

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

Sunday 11th July 2021

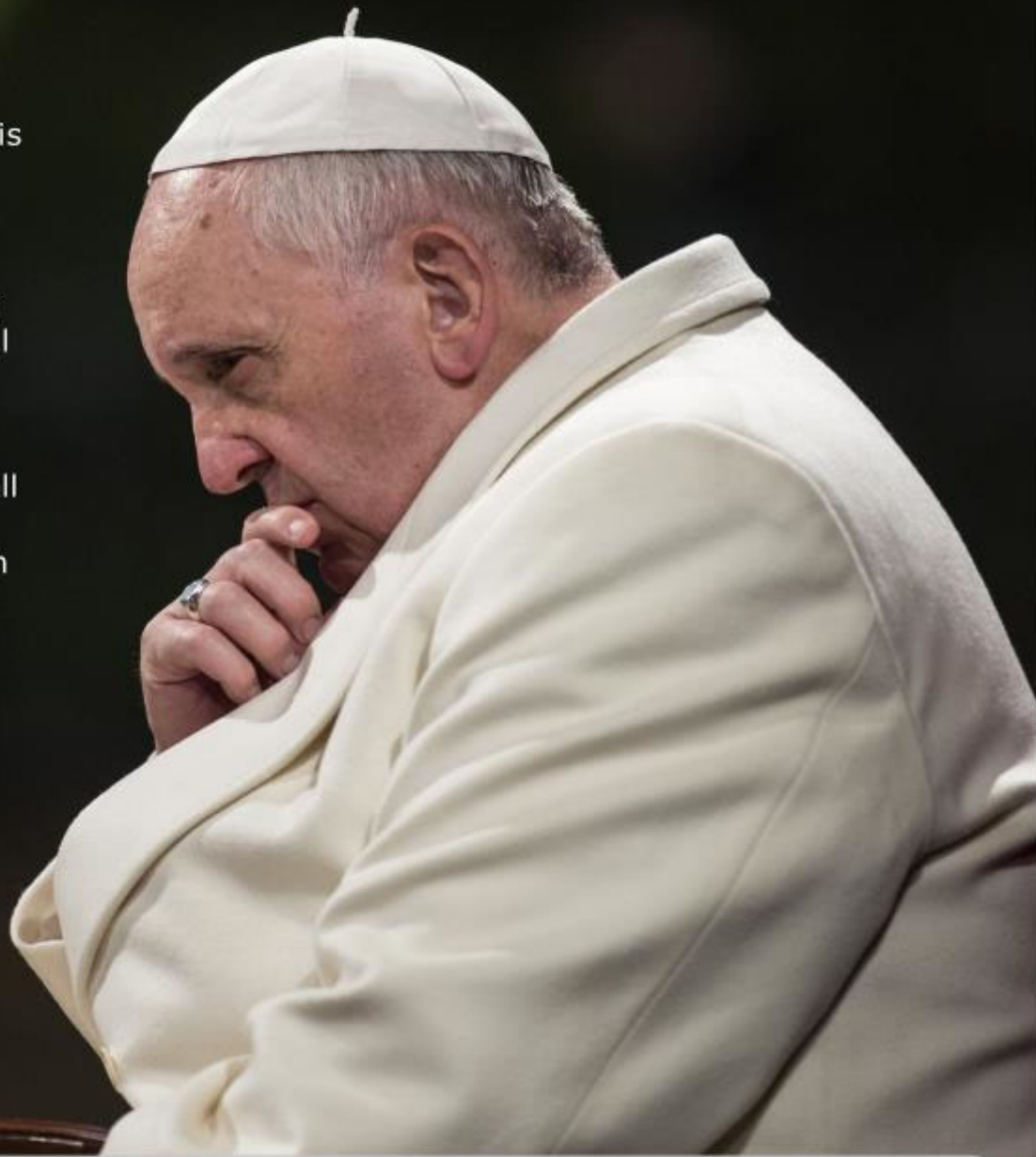
**Fifteenth Week
in Ordinary Time**



We pray for a speedy recovering for Pope Francis as he recovers from a recent surgery.

