**

5 Newpark, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurs 7th February 2021

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, this Sunday 7th February at 10am.*



*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me,
I took His hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief,
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

*Loved and remembered by her husband Christy, sons David and
Matthew, grandchildren Jamie, Holly and Katelyn, daughter-in-law
Shauna, extended family, relatives and friends especially the Lenehan
family from Tralee and her colleagues in St. Vincent de Paul and
friends in the Slieve Bloom Walking Club.*

Rest in Peace Philomena

In Loving Memory of **MARY CONROY**

18 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise

For a Wonderful Mum



*Along the road of suffering, you
found a little lane, that took you up
to Heaven, and ended all your pain,
You may be our of sight,
We may be worlds apart,
But you are always in our prayers
and forever in our hearts.*

*9th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 13th February at 10am.*

*Love you always Mam, from your loving daughters
Marie, Phil and Josephine.*

May Mary Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **ELIZABETH FARRELL**

"Chestnut Drive", Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.

*1st Anniversary away from home occurs
4th February 2021.*



*We think of things you used to say, and all that you
would do,
At some point, every single
day, our thoughts will turn
to you.
To lose you was a bitter
wrench,
The pain cut to the core,
We cried until our tears ran
out, and then we cried
some more.*

*This wouldn't be your wish for us, that we be
ever sad, so we try to remind ourselves of
happy times we had.*

*We know we can't be with you now,
And you can't be with us,
But safe inside our hearts you'll stay,
That's where you'll always be.*

*Sadly missed always by your loving husband
Frank, sons Michael, David, Kenneth,
daughter Regina and extended family.*

Love you Gran

*You truly were a special, special Gran!
You may have passed on, but your memories
would always live on within us.
Thank you for your sacrifices, your care and
concern, your love and everything that you
have done for me. Wherever you are, I know
you are always beside me.*

*Forever missed by your loving
granddaughter Jennifer, Stephen, Ava
and Saoirse.*

Rest in Peace Elizabeth

Birthday Remembrance **MARTIN WALSH**

*118 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
83rd Birthday Remembrance occurs
4th February 2021*



*No birthday gifts to give,
only our love for you, as
long as we live.
Thinking of you especially
today.*

*Just as you were, you will
always be someone very
special in our memory.*

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Margaret,
sons Anthony and Joseph, daughters
Mary, Tina, Attracta, Patricia and Colette,
grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.*

Rest in Peace Martin

In Loving Memory of
ALICE McEVOY

Late of 80 St. Brigid's Place. 29th Anniversary. Died 5/2/1992.



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

*A face that is always on our minds,
A smile we have seen a million times,
Two eyes that would light up the sky at
night, one last battle you could not fight.*

*Sadly missed by all her loving family.
Also remembering her sisters Esther and Mary at this time.*

May Alice Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
PETER ALLEN

Eyne, Portlaoise.

23rd Anniversary occurs 10th February 2021.



*Beautiful memories treasured forever,
Of happy years spent together,
Life is eternal, love remains,
In God's own time, we will meet again.*

*Forever loved and remembered by
Bridie and all your loving family xxx*

Rest in Peace Peter

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
In Loving Memory of
EUGENE O'CONNOR

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

Another Birthday away from home; 5th February 2021.



*Thinking of you today as I do
everyday.*

Happy Birthday Euge

*Loved and missed by your twin sister
Lucy, brothers, sisters, your children
James and Zoe and your grandson*

Odin xxxx

Rest in Peace Eugene

In Loving Memory of
BRIGID & JOE CARROLL

*4 Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise, whose 35th and 17th
Anniversaries occur at this time (February & March)*



*We won't forget ye,
We won't even try,
We just miss ye more,
as time goes by.*



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

May Bridget & Joe Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
In Loving Memory of
Paddy Dunne

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Paddy Dunne,
would like to thank all who offered
their condolences on their recent sad
loss, those who sent Mass cards and
floral tributes and helped in any way.
We would like to thank the staff of
Droimnín Nursing Home for their
kindness and care.

Our thanks also to the Priests of the Parish and to
John Moloney, funeral directors for his assistance
and professionalism.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this acknowledgment as
a token of our sincere appreciation and deepest
gratitude.

Paddy's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 7th
February at 10am and can be viewed via webcam.

Sadly missed by your son John and grandchildren
Jason, John, Caeden and Indianna.

Rest in Peace Paddy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
In Loving Memory of
Seamus Dargan

Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Seamus
Dargan would like to thank all
who offered their condolences by
sending Mass cards and writing
kind notes and letters. Also those
who offered their sympathies by
phone and on RIP.ie.

Heartfelt thanks to all of Seamus' friends and
neighbours for their support and kindness.

We would like to thank the staff of Droimnín
Nursing Home, the staff of the Midlands Regional
Hospital, Portlaoise, the community nursing staff
of Portlaoise Health Centre and the staff of
Home InStead Senior Care.

Our thanks also to Fr. David Vard and Fr. Ciprian.
Thank you to Matthew Keegan and David Goode,
undertakers for their kindness & professionalism.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this acknowledgment as
a token of our sincere appreciation and deepest
gratitude.

Seamus' Months Mind Mass will be celebrated on
Sunday 7th February at 10am and can be viewed
via webcam.

Rest in Peace Seamus

In Loving Memory of CHRISTY WHELAN

138 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
14th Anniversary occurs 7th February 2021.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 7th February at 10am.

Thinking of you today and always

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

*Always loved and sadly missed by your loving wife Lily
and family.*

May Christy Rest in Peace

You are the

Light
Of the World

LENT & EASTER

ASH WEDNESDAY LENT BEGINS



Emphasizes our
mortality and our
need for ongoing
repentance.

PALM SUNDAY



Commemorates
Jesus' triumphal
entry into the city
of Jerusalem.

HOLY THURSDAY



Celebrates the
Last Supper with
the disciples
and Passover.

GOOD FRIDAY



We remember the
Passion and Jesus'
sacrifice for us
on the cross.

EASTER SUNDAY HE HAS RISEN!



Alleluia!
The principal feast
of the ecclesiastical
year. Jesus has risen!

Easter is an 8 day celebration
leading to Easter Season,
which ends on Pentecost.

DAYS OF FASTING

ASH WEDNESDAY
GOOD FRIDAY

WHAT IS FASTING?

One full meal and two smaller meals.

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE

ASH WEDNESDAY
GOOD FRIDAY
EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

WHAT IS ABSTINENCE?

No meat.

40

The 40 days of Lent are based
on two accounts: the 40 years
of wandering by the Israelites
and our Lord's 40 days in the
wilderness at which point He
was tempted by Satan.

PILLARS OF LENT

PRAYER
FASTING
ALMSGIVING

The key to
understanding
the meaning
of Lent is
simple: Baptism.



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Portlaoise Parish



Results for

4th February 2021



No **€20,000** Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Kieva Reidy
Anto & Karen Hussey
Ryan Walton
Colette Fingleton
Clare Scully
Conor O'Brien
Martha Carroll
Brigid McSpadden
Anonymous C/O

MATCH 3s €1,000



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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

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Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Mick Daly dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

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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

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TRIDUUM TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES

10TH - 12TH FEBRUARY

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND SEEK HER INTERCESSION
DURING THESE DAYS.

THESE DAYS OF PRAYER ARE FOR US ALL AND WE ENCOURAGE
YOU TO JOIN US FOR MASS AND FOR THE EVENING
PROGRAMME (SEE FRONT COVER) WHICH WILL BE IN THE
SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR STYLE THAT MANY OF US KNOW FROM
OUR PILGRIMAGES TO OUR LADY'S SHRINE IN LOURDES.

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