

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

1st August 2021

**Eighteenth Week  
in Ordinary Time**



*Continued success and the best of luck  
to all our athletes in Tokyo.  
We are proud of you!*



**Best of luck to Gary O'Reilly, Borris Road who is representing Ireland at the Paralympics Games in Tokyo at the end of August. Gary had a great send off on Monday night before he jets off to Portugal for his final preparations.**

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142  
E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

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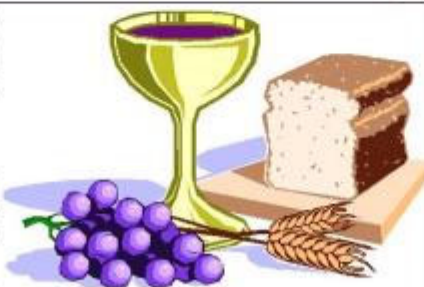
**HEATH CEMETERY MASS  
Sunday, 15th August**

**Feast of the Assumption  
Procession,  
Rosary at 7pm  
Mass at 7.30pm**

Saint Augustine prays, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord and our heart is restless until it rests in you."

Today's Gospel is a continuation of the feeding of the five thousand. Impressed by Jesus' ability to miraculously feed them, the crowds chase after him eager for more of the same.

Jesus however knows that for his new found fans, witnessing a miracle doesn't automatically lead to faith. Jesus knows that they have shared the meal, shared the miracle, but missed the message. "Very truly" he tells them, "you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves." Jesus gives the crowd one single piece of life changing advice. "Do not work for food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life."



It's a life changing piece of advice but hugely difficult for us to follow. It is difficult for us to believe that more money and a better lifestyle won't make us happy. It is hard for us to believe that writing a best selling book, winning X Factor, climbing a mountain or winning a medal won't bring ultimate fulfilment. We look at people who are seemingly happy with not very much and imagine that they are easily satisfied because they aren't very bright or perhaps they are just a bit lacking in ambition. The key to true fulfilment is in Jesus' example. Jesus didn't try to amass possessions, nor did he try to 'be something'. Jesus simply poured out his life for others. It is when we pour ourselves out for others that we are closest to being fulfilled and at peace. It is when our lives are more about our love for others than our own selfish pursuits that life's hunger is satisfied.

Jesus is the bread of life not for what he puts into our stomachs but in how he teaches us to live. In Communion, Jesus shapes us to give, in the same way as he gives himself. "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."



**Communion for the Sick**

The priests will attend those on the list of the sick and housebound on the first Friday (6th).

If you are not on this list and would like a priest to call please contact the Parish Centre 057 862 1142.

**Mass times for the coming week**

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

**Monday (Bank Holiday):** 10am & 11am

**Tuesday - 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

**Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time**

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

Psalms 77:3-4, 23-25, 54

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

John 6:24-35

**Feast of the  
Transfiguration  
Thursday  
6th August**



The first and single most important factor in staying motivated is to have

a vision. Having a vision gives us a reason to act. As Christ's disciples we might motivate ourselves with a vision of a world without poverty or war ... or simply to improve the life of one other person. The Feast of the Transfiguration invites us to stay motivated as disciples in the belief that we will one day enjoy the place God has prepared for each of us.

**We welcome into our Parish Community**



Harrison Michael Guerin, The Heath

Theo Patrick Kelly, Knockmay

Riley Slattery Lyons, Castle Way

Joshua Passos Flynn, Ashewood Walk

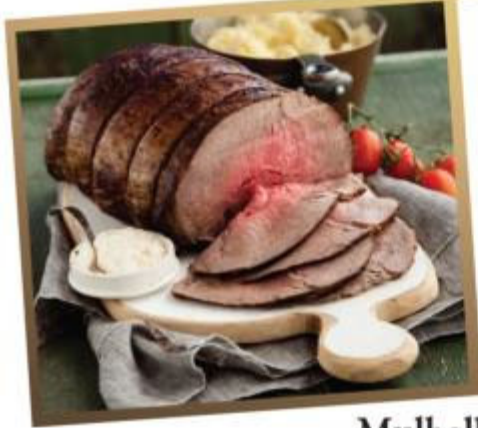
Tia Thomson, The Crescent

**Baptised last weekend**



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*NICOLA CALDBECK BSc MISC P MAACP*

