

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

16th January 2022

**Second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**



**Congratulations to  
Mrs. Louise Allen,  
Grattan Street,  
who celebrated her 100th birthday  
last Saturday.  
We wish her continued good health  
and every blessing  
as she enters her 101st year.  
Louise would like to thank everyone  
who sent cards, gifts and good  
wishes. Greatly appreciated.  
Thank You!**

**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)**





## A Sign of Better Things To Come

If you were in Jesus' shoes and you were about to grab the world's

attention with your first miracle, what might that first miracle be? Might you reverse global warming or end third world poverty? Jesus' first miracle was to turn water into wine at the Wedding of Cana. To many it seems a frivolous kind of miracle something akin to a party trick, but John relates the miracle with good reason. John's gospel is quite different in character from the other three. It's written in a very symbolic style, and it doesn't follow the same order, or record the same stories as the others. St. John is concerned in showing us signs, which gradually reveal the glory of God through Jesus. The author seems to be mainly interested in the significance of the deeds of Jesus. So what is the significance of this miracle? John writes, "This is written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." Suddenly confronted with enough wine to swim in, the disciples had no choice but to begin to believe in who Jesus really was. Neither would the symbolism have been lost on the people of the time. It was the people's belief that at the time of salvation God would provide a table for feasting for his servants and a cup that would never run dry. In short, the substance of the sign was of no consequence at all; it was the message the sign conveyed that was all-important.

The symbolism we read in this first miracle speaks of an old religion bogged down with oppressive rules and laws liberated by a new faith governed by love, compassion, joy, generosity, and abundance. Being a Christian is a very serious business, and as Christians we are asked to address life and death issues, but that doesn't mean we should trudge around with long pious faces. Jesus frequently likens the Kingdom of God to a feast, so smile.... the changing of water to wine is a sign of better things to come.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

Monday - Friday: 7.30am & 10am

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.



Christian Unity Week

18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

'We Saw His Star in the East'.

See back page

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

C.S. LEWIS



We welcome into our Parish Community

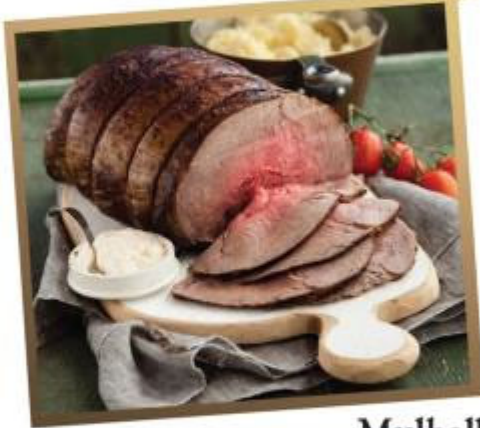
Aine Rose McEvoy, Cappagh North

Who were baptised last weekend



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**Jack and Jill Charity Shop** are currently looking for volunteers. If you would like to donate your time please pop in and speak with Julie.

**Chime:** The National Charity for Deafness and Hearing Loss, our local supports outreach service is located at Citizen Information Centre Portlaoise. This is a free and confidential support service on all aspects of deafness and hearing loss; information and resources, minor hearing aid repairs, hearing aid batteries for sale at €2 per card. Due to recent Covid restrictions, please call 057-9351606 / 086-1436476 to book an appointment for the last Tuesday of every month.

**Volunteers Required:** Laois SPCA are currently looking for volunteers to work in our charity shop in Hynds Square. If you have a day or even a few hours a week to spare, we would be delighted to have your help. If you are interested please complete our online volunteer form on [www.lspca.ie](http://www.lspca.ie) or call into our shop or phone 087-6883333.

## **An Spioraid Naoimh Praise & Worship Meeting:**

*Date;* Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January  
*Venue;* Portlaoise Parish Centre  
*Time;* 10:45am (following 10am Mass)  
*Format;* Holy Rosary, praise and worship (live music), talk #3; "Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect", concluding with final hymns and prayers.  
Spiritual Director;  
Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill.  
For further info. contact M Nerney 086-8157305.

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Support is offered through an external classroom setting in Portlaoise Parish Centre in 6 weeks blocks (mirroring general school terms), covering specific criteria from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class Curriculum.

Cost; 6 x 1 hour sessions €100.

Start Date; **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

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To  
**Tommy and Teresa  
Timmons**

winners of last week's  
€16,000 jackpot.

*Pictured left;*  
Msgr. John presenting Tommy  
with the winning cheque.  
Congratulations also to  
Tony Cahill, who was the  
promoter and received €1,600

You too could be as lucky as Tommy - play lotto online at [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)  
or purchase a lotto membership in the Parish Centre. If you aren't in, you can't win!!

