

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

16th May 2021

# The Ascension of the Lord

World Communications Day



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH  
December 8, 2020 - December 8, 2021



Scoil Phroinsias Naofa  
St. Francis School



St Francis takes over from St. Paul

A great day for the pupils, teachers and staff of St. Francis School; the handing over of the keys to the splendid new School on Borris Road.

Pictured above: Marc Cunningham (Department of Education), John Moran (Principal), Noel Tuohy (BOM) and Fr. Paddy (Chairperson BOM).

The Parish Centre 057 8621142  
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**Wanted  
People to Spread a  
Little Love**

In our current situation of pandemic and climate change, we are probably all feeling in need of a little love.

Across the globe there is unprecedented need. There are millions in need of a little love. Today Jesus is telling us that it is up to us all to spread that love in as many practical and prayerful ways that we can think of. Are we up for the job?

Today we hear of Jesus' prayer for us. As Jesus was sent, so too we are sent to continue his mission and spread his love. Key to continuing Jesus' mission we are told that although we are of this world we must not to be possessed or tied down by worldly concerns.

How should it feel to be entrusted with such an important job? Well for most of us, it is something we don't think about nearly enough. We are told not to let the world tie us down, but that's most definitely easier said than done. In truth we are very much of this world. We spend most of our lives worrying about work, money, illness, relationships and commitments. It's very hard to rise above worldly concerns. In fact for most of us it just seems impossible.

On this Sunday we celebrate World Communication Day, and it feels a timely opportunity to consider the task we have been set. The first disciples continued Jesus' mission without planes, trains, without a postal service, without TV or radio and without the internet. Yet thanks to these early disciples we know Jesus' name throughout the entire globe two thousand years down the line. We have a much easier job than the early disciples had. Now all we need is a little bit of their drive and passion. So how can we capture some of that motivation?

For most of us, the day to day job of putting meals on the table takes up more of our time than the vital job of continuing Jesus' mission. Yet we all know someone who manages to strike that all important balance. We all know at least one person who sets a shining example. Perhaps it's here that we will find our motivation. Perhaps the people we most admire provide us with a model of who we ourselves would like to be. With a good example to emulate and our twenty first century means to spread God's love, the job is not beyond us.

**Mass times for the coming week**

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**Monday - Friday**

7.30am, 10am & 11am

**Saturday**

10am

**Sunday**

Vigils 5pm & 6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

**Sunday: 9.30am**

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

**Sunday: 10am**

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

Acts 1:1-11

Ps 46:2-3,6-9

Eph 4:1-13

Mk 16:15-20



**We welcome into our  
Parish Community**

Corey Myles Ryan  
Glenbarrow

Saoirse Rose O'Brien  
Harpurs Lane

**Who were baptised last weekend**

**Bitesize**

You are not here merely to make a living. You are here to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, and with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world. You impoverish yourself if you forget this errand.

*Woodrow Wilson*

**Thought for Today!**

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All stock must go!

Safety measures must be observed.

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The lotto draw takes place in the foyer of the Parish Centre every Thursday evening after 5pm and is live streamed on the Portlaoise Parish facebook page;  
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**DON'T  
MISS YOUR  
CHANCE  
TO WIN!**



# Come Holy Spirit

## Fill the hearts of your faithful



The origin of Novenas is the 9 days between Ascension (*Thursday*) and Pentecost Sunday. At the Ascension the Lord gives the Apostles the great commission and then tells them to return to Jerusalem and await the coming of the Holy Spirit. After nine days of prayer, the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles – the first Pentecost Sunday.

Pentecost is often considered the birth of the Church. The ministry of Jesus is now made visible through our actions and life as members of His Church. The gift of the Holy Spirit helps us to carry out this witness to Jesus.

In anticipation of Pentecost, as part of a church that is still very much alive and gifted with the Holy Spirit, *the diocese is inviting you to do three things:*

**One:** Mary and the disciples waited in prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit. We invite you to pray the '*Prayer from Ascension to Pentecost*' each day between now and the Feast of Pentecost.