*CONOR BOLTON BSc MSc MISC P*

## **NEW WEBSITE**

**We have recently launched our new website;  
[www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie](http://www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie)**

*One of the main aims of the website is to allow our clients to make **online bookings** at their own convenience.*

*You will be able to select your physio and a time that suits you. However we are always available on the phone on 087-9945057 should you be unable to find a time that suits. We will occasionally be posting information on focus topics in our advice section. Take a look when you get a chance and any feedback is more than welcome.*

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

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<p><b>SPORTS PEOPLE;</b> May need to be aligned biomechanically to prevent problems and cushioned for shock absorbency.</p>	<p><b>CHILDREN;</b> 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.**

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Best of Luck to  
**Gary O' Reilly**

from Portlaoise who will  
be competing in the  
Tokyo 2020 Paralympic  
games as part of the Team  
Ireland Para Cycling Team.  
Come on the Town!!

## *The Ken Smollen* **FOOD APPEAL**

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## LOOKING FOR A SIGN



We see signs all around us every day. As we walk down the halls at school we may see signs that identify the different rooms in the school such as the staff room, office, library, computer lab, or music room. Each classroom probably has a sign by the door with the teacher's name on it so that the students will be able to find their classroom.

When we travel around our town we see signs that tell us what we should or should not do. We see signs for a school zone ahead and we should drive slowly and watch for children. Or on the main roads we could see a sign to tells us to stop. We should be watching for the stop sign and be prepared to stop.

Or we could see a sign in a public building that has an X with a cigarette – That is a sign that we should all obey. NO SMOKING!

The Gospel today is about signs of a different kind. It is a story about some people who were looking for a sign that would prove to them that Jesus had been sent from God. Do you remember the story about Jesus feeding five thousand people with just five loaves of bread and two fish? As you might imagine, that made Jesus very popular with the people, so when the crowd realised that Jesus and his disciples had left, they went looking for him. They found him way over on the other side of the lake. When they found him, they asked him, **"Teacher, when did you get here?"**

Jesus answered them, **"You came looking for me not because you saw God in my actions but because I fed you. You shouldn't be so concerned about things like food. Instead, you should be seeking the eternal life that I can give you."**

The people wanted proof. "Show us a miraculous sign if you want us to believe in you. What can you do? After all, Moses gave our ancestors bread from heaven to eat when they were in the wilderness. Can you do that?"

Jesus answered them, **"The true bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."**

**"Give us that bread! Give it to us every day,"** the people said.

Jesus replied, **"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."**

Some people today are still asking for some special sign that will prove that Jesus was sent from God. God has given us all the signs we need right here in the Gospel. All God wants is for us to believe in the One He sent.

### My Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your Son, the Bread of Life. We don't need a sign, we believe in your Holy Word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.





# I am the Bread of Life

John 6:35



## LOOKING FOR A SIGN

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Choose the word that best matches the definition.



- \_\_\_1. To accept something as being true  
**A. think**      **B. hope**      **C. believe**      **D. wish**
- \_\_\_2. To have desire for water  
**A. hungry**      **B. thirsty**      **C. tired**      **D. weary**
- \_\_\_3. To last forever; to be without end  
**A. eternal**      **B. short**      **C. long**      **D. brief**
- \_\_\_4. The period between birth and death  
**A. youth**      **B. life**      **C. childhood**      **D. adult**
- \_\_\_5. A signal that something exists or might happen in the future  
**A. picture**      **B. word**      **C. sign**      **D. believe**
- \_\_\_6. The place where God and the angels live  
**A. heaven**      **B. Jerusalem**      **C. earth**      **D. eternal**
- \_\_\_7. A food made from flour and water, mixed together and baked  
**A. manna**      **B. bread**      **C. corn**      **D. candy**
- \_\_\_8. The earth with its inhabitants  
**A. heaven**      **B. desert**      **C. bread**      **D. world**
- \_\_\_9. To put food into your mouth, chew it and swallow it.  
**A. drink**      **B. eat**      **C. sleep**      **D. thirsty**
- \_\_\_10. To have a desire for food  
**A. thirsty**      **B. eat**      **C. hungry**      **D. tired**



*Love is like*

*5 Loaves and 2 Fish*

*There is never  
enough*

*Until you start  
giving it away*



"I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you bread from heaven."