The lotto draw takes place in the foyer of the Parish Centre every Thursday evening  
after 5pm and is live streamed on the Portlaoise Parish facebook page;  
[fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois](https://fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois)

**DON'T  
MISS YOUR  
CHANCE  
TO WIN!**

## SEANCHUA



We are currently accepting  
applications for admission to Junior  
Infants for the school year  
2022-2023.

**Closing date for applications;  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2022.**

You can find out more about our  
school by visiting our website;  
[www.shanahoens.weebly.com](http://www.shanahoens.weebly.com),  
following us on Facebook

'**Shanhoe National School**' and  
Twitter 'ShanhoeNS'.

Please contact the school at  
(057) 87 39715 or e-mail  
[principalshanahoens@gmail.com](mailto:principalshanahoens@gmail.com)  
to receive an

'Application for Admission Form'.

## Scoil an Fhraoich Mhoir

*together we learn*



### The Heath, Portlaoise, Co.Laois Junior Infant Enrolment 2022-2023 school year

We are currently accepting applications for junior infant  
enrolment for the school year 2022-2023.

Application forms are available from the school website  
[www.heathns.ie](http://www.heathns.ie) or from the school office.

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February.**

### TOBAR AN LÉINN - RAHEEN NATIONAL SCHOOL Mountrath, Co. Laois. R32 R296

We are now accepting enrolments for the academic year  
2022-2023. There are 24 places available in Junior Infants  
and 3 places available in A.S.D class. Enrolment forms are  
available from the school office. Tel. 057 8731767 or  
e-mail [office@tobaranleinn.ie](mailto:office@tobaranleinn.ie) / [secretarytoblr@gmail.com](mailto:secretarytoblr@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.tobaranleinn.weebly.com](http://www.tobaranleinn.weebly.com)



### SUE RYDER HOUSE, BALLYROAN

The Board and residents of our 99  
apartments and houses in Laois and our  
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to wish them health and success in the  
New year.



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## HOLY FAMILY JUNIOR SCHOOL

### School Enrolment 2022/23

Enrolment forms will be available from 13th to 27th January 2022  
for the above school for Junior Infants.

Enrolment forms are available from:

Holy Family Junior School  
Aughnaharna, Summerhill, Portlaoise  
(057) 86 88224 or from our website: [www.holyfamilyjs.ie](http://www.holyfamilyjs.ie)

Please return Enrolment forms to the office along with  
a copy of your Child's Birth Certificate.

Closing date for applications is 27th January 2022



Be active to improve  
your local HSE Mental  
Health Services

## Mental Health Engagement Forum

Open to: People who use Adult HSE Mental Health  
Services, Family Members, Carers or Supporters  
(Louth, Meath, Longford, Westmeath, Laois, Offaly)



When: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
January 2022  
Time: 11.00 am – 12.00 pm

Booking@ [MentalHealthEngagement  
Forum - Tickets](http://MentalHealthEngagementForum-Tickets)

Contact Mental Health Engagement  
e-mail: [mhengage.mlm@hse.ie](mailto:mhengage.mlm@hse.ie)  
Tel: 087 376 1552 Duana McArdle







# Time to Think!

## Some Spiritual Tips for New Year 2022

The best resolutions are elastic, they cannot be broken with a single act. If you swear never to touch red meat, one burger ruins the resolution. If, on the other hand, you pledge to eat healthier food, each day you have a chance to fulfil the resolution anew.

Below are five elastic spiritual resolutions that can carry you throughout the year.

### 1. Engage with people more than pixels

Looking at a phone is quick and undemanding. Texting is easier than talking - it gives you intimacy without danger. This year, resolve to spend more time looking into someone's eyes when you communicate with them. Replace an extended exchange on text with a meeting for coffee. Make a promise of presence.

### 2. Take your soul seriously

It is easy to pretend that what we watch and how we speak have no effects on us. But the constant pounding of hatreds and dehumanisation that marks so much of our media have consequences for our character. Part of who you are is the sum of the influences you choose: what you watch, who you associate with, how you speak about others both publicly and privately. Life is a continuous journey of soul shaping, and this year, resolve to keep your deep journey in mind. Turn away from something seductive but corrosive - Twitter rants full of bile, or people who continually insult those around them, or depictions of violence that take savage delight in suffering. You only get one soul; don't squander it in things unworthy of its majesty.

### 3. Increase your Kindness

If you wish to feel kind, do something good. The great secret of moral growth is that it often begins from the outside. Rather than your joy leading you to smile, your smile can lead you to joy. Behave generously even when you do not feel like it and the habit will grow as will your innate quality of kindness. The act can be small or large; it can be a charitable contribution or a gentle word or help with a heavy bag on an airplane. Do it.

