

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

28th November 2021

**First Sunday  
of Advent**



**YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH**  
December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

*Come Lord Jesus  
Lord Of Hope*

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

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Parish and Diocesan Websites: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

# Come, Lord Jesus

## Lord of Hope

### THE WREATH

Today we light the first of our Advent candles. The traditional use of Advent candles originated in eastern Germany prior to the Reformation. There are three purple candles and one pink candle. Purple for the royalty of the coming **King** ... the pink candle is the third candle to be lit on what is called **Gaudate Sunday** and represents 'joy'. The gradual lighting of the four candles symbolises the coming **Light** into the world. The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represent everlasting life.

### ABOUT ADVENT

The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000 year old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God.

*For more on Advent See pages 16 & 17*

Visit our website: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)



### Saint Andrew the Apostle November 30th

As one of the twelve apostles, Andrew worked closely with Our Lord during his public life. He was present at the Last Supper, beheld the risen Lord, witnessed the Ascension and shared in the graces and gifts of the first Pentecost.

The good deeds and preaching of St. Andrew became known in all parts of the world.

According to tradition, a part of the remains of St. Andrew were taken to Scotland, and he was chosen as the Protector of the Scottish people. The Cross of St. Andrew also adorns the British flag where it was placed after the union of Scotland and England.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

**Monday & Tuesday**

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

**Wednesday & Thursday**

7.30am & 10am

**Friday (First Friday)**

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

The Heath: 7pm

Ratheniska: 7pm

**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**

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday

After 10am Mass & after 5pm Mass.



**Masses for the Dead List  
will be celebrated on:**

Monday at 7.30am

and Tuesday at 7.30pm.

A Prayer for the  
First Sunday of Advent

God of light and life,  
Give us hope as we wait  
For your coming again.

When we are tempted  
to be grateful to have found you

While others are lost,  
Send us out into the darkness

In search of those who need you most.

Amen.



**We welcome into our Parish Community**

Anya Lova Mombo, Rath Gailine

Jack Paul Barry, Chantiere Gate

Nevin Akorede Olaajayi, Montague

Brody Lee Kane, Oakleaf Place

Edward Hugh O'Leary, Colliers Wood

Emily Aishling Kinahan, Ard Branagh

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



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Website: [www.kilmartinaudiology.ie](http://www.kilmartinaudiology.ie)

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NICOLA CALDBECK BSc MISCSP MAACP

CONOR BOLTON BSc MSc MISCSP

## PILATES CLASSES

*7 week course of Pilates for beginners on Mondays, 7-8pm in Portlaoise Parish Centre. Starting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November.*

*Bookings now open with limited places available.*

*Please call Debbie on 087-9945057 or e-mail; info@laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie to book a place.*

*Note: Vaccine Cert required to attend.*



**link  
Up**

# LIMITED ACCESS

In light of new government restrictions, access to the Linkup Office will be limited until further notice.

We ask that where possible adverts, notices, memorials and Christmas Remembrances are e-mailed to [linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

If it is necessary to call to the office with your notice, please ensure that you have written your notice in full prior to arrival in order to adhere to Covid guidelines.

*Thank you for your patience, understanding and co-operation.*

Coronavirus  
COVID-19



## LAOIS HOSPICE AND PORTLAOISE LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

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11am-4pm

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2pm-4:30pm

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec.

11am-4pm

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2pm-4:30pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec.

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**on the 5th of December**  
**between 10a.m and 4p.m**  
**Hope to see you all there!!**

## **FRENCH GRINDS**

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## **H.S.E. Retired Staff Christmas Celebrations**

Regrettably the HSE Christmas Dinner and Mass scheduled to take place Tues. 7<sup>th</sup> December at the Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise is now cancelled due to rising Covid numbers.

## **FUEL FOR SALE**

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No 1 Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois

Dear Parishioner

We are writing to thank you once again for your continued support in our local community. We appreciate each and every donation you have given us and we would like to express how very grateful we are for your generosity and much needed support, particularly over the last couple of years. We as a Conference continue to work hard to ensure your valuable donations and our time are put to the very best use to help those in our community.