**Two:** For this week, decorate the door of your home with some image of Pentecost. This might include an image of the Holy Spirit / dove / red ribbons / wind chimes.

**Three:** Wear an item of red clothing on Pentecost Sunday whether you are able to come to church or not!

Come Holy Spirit, Come and speak  
through a new generation of men and women  
as you spoke through the prophets of old.  
Grant us new prophets who will announce God's  
truth, love, mercy and justice.

Come Holy Spirit who descended on Mary  
as she conceived the Son of God in her womb.  
Descend on us and form us into the image of Jesus.

Come Holy Spirit who filled  
the unborn John the Baptist  
with joy in the womb of his mother, Elizabeth.  
Fill all the baptised with the joy of our calling  
and a new desire to witness in the world.

Come Holy Spirit, who descended on  
Mary and the apostles at the first Pentecost,  
enlivening the Church in its infancy.  
Descend on us anew, filling us with new life.  
Pour out your gifts and miracles upon us  
as you once did in the Upper room.

Free us from fear and fill us with a holy  
courage as you did for the infant Church  
so that your Church may  
proclaim the Good News  
to the men and women of today.  
Amen



# CateKIDS

Portlaoise Parish [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)

HANDING ON  
THE FAITH



## I'm Praying for You

What comes to your mind when you see someone with their hands together like this? How about when you see a picture like this? That's right, you immediately think of prayer, don't you? How often do you think we should pray? Once a day? Before meals? Before we go to bed at night? What do you think we should pray for?



The Bible doesn't tell us exactly when to pray, but it does teach us how to pray. One day, Jesus' disciples asked him to teach them how to pray. I am sure you know what he said. In fact, we can probably all say it by heart.

**"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."**

We usually call that "The Lord's Prayer," but it is really a model prayer that Jesus taught so that we would know how to pray to the Father. I like to think that the real "Lord's Prayer" is the prayer that Jesus prayed the night before he was crucified. Jesus knew that he would be returning to heaven and that his disciples would be left behind. He prayed that as they lived in the world, they would not become part of the world. He did not want them to become stained by the wickedness and evil that was in the world. He wanted them to remain faithful to God and to what they had learned while Jesus was with them on earth. He wanted them to know his love and to share that love with others.

**Here are the things that Jesus prayed for his disciples:**

- That they would be one as he and the Father were one
- That God would protect them from the evil one
- That they would be made holy by the truth of God's Word



The prayer that Jesus prayed for his disciples is for us too. He said, "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message." That's you and me! We must live in this world, and Jesus prays that we might remain faithful to his teaching so that the world will know that God sent his Son and that God loves them.



Our Father, as we live in this world, help us to remain separate from the world. Help us to be faithful to your Word and, in so doing, to show your love to the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



# Jesus Prays for His Disciples..

**I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. John 17:9**



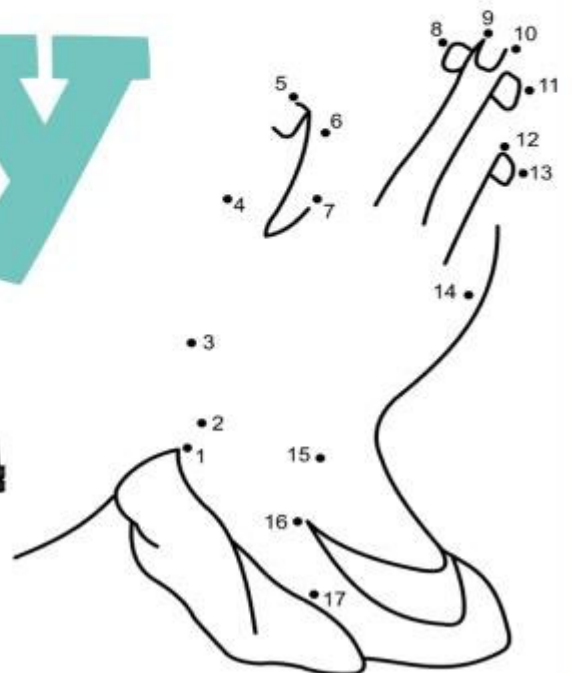
- \_\_\_1. To place in the hands of someone  
A. take    B. give    C. protect    D. word
- \_\_\_2. A combination of letters that represent a thought or idea  
A. protect    B. pray    C. word    D. holy
- \_\_\_3. To speak to God  
A. listen    B. pray    C. give    D. holy
- \_\_\_4. That which belongs to you  
A. mine    B. ours    C. yours    D. theirs
- \_\_\_5. To be a single unit, object, or living being  
A. one    B. protect    C. word    D. pray
- \_\_\_6. To keep from being injured or harmed  
A. give    B. pray    C. accept    D. protect
- \_\_\_7. Deserving special respect or reverence; worthy of worship  
A. Yours    B. holy    C. give    D. protect
- \_\_\_8. To receive something  
A. Protect    B. pray    C. accept    D. give