### 4. Choose someone to forgive

All of us have legitimate grievances in our lives. Some people are very hard to forgive but you need not begin with the toughest cases. Small acts of grace will grow. Forgive the guy who cut you off in the street; after all, you have cut people off as well, on purpose or inadvertently. Forgive the person who made an unkind remark about you. Choose a place to begin. The more you forgive, the less the world can injure you; forgiveness is a soft shield for your soul.

### 5. In forgiving, include yourself

Fight against perfectionism. Leave a dropped stitch in the knitting of your life. There will always be more possibilities to get something wrong than to get it right. Allow yourself the latitude of mistakes, without

*A Fresh Start...*

*And A Beautiful  
New Beginning*

self-punishing. God is supposed to be perfect, not human beings. Have expectations of yourself, but don't enforce them with a hammer.

As we have begun the journey of 2022, I love this celebrated poem "Change me Lord";

#### CHANGE ME LORD

Change me Lord and make me whole,  
Renew my body, mind and soul,  
Create in me, a brand new thing,  
Wash me on the inside and make me clean.

Take out the junk that's in my heart,  
Please Heavenly father, give me a brand new start,  
I have always tried doing it my own way,  
But dear Jesus I surrender to you my all today.

Change me Lord, my all to you I give,  
In your word I truly want to live,  
I want your spirit in everything I do,  
I want to be more like you.

I want your spirit to dwell deep inside of me,  
I no longer want to be bound, but I want to be totally free,  
All things must come to an end,  
And I refuse to let the devil win.

I want to eat of your word morning, noon and night,  
Lord, I want to be pleasing in your sight,  
It takes commitment, fasting and prayer,  
With a sincere heart, you will be there.

Change me father from the inside out,  
Serving you is what it's all about,  
Use me Lord, let me be heard,  
I want to help spread your holy word.

On bended knees and a humble heart,  
Change me Lord, even if you have to take me apart,  
Change me Lord, my body, mind and soul,  
I am ready to be made whole.





## SAVING THE BEST FOR LAST

One day, Jesus went to a wedding. His mother was there and so were his disciples. Everyone was having a good time until the wedding host ran out of wine. The party was about to be ruined when Jesus' mother went to him and asked him to help. Then she told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do.

Nearby there were six stone water jars, each holding about twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so the servants filled them to the brim. Then he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did as they were told, and when the master of the banquet tasted the water, it had been turned into wine. Not only that - it was the very best wine he had tasted all evening.

The master of the banquet called the bridegroom aside and said to him, "Most people serve the best wine first and then serve cheap wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best until the last."

This was the first of Jesus' miracles on the earth, but it wasn't his last. When we walk with Jesus every day, we become accustomed to the miracles he performs. He does so many great and wonderful things for us. He supplies everything we need -- a roof over our head, and a nice warm bed. We have clothes to wear and plenty to eat and drink. Oh yes, he is so good, but do you know what? He is saving the best for last. What is it? Eternal life. If we put our trust in Jesus as our Saviour, we will live forever in heaven with him. Now, that's what I call "saving the best for last!"

### OUR PRAYER

Dear Father, we thank you for all of the good things which you provide each and every day, but most of all, we thank you for eternal life which we have in Jesus Christ.

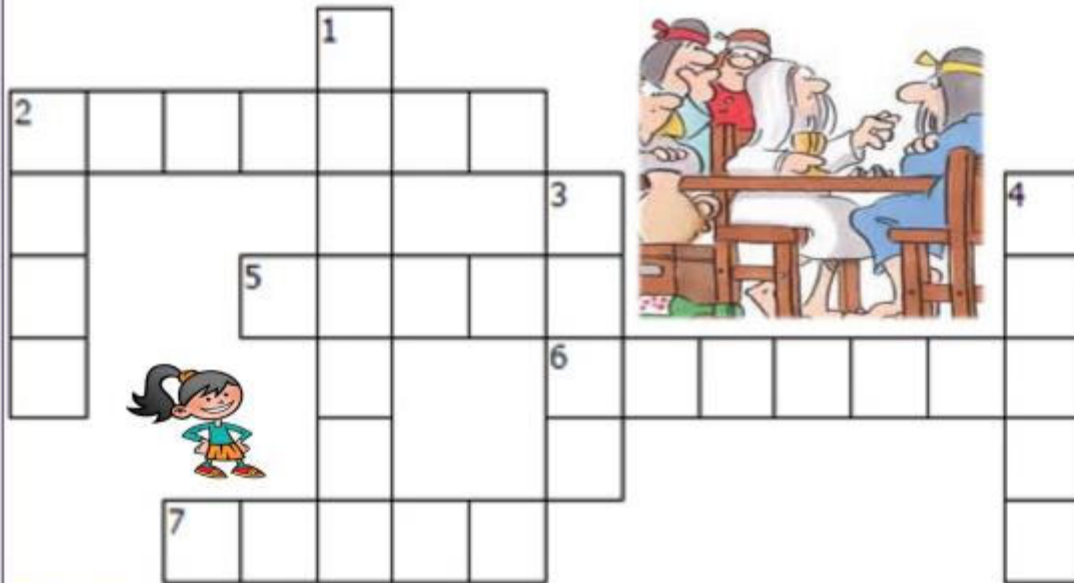
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.