Taken from today's Gospel



# TIME TO THINK!

## HARVEST.....A TIME TO GIVE THANKS

Time seems to be flying by. It's hard to believe that August has arrived so quickly!! I pray that this wonderful Season of hope, will be filled with health and rich blessings for us all.

Even though we are still in holiday season, the Celtic festival of Lughnasadh heralds the beginning of early harvest. Marking the cross-quarter day between Summer solstice on June 21<sup>st</sup> and Autumn equinox on September 21<sup>st</sup>, it is traditionally held on 1<sup>st</sup> August, though some of the celebrations in recent centuries have shifted to the Sundays nearest this date.

As one of the four Gaelic seasonal festivals, Lughnasadh heralds the commencement of Autumn followed by Samhain and Winter, Imbolg and Spring then Bealtaine and Summer.

Lughnasadh itself is named after Lugh, an Irish God called *samildanach* (pronounced *sam-ill-dawn-ack*), meaning he was highly adept in many arts simultaneously. There are countless inscriptions and statues dedicated to him and Julius Caesar himself commented on his importance to the Celtic people.

There is something very fulfilling eating fresh vegetables that you have nurtured, cultivated with your own hands. As we celebrate the beginning of harvest time, once again we are reminded of God's bounty, when it comes the harvest. In Celtic times, this season of Lunasa was an occasion of thanksgiving. The Celtic people burnt huge fires, danced and celebrated many rituals, as they thanked God, for the food and sustenance that nourished them as they faced the darker and more vulnerable months of the year. Harvest time is indeed a time of rich blessing, a time to gather all that has been planted and cared for since the early spring. There can be no harvest without all the necessary tilling, planting, pruning, weeding and nourishing that accompany any fruit that ripens into something good and nourishing.

Perhaps this harvest time is an opportunity for us all, to acknowledge the fruits that we all have in the depth of our being. Fruits that take a lot of time to grow and mature into the beautiful personality and unique qualities that are particular to all our stories. The gift of Grandparents who embody the story of every harvest. Parents who respond so generously to the needs of their children.



Parenting I'm sure in many ways could be likened to tending the needs of the vineyard, it is constant, demanding, most challenging and in many ways totally dependent on the unconditional generosity and reservoir of love, that provides for the needs of family life. I am often truly inspired by the time and indeed sacrifices that so many wonderful parents, so often make for their children, in order to allow them to grow and realise the best possible harvest for their family. No fruit or talent can realise its potential without effort and work.

*Thank you, O Lord, your love is boundless*

Thank you, O Lord, your love is boundless,  
Thank you, that I am full of you,  
Thank you, you make me feel so glad and thankful as I do,  
Thank you for all the grains of wheat,  
Thank you for all the bread we eat,  
Thank you for all the turf we gather,  
Thank you, we will have plenty of heat  
Thank you for all the ripe bananas,  
Thank you for orchards in the field,  
Thank you for all the new potatoes,  
Thank you for all the beans and peas,  
Thank you for all our gifts and talents,  
Thank you, we share with those in need,  
Thank you I see your world has meaning,  
Thank you I know your spirit here,  
Thank you because you love all people, those both far and near.



# OPEN WEEK 2021

## Welcome to our Open Week

- 18 Hole: Members €10, Visitors €15
- 9 Hole: Members €5, Visitors €5
- Open Week Ticket: €50 (Members only - excludes 9 hole competitions)
- Max Handicap for Team Events: Ladies 40, Gents 24
- First Hole-in-One on any hole - Lawnmower sponsored by **Millers Home and Garden**
- All competitions open to Ladies and Gents unless otherwise specified.
- Overall prizes and prizes for best Ladies team
- 9 Hole Competitions playable from 5:00 pm.
- Catering and Bar in the Clubhouse