# pray



Angel of God,  
my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love  
commits me here,  
ever this day be at my side,  
to light and guard,  
to rule and guide.  
Amen.







# TIME TO THINK!

## Last Will and Testament

The celebration of the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven is an important feast. It brings with it both promise and hope. These days are thankfully much brighter. The light that was promised at the end of this pandemic is becoming very real. We are doing well and in a much better place. Very soon, the things we once took for granted will be part of our daily lives again. Ascension is really about home coming. Jesus, returns home to heart of God, but by doing so brings us all closer to his divine life. Homes are in sparse commodity for too many young people often crippled by huge rents and restricted to purchase homes because of their exuberant costs and lack of supply. Homes are key to our basic needs and affordable homes are an essential Christian and indeed Ascension value.

We are celebrating the Ascension of the Lord to Heaven. St Luke tells us that it was 40 days after the Resurrection. In the Bible, 40 usually refers to a time of preparation. The Risen Lord appeared in various ways to the disciples to help them in the transition from knowing him in human flesh to knowing him as the unseen God through Faith. "Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe." After Jesus it would truly be a New Age...a new power, a new mission and a new hope. Jesus promised: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you."

Next week we will celebrate Pentecost; see how the power of the Spirit changed the apostles...from ignorance to belief, from fear to courage, from despondency to joy. On the Mount of the Ascension, the apostles were told not to be looking up to the skies but to look out to the world as a field of mission. "Go, therefore, make disciple of all the nations. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time."

That mission and promise extends to our time. God is not just up there, but God is with us and in us. As Pope Francis put it, each one of us not only has a mission but each one is a mission to bring God's love and compassion to others. "I have no hands now but yours."

The Ascension opens up the doors of Heaven for us. This is beautifully expressed in the Preface for the Feast: "He ascended, not to distance himself from our lowly state but that we, his members, might be confident of following him where he, our Head and Founder, has gone."

Stephen Hawkins described human life as "chemical scum on an average-sized planet, orbiting around a very average-sized star, in the outer suburb of one of a million galaxies." Chemical scum! No, thank you! Give me our beautiful, meaningful and hope-filled Christian religion any day. Planets and galaxies suggest a big story but religion offers a story even bigger.

With St Paul we pray: "May God enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich graces he has promised the saints will inherit, and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers."

Our Lord's final instructions, his Last Will and Testament. Just before leaving them, he reminds them of what he expects of them. Earlier he had sent them out to spread the Kingdom of God. Those who go in his name, do so with *his* authority. The authority goes with the mission, so to speak. He now adds this great promise, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Mark says that the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it".



Teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age

Matthew 28:20

And Luke emphasises that they will be "clothed with power from on high", that is, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is very definite about what he has to say. Like any gathering of people, the feelings of his disciples were varied. But he sends them out to speak and act in his name. Their mission was both easy and hard: easy to understand but hard to carry out. It was to teach others all that he had taught them. Just as he asked them to follow his way, they were to ask that others should follow that way too.

Has a doctor ever put you on a course of antibiotics. The most basic guidance about antibiotics is to complete the course. Even if the patient starts to feel well after a few days, to discontinue taking the medicine can let their condition grow worse.