*Our upcoming Annual Appeal weekends are:*

***Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
&  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021***

Christmas is meant to be a time of togetherness and hope, but for many families we support locally it may be filled with worry. This winter, families around Portlaoise may face impossible choices. They may struggle with the decision of heating the house or having a Christmas dinner, should they put presents under the tree, or pay the electricity bill?

Through your donations we can help alleviate the struggle some families face making these impossible choices, and we can help ensure these families can enjoy a little bit of the magic that comes with this time of year.

This Annual Appeal is a hugely important time for St. Vincent de Paul, Portlaoise. Since the Covid-19 Pandemic we have added additional ways for our kind donors to be able to support us and the work we do.

***You can use the St. Vincent de Paul Donation Box in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church***

***You can donate by post to St. Vincent de Paul, Ozanam House, No. 1 Dublin Road, Portlaoise.***

***You can donate using your Online Banking using our IBAN number:  
IE73AIBK93327917987070***

***You can tap a donation on the credit card machine in our SVP shop.***

We would like to say a very sincere **THANK YOU** from our Portlaoise Conference for your continued support and generosity. Without your donation our work would not be possible. Your donation will be vital in helping us to succeed in making an incredible difference to the people's lives we are able to change for the better.



## The SVP Annual Food and Toy Christmas Appeal

All food and Toy donations can be left at Reception in the Parish Centre. Please ensure that all food items are non-perishable. Thank you for your continued support.

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**Open from  
Sunday  
28th November**



Hi, I'm Bianca and I am really looking forward to celebrating my first Christmas and meeting you all!



The Crib is kindly sponsored by:



# CateKIDS

HANDING ON THE FAITH

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



## Jesus is coming again!

Christmas is coming soon. It is easy to tell. We see the signs all around us. What are the signs? We see Christmas decorations in the stores and on houses, we hear Christmas songs on the radio, we see ads on television and in the newspapers. What if we didn't have all of these things to remind us that Christmas is coming? How would we know? I guess we would just have to look at the calendar.

Two thousand years ago, there was no television or radio. There were no newspaper ads announcing that a child would be born and that he would be the Saviour of the world. When Jesus was born, very few people even knew about it, but it was an event which God had promised and which had been foretold by prophets many years before. Many people had been looking forward to the coming of the Messiah, they just didn't know exactly when he was coming.

This Sunday marks the beginning of a very special season called Advent. Do you know what Advent means? The dictionary says that advent is "the coming of something very important." What is it? Is it Christmas? Yes, we are looking forward to that, but we are also looking forward to the coming of another very important event. The return of Jesus!

Jesus promised to come again. You won't hear much about it on the television or radio and you won't read much about it in the newspapers, but he promised he would return and we believe it! We look forward to it just as people two thousand years ago looked forward the coming Messiah. We don't know exactly when he will come, it isn't marked on the calendar, but we are watching and waiting.

As we look prepare to celebrate the birthday of our Saviour, let's also be sure we are prepared for the day that he will come again.



Dear Father, we thank you for this special time of year and what it means to us. We thank you for keeping your promise to send a Saviour - and we thank you for the promise that he will come again. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

## Advent




**Today is the First Sunday of Advent**  
also known as **THE SUNDAY OF HOPE**  
We light one **purple candle** today.  
Colour one candle **purple** on the *wreath*.