May the healing hand of Christ be with him and all who are caring for him.

We pray at this time for all who are sick, may they find comfort and peace in the knowledge Christ's love



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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Take Nothing with You

Travel light so as not to get distracted. Work hardest where your work is appreciated, but don't waste time where your work isn't producing any results. It's not just great advice for evangelising; it's great advice for living your life. In today's gospel Jesus is giving his disciples a three point strategy for spreading his teaching.

First Jesus promotes single mindedness. The disciples must travel light unhampered by any distractions. How many advertising campaigns fail because the heart of the message is cluttered and confused? How many Christians come out of church on a Sunday remembering only that they need to contribute to the church steeple restoration fund rather than remembering the central gospel lesson.

The second part of Jesus' plan was to choose the best audience. We are all familiar with the street preacher who stands in the middle of the city precinct whilst tides of shoppers give him a wide birth. For all his good intentions, this person has not chosen an audience who are in any mood to stop and listen. Jesus advises not to stay where we are not wanted nor try to teach those who refuse to listen. Choosing the best audience and setting are all important.

Thirdly, make the message clear and compelling. Jesus tells the disciples to teach a message of repentance and to cure the sick. In other words, we are to instigate a change for the better in the lives of others. It's a powerful message. Who doesn't want to change for the better? Who wouldn't listen if they were promised a better life?

So did Jesus' strategy work? That Christianity is so strong two thousand years down the line is a great testimony to Jesus and the work of those early disciples.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

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

Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Amos 7:12-15

Ps 84:9-14

Eph 1:3-14

Mk 6:7-13

Our Lady of Mount Carmel 16th July

The Carmelites were known from early on as "Brothers of Our Lady of Mount Carmel." The title suggests that they saw Mary not only as "mother," but also as "sister." The word "sister" is a reminder that Mary is very close to us. She leads us to a new realization that all human beings belong to the family of God. **When such a conviction grows, there is hope that the human race can find its way to justice and peace.**



We welcome into our Parish Community

Gabriela Eliza Brunovska, Ardan Glas

Rian Paul Logan, Colliers View

Adam David Egan, Rossdarragh Hill

James Eddie Graham, Borris Little

Olivija Kungyte Rathevan Close

Carson PJ Lawlor, Grenville

Baptised last weekend





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Thanks as always for your support.
Kind Regards, all @ Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

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

Rosary at the Grotto at 8pm.



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September 2021

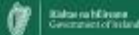
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Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

It's the time of year when many people are going on holidays. If you have ever gone on a trip, you know that it takes a lot of preparation to get ready to go. You may need to get someone to bring in your newspaper and your mail while you are gone. If you have a dog or a cat, someone has to take care of your pet.



Probably the most important thing you have to do when you go on a trip is pack your suitcase. Let's imagine that we are going on a trip and make a list all of the things we will need to pack in our suitcase. Let's see, we will need socks, underwear, jeans, shirts, shorts, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, comb and brush, and a swim suit and flip-flops for the beach. Have I forgotten anything? Oh, I thought of something I forgot. My laptop! I can't go a week without checking my email or surfing the Internet!

When he was on the earth, Jesus travelled around from village to village teaching, healing people, and casting out demons. One day, he called his twelve disciples to him and said, "**I want you to go out two by two. I am giving you all of the authority you need to cast out evil spirits.**"

That sounds like a pretty big task, doesn't it? That meant that they would have to travel from town to town just as Jesus had been doing. I imagine the disciples thought to themselves, "Wow! I had better go home and start packing!"

But then Jesus gave them further instructions. "**Take nothing for your journey except a walking stick -- no food, no traveler's bag, and no money. You can wear sandals, but no extra clothing.**" No food, no money, no extra clothes -- how could the disciples possibly make this journey? They found people who would welcome them and they stayed with them in their homes. These people fed them and gave them everything they needed for the journey. The Gospel tells us that the disciples went out telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. They also cast out many evil spirits and they healed many sick people. In other words, they did exactly what Jesus told them to do and he gave them the power to do it.

Jesus told you and me to go and make disciples. I wonder if sometimes we delay following his command because we think we aren't ready. If we would just go, like the Twelve did, he would give us the ability to share the Good News with others. What do you think?