## Jesus Turns Water Into Wine

"Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." John 2:10



### ACROSS

2. A ceremony joining a man and woman as husband and wife.
5. To eat or drink a small amount
6. One who is employed to perform services for someone else
7. Low in cost; of poor quality; inferior

### DOWN

1. An event that cannot be explained by the laws of nature.
2. A beverage made of the fermented juice of grapes.
3. Of the highest quality; One that surpasses all others.
4. A clear, colourless, odourless, and tasteless liquid, H<sub>2</sub>O.



**WEDDING | MIRACLE | TASTE | CHEAP | WINE | SERVANT | WATER | BEST**

### *A Prayer for Students and Teachers*

*God is the source of all wisdom  
and knowledge.*

*Let us ask him to bless those who seek  
to learn and their teachers.*

*For students, that the Spirit of God may  
grant them the gifts of wisdom of  
understanding.*

*For teachers, that they may share their  
knowledge with gentleness, patience,  
and concern for their students.*

*Amen.*

## Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an international Christian ecumenical observance kept annually between 18th January and 25th January. It is an octave, that is, an observance lasting eight days.



### *Thought for Today!*

On average, professional footballers run as far as nine miles in a single match.



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



*Johnny O'Brien*  
Old Knockmay Road,  
Portlaoise



*Tom Lookby*  
Marian Avenue,



*Mary Roche*  
née Whelan  
Mountrath Road, Portlaoise



*Jane Byrne*  
née Dempsey  
Old Knockmay Road, Portlaoise



*John Patrick (Pat) Byrne*  
Kilminchy Lodge Nursing Home,  
Portlaoise



*Michael McCormack*  
Athy/Portlaoise



*Peter Farrelly*  
Sue Ryder, Kilminchy



*Michael Butler*  
Abbeyleix

**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)

***In Loving Memory of  
DAVID RAFTER***  
*Glenside, Abbeyleix Rd., Portlaoise.*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Year away from Home.*



They say that time is a healer,  
But as time goes by, I seem to  
find it just as hard, to face the  
fact that you are gone.  
And today is the anniversary of  
the day that you went away,  
And I am standing here at your  
graveside, and believe me  
when I say, you will never be  
forgotten.

Every year I will shed a tear, but it's only because  
we love you and wish you were still here.

Loved and missed so much Dave.

Love always, Vanda and your kids Stefan & Amy xx

**Remembering my beloved son David**

Gone are the days we used to share,  
But in my heart you are always there,  
The gates of my memory never close,  
I miss you more than anyone knows.

Loved and missed dearly, your ever-loving Mam xx

*Remembering David's Dad at this time.*

*"Together Again"*

**Remembering my darling brother David**

Precious people are very few,  
That's why there was only one of you,  
Nothing on earth can ever replace, the sound of  
your voice, and the smile on your face.

No verses, no flowers, no tears can say,  
How much you are loved and missed every day.  
Loved always Daithí, John, Martina and Craig xxx

**Remembering David on his 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary**

Just a little verse to say, you will never be forgotten  
in your unique own way.

Always remembered David by the Szwaglis family.

David, life has shown us again it's hurtful side,  
by taking you away from us when we didn't see it  
coming.

There's no way to make up for time lost and now  
gone, but we hope that wherever you are, you know  
that you are truly loved and we hope you have  
found peace and joy.

Loved and missed dearly, from Jimmy, Claire,  
Aaron, Rachel and Jonathan xx

*Rest in Peace David*



**In Loving Memory of  
MICHAEL FITZPATRICK**

11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022



*Those we love remain with us,  
For love itself lives on,  
Cherished memories never fade,  
Because one loved is gone,  
Those we love can never be,  
More than a thought apart,  
For as long as there is a memory,  
They live on in our hearts.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

*May Michael Rest in Peace*

**Birthday Remembrance**

**In Loving Memory of  
EOIN STONE**

43 Thornberry, Abbyleix



Dear Eoin,  
My birthday wish for you is  
that Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
will surround you with true  
and everlasting love.  
That all the angels and saints  
will join me in giving you the  
biggest birthday hug,  
Sent with all my love,

Addressed to Heaven above, especially for you Eoin,  
Who is now resting in God's eternal love.

**Always remembered and never forgotten by your  
loving mother Bridie x**

26 today that's what you would be, all the things you  
could have become but we're not meant to see,  
The friendliest smile, the most beautiful face, life could  
have taken you to the most magnificent place.