# Advent Calendar 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>28TH NOVEMBER</b> Light one of the purple candles on the Advent Wreath. Say the 'Hail Mary'. 	<b>29TH NOVEMBER</b> Start this week by remembering to say your prayers every morning and evening.	<b>30TH NOVEMBER</b> Be kind to the younger children in the playground. 	<b>1ST DECEMBER</b> Forgive someone who has hurt your feelings. 	<b>2ND DECEMBER</b> Help around the house today. 	<b>3RD DECEMBER</b> Pray for your grandparents today. 	<b>4TH DECEMBER</b> Go with your family to Mass this weekend. 
<b>5TH DECEMBER</b> Light two purple candles on the Advent Wreath. 	<b>6TH DECEMBER</b> Invite someone who has been left out, to play with you.	<b>7TH DECEMBER</b> Remember to say 'Grace Before Meals'. 	<b>8TH DECEMBER</b> Try and go to Mass today. 	<b>9TH DECEMBER</b> Help the Homeless, donate something small to P.A.T.H	<b>10TH DECEMBER</b> Read a Christmas Story 	<b>11TH DECEMBER</b> Bring the baby Jesus from your crib to Mass this weekend to be blessed.
<b>12TH DECEMBER</b> Light two purple candles & one pink candle on the Advent Wreath. Tell your family the Christmas Story	<b>13TH DECEMBER</b> Visit the church to see the crib and ask for help to light a candle 	<b>14TH DECEMBER</b> Do something nice for your teacher 	<b>15TH DECEMBER</b> Have you sent your letter to Santa? 	<b>16TH DECEMBER</b> Make an ornament for your Christmas tree 	<b>17TH DECEMBER</b> Is there something you could donate to St Vincent de Paul?	<b>18TH DECEMBER</b> Tell your friends about the Christmas Choir Service in Portlaoise Parish Church at 6pm tomorrow.
<b>19TH DECEMBER</b> Light three purple candles and one pink candle on the Advent wreath. 	<b>20TH DECEMBER</b> Make a Christmas Card for your neighbour 	<b>21ST DECEMBER</b> Smile at everyone, you meet today 	<b>22ND DECEMBER</b> Do something to help someone without being asked 	<b>23RD DECEMBER</b> Help Mummy and Daddy to prepare for Christmas. 	<b>24TH DECEMBER</b> Say a prayer for all families who are expecting a new baby at this time. 	<b>25TH DECEMBER</b> Welcome Baby Jesus! A child is born.... 



# TIME TO THINK!

## ADVENT – A COUNTER-CULTURAL SEASON

Christmas seems to arrive now by the start of November and ends on Christmas day. In a secular culture the season of Advent, a time of waiting is certainly counter-cultural. This week we begin Advent. This is the period when we prepare to celebrate the coming of the Christ among us two millennia ago, but we also believe that He is coming among us now and so we have to be prepared to receive him, and we know that he will come again at the end of time and we have to prepare the world for his coming. Advent is a hope-filled few weeks, when we prepare to welcome, yet again, the light and peace that is felt at the Lord's birth. Jesus is the reason for the season. One of the images that Pope Francis often uses is that of the door. He is calling on us to keep the doors of the Church open. He means that literally; closed doors invite no one in. He is using the image of the door also as a symbol, the Church doors must be open in welcome. The Church must be welcoming especially to those who living in anxiety and hopelessness, to those who are seeking the answers to what life is about. If we dig down a little deeper the Pope is also asking us questions about why so many young people do not find the Church a welcoming Church, while we possess one of the great secrets about the meaning of life which young people are seeking: the message of Jesus Christ and how he reveals that our God is a God of love.

And he takes the image of the Church door one step further. The Church doors must be open so that we go out through them into the world around us to live and witness to the love of God, especially to those who are on the margins of Church life and those who are trapped in the margins of society. There is no point in having our church doors open if we remain happily inside as a closed comfort zone for ourselves and the like-minded. There is no point in creating a Church which is locked within itself and within its own history. The Advent message is that the Christian life is always a future-looking one. The Advent wreath is an image of the Church. Week by week we light another candle as our lives move forward step by step in expectation. Our mission as Christians in the world is, as we look forward to Christ's coming, to anticipate that fullness of Christ's teaching through the way we live as individuals and as society, and to ensure that our world does not deviate from God's design for his creation.

How does the message of Advent help us focus better on the fundamental thrust we should be giving to our lives? How does Advent help us to witness in our society to what Christ's coming means? Advent, is a period of waiting, of longing, of anticipation and preparation and of rejoicing that "the Lord is coming", that "the Lord is near"; it encourages us to look to the future as a future of hope and there is no doubt that we need hope today, as individuals, as families, as communities and indeed as a nation. We should learn to think like the Old Testament prophets as they looked forward to the coming of the Saviour. They were sensitive to the experience of injustice and sin under which they lived and looked forward in hope to the coming of "the anointed one", as one who's coming will bring the newness of peace, justice and righteousness. It was such a hope that enabled the Prophet Isaiah to dream the dream, with those beautiful words: "One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks".

