

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**

**link
up**

22nd August 2021

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



The sale of the Old Parochial House and grounds, which has been on the market for the past 5 years has finally concluded. We wish the new owner well with this development.

See page 15 for more.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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



Believe or Leave

Like a barrister, St. John sets Jesus' case before us. He sets it out in measured bite sizes so that we can digest one fact before moving onto the next.



We see Jesus healing people and curing the sick. We see him present us with a sign of his divinity in the feeding of the five thousand. We see Jesus teaching people about the more enduring bread sent to nourish us spiritually, and finally we learn that Jesus himself is that living bread come down from heaven to give us everlasting life. The case is complete, but the audience have a sticking point. There were those amongst Jesus' disciples who could not accept that Jesus had come down from heaven, and they turned their backs and left. What was Jesus to do? Should he call them back and make the truth easier for them to understand? Should he work another miracle to convince them that little bit more? No! Jesus turns to those who are left and gives them a choice, they have heard what he has said about eating and drinking his flesh and blood, and now they have a choice. So, are they going to remain his followers or are they too going to turn their backs. The same choice is levelled at us today. We can believe or we can leave?

Difficult choices always have something in common; there is always some kind of sticking point. To make a difficult choice we often need a missing piece of information, or a new perspective. Peter gives us that perspective. "Master," he says, "to whom shall we go. You have the words of eternal life." To Peter, the choice was easy. To Peter there was really no choice to be made. Who else was there to follow but Jesus?

We make the same choice as Peter every week in Mass when we celebrate the Eucharist. In celebrating the Eucharist we make a choice to follow where Jesus may lead.

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

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Psalms: 33:2-3, 16-23

Ephesians 5:21-32

John: 6:60-69

Saint Monica

27th August

A Christian saint and mother of Saint Augustine



Monica's parents brought her up as Christian and married her to an older, pagan man named Patricius. He was a man with a great deal of energy, but also a man given to violent tempers and adultery. Augustine reports that Patricius beat St. Monica. Furthermore, her mother-in-law was against her and caused a lot of trouble. Long years of prayer, coupled with a strong, well-disciplined character, Monica finally converted her hot-tempered husband, her cantankerous mother-in-law and her brilliant but wayward son, Augustine. Monica is the patron saint of wives, mothers, and abuse victims.

Visit our website: www.portlaoiseparish.ie



We welcome into our Parish Community

Ruby Alison Ryan, Mountrath Road

Zac James Dillon, Grenville

Allanna May Smyth, Berryridge Ave

Ella Mary Kenrick, Aghnaharna Drive

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Osteoporosis exercise classes are ongoing and can be joined at anytime, please enquire at the clinic for more information on times.



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Important Meeting of the Retired Nurses Association
Laois/Offaly Branch will take place, Monday 23rd August
at 2:15pm in Portlaoise Parish Centre.

Top of the agenda is the Association's 25th Anniversary
arrangements to take place hopefully, mid-September.

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To Whom Shall We Go?

It is back to school time! Does that make you happy, or are you sad? Are you excited? Nervous? Afraid? You needn't be ashamed if you are a little bit nervous or afraid. After all, you will be facing a lot of new things. You will have to make a lot of choices.



One of the first things you will have to choose is your uniform and how you will look on the first day of school. That is pretty important, isn't it? After all, you want to look your best and make a good impression. When you get to your classroom, you will have to choose where you want to sit. Is it best to sit up front, at the back, or maybe somewhere in the middle?

Some choices you have to make are not very important, but others are very important. There will be rules in your classroom. You will have to choose whether or not you are going to follow the rules. That is very important! You will also be choosing who your friends will be. That is important, because if you choose the wrong kind of friends, you might find yourself in a lot of trouble. What if the teacher says something and you don't understand it? Will you pretend that you understand, or will you go to the teacher and ask for help? Those are some pretty important decisions you may be facing in the new school year.

The followers of Jesus faced some difficult decisions too. Sometimes, the teachings of Jesus were hard for them to understand. One day Jesus was teaching in the synagogue and he said to the people, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who feeds on me will live forever." When the people heard it, they said, "This is a hard teaching. How can anyone accept it?" Some of them quit following Jesus after that day.