Similarly, the message of salvation must continue to be shared until the end of time. With all the changes in the church and in society, neither Jesus nor his message have changed. His Gospel remains a call to live our lives to the full. You write a new page of the gospel each day, through all that you do and whatever you say. Others read what you write, be it faithful or true. So what is the gospel according to you?

Jesus is with us always. This can be a real help against loneliness. Being alone is not the same as being lonely. One can feel lonely in a crowded street; or alternatively, like Cicero, *never less alone than when alone* ("minus solum, quam cum solus"). This applies especially to those who believe the promise, "I am with you always." Talking with him doesn't even need words. If we are open to His presence in our heart, and treasure it, we can experience fully that "Joy of the Gospel" so warmly described for us by our good Pope Francis.

*Dear Lord Jesus Christ, right before your Ascension into Heaven you told your apostles to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth upon receiving the Holy Spirit. May I be similarly inspired to spread your Gospel message in word and deed, according to your will for me. And may I do so prudently and joyfully, with your help, your guidance, and your grace! And remembering this glorious event, help me to seek what is above, Heaven, where you are seated at the right hand of God the Father!*



# MAY THE MONTH OF MARY - A Month to pray the Rosary

## The Joyful Mysteries



The Annunciation



The Visitation



The Birth of Our Lord



The Presentation in the Temple



The finding in the Temple

## The Mysteries of Light



The Baptism  
in the Jordan



The Wedding feast of Cana



The Proclamation of  
the Kingdom



The Transfiguration



The Institution  
of the Eucharist

## The Sorrowful Mysteries



The Agony in the Garden



The Scourging  
at the Pillar



The Crowning  
with thorns



The carrying of the Cross



The Crucifixion

## The Glorious Mysteries



The Resurrection



The Ascension



The Descent of  
the Holy Spirit



The Assumption



The Coronation



## The Ursulines of Mary

Immaculate

Morello Convent

Raheen, Co. Laois



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[brigidaprayer@gmail.com](mailto:brigidaprayer@gmail.com)



*Philippians 4:6: Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of  
**ANNIE O' BRIEN**

6 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
Months Mind occurs at this time.



Billy and the family of the late Annie O'Brien wish to acknowledge the many expressions of sympathy and gestures of kindness shown to them following their sad loss. We offer our heartfelt thanks to the many friends who telephoned, sent floral tributes, Mass cards and messages of condolences.

Also to Annie's neighbours in Marian Avenue for their guard of honour on her final journey, we are most grateful.

A very special word of thanks to the devoted and caring management and staff of Ballard Lodge Nursing Home, who cared for Annie with compassion and dignity. Also heartfelt thanks to Dr. Lawlor and all the doctors at the Cedar Clinic for attending to Annie over the years, to the staff of the Regional Hospital Portlaoise and McElwee's pharmacy Portlaoise.

A special word of thanks to Monsignor Byrne and all of the Priests of the Parish, who celebrated Annie's funeral Mass and to Nuala Kelly for the beautiful music.

Sincere thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their sensitivity and professional handling of Annie's funeral arrangements and thanks also to the gravediggers for preparing Annie's final resting place with such care.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude. The Holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Annie's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> May at 11:15am in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church and can be viewed via the Parish Webcam.

*Rest in Peace Annie*

**In Loving Memory of  
JAMES (Jimmy) BYRNE**

Knockanila, Mountrath  
Months Mind occurred 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 11:15am.

*Loved and remembered by all his loving family & friends.*

*Rest in Peace James*



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**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET LEECH**

Ridge Road, Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home.



*Till the shadows lengthen  
And the evening comes,  
And the busy world is hushed,  
And the fever of life is over and our work is done.  
Then in His mercy  
May He give us a safe lodging,  
And holy rest  
And peace at the last.*

Margaret's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
St. Mary's Church, Wolfhill, this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10am.

*Loved and very much missed by Anne, Elizabeth, Colette,  
Geraldine, Michelle and families.*

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**In Loving Memory of  
KATHLEEN McHUGH**

Temperence St. Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in the Church of the Most Holy  
Rosary, Abbeyleix, this weekend  
15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> May.