### First Week of Advent

Hope



Advent reminds us that it is possible to change our world, starting out from where we are concretely within all the ambiguities and compromises of life, and move towards the realisation of the ideal of truth, justice and love. The Christian of every generation is called particularly to be awake and attentive to where society is slipping into wrong ways and to cry out like the prophet to return to the ways of God. In our days, sadly, nations still raise weaponry against others. How often do we read about knives being raised in violence and guns in vengeance and lives - young lives being ruined? I am horrified to see in our world of progress and enlightenment that men and women and children are driven in their hundreds of thousands from their homes through wars as in Syria. Like you, I am greatly worried by the rising tide of xenophobia and racism in our country. Christians in our society must find the ways to speak up and stand up as witnesses to the God of peace and loving care. A God whose very birth took place on the periphery as there was no room for him in the Inn.

Advent then is a moment in which we should interrupt our daily lives and think about what is essential. All too often, we live preoccupied by the hecticness of our daily lives, asleep to the wider consequences of our way of life. Following Jesus Christ is a calling to a robust engagement with the challenges of our society. The Christian life is never self-focussed but focussed on self-giving as Jesus gave his life to save us. Christians must learn the ability not just to adapt to the realities of the day but to challenge the realities and the thought-patterns of the day. The Christian must be one who stands out and has the courage to rise above conformity, even when that is not easy. Advent is not strictly a time of penance and fasting as is Lent. It is marked more rather by a growing sense of joyfulness for the fact that Jesus is coming and that His coming is near. We pray that when He comes He will find us not closed in the comfortable and the familiar, but out there doing God's work and confidently bringing His message of love and hope into the world around us.

As we celebrate this season of Advent, may we grow in hopefulness and gratitude. May the light of Christ, brighter than this winter darkness inspire us to act with kindness and compassion.

*Jesus is the reason for the season*

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Towards QQI Level 4		
Introduction to Word Processing (4N1123)	Thursday	10-13:00
Introduction to Spreadsheets (4N1120)	Monday	11-14:00
Towards QQI Level 5 Business Studies		
Payroll (5N1546)	Wednesday	11-13:00
	Friday	9-11:00
Spreadsheet Methods (5N1977)	Thursday	11-13:00
	Friday	11-13:00
Database Methods (5N0783)	Monday	9-11:00
	Thursday	9-11:00
Towards QQI Level 5 Healthcare Support		
Infection Prevention & Control (5N3734)	Thursday	9-11:00
	Friday	10-12:00
Intellectual Disability Studies (5N1652)	Tuesday	11-15:30
Care Support (5N0758)	Monday	9-11:00 ONLINE
	Thursday	11-13:00
Towards QQI Level 6 Business Management		
Spreadsheet Methods (6N4089)	Tuesday	11-13:45
	Wednesday	11-13:00
Finance (6N4165)	Monday	10-12:45
	Tuesday	9-11:00
Applied Economics (6N4091)	Monday	9-10:00
	Wednesday	13:30-15:30
	Friday	11-13:00



### An Spioraid Naoimh Praise and Worship Meeting Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Portlaoise Parish Centre

Commencing at 10:45am (after 10am Mass)  
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# Come, Lord Jesus

## *Lord of Hope*

An Advent bulletin for the home  
Week One: 28 November 2021

### The Prayer of Advent: Come, Lord Jesus

The traditional prayer of Advent '*Come, Lord Jesus*' brings us straight to the heart of what this season is about. The word 'Advent' stems from the Latin 'Adventus,' meaning 'coming' or 'arrival'. It speaks to our yearning for the presence of Jesus in our lives and to a deep down recognition for the need of this presence above all things.