Jesus knew that many people were grumbling and complaining, so he turned to the twelve whom he had chosen to be his disciples and said, "You don't want to leave too, do you?"

Peter answered him. "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." The disciples had answered the call to follow Jesus. They were not about to turn back now.

You and I face the same decision those first disciples faced. Will we follow Jesus, or will we look for another to lead us? It may not always be easy to follow Jesus, but to whom can we go? Who else offers eternal life?



Father, we thank you for Jesus, the only one to whom we can go for the gift of eternal life. In his name we pray. Amen.



To Whom Shall We Go?

"You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Puzzle is based on John 6:67-69

M Y T D I C T T A V G G K L O
N F R K C N N U E W Y O S E I
O A G J E S U S R A K T K A A
H V B A C K F M J N C N D V H
N U B E N M G E D X N H O E X
J U E T A E V E A Y B E I W S
T Y T E C D M B W S F G K N N
V K R R R S K O S I J R C Y G
K O A N C H L E L P O U T T A
Z P Y A E L V I T L G M H G T
C U X L O I W U Q U A B G E W
X J R F G D G M F A Z L Y V M
E A R Q U W O R D S D I U I A
B B E L I E V E U L P N R Z V
S X U D U U E H S W N G W K V

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GRUMBLING
BETRAY
LIFE
WORDS
ETERNAL
TURN
BACK
BELIEVE
JESUS
LEAVE
KNOW
TEACHING
FOLLOW
HARD



Best of luck to the boys and girls who are starting or returning back to school shortly. We hope you had a lovely Summer.

See our Portlaoise Parish schools opening dates below.

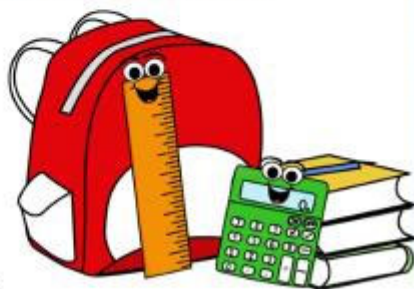
The Heath N.S.
St. Francis School
Scoil Bhride, Knockmay
Ratheniska
Holy Family Jnr.
Holy Family Snr.
Gaelscoil Phortlaoise

Wednesday 1st September
Wednesday 25th August
Monday 30th August
Monday 30th August
Tuesday 31st August
Tuesday 31st August
Monday 30th August

See our Abbeyleix/Raheen Parish schools opening dates below.

Scoil Mhuire, Abbeyleix
Scoil Eoin Phóil II Naofa
Tobar an Léinn, Raheen
Scoil Fionntáin Shanahoe

Thursday 26th August
Monday 30th August
Thursday 26th August
Friday 27th August



SCHOOL BAG BLESSING

A special Mass for all back to school students will take place shortly. At this Mass all students are invited to bring their school bags for blessing their new school year ahead. Watch this space!

SUMMARY OF PARISH ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

Due to the pandemic we publish our accounts for 2020 a little later than usual. The Parish and Parish Centre Accounts have been submitted to and examined by the Diocesan Accountant and audited by the Diocesan external Accountants. They form part of the Diocesan consolidated accounts which are submitted to the Charity Regulator in October each year.