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 her loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Kathleen*

**In Loving Memory of Dad  
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Will those who think of Dad today,  
A little prayer to Jesus say.  
Sadly missed by his loving family.

*Rest in Peace Dad*

**90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

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

64 Lakeglen, Portlaoise. Birthday occurred 14<sup>th</sup> May.



Thinking of you on your birthday, with  
sadness in our hearts,  
For a very special someone, from whom  
we had to part.

Another birthday, another year,  
With precious memories of one so dear,  
Thoughts today of our lives together,  
Hold a love that will live forever.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his wife Nan & family.*

*Rest in Peace Paddy*

**Cherished Memories of  
DAVE LALOR**

Hawthorn Drive, Portlaoise.  
22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021



*Dad;  
A daily thought, a silent tear,  
A constant wish that you were here.*

*Love and miss you always  
Daddy, Gerard x*

*Daddy/Grandad  
Everyday in some small way,  
Thoughts of you come our way.  
Thinking of you always.*

*Love and miss you always Daddy  
Marie, Christy, Kyle and Finn xxxx*

*Dad/Grandad  
Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.  
Sadly missed everyday, Daithí, Marguerite,  
Shauna, Oisín & Cillian xxxxx*

**Also remembering  
MARY (Molly) HEALY**

Cullohill  
22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2021



*Will those who think of Molly  
today, a little prayer to Jesus say.*

*Missed everyday by her loving daughters,  
sons-in-law and grandchildren*

*Anniversary Mass for Dave & Molly will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church  
this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10am.*

*May Dave & Molly Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
TERESA KHANDKER**

*London and formerly Portlaoise.  
Sadly missed but forever loved on your  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary*



We who love you, sadly miss you,  
As it dawns another year,  
In our lonely hours of thinking,  
Thoughts of you are ever near.

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

*Rest in Peace Teresa*

**Anniversary Remembrance  
TERESA KHANDKER**

*London and formerly Portlaoise. 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary.*



**Shining Star**

The angels looked down from  
Heaven one night,  
They searched for miles afar,  
And deep within the distance,  
They could see a shining star,  
They knew that very instant,  
That the star was theirs to gain,

So they took you up to Heaven, forever to remain,  
Look down on us from Heaven,  
Keep us free from hurt and pain,  
You'll always be within my heart, until we meet again.

*Loved and missed everyday Pal, until we meet again,  
Frances and Tom.*

*Rest in Peace Teresa*

**In Loving Memory of**

*A wonderful Husband, Father, Grandfather & Great-grandfather*

**JOHN (Johnnie) PRESTON**

*Late of 28 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.  
27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.*

Speak to me as you have always done,  
Remember the good times, laughter  
and fun,

Share the happy memories we've  
made, do not let them wither or fade.

I've rested my eyes and gone to  
sleep, but memories we've shared  
are yours to keep,

Sometimes our final days may be a  
test, but remember me when I was at  
my best.

Although things may not be the same, don't be afraid to use  
my name. Let your sorrow last for just a while,  
Comfort each other and try to smile.

*Deeply loved, sadly missed, your loving wife Eileen xxx.*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 11:15am.*

**DAD;**

We walk beside you through the world today,  
In dreams we see you as we go our way,  
Please God one day we'll hold your hand,  
And walk beside you through the golden land,  
You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you Dad,  
You are always at our side.

*Loved always and never forgotten by your loving daughters,  
sons, daughters-in-law & son-in-law xxx*

**GRANDAD;**

Though absent you are always near,  
Still loved, still missed, still very dear.

*Missed and loved always from your loving grandchildren  
and great-grandchildren xxx*

*May John Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
ALICE PARNELL**

*"Avondale", Old Knockmay Road, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021*



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

We will never forget you, we don't  
even try, we just miss you more,  
as time goes by.