At the beginning of a new Church year, over the Four Sundays of the Advent season we ready ourselves for the joy of Christmas when we remember and commemorate the birth of Christ. But Advent is also about preparing ourselves for His second coming. We are reminded of this second coming in many phrases that we hear or say at Mass, for example 'as we look forward to his second coming', 'when he comes again in glory', 'as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour'. This second coming is a central theme from the beginning of Advent right up to the 17<sup>th</sup> December. At that point, our attention and preparation shifts more to the commemoration of His first coming on the feast of the Nativity.

And yet as we prepare to remember his coming at Christmas and to anticipate his Second Coming, we also recognise that the risen Christ is always coming to us. In these Advent days, Jesus, 'God with us', the Lord who is HOPE, PEACE, JOY & LOVE, reaches out to us and walks with us. As we journey through these days are we ready to welcome him again and again into our life? Are we ready to pray *Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!*

**POPE FRANCIS** - "Advent is a continuous call to hope. It reminds us that God is present in history to lead it to its ultimate goal and to its fullness, which is the Lord Jesus Christ. God is present in the history of humanity, He is the 'God-with-us', He walks beside us to support us."

### A Suggestion for the Home

Why not create a prayer space in your home for Advent? You might like to make your own **Advent wreath** or have a special Advent candle to use in the prayer space, including perhaps purple coloured cloth/ribbons and evergreens. You'll find a short video on creating an Advent prayer space on [kandle.ie](http://kandle.ie).

### An Advent Tradition for Church and Home:



#### THE ADVENT WREATH

The advent wreath has a rich meaning. The **circle** of the wreath, with no beginning or end, symbolises the eternity of God. The **evergreen** reminds us of the everlasting life we have in Christ while any pine cones or pods in the wreath represent new life and resurrection.

The **four candles** represent the four Sundays of Advent. **Purple** is traditionally a colour of penance and prayer while the **rose** pink candle that is lit on the Third Sunday (Gaudete/Rejoice Sunday) marks our joy as we move ever closer to Christmas.

As you light a candle on your Advent wreath for the first time, pray this prayer of blessing and take a moment to talk to God about how you will journey through Advent this year, alone or as a household. Finish your time of prayer with the Advent prayer: Come, Lord Jesus!

#### *A Blessing Prayer*

Loving God,  
let your blessing come upon us  
as we light this wreath.  
May it be a sign of hope for us  
as we prepare for your coming  
and may it turn our hearts to you  
in the days ahead.  
Give us your peace and love  
as we wait in joyful hope.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!



## ADVENT THOUGHTS ON...HOPE

*So let us enter Advent in hope,  
even hope against hope.  
Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.  
Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith,  
with courage: Jesus Christ  
-- the Life of the world. [Daniel Berrigan SJ]*

*God of light, shine forth, show us how to bring hope to others. God of mercy, help us to comfort your people and share in their joy. God of hope, make us an Advent people, preparing the way for life in all its fullness. Amen. [Catherine Gorman/CAFOD]*



*Please remember the vital work of St Vincent de Paul this Advent*

## SOME ONLINE ADVENT COMPANIONS

**Interactive Advent Calendar:** This annual popular offering from the Bishops' Conference goes live on November 28. Full of daily prayers and resources for the home, you'll find it at: [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)

**Advent Music Playlist:** Each week we'll share a different playlist of Advent music. This week it's one compiled by the American Liturgical Composer, Tony Alonso. It contains over 10 hours of music and can be accessed on Spotify here: [Advent playlist compiled by Tony Alonso](#)

**Pray As You Go Online Audio Advent Retreat - STEPPING BEYOND:** A short weekly session available on the Mondays of Advent and inspired by Pope Francis' letter on friendship. The weeks of Advent are a call to a deeper reflection on the life of Jesus as he stepped beyond his world into ours as our companion and friend. Advent is a time to help us prepare to welcome Jesus our Saviour, God made man in Bethlehem, and to hear his call to Step Beyond ourselves. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/article/advent-2021-stepping-beyond>



The Church across the world is in Synod. Pope Francis reminds us of the meaning of the word itself. It is about journeying together, listening to one another with love & respect, & listening to the Holy Spirit alive in our hearts & in our Church. We are called to do this in our parishes, in our communities, in our homes. This Advent let's pray that in the days ahead we will discover more & more how to journey together in faith.

