

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

12th September 2021

**Twenty Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**



A HEREOS WELCOME ON AN INCLEMENT NIGHT

In spite of the weather there was a huge turnout to welcome home Olympic Bronze medal winner Gary O'Reilly. Family, friends, neighbours and many others lined the Borris Road to let Gary know how proud we are of his great achievement in Tokyo. Well done Gary!



The Parish Centre 057 8621142
E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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



Choosing Your Crosses

We like stories about Peter because he's a flawed character. He gets himself into trouble on numerous occasions by saying rash things. We like Peter because in a lot of ways he is just like each and every one of us.



Today Peter recognises Jesus as the Son of God, but he completely fails to grasp the implications. He certainly doesn't understand the necessity for Jesus to die on the cross and he tells him so. Jesus puts Peter straight. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it."

Many would-be-disciples misunderstand the concept of taking up crosses. We often hear people in general conversation sighing. "... Ah well... we all have our crosses to bear...." There are difficulties in all of our lives that cannot be avoided. To try and avoid problems would be foolish. Life is just one long series of problems and challenges, and each problem overcome makes us a stronger character. However, this is not the same thing as picking up our crosses and following Christ. Living with unavoidable problems isn't the same as choosing to tackle a problem that we could easily avoid. Jesus didn't need to choose the road to Jerusalem and crucifixion, but he did. In the same way, Christians need to be pro-active about choosing their crosses. Do we choose to care for an elderly parent, or do we leave it to one of our siblings. Do we tackle racism in our street, or do we leave it to the neighbours. Do we fundraise for local charities or do we leave it to those we deem cleverer, more articulate or more energetic.

There are an estimated 2.1 billion Christians on our planet. How different the world would be if each and every one of us chose to pick up our crosses.

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



We welcome into our Parish Community

Jonah Michael Rogers, Clonminam Road

Hallie Rose McGrane, Sheffield Cross

Clodagh Mai Delaney, Rosdarragh Hill

Noel Eles, Heathfields

Ben David Power, Heathfields

Callum Stuart McCormack, Borris Meadows

Cillian Laurence McCormack, Borris Meadows

Baptised last weekend

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9; Psalm: 114:1-6, 8-9;

James: 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35



The Triumph of the Holy Cross

14th September

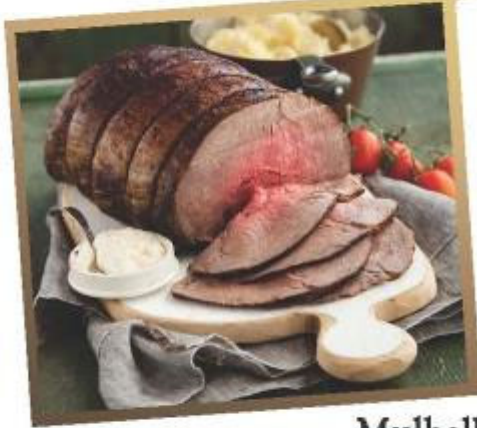
We are called to participate in the struggle against evil in every form: racism, social injustice, oppression, infidelity, dishonesty, and corruption. The Risen Lord wishes to deliver us from all evil. But how? Not by removing every difficulty, but by giving us courage to face it and overcome it. Our sufferings are stepping-stones to victory. We look to the cross as a symbol of triumph over suffering and the promise of eternal life.

The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church on Monday **13th September** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima, for the intentions of all parishioners. Rosary at 8pm at the Grotto.



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CONOR BOLTON BSc MSc MISC P

PILATES CLASSES

Starting week of 6th September for 6 week block catering for all levels. Classes will take place on Mondays (evenings) and Tuesdays (morning only). Please contact Susan in the clinic on 087-9945057 to book into a session.

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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Mountmellick Embroidery Group

Classes have resumed in the Parish Centre on Mondays 7.30pm to 9.30pm. New members welcome!

FRENCH GRINDS

Available for secondary school students - €30 per hour. I am a graduate of Trinity College in Dublin, with a distinction in spoken French. I have lived in France for one year. Master's in French literature from Leiden University.

087-2841468

WHIST IN RAHEEN

Whist resumes in Raheen on Wednesday 29th September at 7:30pm



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SILVER MEDAL FOR PORTARLINTON SWIMMER NICOLE

Congratulations to Nicole Turner, Portarlinton, on her Silver Medal won in the pool in the 50m butterfly event. Another Olympic medal for Laois. Well done Nicole.



Emma Duggan is a granddaughter of Dan & Margaret, Dublin Road. Her dad Liam having emigrated to Meath some years ago!

Congratulations Emma and as they say 'she didn't lick her football talent off the ground'

MEATH LADIES GREAT WIN The Portlaoise connection

Meath 1-11

Dublin 0-12



19 year old Goal scorer Extraordinaire!