As I sit and dream about all the things that could have  
happened for you,

I quietly take a breath and remember it's not true.  
You left this physical world at the tender age of 24,  
Hearts are forever broken but you're loved forever  
more,

My dreams for you are selfish, it's what I wanted you  
to be, a greater plan was written for you where you  
reached eternity.

**Always loved and in my thoughts, your loving sister  
Amanda and family x**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday away from home**

*How I wish I could pick up the phone and just say  
Happy Birthday Eoin*

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

*Rest in Peace Eoin*

**BIRTHDAY  
REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of  
A Cherished Husband, Father and Grandfather  
WILLIAM (Willie) O' REILLY**

28 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

4<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from home - 13/1/2022



Your birthday brings back memories of  
laughter and of tears, of all the celebrations  
held throughout your precious years.  
And as you are now watching over us we hope  
that you can see, how much the memories we  
made will always mean to us.

We will always cherish times we had and smile  
just at the thought, we hope you see the  
magnitude of the joy your life has brought.  
On holidays and birthdays it's so hard to be  
apart, like everyday that falls between, your  
memory fills our hearts.

You are with us now where ever we go,  
You are part of all we do,  
We celebrate your birthday and the gift we  
had in you.



**Happy Birthday  
Always remembered today and everyday,  
never more than a thought away.  
Your wife Anne, sons and daughters,  
son-in-law, daughters-in-law and all your  
grandchildren xxx**



## In Loving Memory of FRANCES DUNNE

Late of Silverdale, Abbeyleix Rd. Portlaoise who died on  
14<sup>th</sup> January 2010. 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a dear sister and best friend.



To hear your voice, to see your smile,  
To sit and talk to you a while,  
To be together in the same old way,  
Would be our greatest wish today.

Loved and remembered always Chrissie,  
Yvonne, Trevor, Jack & Aine xxxxx

*May Frances Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT In Loving Memory of DES BROWNE

Mountrath Road, Portlaoise.  
Months Mind occurs 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



The family of the late Des Browne would like to express their sincere gratitude to all who sympathised with them, sent Mass cards and flowers, phoned and uploaded messages online and to those who attended the funeral home and Requiem Mass either in person or via the parish webcam.

A special thank you to Msgr. John Byrne for celebrating the Requiem Mass, to Fr. David Vard for attending Des in his final hours and to the Priests of the Parish for all their support to the family at such a difficult time. Our thanks also to Nuala Kelly for providing music for the Requiem Mass.

Thanks to Dr. Sinead Burke and the staff of the Cedar Clinic and to Comfort Home Care, the Palliative Care team and HSE, especially Aine in Occupational Therapy and Tom in Physiotherapy. Our thanks also to Abbeyleix hospital and to Hughes Pharmacy for their kindness and assistance.

Sincere thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode, for the professional and compassionate manner in which they carried out Des' funeral arrangements and to the gravediggers for preparing Des' final resting place with such care.

Heartfelt thanks to our family and friends for their support especially Deirdre, Noelle and Martina; to Bosco's catering for providing refreshments and to the GAA for their guard of honour.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our sincere appreciation and deepest gratitude.

Des' Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

*Rest in Peace Des*

## In Loving Memory of ROSANNA KERRY née Phillips

61 Knockmay Estate, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home occurred  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2022



We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name,  
But all we have are memories,  
And your picture in a frame.  
Your resting place we visit,  
And put flowers there with care,  
But no one knows the heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.

Sadly missed by your sons, daughters, grandchildren,  
great grandchildren & extended family xx

*May Rosanna Rest in Peace*

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE Of our Father PETER LALOR

4 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.



Dad, we miss you everyday,  
You were so precious and unique,  
A guiding light throughout our lives,  
You were our strength when we  
were weak.  
Happy memories flood our minds  
whenever we think of you,  
But you can never be replaced,  
that sadly is true.

The fact that you're no longer here, still fills our  
hearts with pain, we wish we had just one last chance  
to talk with you again.

We shall always remember the closeness we had,  
We love you and miss you, our kind and loving Dad.

Loved and remembered always by Mary and sisters.

*Rest in Peace Dad*

## In Loving Memory of MARGARET CONROY

O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
Months Mind occurred 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



For a wonderful Mum  
Along the road of suffering, you  
found a little lane, that took you  
up to Heaven, and ended all  
your pain.  
You may be out of sight,  
We may be worlds apart, but  
you are always in our prayers  
and forever in our hearts.

Love you always Mam, from your loving family,  
Michael, Eddie, Andrew, Paul, Jimmy, Theresa  
and extended family and friends.

*Rest in Peace Margaret*



**In Loving Memory of  
JOSEPHINE O'REILLY**

Marian House, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise, whose Anniversary  
occurred 13<sup>th</sup> January.