RECURRING INCOME		
	2020	2019
	€	€
Development Fund	75,737.00	168,906.00
Basket Collection	152,138.00	152,904.00
Shrines	81,405.00	92,218.00
Donations/Bequests	-	2,335.00
Parish Lotto Income	92,162.00	65,782.00
Charity Christmas Cards	21,815.00	18,460.00
Sundry Income	6,331.00	2,718.00
Rental Income	102,870.00	63,642.00
	€532,458.00	€566,965.00
RECURRING EXPENDITURE		
Wages and salaries	25,870.00	69,434.00
K&L Retired Priest Fund	3,000.00	3,000.00
Insurance	20,091.00	19,288.00
Light and heat	49,035.00	52,576.00
Telephone, Broadband & Internet Related Expenses	8,747.00	10,077.00
Computer Hardware/Software & Servicing Costs (incl. new parish website design)	6,422.00	1,322.00
Repairs and maintenance	41,376.00	32,628.00
Postage, Stationery and Office exes	5,044.00	4,704.00
Collection Envelopes & Missalettes	2,544.00	1,402.00
Rates- Water, LPT, Waste Collection	5,960.00	4,695.00
Altar Shrine Requisites	24,671.00	40,630.00
Pastoral Programme Expenses	4,582.00	3,432.00
Youth and Community Expenses	735.00	895.00
Diocesan Levy	19,925.00	47,820.00
Legal & Professional Fees	3,908.00	6,022.00
Accountancy Fees	293.00	295.00
Bank charges	2,704.00	3,116.00
Parish Investment	3,012.00	-
Sundry Expenses	1,013.00	1,512.00
	€228,932.00	€302,848.00
Ordinary Income v Expenditure (Deficit)	€303,526.00	€264,117.00

Capital expenditure in 2019/2020

2019: Repairs/Renewals /Renovations of Parish Houses	€205,662
2020: Heath Church Renovations	€574,500

The complete accounts for the Parish & Parish Centre may be inspected at the Parish Centre by arrangement.

THANK YOU

We had greatly feared that restrictions related to the pandemic would have a disastrous effect on Parish finances but as you can see from the accounts for 2020 this was not the case. We may have less people contributing but those who do are very generous.

We continue to have restricted congregations and we will not be passing collection baskets or the 'blue bag' for some time to come, maybe we will never return to the traditional collection. Many of you have found new ways to support the parish - we thank you very much for your support. It is greatly appreciated.

Ways to contribute;

There are collection boxes at the entrance to our Churches - you can place your donation there. Envelope boxes are available and also casual envelopes at all the entrances. Donations may be left in to the Parish Centre anytime. If we can record your donation it allows us claim the 'tax back' from Revenue when the donations amount to more than €250 in the year.

Payment by Credit / Debit card via the donate facility on our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie -

We have introduced a 'Donation' facility on our Parish Website where in a secure way you can make a contribution, it is also possible via this method to sign up to a regular donation on a weekly/monthly or other basis. You can also make a donation to the parish via credit/debit card at the parish centre.

Standing Order forms are available at the back of the Churches and at the Parish Centre. (If you make payments in this way, please give a copy of S/O to Parish office).

Electronic transfer to our collection Bank Accounts:

Parish Account **IBAN: I E 5 3 A I B K 9 3 3 2 7 9 1 6 6 5 8 0 4 5**

BIC: AIBKIE2D

Priests Collection: **IBAN: I E 1 2 A I B K 9 3 3 2 7 9 1 6 6 5 8 2 0 1 BIC: AIBKIE2D**

Cashless payment facility at the back of the Parish Church for use with Credit/Debit Card

PARISH PROPERTY:

As you will see from the cover of this Link Up the sale of the Old Parochial House has been finalised and reported on elsewhere in this edition. The details of the sale are subject to a confidentiality agreement with the purchaser. We will be able to give details in due course. During 2020 the sale of the site at Knockmay, adjoining Scoil Bhríde, concluded. A nursing home and housing for elderly are currently under construction there. A payment of €395,000 was received by the Parish for this site.

THE PARISH CENTRE

The Parish Centre has recorded a loss for the first time in 2020, due of course to the pandemic and lockdown restrictions. Its main source of income - room rental and the resulting traffic through the centre being greatly curtailed. The situation for the Centre and the Parish was eased somewhat by Government wage support. The loss for the period is €6,900.

THE PARISH LOTTO

As you can see from the accounts there is an increase in the profit from the Lotto in 2020 v 2019. It is accounted for by the 'luck of the draw'! We had 19 less draws due to lockdown but had an increased profit. We will remember 2019 as the year of the '6 in a row' Jackpot losses! Thank you to all who support it and in particular our promoters. Half yearly and yearly membership gift tokens are available from the Parish Centre and many have used these at Christmas, Birthdays and other occasions. You might consider it!! It is also possible to play Parish Lotto on-line from our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie. Many have taken the opportunity, maybe you would like to participate? It is a fun way to support Parish Development and at the same time give yourself a chance to share in the €1,000 weekly match 3 prize fund or to scoop the attractive Jackpots on offer each week of between €10,000 and €20,000. Again many thanks to all who support it and in particular to our promoters.