Take Up Your Cross

Every day we see crosses all around us. People wear them as jewellery, they hang them on the wall, and they use them as key chains. When you pass by a church, it is not unusual to see a cross on the steeple. We even see many people who wear the cross as a tattoo on their body. What comes to your mind when you see a cross? What does the cross mean to you? Is it just a piece of jewellery or a work of art?



One day, as Jesus and his disciples were walking along a road, Jesus asked them, "Who do people say that I am?"

The disciples answered, "Some say John the Baptist or one of the prophets."

"And you - who do you say that I am?" Jesus replied.

Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Messiah."

Peter had given the right answer. You would think that would be the end of Jesus' lesson, but it wasn't. "Keep it quiet and don't breathe a word of it to anyone," Jesus said, "because it is necessary for me to suffer many terrible things. I will be arrested, tried, and killed, but after three days I will rise again."

Peter didn't like that! He took Jesus aside and told him to stop talking like that.



Jesus reprimanded Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are looking at things from a human point of view, not from God's."

Then Jesus called the crowd of people who had gathered around to come and join him and his disciples. "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it."

So, what does it mean to us? It means that we have a Saviour, Jesus Christ, who was willing to give up everything so that we could have everlasting life. It also means that those of us who want to be his followers must also be willing to take up our cross, give up everything, and follow him.

The cross - it is so much more than a piece of jewellery, a work of art, or a decoration on a steeple. It is a reminder of our Saviour's great love for us and our call to follow him!

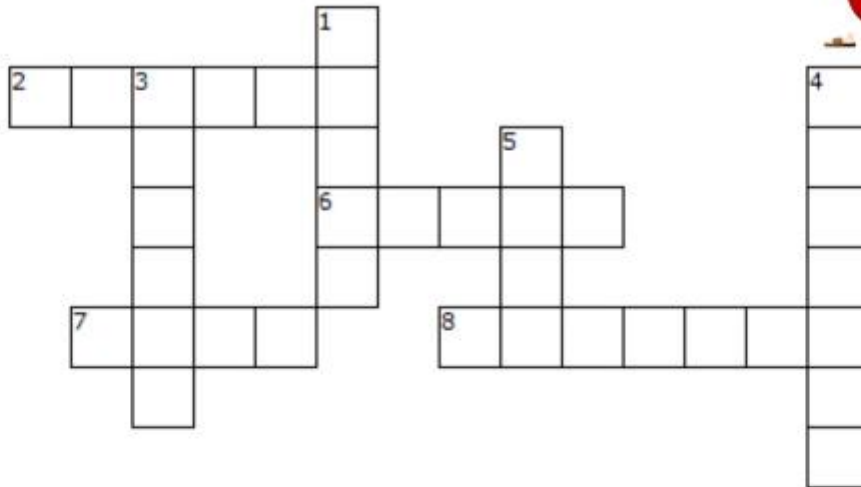
PRAYER



Heavenly Father, thank you that you loved us so much that you sent your Son to die on a cross. As his disciples, help us to take our cross and follow him. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Take Up Your Cross

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Based on Mark 8:27-38



ACROSS

2. To experience injury, pain, or death
6. The evil enemy of God; the leader of the fallen angels
7. The spiritual part of a person which exists after death
8. The expected saviour of the world

DOWN

1. The object upon which Jesus was crucified
3. To make someone as our leader or model
4. A person who speaks for God
5. To keep something from harm or loss

**SUFFER
MESSIAH**

**SATAN
PROPHET**

**SOUL
FOLLOW**

**CROSS
SAVE**

Can you find the path to Jesus?



"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Mark 8:34b

A MORNING PRAYER

Lord, in the morning I start each day,
By taking a moment to bow and pray.
I start with thanks, and then give praise.
For all your kind and loving ways.



Today if sunshine turns to rain,
If a dark cloud brings some pain,
I won't doubt or hide in fear For you,
my God, are all ways near.

I will travel where you lead;
I will help my friends in need.
Where you send me I will go;
With your help I'll learn and grow.

Hold my family in your hands,
As we follow your commands.
And I will keep you close in sight
Until I crawl in bed tonight.

Amen.



TIME TO THINK!

DON'T QUIT

There was once a bunch of tiny frogs, who arranged a running competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower. A big crowd gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on the contestants.

The race began...

No one in the crowd really believed that the tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower. They shouted, "Oh, way too difficult!!! They will NEVER make it to the top" and "Not a chance. The tower is too high".

The tiny frogs began collapsing, one by one except for those who, in a fresh tempo, were climbing higher and higher...

The crowd continued to yell, "It's too difficult! No one will make it!"