A sudden call from God on high,  
We had no chance to say goodbye,  
Without farewell you fell asleep, but  
memories of you we will always keep.

From your sons Martin and Jas, daughter Eileen,  
grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

*May Josephine Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PAT McNAMEE**

The Heath, Portlaoise.



3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in the Church of the  
Assumption, the Heath, this  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 9:30am.

*Sadly missed and always  
remembered by  
Marion and family.*

*Rest in Peace Pat*

**In Loving Memory of  
CARMEL FITZPATRICK**

Borris Road, Portlaoise.

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter &  
Paul's Parish Church, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 10am.



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

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by  
James, Betty, Noel and families.*

*Rest in Peace Carmel*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET HOULIHAN**

14 Oaklawn, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise.

4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



The Day You Went Away

Today's the anniversary of the day  
that we lost you,  
And for a time it felt as though our  
lives had ended too.

But loss has taught us many things,  
And now we face each day,  
With hope and happy memories,  
To help us on our way.

And though we're full of sadness, that you're no longer  
here,

Your influence still guides us, and we still feel you near.

What we shared will never die, it lives within our hearts,  
Bringing strength and comfort, while we are apart.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving  
husband James, sons, daughters, sons-in-law,  
daughters-in-law, grandchildren and extended family.*

*May Margaret Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
CARMEL FITZPATRICK**

*née Dunne*

Annefield Terrace, Dublin Road, Portlaoise.

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurred 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

*Sadly missed by all the  
Fitzpatrick and Dunne families.*

*Rest in Peace Carmel*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE  
CHRISTOPHER FITZPATRICK**

35 Borris Road, Portlaoise, whose  
Birthday occurred 10<sup>th</sup> January.



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

*Loved and sadly missed by all his  
loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Christopher*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARTIN BRENNAN**

54 Borris Little, Portlaoise.

8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Along the road of suffering, you found a  
little lane, that took you up to Heaven and  
ended all your pain,  
You may be out of sight, we may be worlds  
apart, but you are always in our prayers  
and forever in our hearts.

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Ann,  
Helen, Mark and Eve.*

*May Martin Rest in Peace*



## In Loving Memory of **MARY LALOR**

*Ballycarroll, Portlaoise.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022.*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 9:30am.

*"Those we love we never lose,  
for always they will be,  
Loved, remembered, treasured,  
always in our memory"*

*Sadly missed and always  
remembered by*

*Paddy, Patricia, Jennifer, Seamus,  
Carol, Padraig, Mary and families.*

As an acknowledgement of the family's appreciation for Mass cards and Sympathy cards, a Novena of Masses is being offered by the Kiltegan Fathers, commencing on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022 for 9 days.

*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 Mary*

## In Loving Memory of **JOSEPH O' SHEA**

*20 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurred 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.*



They say there is a reason,  
They say that time will heal,  
But neither time or reason will  
change the way we feel.

For no one knows the  
heartache that lies behind our  
smiles, no one knows how  
many times we have broken  
down and cried.

We want to tell you something,  
so there won't be any doubt,  
You're so wonderful to think of, but so hard to be  
without.

We cannot bring the old days back when we were all  
together, the family chain is broken now,  
But memories live forever.

*Loved and missed dearly by Mam, Caroline,  
John, Paul, Patrick, William,  
nieces and nephews.*

*Rest in Peace Joseph*

## In Loving Memory of **PATRICK & ELLEN MAHER**

*Grange, Stradbally whose anniversaries occur at this time.*

*Also remembering Eileen, MaryAnn, John  
and Margaret.*



In God's care you rest  
above, in our hearts you  
rest with love.

Never more than a  
thought away, loved and  
remembered everyday.

*Lovingly remembered by all your family.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of **CARMEL CROKE**

*Pallas, Portlaoise. Died 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021.*



The family of the late Carmel Croke (née Conroy) would like to thank all those who sympathised with them on their sad loss and to everyone who sent Mass cards, uploaded messages online, attended Carmel's funeral Mass either in person or via the webcam.

A special thank you to Fr. Joe Brophy who attended Mam in hospital and to Fr. PJ Fitzgerald for the beautiful funeral Mass and his support to our family.

Thank you to Sarah Troy for the beautiful music and to the stewards who managed the Church car park on both days.

Our thanks to the staff of the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise who were so kind to Carmel in her final weeks.

A special thanks to the carers who looked after Carmel in her home, over many years.

Our appreciation to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their support and the professional manner in which they carried out Carmel's funeral arrangements.

A very special thanks to Dr. Gerry White and staff at the Medical Centre, for his care and kindness to Carmel over the years.

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.

Carmel's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Fintan's Church Ballyfin, Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 10am.