My sincere thanks to all who support the Parish.

John Byrne, P.P.

August 2021



TIME TO THINK!

MINDING OUR MENTAL HEALTH

Recent research shows that levels of mental illness, anxiety, and depression are at an all-time high, especially among younger people. I recently came across these Ten Tips for keeping balance and good Mental Health.

1. Life is tough and feelings can be the toughest things of all. Learn to befriend them, understand them and realise that you are much more than your feelings. Everything in life passes - savour the good and let go of the bad. Feelings come and go. Learn to watch them like clouds coming into your life, and remember just as you can't hold onto a cloud, your job is to let your feelings go too. A simple meditation on this is: stop, find a quiet place, even pretend to be listening on headphones. Ask yourself how you feel. Notice that there is a small gap between you and your feelings. Stay with that gap. In it, all is quiet and empty - full of possibilities. Rest in this gap for a few minutes each day. Train yourself to watch your feelings come and go, like clouds do, no matter how strong they are. This will help you when you hit a crisis and may even save your life.

2. Technology is a gift for communication with others but it is a terrible boss; learn to switch off and enjoy off line activities that build you up: hike a hill, learn a skill, take a risk, talk to someone face to face. TV, games, videos and Internet are not the real world, but they pretend to be friends. Use them as the gift they can be and take control of them. Otherwise you are a slave and it's a cruel master.

3. "If it feels good do it" can sound great but it can bring you to some dark places. Everyone has hidden strength and the ability to put off immediate pleasures. Find that steel inside yourself that allows you to go outside your comfort zone, build bridges and reach out to others. The irony is that when we reach out to help and include others, we're also taking care of ourselves.

4. You have something unique within you. You are a one-off gift to the world. And that gift is for you to give away, not to hide away. The greatest happiness is found in truly being yourself and helping others; it can be challenging at first but there is a slow burn feel-good factor that lasts for a long time.

5. You are not responsible for all the ills of the world. Trying to save the world can be overwhelming. Trying to solve all of your own and everyone else's problems all at one go would be equally overwhelming. If you get into that way of being, it's time to stop. Press pause. Get some space and remember that you just have to do your bit. There is some small thing that you can do in almost every situation you face. It is like building a jigsaw. You will have a piece to contribute. It will be uniquely you, and which will help. Build it one piece at a time.

6. Anxiety and fear are not good reasons to do things. In fact, most of the time, decisions made out of anxiety and fear are not good long-term decisions. Anxiety and fear often keep us locked in a narrow room with narrow options that see the worst in others and ourselves. Imagine what it would be like to trust in the world and people, and to act without fear (not without caution though). There is a middle road to be walked that is manageable & achievable.

7. Idealism is a great thing but set the bar too high and nothing or no one can measure up. The perfect is the enemy of the good; work out what the good thing to do is and just do it. A cluttered life doesn't give you a chance to see what's going on. And when we don't see what's going on we can be fooled into thinking that things are terrible, even when they are not.



8. Travel light; have a de-clutter. Start by clearing out your room of things that you don't need. You are a traveller through life and you have to travel light, otherwise you will get weighed down by things and come to be chained to them. Remember that people are not things to be acquired and disposed according to your feelings. Take this de-clutter as a chance to evaluate what is really going on and what is really valuable to you.

9. Accept the things you cannot change and change the things you can (and know the difference). Don't waste your time trying to change things that are given: your family, face, body, friends, locality. There is some rare beauty in them that can only be seen in a certain light. Find it and encourage it. If it won't be encouraged, know that you've done your best and can be content with that.

10. Happiness is an inside job - you know instinctively that having things and comparing yourself to others is empty and futile, and yet we all get caught up in it. Take a moment in the quiet. Go back to that gap you found in the meditation above; that gap between you and your feelings. In the gap, imagine a bright white light. See the light as a good thing, bright and warming. Now realise that this light is the goodness, brightness and warmth you have at the core of you. You are good and bright and warm inside. Dwell in this light for as long as you like. Find happiness in these thoughts

Slow Me Down Lord

Slow me down Lord, ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal march of time. Give me amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the eternal hills. Break the tension of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory. Help me to know the magical restoring power of sleep. Teach me the art of taking MINUTE vacations, of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines of a good book. 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 my greater destiny.