*"What the Lord is asking of us is already in some sense present in the very word 'synod'. Journeying together — laity, pastors, the Bishop of Rome — is an easy concept to put into words, but not so easy to put into practice" Pope Francis*

*What are the Advent Sunday Readings saying to me?*

### ADVENT SCRIPTURE SHARING

*Why not spend time reflecting on the Sunday Scriptures this Advent alone or with others? See [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie) for our weekly Scripture Sharing Reflections on the Advent Sunday readings. Look out for a local scripture sharing group in your parish. If there isn't one, why not create one yourself and invite others to it?*

**Many thanks to Sr Kate Cuskelly, Sr Cecilia Molloy, Sr Joan Pierce and Sr Ann Wash for preparing these reflections and prayers.**

## An Advent Prayer Week One



*In Advent we invite you to take a moment before bedtime to light your Advent wreath or candle. Pause and thank God for your Advent day. Bring to God any worries or concerns you may have. Pray this prayer in union with the rest of our diocesan family.*

Loving God,  
on this Advent night we turn to you in prayer.  
As we wait for the coming of your Son,  
we ask you to bless our family and all those in  
need of your care this night.  
Free us from any worry or distress  
that we may have  
and help us to welcome your light into our lives,  
a light that gives us your gift of hope.  
May your hope fill our hearts,  
our minds and our home.  
We ask this through  
the One who was, who is and who is to come,  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  
**Come, Lord Jesus, Lord of Hope.**

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



*Elizabeth (Lil)  
Bartley*  
née Conroy  
St. Brigid's Place  
Portlaoise

*Martina Bergin* - Boley, 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](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)

**To you O Lord  
I lift up my soul**

Psalm 24



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**In Loving Memory of  
NOREEN CONROY**

11 Roselawn, Portlaoise.  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm.

*Also remembering at this time;*  
Her father Michael & mother Hannah who  
died recently,

My father Stephen Conroy, Marian Avenue  
his sister Sheila and her husband Noel  
Graham from Arles, who died recently.

*From John, Kathy, Jennifer and Jack Conroy.*

James O' Donovan, Oola, Limerick, 27<sup>th</sup> November  
His wife Kathleen and Kathleen's sister Brid Herbert and her  
brother Bob Nash.

*From Kathy, John, James, Margaret and Willie.*

Also remembering all the staff at HEART Ambulance.  
Keep them all safe and protect them and our patients and  
ambulances each day on their journeys to and from hospitals.  
God keep us all safe from Covid.

*May They Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET DRENNAN**

Ratheniska House, Stradbally, Portlaoise.  
Died 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in the Church of the  
Holy Cross, Ratheniska, on  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 10am.

*Sadly missed and always remembered  
by your husband Arthur, son Diarmaid,  
daughter-in-law Anne, grandsons  
Sean and Pdraig and your extended  
family, relatives and friends.*

*May Margaret Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PAT DWYER**

20 Grenville, Dublin Road, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 11:15am.

*Those we love don't go away,  
They are beside us everyday,  
Unseen, unheard, but always near,  
Still loved, still missed and very dear.  
Fondly remembered always by Joan, Martina,  
Paul, Isabel, extended family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Pat*

**In Loving Memory of  
JIM GORMAN**

*Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.*

*14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 12:30pm.

*We think of you every day,  
You are in our hearts forever,  
For nothing loved is ever lost and you were  
loved so much.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family  
and friends.*

*May Jim Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
In Loving Memory of  
BRENDAN O' BRIEN**

*Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise.  
Died 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021.*



We the family of the late  
Brendan O'Brien would like  
to express our sincere  
thanks to everyone who  
sympathised with us on our  
recent sad loss.

Thank you to everyone who  
sent Mass cards and for the  
lovely sentiments left on the  
website, and to those who  
sympathised with us in person.

A special word of thanks to the staff of  
Beechaven, the Triogue Centre and Sue Ryder  
who were there for Brendan and whose help  
was very much appreciated.

Thank you to Dr. White and his team and to  
Jim and staff at Hughes Pharmacy for all your  
support.