My Prayer



**Father, we know that many people need to hear the Good News.
Jesus has told us to go and make disciples. Help us to be willing to go.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff - no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Mark 6:8



Choose the word that best matches the definition.
Answers can be found in Mark 6:6-13

- ___1. A basic food made from flour, water, and yeast mixed together and baked
A. fruit **B. vegetables** **C. soup** **D. bread**
- ___2. A trip over a great distance
A. walk **B. journey** **C. vacation** **D. visit**
- ___3. To instruct, train, or give knowledge to others
A. listen **B. watch** **C. teach** **D. help**
- ___4. A stick or cane carried as an aid in walking or climbing
A. tree **B. rope** **C. sandals** **D. staff**
- ___5. Coins or bills used to buy things
A. money **B. bread** **C. staff** **D. preach**
- ___6. A community where people live that is smaller than a town or a city
A. country **B. province** **C. village** **D. state**
- ___7. The number of disciples Jesus chose
A. six **B. twelve** **C. twenty** **D. eleven**
- ___8. To deliver a sermon; to proclaim the Word of God
A. journey **B. heal** **C. repent** **D. preach**
- ___9. Something that is bad or wrong; wicked
A. sick **B. evil** **C. money** **D. bread**
- ___10. Shoes consisting of a bottom part held onto the foot by straps
A. sandals **B. runners** **C. boots** **D. shoes.**



Imagine you are going on a trip and you can only take one bag. What would you take?
Write or draw the items in the suitcase beside.





TIME TO THINK!

GATHERING AROUND THE TABLE

I was really disappointed for so many children and families who again were prohibited from celebrating baptisms, communions and confirmations. Our churches continue to be greatly restricted and in limited use. This Pandemic has been hugely challenging for our Church. Whilst we engaged virtually, it in no way compensates from being with family as they approached the Table of the Lord. Without people physically present, the celebration is in so many ways, hollow and empty. Time and event have somehow slipped from our grasp, what was normal is no more, the gift of experience is missing as everything has changed.

In contrast, the bishops in the US Conference have set out on a path of discussion of eligibility for the reception of the gift from the Lord's table, seeking a clarification that can only sharpen the division where care and concern for faith should be paramount. The gathering round a table has a significance in many spheres. The family table is a focal point of the home, the place where a meal is eaten and conversation is shared, where points of view are exchanged and nourishment received. On special occasions, the best table cloth, napkins and crockery are brought out to mark the importance of the gathering.

To turn someone away from the table is a rejection of significance, the refusal of sustenance a gesture that cannot be ignored. Declaring someone unwelcome is not a trivial matter, it is opting out of a friendship in a public manner that shows disapproval. When there is international dispute, we talk of bringing those who disagree to the table, recognising that common cause will only be achieved through a meeting of hearts and minds intent on finding a meaningful solution. It is when we meet round a common table that agreement is finally reached and a solution is found. We speak of bringing an issue 'to the table', recognising that the table is a meeting place where matters might be resolved.

When leaving our homes in towns and cities we gather in church to share in the Eucharist, we are coming together in unity of purpose and commonality of prayer, setting aside our divisions and disagreements.

The politicising of Eucharistic Reception is diametrically opposed to the gift of love that is offered. Our individual conscience is always paramount, our intention is a matter between ourselves and the God in whom we profess our Christian faith. We have a phrase when there is disagreement - 'The least said the better'. The US Hierarchy would do well to reflect on those few words for already sides are being drawn in a dispute that is dividing the American Church.

With the vote to at least prepare a position document, the American Bishops conference, has declared its view as a national meeting, although in

the end each bishop decides what happens in his own diocese. There is still time for much heartache on the way through.

The citizens of the US elected Joe Biden as their President last November, a man who has openly professed his Catholic faith, choosing his integrity over the incompetence of his opponent, who carried the argument on week by week through to the early days of January, culminating in the storming of the very seat of government, the Capitol in Washington DC, the candidate who received the support of the Cardinal Archbishop of New York. Yet now, by their actions that are clearly targeting President Biden's position, they will only serve to sow further the seeds of division.