*Rest in Peace Carmel*



**In Loving Memory of  
ELIZABETH FLANAGAN**

*née Wright*

1 Green Road, O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 12:30pm.

If days are hard, if you've lost someone dear,  
Just look in your heart, and you'll know  
they're still here.

The star in the sky, the light falling snow,  
The robin outside, it seems like they know.

If this is a time when you're struggling through,  
Just do what you can, for what matters, is you.

There's no need to be merry, there's no need to be bright,  
Just do what you can and it will all be alright.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by her loving husband  
Tony (Barney), Trevor, Kevin, Sinéad, Tony, Matthew and  
her 7 granddaughters.*

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*

**In Loving Memory of  
DAVID RAFTER**

*'Ardville' Glenside, Portlaoise.*

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022



My dear Brother, now that you  
are gone, you're no longer here  
to share the bond we had  
together -

A bond of love and care.

Yet, somehow something tells  
me you are watching over me.  
Now that from worldly care, you  
finally are free.

I miss you so very much, and  
my tears I cannot hide.

Yet, within my heart, I feel you are always by my side.  
Ever since you went away, life has never been the  
same, yet it comforts me to know that one day  
we'll meet again.

**Never forgotten bro.**

**Love always Jack, Jenni, Cian & Hollie**

Gone but not forgotten

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think  
about you.

I miss you a lot Brother  
Wish you were still here.  
See you when I get there.

**Love always, Adrian, Leonie and Anna.**

*Rest in Peace David*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of  
ELIZABETH (Lizzie) FARRELL**  
"Chestnut Drive", Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday away from home.



**To a loving Mam/Wife  
on your Birthday**

Although our worlds are different  
now or is that just how it seems,  
For we see you when we close our  
eyes because you're always in our  
dreams.

Even though we miss you,  
You're not too far away,

Because our hearts are full of memories and we treasure  
them everyday.

Our time on earth was special, but it's only the very start,  
So please keep watching over us, while we're not so far  
apart.

Someday the time will come when we no longer feel the  
pain, that is the day when Heaven calls,  
And we will all meet again.

**Forever loved and missed by your loving husband  
Frank, sons Michael, David, Kenneth, daughter Regina  
and extended family xx**

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*

**Happy Birthday Gran**

Though her smile is gone forever,  
And her hand we cannot touch,  
We still have so many memories,  
Of the one we loved so much.

**Always and forever missed, Jennifer, Stephen, Ava  
and Saoirse xx**

*Rest in Peace Gran*

**In Loving Memory of a very special Husband  
RICHARD ANDERSON**

*Late of 37 Upper Beladd, Portlaoise.*

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022



When God was making husbands, as far as I can see,  
He made a special soulmate especially for me,  
He made a perfect gentleman, compassionate and  
kind, with more love and affection than you could  
ever find.

He gave my darling husband a heart of solid gold,  
only my heart can hold,  
He was someone I could talk to,  
That no one can replace,

He was someone I could laugh with till tears ran down my face.

Next time we meet will be at Heaven's door,

When I see you standing there, I won't cry anymore,

I will put my arms around you and kiss your smiling face,

Then the pieces of my broken heart will fall back into place.

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Cecilia and family.*

*Rest in Peace Richard*



## In Loving Memory of DONAL (Dan) GRAHAM

2 The Green, Stradbally and Lakeglen Portlaoise.



1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 11:15am.

Every day, in some small way,  
Memories of you come our way,  
And though absent,  
You are always near,  
Still missed, still loved,  
But always dear.

*Sadly missed by his brothers, sisters and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Donal*

## In Loving Memory of PADDY RANKIN

Kiloughan, Stradbally, Laois.



2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022

*Thinking of you  
today and always.*

*Sadly missed by his loving  
family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Paddy*



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HE IS  
THE CHOSEN ONE  
OF GOD

JOHN 1:34

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David **087-2369887**

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## Portlaoise Parish



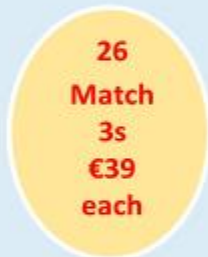
Results for  
13<sup>th</sup> January 2022

No €10,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Gerry Murphy  
Ann McEvoy  
Agnes Hyland  
Shay Bartley  
Joseph Byrne  
James Byrne  
Kirsten O'Neill  
Carmel & Sean  
Connolly Family  
Ericka McCarthy  
Ann Gorman  
James O'Reilly  
Denis Tierney  
Pauric Lynch  
Liam Greene  
The Walkers  
Kates Gang  
Alan  
Phil Lynch  
Ned Wynne  
Alan  
Peter Middleton  
Elizabeth Killeen  
Peggy Lyons  
Olive Tynan  
John Fitzpatrick Snr