Thanks also to Fr. David, Msgr. John Byrne and  
especially Fr. Nicholas who celebrated the  
funeral Mass which was beautiful and it meant  
so much. Thank you also to the singer for the  
beautiful singing and music.

Our thanks also to Paul and Rankin's funeral  
directors for the kind and professional manner  
in which they carried out Brendan's funeral  
arrangements and also to the gravediggers for  
their professionalism and preparing Brendan's  
final resting place with such care.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually  
we hope that this acknowledgement will be  
accepted as a token of our deepest gratitude to  
you all.

*Rest in Peace Brendan*

**In Loving Memory of  
KEVIN YOUNG**

*34 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise and formerly  
Derreen, Cloneygowan, Co. Offaly.*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021.*



3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter &  
Paul's Parish Church on  
Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30pm.

Three years have passed since  
you left us in November,  
Treasured memories still fill our hearts, fond times  
we all remember,

Three years away from home you are, and missed  
dearly every day, to have one last minute to sit with  
you, "I love you", I would say.

Thinking of you always, from Pamela, Roger, Rosie,  
Melanie, Aaron, Chloe, Hannah, Nicole and  
all your grandchildren.

*Rest in Peace Kevin*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN JOE BRENNAN**

*Rathleague, Portlaoise.*

*4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 11:15am.

Your life was full of kindly deeds, a helping hand  
to all in need, a pleasant smile, a heart of gold,  
no better friend and father this world could hold.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by  
his loving children, family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Dad*

**In Loving Memory of  
A Special Mum and Gran  
ALICE HILLIARD**

*63 Marian Avenue Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Year away from home.*

*And her husband*

**JIMMY HILLIARD**

*On his 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday away from home.*



Our love is forever and  
although we are apart,  
Our love only grows stronger,  
deep within our hearts.

*Sadly missed by your daughter  
Liz and partner Diarmuid,  
grandchildren, Jennifer, Nicole, Bernard, Rebecca and partners,  
great-grandchildren and Alice's brother Andrew.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of **PEGGY BRENNAN**

*Pallas, Ballyfin.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 25<sup>th</sup> November.*



We, Peggy's family, wish to express our deepest gratitude to all who supported us and sympathised with us, both online, and in person, at the time of her departure from this life, and to all her neighbours who stood out along the road, those at the cemetery and everyone who sent Mass cards and words of comfort.

A special word of thanks to the staff at Portlaoise Hospital, especially the palliative care team, who looked after Peggy with kind and professional care.

Many thanks to Keegan Funeral Directors for their support and professional service and our sincere thanks to the gravediggers at Ballyfin cemetery for preparing Peggy's final resting place.

We would also like to thank most sincerely her nephew, Fr. Brian Kavanagh for a beautiful funeral Mass and all who contributed to both the Mass and the removal, as well as the Priests of Portlaoise and Ballyfin Parishes who said prayers and officiated at the Mass.

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

Peggy - sadly missed by everyone who knew her.

*Rest in Peace Peggy*

## In Loving Memory of **ANGELA HYLAND**

*Mountmellick - Portlaoise*

*7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021*



*Your needs in life were simple,  
Your love for your family true,  
As long as we were happy,  
you were happy too.*

Loved and missed by Mary, Jimmy and family, nieces, nephews and her many friends.

*Also remember;*

Granny Hyland whose anniversary occurred  
26<sup>th</sup> September.

Mary Santry whose anniversary occurs  
29<sup>th</sup> November.

Nancy Campbell whose anniversary occurs  
30<sup>th</sup> December.

Brian Santry whose anniversary occurred  
21<sup>st</sup> May.

Eileen Callaghan whose anniversary occurred  
20<sup>th</sup> November.