Contrast Biden's profession of personal faith with that of Jack Kennedy, "*Contrary to common newspaper usage, I am not the Catholic candidate for president,*" Kennedy said on live TV. "*I am the Democratic Party's candidate for President, who happens also to be a Catholic. I do not speak for my Church on public matters, and the Church does not speak for me.*"

No one doubts the seriousness of the abortion issue from the Christian standpoint. Nor should we discount the complexity of the public argument that faces men and women who seek to serve in the political forum. One can only ask that they examine the issues with care and consideration before casting their votes.

A compassionate Church is one that is sensitive to individual needs and voice of those who profess their faith in an open and honest manner. Rigid demarcation serves only to fuel intolerance in an already fractious world.

So in this time of celebrating the First Communion of our children may we not forget to encourage the continued reception of this gift from the Lord's Table for others rather than impose barriers that divide us, one from another.



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THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;**



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Pat Brennan
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Gemma Downey
Laburnum , Abbeyleix

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil: for you are with me: your rod
and your staff - they comfort me.*

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to
the death notice at www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices

**In Loving Memory of
JOHANNA SCULLY**

*5 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
12th Anniversary occurs 10th July 2021.*



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, this
Sunday 11th July at 12:30pm.

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by all her
loving family.*

Also remembering her husband Patrick at this time.

Rest in Peace Johanna

*In Loving Memory of my Precious Son
JAMIE-LEE MOORE*
6th Anniversary occurs 10th July 2021



Son

The day my child died,
I became somebody new,
A totally different person,
Someone I never knew.
I am not who I used to be,
I am definitely not the same,
The only thing that hasn't changed, is the
spelling of my name.

I cry more than I ever did,
I break down quite a lot,

My heart hurts everyday, the pain will never stop.

A mother gives her child life, and a love unlike no other,
When that is taken all away, she then becomes a grieving Mother.

*Love and missing you everyday son, always on my mind
Love Mummy xxxxxx*

Brother

Our hearts have been left broken, since the day you had to go,
And the memories we treasure dearly, are in the tears that still flow,
You're in our thoughts everyday, and that's how it will always be,
For you may be up in Heaven now, but you'll always be with us.
If only we could have the chance, to see your face once more,
Or to hear your voice one final time, just like it was before,
The day that Heaven calls for us, will be a relief from all this pain,
We'll run to you with open arms, and we will meet again.

*Loved and missed always, Tanya, Tina, Jake, Taylor and
Kyra-mae xxxxx*

Grandson

Each morning when we awaken and realise you are gone,
No one knows the loneliness, but we still carry on,
Words cannot heal the heartache or stop a silent tear, or take away
the memories of a grandson who we loved so dear.

Loved and missed always, Nanny Mag, Caroline, Boys xxxxx

Nephew

You were very special and that's why I mourn,
A wonderful nephew who from the day that you were born,
Were such a shining light, a gift, so precious too,
Amazing in many ways, you brightened my world.
It's true and it seems it is unfair, you had so much to give,
You would have grown, become a man, you had your life to live,
And we were blessed to know you, and now that you have gone,
I'll hold onto your memory, and our love for you goes on.

Loved and missed always, Aunty Sharon, James, kids xxxxx

May Jamie Lee Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOAN SAUNDERS**

Dublin Rd. Portlaoise. 6th Anniversary occurred 6th July 2021



Joan's Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church this **Sun. 11th July at 12.30pm.**

*Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for others needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.*

Loved and sadly missed by all your loving family.

May Joan Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
GERALDINE LEWIS**

(nee Buggy)

The Heath, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 11th July 2021



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, this Sunday 11th July at 9:30am.

Geraldine, they say that time is a healer, but as time goes on, I seem to find it just as hard to face the fact you're gone.

And today is the anniversary of the day you went away, and I'm standing here at your graveside, and believe me when I say;

You'll never be forgotten, and every year I'll shed a tear, but it's only because I love you, and wish you were still here.