*Loved and remembered by her husband Kieran,  
son Michael, daughter Lisa, daughter-in-law Ann,  
son-in-law Peter, grandchildren Aoife, Rachel, Adam,  
Laura and Conor, relatives and friends.*

*May Alice Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
Fr. NOEL BYRNE (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
And his Sister Carmel (18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
Both anniversaries occur at this time.**



*Unseen and  
unheard but  
always near,  
Still loved, still  
missed and  
very dear.*



Also remembering our parents Joe and Margaret and  
daughter-in-law Margaret

*Loved and remembered by all their loving family.*

*May They Rest in Peace*



## In Loving Memory of OUR BROTHER JIM DOYLE

Late of 37 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.



*Brother;*

A day that's filled with sadness, is here with us today,  
To mark the time you left us, in such a sudden way,  
To us you were so special,  
What more is there to say?,  
We only wish with all our hearts,  
That you were here today.

*Loved always, never forgotten, your loving sisters;  
Ellen, Guggie, Mary and families xx*

*Rest in Peace Jim*

## In Loving Memory of ANNE CADOGAN

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021.



We cannot bring the old days back, when we were all together,  
The family chain is broken now, but memories last forever.

*Sadly missed by all her loving family.  
May Anne Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of GERARD McCORMACK

26 The Downs, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021.



In God's care you rest above,  
In our hearts you rest in love,  
Never more than a thought away,  
Loved and remembered everyday.

Sadly missed by his wife Philomena, sons Patrick, Ciaran and Declan, daughters Alice and Brenda, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

*May Gerard Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of OUR MAM MARY (Mai) DOYLE

Late of 37 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021.



Mam; Our lives go on without you  
Though nothing is the same  
We have to hide the heartache  
When someone speaks your name  
You did so many things for us  
Your heart was kind and true

As long as we were happy, you were happy too.

*Loved always, never forgotten, your loving daughters,  
Ellen, Guggie, Mary and families.*

*Rest in Peace Mai*

## In Loving Memory of Our Parents ANNE & THOMAS HILLIARD

23 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Deep in our hearts you both will stay, missing you both is a heartache that never goes away.

*Sadly missed by all their loving family.*

*May Anne and Thomas Rest in Peace*



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Thurs 20th May: 4pm - 7pm Adoration

Fri 21st: 6am - 7pm Adoration

Sat 22nd: 7pm Holy Mass & Adoration



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

Ballinakill every Friday, 3pm-6pm.

Shanahoe every Friday, 1:45-3pm, Rosary  
at 2:30pm, followed by Divine Mercy  
Chaplet. Adoration on Sundays 2.55-4pm.

For the month of May, we will be reciting  
the Rosary, Monday to Saturday evenings  
at 7:30pm and 2:30pm Sunday (respecting  
social distancing and HSE guidelines).

Knock Church every Saturday from 7pm to  
8pm.

Ballyroan every Friday, 10am-4pm.



## Portlaoise Parish



*Result sheets are available on our Facebook page, Twitter, Parish Website, the Parish Centre and in the Church porches.*



### World Communications Day 2021 Come and See

"The invitation to "come and see", which was part of those first moving encounters of Jesus with the disciples, is also the method for all authentic human communication. In order to tell the truth of life that becomes history (cf. Message for the 54th World Communications Day, 24 January 2020), it is necessary to move beyond the complacent attitude that we "already know" certain things. Instead, we need to go and see them for ourselves, to spend time with people, to listen to their stories and to confront reality, which always in some way surprises us."

*From Pope Francis' World Communications Day Message*

Pope Francis warns us of the great issue of reporting. Investigative reporting is sometimes side stepped in favour of faster means. Some reporters are coming to rely on creating stories without ever 'hitting the streets', creating stories in front of computers and social networks. We in turn learn about the world from newscasts and the internet without ever meeting people face to face. Today's invitation is to learn about the world through genuine encounter.

## 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 8600122



**Fr. David Vard C.C.**  
Tel: 057 8600121



**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 viewed on our website and our Church Porches.

**Diocesan Designated Liaison Person**  
Mick Daly [dlp@kandle.ie](mailto:dlp@kandle.ie)

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

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

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

**MANAGER** Declan Kelly

**Parish Secretaries** Michelle Bartley  
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

**Accounts** Michelle Conroy

**Sacristans Parish Church**

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

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