*May They Rest in Peace*



## Birthday Remembrance

### In Loving Memory of **BERNADETTE KELLY**

*Parkside Apartments and formerly Capoley.  
4<sup>th</sup> birthday away from home; 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021*



*God saw you getting tired and a cure  
was not to be,*

*So He put His arms around you, and  
whispered; "Come to me".*

*With tearful eyes we watched you, and saw  
you pass away, and although we loved you  
dearly, we could not make you stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,*

*Hard working hands at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us,  
He only takes the best.*

*Sadly missed by her loving daughters Joan and Thelma,  
son-in-law, grandchildren and all her loving family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Bernadette*

## In Loving Memory of

### **PETER AND KATIE MOLLOY**

*2 Upper Grattan Street, Portlaoise.*

*Whose 31<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries occur at this time.*



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

*Sadly missed and remembered by your loving family.*

*May Peter & Katie Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of **WILLIAM (Willard) DOWNEY**

*Formerly 8 Triogue Place, Portlaoise.*

*4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs*

*4<sup>th</sup> December 2021*

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

Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 10am.

*Thinking of you always, your good friend Andy.*

*Rest in Peace Bill*



Remembering your loved ones at Christmas

We are currently accepting Christmas Remembrances and Anniversaries for our Christmas edition.

The deadline to submit notices will be **12 noon Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December.**

Owing to the large volume of notices received, we would ask that notices are submitted as early as possible.

Access to the Link-up Office is currently limited so if possible, please e-mail your notice and photo to [linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

If it is necessary for you to call to the office with your notice, please ensure that the notice is fully written prior to arriving at the office, to avoid delays and adhere to Covid guidelines.

If you would like to repeat a previous remembrance/anniversary notice, you can call the office on **057-8692154.**

*Thank you for your patience, understanding and co-operation with the above procedures.*



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OUR LARGE SELECTION  
OF:**

- Cribbs/Nativity Sets
- Christmas Ornaments and Gifts
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### **Christmas Opening Hours**

Monday-Friday from 9am to 5pm  
Saturdays 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 1pm



## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
25<sup>th</sup> November 2021

08

09

15

25

No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Elaine Kelly  
Liz Traynor  
P Keenan  
Joan Gee  
Fintan Kavanagh  
Elizabeth Lynch  
Christine Holohan  
Deirdre Haslam  
Clem  
Philomena Dwane  
Anne Monaghan  
Josephine Robbins  
Eileen Doheny  
Pauline Phelan

MATCH 3s €1,000

14  
Match 3s  
€72  
each

### PROMOTER

Teresa Kelly  
Nuala Arrigan  
Maura Buggy  
Anne Brennan  
Maura Loughlin  
Betty Lynch  
Parish Centre  
Nora Walsh  
Rocky Kehoe  
Thelma Brown  
Joe Doyle  
Parish Centre  
Conroy's Pharmacy  
Margaret Doheny

Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

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Play PARISH



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

## 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

## 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

**DIMPLEX FAN HEATER 2KW**



**ONLY €34.99**  
WAS €39.99

377370

**CONVECTOR HEATER 2KW**



**ONLY €34.99**

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610020

**LUMINUX FROST PROTECTOR HEATER 400W**



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419201

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62591

**CLASSIC FLAT LADDER RAIL 800X1150X22MM**



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1001

**3PC 24 HOUR PLUG IN TIMER SOCKET SET**



**ONLY €10.99**  
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54409

**SOLAR GUARDIAN LIGHT 1.5W 220LM 4000K**



**ONLY €9.99**  
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61042

**SINOX GAMING CHAIR**



**ONLY €149.00**  
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1001

**TRUST GXT 865 ASTA MECHANICAL GAMING KEYBOARD**



**ONLY €69.99**  
WAS €117.99

381977

**TRUST GXT 711 DOMINUS GAMING DESK**



**ONLY €169.00**  
WAS €199.99

382122

**TRUST CELAZ MULTIPLATFORM GAMING HEADSET**



**ONLY €24.95**  
WAS €29.99

610020

**DE VIELLE LUXURY RECHARGEABLE ELECTRIC HOT WATER BOTTLE**



**ONLY €24.99**  
WAS €29.99

391680

**4 PIECE RATCHET TIE DOWN SET**



**ONLY €9.95**  
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1001



**UP TO HALF PRICE**  
ON SELECTED CHRISTMAS STOCK

**HENLEY AURORA 750 ELECTRIC FIRE**



**ONLY €995.00**  
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