Rest in Peace Geraldine

Always loved and remembered by your loving husband Derek, children Serena, Rachel and Darragh and grandson Killian xxx

Geraldine there is a face before us,
A voice we would love to hear,

A smile we will always remember, of a daughter and sister we loved so dear.

As days go by without you,
And weeks turn into years,

They hold a million memories and hide a million tears.

And when we see your photo,
You seem to smile and say;

Don't cry I'm only sleeping, until we meet some day.

Geraldine you are always in our thoughts and prayers, from Daddy, Mammy, Sean, Valerie, Edel and family xxx

Heavy are our hearts today,
Memory brings you back once more,
To the time you were with us,
To the happy days of yore.

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by her parents-in-law, Teddy and Trisha, brothers-in-law, sister-in-law and extended family xxx

May Geraldine Rest in Peace

**Birthday Remembrance
MARGARET HOULIHAN**

14 Oaklawn, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise

4th Birthday away from home occurs 15th July 2021



Missing You on Your Birthday.

You were very kind and thoughtful with a warm and loving heart,
And when other people needed help you always played your part,
You're thought of every single day, whatever time of year,
But somehow more than ever now your special day is here.

No present can be given and that's really very hard,
But there's a world of love inside this special little card,
Each memory is shining bright and treasured dearly too,
But memories can't take the place of someone dear,
like you.

Sadly missed and always remembered from your husband James, sons and daughters, grandchildren and extended family.

May Margaret Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ANNIE (Nan) McDONALD**

Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.



And

TOM & MARGARET (Peg) McEVOY
3 Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise.



Will those who think of them today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.

Also remembering deceased members of the McEvoy and McDonald families.

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
STEPHEN McELROY**

21 Carmody Way, Portlaoise. 1st Anniversary occurs 16th July.



1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Sunday 18th July at 10am.**

*Thinking of you Stephen is easy,
We do it every day, but missing you is
a heartache, that never goes away.*

*Sadly missed by your Mam, sisters,
brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews.*

Rest in Peace Stephen

**In Loving Memory of
IAN AMARAL-LAWLOR**

Bennekerry and Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise.



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on **Sunday 18th July at 10am.**

Ian, to lose someone as special as you, is really hard to bear, and it hardly seems believable that you're no longer there.

You left us far too early, before your time it seems, and now you'll never have the chance to fulfil all your dreams.

However hard it is though, we'll take comfort in the thought, of all the beautiful memories we have and the joy and happiness you brought.

We know you are at peace now, in a place where you are free, meet me at the pearly gates, when Heaven calls for me.

Deeply loved and missed by his husband Antonio, mother Annette, brothers Owen, Paul and Wayne, sister Gemma, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, extended family, relatives and friends.

Rest in Peace Ian

**In Loving Memory of
MARY FLYNN**

Lakeglen, Green Rd. Portlaoise.



21st Anniversary occurs 8th July

Wherever I go, whatever I do, memories of your love keep me near to you.

Sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

May Mary Rest in Peace

**Birthday Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
KATHLEEN CONROY**

26 St. Johns Square, Portlaoise. 77th Birthday occurs 12th July.



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

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by your son Shaun*

May Kathleen Rest in Peace

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Contact Matthew

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David **087-2369887**



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Contact;

057-8620567

PAUL; 087-2562137

NIALL;

086-2770095



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
8th July 2021

13

16

18

19

No €16,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS
Billy Bohan

MATCH 3s €1,000

PROMOTER
Peggy Kelly

1
Match 3s
€1,000
each

Play PARISH



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Next Week's Jackpot €17,000

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

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church
are live streamed www.portlaoiseparish.ie
(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times
057 8600119)



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

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space
E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Support for the Parish

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

**PRAYER FOR HEALING
FOR POPE FRANCIS AND FOR ALL WHO ARE SICK**

**Almighty God,
You are the only source of health and
healing. In you there is calm, and the only
true peace in the universe. Grant to each
one of us your children an awareness of
your presence, and give us perfect
confidence in you. In all pain and
weariness and anxiety teach us to yield
ourselves to your never-failing care,
knowing that your love and power
surround us, trusting in your wisdom and
providence to give us health and strength
and peace when your time is best; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.**