More tiny frogs got tired and gave up... But one continued higher and higher. This one wouldn't give up! And he reached the top.

Everyone wanted to know how this one frog managed such a great feat.

His secret? This little frog was deaf!!

The wisdom of this story is:

Ignore the pessimism of others. It can take your dreams from you. Stay positive.

Paralympians, recently competing in the Tokyo Paralympics, are source of deep inspiration. Their task is not just to compete at the highest level possible but to struggle past greater challenges than most as they cope with a range of disabilities. To the rest of us, it seems an impossible task and yet their triumphs delight at an instinctive level because we sense that, in a world of sporting millionaires, they bring us to the very essence of sport and the character and resilience it inspires at its best.

In life we all find our path as we make our own journey. It was also lovely, to be inspired by Irish Times sports journalist, Joanne O Riordan during her commentary on RTE throughout the paralympics. Her personal philosophy "No limbs no limits" reminds me of this powerful poem that perhaps we all need to read and absorb frequently.



Don't Quit

*When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
And the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.*

*Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns.
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow.*

*Often the goal is nearer than it seems
To a faint and faltering man.
Often the struggler has given up when he
Might have captured the victor's cup,
And he learned too late when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.*

*Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are.
It may be near when it seems afar.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit.
It's when things seem worst that
You musn't quit.*



Confirmation

We really encourage you to watch the third video in iCatholic Video Series, Come Holy Spirit. This is an excellent resource that will help us in learning more about the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This video can be found on our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie/sacraments/confirmation/



Fill the following section with members of your family.

1. Ask your parent or guardian the following questions about their confirmation:

- What can you remember about the day? Where did it take place? Who was the bishop? Who was your teacher? What class were you in? Who was your best friend?
- Who did you choose as your sponsor and why?
- Can you remember what name you chose? Why did you choose that name?
- Share with your family the name you have chosen and who your sponsor is. Explain why you made these choices.

2. Watch a short animated movie online together ('Partly Cloudy' is very good and is just 6 mins long). See how many fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit feature in the movie. More often than not you will see them all. Enjoy!

3. On the day of your Confirmation you will be sealed with the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit and the oil of chrism is used by way of strengthening you. How would you like the Holy Spirit to strengthen you and what fruits and gifts will you be asking the Spirit to strengthen in you?

4. Confirmation is not meant to be the end of your journey in faith but actually the start of something greater. How are you going to put the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit into action to make the world a better place? What are you going to do or what commitments are you willing to make to your family, friends, school and parish?

5. Confirmation is a lovely family occasion when we experience the grace and love of God. Think about how you would like it to help your family. Say a prayer together, praying that it will be a great day for you all.. Our Father ..

Order of the Rite	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 4
Title of each part:				
Description of each part:				

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



*Elizabeth Howard
(née Styles)
Drim, Mountrath and
formerly Marian Avenue,
Portlaoise*



*Owen McDonald
Colliers Lane*



*Tom Moore
Derrykearn, 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

Anam Cara

**Bereavement
Information and Support Evening**

Thursday 16th September 2021 at 7pm

*This online event is open to all bereaved parents giving them an
opportunity to hear an experienced bereavement professional talk
about the impact of grief after the death of our child. Then connect
with other bereaved parents and find out more about Anam Cara
support and resources*

Reserved your place on eventbrite
You can copy this link <https://bit.ly/3dzyphc> into your browser
or email info@anamcara.ie or call 085 2888 888

In Loving Memory of ANNE HUGHES

*Oaklawn, Ballyfin Rd., Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 19th September 2021*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
on Sunday 19th Sept. 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.*

Rest in Peace Anne

In Loving Memory of PATRICK (PAT) MILLS

Whose 6th Anniversary occurs on 15th September.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul
Church on Sunday 12th September
at 12:30pm.



*To the world you were our father,
but to us you meant the world.*

*You are missed so much
by your loving family.*

Rest in Peace Dad

In Loving Memory of JEMEEL WALSH

*Ashley Gardens, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 17th September 2021
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on Sunday 12th September at 12:30pm.*



*Softly the leaves of memory fall,
Gently I gather and treasure them all,
Unseen, unheard, you are always near,
So missed, so loved, so very dear.*

*Loved and remembered by her husband Gerry,
children Matthew, Alex and Sarah
and extended family.*

Rest in Peace Jemeel

In Loving Memory of PATRICIA (Thrush) O'BRIEN

13 St. John's Square, Portlaoise

12th Anniversary occurs 8th September.