Confirmation

We can't wait to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Parish on the 18th of September. This page is to help all those who are about to receive the sacrament in their continued preparations. This page will be updated every week as we continue to look forward to celebrating Confirmation



GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ♦ Wisdom.
- ♦ Understanding.
- ♦ Counsel.
- ♦ Fortitude.
- ♦ Knowledge.
- ♦ Piety.
- ♦ Fear of the Lord.



There is a great series of videos on iCatholic that is well worth a watch in these days leading up to Confirmation. You can find these videos, and the accompanying worksheets, on our Parish Website portlaoiseparish.ie



On the day of Confirmation Bishop Denis, or one of the priests of the parish, will anoint your forehead, say

"Be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit"

and you respond *"Amen."*

He will then say to you

"Peace be with you"

and your response is

"And with your spirit"

Sunflower Power

Charity Event

Pick your own sunflowers this weekend!
**All proceeds to Portlaoise Parish Services Centre
& Laois and Offaly Families for Autism**



The Heath House, The Heath, Portlaoise R32 VH28, Exit 16 off N7
21st and 22nd August 2021

11am-12:30, 12:30-2:00, 2:00-3:30, 3:30-5pm

Suggested donation €5 for 5 sunflowers.

Bring your own Scissors/secateurs

THE OLD PAROCHIAL HOUSE

PORTLEIX HOUSE

ST. JOSEPH'S



From 1912 this house was used as the Parochial House for the Parish of Maryborough as it was then known. The name of the house changed from Portleix House to St. Joseph's. It continued to be used as a residence for the Parish Priest and 2 Curates up to the late 1980's. Remarkably only 3 Parish Priests spanned that time (76 years) — Rev. Dr. Michael Murphy up to 1941, Very Rev. Thomas Browne (1941 - 76) Very Rev. Gregory Brophy 1976 to 1988 when the house ceased to be used as a residence. Remarkable also that only 4 Parish Priests spanned the entire 20th century. Fr. Brophy was Parish Priest up to 1992 when he was replaced by Msgr. Thomas Coonan who was PP up to September 2000.

The house is described in the 'National Inventory of Architectural Heritage' as a 'detached four-bay three story over basement double-pile, built c. 1810, with two-bay two storey over basement annexe to north'. A substantial detached townhouse built by Dr. John Jacob, of the noted Jacob family of doctors and founder of the County infirmary. His son, Dr. Arthur Jacob, discovered the membrane of the eye. It occupies a prominent position in the town and retains a wealth of original fabric both externally and internally. The Doric portico and doorcase is one of the finest in the town.

It is the end of another era in the history of Portleix House. We wish the purchaser - who has also purchased the remainder of the site including the two houses and also the neighbouring property from the Presentation Sisters - the very best in developing these properties. We are confident that the new development of this very strategic site will enhance the town of Portlaoise.

The new owner has kindly allowed us to continue to use, for the time being, the house formerly occupied by Fr. Tom, the newly appointed Curate to Raheen, Abbeyleix and Ballinakill, Fr. Peter Medves, will reside there for the immediate future.

Photo of Houses and grounds

The property outlined in red transfers to the new owner.

This completes the sale of the 8 acres occupied by the Schools, the Presentation Convent and the Parochial houses



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



Kathleen Doyle

St. John's Square
Portlaoise



Hugh Rochford

Roselawn
Portlaoise



Patrick Burke

Bristol, England and formerly
Ballyknocken, Portlaoise

*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
*A Caring, Funny, Loving Mother, Sister
and Nanny*

ANNIE GREENE

74 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary away from home occurs 21st August 2021



Mom

I still see your face before me,
Your voice I long to hear,
I miss and love you dearly,
God knows I wish you were here.
Tears fall freely from my eyes, like a
river filled with grief,
My only comfort now, is that from pain,
you've found relief.