The Committee wishes to thank sponsors and volunteers for their support

9 Days of Open Golf  
Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> August  
to Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> August

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## SATURDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### 3 Person Team

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### 9 Hole - 3 Person Texas Scramble

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## WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### Ladies 2 Person Team Event

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### 12 Hole Singles Stableford - Gents

Sponsor: Midland Grass Machinery

## THURSDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### 3 Person Scramble \*

Sponsor: Sparrow Insurances

### 9 Hole Singles - Stableford

Sponsor: McElwee Pharmacies

## FRIDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### 4 Person Classic

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### 9 Hole - 3 Person Scramble

Sponsor: Brady Signs

## SATURDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### Gents 18 - Hole Singles Stroke

Sponsor: HEART ER Ambulance

### 9 Hole - Scotch Foursomes

Sponsor: Finline Furniture

## SUNDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### 3 Person Scramble \*

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### 9 Hole - Singles Stableford

Sponsor: Brady's Garage

## MONDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### Ladies and Gents

### 18 Hole Singles Stableford

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### 9 Hole - 3 Person Scramble

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## TUESDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

### 4 Ball (Any combination)

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



*Vera Walworth*

Pauma Valley, California  
Interred in the Heath  
Cemetery (1<sup>st</sup> August 2021)



*Brigid Lewis*

née Whelan  
Stradbally and formerly  
Dr. Murphy Place

**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](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
*In Loving Memory of*  
**THERESA O'NEILL (née Conroy)**  
*Rathnamanagh (formerly The Downs)*



On this 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Mammy's death on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020, we her family with to sincerely thank everyone who sympathised and thought of us, all those who attended her funeral Mass via webcam, sent Mass and sympathy cards, condolence messages and who contacted us in any way to offer their support.

Special thanks to all those who looked after Mammy in her last few months.

We wish to acknowledge the support of Msgr. John, Fr. David, Mammy's godson Fr. Eamonn and all the Priests of the Parish. We would particularly like to thank Fr. Tom for his support and for the friendship that meant so much to Mammy over the last number of years.

Thank you to Aishling Rohan who enriched her funeral Mass, singing her favourite hymns and also to the Sacristans.

Thank you to Matthew Keegan, David Goode and the gravediggers for their kindness and professionalism.

As a token of our appreciation, Mass will be offered for your intentions.

*1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass for Theresa will be celebrated on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 6:30pm in the Parish Church.*

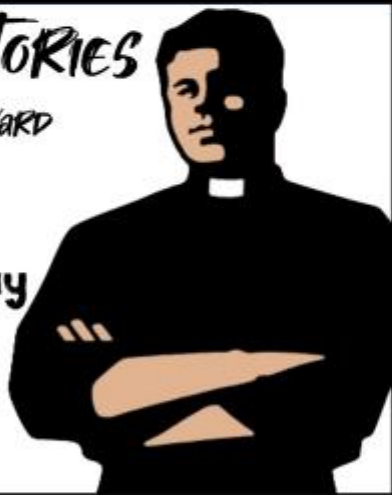
*"May Heaven Be Her Bed"*

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**In Loving Memory of**  
**MARY HORAN nee Colbert**  
*Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 11.15am.

*Lovingly remembered by your brothers & sisters.*

*May Mary Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of My Dear Father**  
**GARRETT KEOGH**

*Borris Rd., Portlaoise.*  
*51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.*



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

*I will always love and remember you.*

*Your daughter Margaret and son-in-law  
Oliver and grandchildren xx*

*Rest in Peace Garrett*



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**In Loving Memory of  
JOE CAMPBELL**

*Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
this Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 11:15am.

Our thoughts are ever with you though you  
have passed away, and those who have  
loved you dearly are thinking of you today.

*Loved and remembered by all his loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Joe*

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Contact Matthew

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David **087-2369887**

**In Loving Memory of  
KEVIN FRANCIS MURPHY**

Late of Beladd, Portlaoise  
Died 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.