*Loving memories never die,
As years roll on and days pass by,
In our hearts a memory is kept,
Of one we loved and will never forget.*

Never Forgotten, Tony

May Patricia Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
THOMAS (TOMMY) DARGAN**

3 Abbeyleix Rd., Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs 11th September 2021.



*Memory drifts to scenes long past,
Time rolls on, but memories last,
Sunshine passes, shadows fall,
Love's remembrance outlasts all.*

*Loved and always remembered
by Mary, Eugene, Sean and Ronan.*

May Thomas Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL & JOSEPHINE
GALVIN**

Burnwood, Clonad
Whose Anniversaries occur 10th September 2021
Michael (27 yrs) & Josephine (56 yrs)

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Raheen Church
on Saturday 11th September at 7pm.

*Sadly missed and remembered by Sean, Michael, Noel,
Mary, grandchildren & greatgrandchildren.*

Too dearly loved to be forgotten

May Michael & Josephine Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
TIMMY SCULLY**

3 New Road, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs 17th September 2021



7th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on Saturday
18th September at 6.30pm.

*Those We Love Don't Go Away,
They Walk Beside Us Everyday,
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, still missed,
and very dear.*

Loved and missed by your daughters Mary & Bernadette,
son-in-law John, grandsons Senan and Cillian, sister Ellie,
extended family and friends.

Also remembering his loving wife Bernadette at this time.

May Timmy Rest in Peace

You are the

Light

Of the World

**In Loving Memory of
HUGH ROCHFORD**

12 Roselawn, Portlaoise.

Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in the Parish
Church on Sunday, September 19th at 11.15am.



Silent Tear
*Each night we shed a silent tear
as we speak to you in prayer,
To let you know we love you
and just how much we care.
Take our million tear drops,
wrap them up in love,
Then ask the wind to carry them
to you in Heaven above.*

*Sadly missed by his children, Janet, Debbie, Hughie, Emma,
Niall, Colin and Eoin, all their partners
and Hugh's Grandchildren.*

May Hugh Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
CHRISTINE COUGHLAN**

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.
10th Anniversary occurs 14th September 2021
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Church on Saturday 18th September at 6:30pm.



*Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.*

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

May Christine Rest in Peace

**Birthday Remembrance
TERESA KHANDKER**

Cambridge, UK and formerly Portlaoise.



Your birthday is here again,
but in heaven you will be.
We will celebrate your special
day visiting you and your
memorial tree.

*Loved and missed always from
all your family.*

Rest in Peace Teresa

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

Whose Anniversary occurs at this time



*From your loving sister Mary and Jimmy
and family.*

May Patricia Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN BURKE**

13 Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurs 13th September 2021.



*Memories are a gift to treasure,
Ours of you will last forever.
The pain of losing you
will always stay,
Loved and remembered every day.
Your Loving Wife and Family xx*

May John Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL KELLY**

Old Post Office, The Heath, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs 13th September 2021.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath on Sunday 12th September at 9:30am.



*Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us everyday,
Unseen, unheard but always near,
Still loved, still missed and forever dear.
Sadly missed by his loving wife and family.*

May Michael Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
THOMAS CARROLL**

72 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise whose 11th Anniversary occurs 12th September 2021



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church on Saturday 11th September at 6.30pm.
*The thoughts we held most dearly,
are the times we spent with you,
The laughs, the jokes and silly things,
are memories fond and true.
Forever in our thoughts.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family, extended family and friends.

May Thomas Rest in Peace

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

Ridge Road, Portlaoise, who died 12th September 1980.
41st Anniversary occurs at this time.



*God saw the road was getting rough,
The hill too hard to climb,
He gently closed your weary eyes,
And whispered 'Peace Be Thine'.
Sadly missed and always remembered
by your loving family.*

May Peter Rest in Peace

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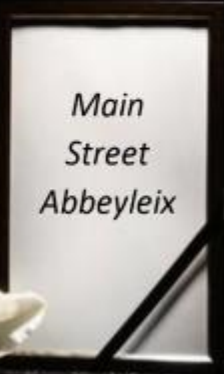
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Portlaoise Parish



Results for 9th September 2021

11

16

18

25

No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Liam Brennan
P L and C
Margaret
Thomas & Anthony Ferns
Kate's Gang
Chris Clarke
Frank Waters
Tom O'Connor
Bernie Brennan
Conor Hearn
Cathal, Lisa O'Neill
Maira, Lucy, Harry & Cian
Jessica Farrell
Ellen Heffernan

MATCH 3s €1,000

14
Match 3s
€72
each

Play PARISH



PROMOTER

Peggy Brennan
Paul Dooley
Margaret O'Connell
Joan Ferns
Maura Loughlin
Maura Preston
Margaret McGuire
Paddy O'Connor
Bernie Brennan
Brian Conroy
Brown's Shop
Maura Loughlin
Jerry Dooley
Mary Arthur

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Next Week's Jackpot **€20,000**

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
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



OUR COURSES



SOLAS



An Rann Oideachais agus Solas
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