Missing you always Mammy

*Loved and missed today and everyday Mammy, from your
daughter Mary, grandson Keelin, sister Ellie and
the Greene family.*



Also remembering our father, Thomas,
whose 12th Anniversary away from home
occurred 12th July.

Rest in Peace

Mammy and Daddy



In Loving Memory of
CATHERINE (KITTY) SIDES

6 Ridge Road, Portlaoise. Died 14th August 2006.



*Loving memories of one so dear,
Treasured still with a love sincere,
In our hearts you will live forever,
Because we loved you too dearly to
forget.*

Sadly missed by her husband Dick, daughter Ann,
son-in-law Noel and granddaughters Aoife and Aine.

May Kitty Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
PATRICIA LaCUMBER

1 Parnell Crescent, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurs 22nd August 2021



Patricia's Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church this Saturday 21st August at 6.30pm

*Our thoughts are ever with you,
Though you have passed away,
And those who have loved you dearly,
Are thinking of you today.*

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by all her loving family.

Rest in Peace Patricia



In Loving Memory of
JOHN MAHER

Grange, Stradbally.

8th Anniversary occurs at this time.



*As each day dawns we think of you
As each night falls, we pray for you
And throughout our lives, no matter
where*

In our hearts you are always there.

Sadly missed by his loving family.

May John Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of **MAURA SHEERAN**

26 Balladine, Abbeylax and formerly of
Graceswood, Durrow.
4th Anniversary occurs 18th August 2021.



Though your smile is gone forever,
And your hand we cannot touch,
Still we have so many memories,
Of the one we loved so much,
Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part,
God has you in His keeping,
And we have you in our hearts.

**Sadly missed and always remembered by your son
Joe Jacob, relatives and friends.**

Rest in Peace Maura



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In Loving Memory of **MARY-EMMA FERGUS**

A wonderful Mother and Grandma
2nd Anniversary occurs 23rd August 2021



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 22nd August at 12:30pm.

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.

Deeply loved, sadly missed and always remembered by her
husband Bryan, daughters Siobhán and Bebhinn, grandson
Lorcán, son-in-law Paul and her sisters Kathleen and Josephine
and brother Liam.

Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **EDWARD (Ned) McEVOY**

Capoley, Portlaoise - 23rd Anniversary (30th August)



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
on **Sunday 29th August at 12:30pm.**

Time unfolds another year, memories keep you
very near. No need for words except to say
you are loved and missed each passing day.

In God's care you rest alone, in our hearts you rest in love.
Never more than a thought away, loved and remembered
everyday by Sarahann, Ailish, Mary, Joe and Breda and
families.

Also thinking of our Mother Madge at this time.

May Edward Rest in Peace

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of **MARGARET LYNCH (née Doheny)**

23 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.
12th Birthday away from home occurs 23rd August 2021.



This day is remembered and quietly
kept, no words are needed,
we shall never forget,
For those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day,
Unseen and unheard, but always near
So loved, so missed, and so very dear.

Sadly missed by her loving husband Mick, children, grandchildren,
brothers, sisters, relatives and friends.
Also remembering other deceased relatives & friends at this time.

May Margaret Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH (Betty) KEEGAN
 8 Beechfield and formerly Market Sq. Portlaoise.
 4th Anniversary occurs 25th August 2021.



*Though your smiles are gone forever,
 And your hand we cannot touch,
 We shall never lose sweet memories,
 Of you, we loved so much.*

*Gone from our home those smiling faces,
 The cheerful pleasant ways,
 The hearts that won so many friends,
 In bygone happy days.*

*Your voices keep whispering gently,
 Loved ones be brave and true,
 At the end of life there is sunshine,
 We'll be waiting and watching for you.*



Also remembering her loving husband,
 Peter Keegan, who died 18th February 1992.

*Fondly remembered and always in our thoughts,
 from all your loving family*

May They Rest in Peace

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David **087-2369887**

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Portlaoise Parish



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19th August 2021

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18

25

30

No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

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Maire Cunningham

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3
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Frances Byrne

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It is the Spirit that
gives life

Jn 6:61

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

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times
057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy
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