*Time unfolds another year,  
Memories keep you very near,  
No need for words except to say,  
You're loved and missed  
each passing day.*

Sadly missed by your loving  
wife Mary, daughters Sinead &  
Niamh, sons Cathal and Tadhg,  
son-in-law James, daughter-in laws Clare and  
Susan, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

*May Kevin Rest in Peace*

**HENRY RANKIN  
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Des 087-2794532  
moranundertakerslaois@gmail.com

**In Loving Memory of**



Ann Aird 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
Mark Aird 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Remembering our Dad William (Billy) whose 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary  
occurred 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 12.30pm.

We often sit and think about the years that have passed by  
and of the happiness and joy that was shared by all of us.  
We think of all the laughter, the smiles and all the fun and  
before we even know it, our tears have once again begun.  
For, although it brings us comfort, to walk down memory lane  
it reminds us how without you, life has never been the same.

*Love Ciara, Niall, Tara, Vanessa, grandchildren,  
great-grandchild and families.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

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Street  
Abbeyleix

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE O' CONNOR**

*St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021.*



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

*Always remembered, never forgotten  
by Lucy, your brothers and sisters,  
your son James and daughter Zoe  
and your grandson Odin xxxxx*

*Rest in Peace Eugene*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARY NEVIN**

*12 Mountain View Square, Portlaoise.  
11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021*



Mass will be offered for Mary in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church  
this Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 10am.

*Memory is a lovely lane where  
hearts are ever true,  
A lane we so often travel down  
because it leads to you.*

*Loved and remembered by your  
loving son Paddy, Kathleen and  
family and grandchildren.*

*Always love you, Never forget you.*

*Rest in Peace Mommy*

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE O' CONNOR**

*Colliers Court, Portlaoise.  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021.*



You were someone special who was  
thought so highly of,  
You will always be remembered with  
affection, warmth and love.

*Missed everyday Euge, by your  
sister Mary xx*

*Rest in Peace Eugene*

Happy the poor in spirit:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Matthew 5:3

**The Ursulines of Mary  
Immaculate**

**Morello Convent**

Raheen, Co. Laois



*We are praying for you!*

*Send us your  
Prayer  
Requests*

[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.*



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## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
29<sup>th</sup> July 2021



### No €19,000 Jackpot Winner

#### WINNERS

Sandra & Barry Bohan  
Catherine Farrell  
Lotto Gang  
Barry O'Loughlin  
Donal Brennan  
Teresa Sage  
Andy Hickey  
David Kelly  
Declan Keenan  
Vera Richardson

#### MATCH 3s €1,000



#### PROMOTER

Peggy Kelly  
Lynda Campbell  
Parish Centre  
Betty Lynch  
Peter Ryan  
Elizabeth Hilliard  
Pam Maher  
David Kelly  
Celine Cripps  
Vera Richardson

Play PARISH



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& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

Next Week's Jackpot **€20,000**

### Support for the Parish

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

#### Ways to contribute to our Parish

Envelope boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre

Direct payment by cheque or cash

Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church

Donation facility on our website

Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre

Or Transfer directly to our Account

**Portlaoise Parish Account:**

IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

**Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:**

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU

### Clergy 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 8622301



Deacon Eugene Keyes  
Tel: 057 8621142

To contact the Priest on Duty:  
Parish Centre during office hours  
Tel: 057 8621142  
Outside office hours  
in emergency only  
Tel: 057 8621364

### Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and 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](http://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](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

**PARISH SHOP**  
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

# PRAYER CARD TO ST. FINTAN OF CLONENAGH

## St. Fintan of Clonenagh



### Prayer to St. Fintan

St. Fintan I honour thee as mighty intercessor,  
And come with confidence to thee,  
Help me in my needs. *(Mention needs)*

For relief of which I undertake  
to make this prayer.

O glorious St. Fintan watch over us all  
and protect us from lightning and from  
accidental death.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
St. Fintan, Patron of Laois  
Pray for us.

On the photo the ruins of  
the Church in Clonenagh

A beautiful prayer card in honour of the Patron Saint of Laois, St. Fintan, will be available in all local churches over the next few weeks. This beautiful card is the gift of the Laois branch of the Knights of Columbanus and we thank them for all their hard work.

**St. Fintan Pray for us.**  
[www.knightsofstcolumbanus.ie](http://www.knightsofstcolumbanus.ie)