MATCH 3s €1,000



Play PARISH



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Paul Dooley  
Paul Dooley  
Online Lotto  
Mona Lisa Crabb  
Lotto Gift  
Lotto Gift  
Geraldine O'Neill  
Carmel Whelan  
Ann Brennan  
Betty McCarthy  
Liz Hilliard  
Browns Shop  
Anita Lavery  
Paddy O'Connor  
Peter Ryan  
Peter Ryan  
Maura Loughlin  
Flanagan Foodstore  
Mary Collins  
Paul Dooley  
Flanagan Foodstore  
Pam Killeen  
Pam Killeen  
Betty Phelan  
Betty Tynan  
Rita Watkins

Next Weeks Jackpot €11,000

## 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](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

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

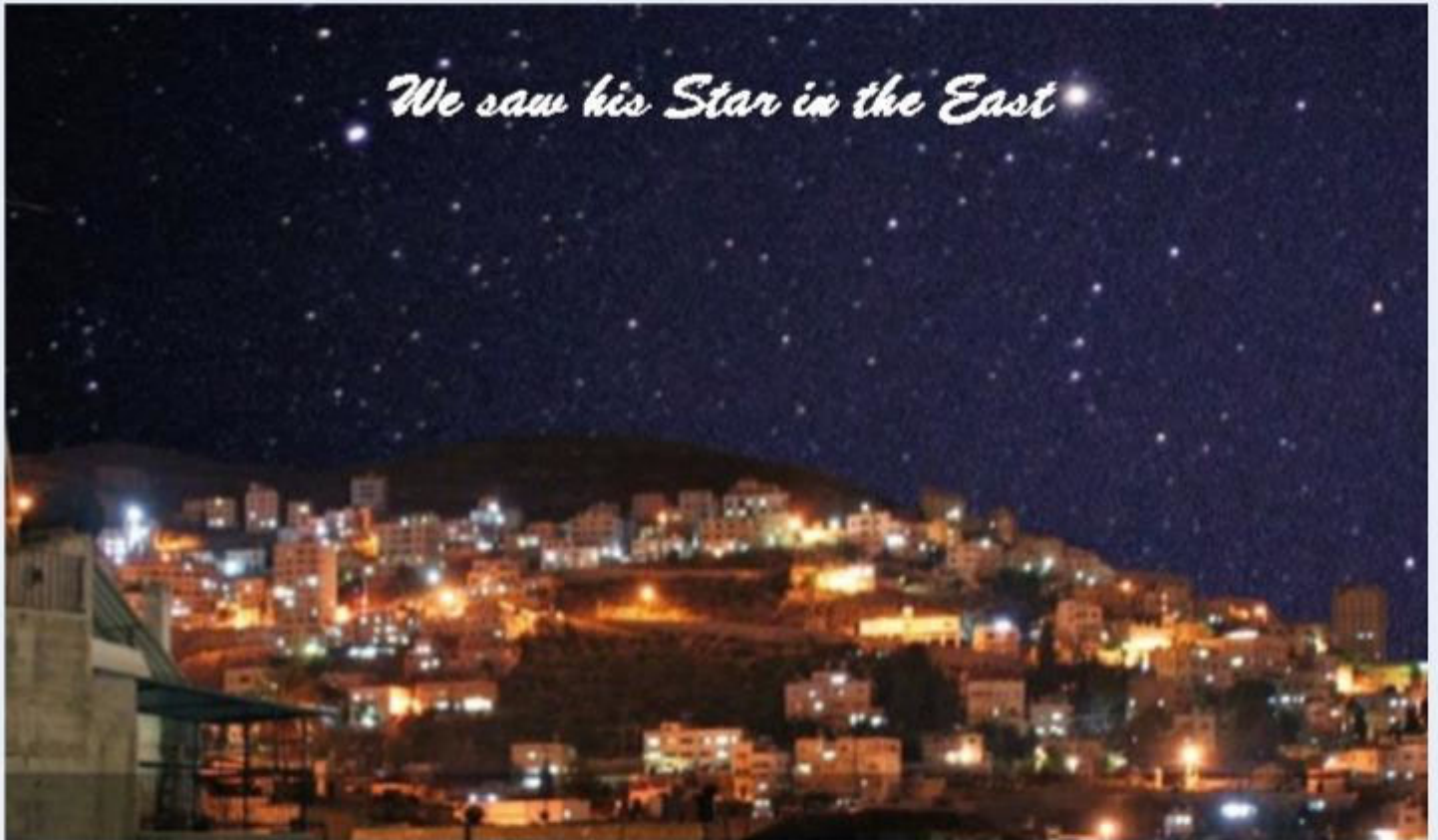
(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU



# WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022

## JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup>



The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity - different religions and cultures that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 has been prepared by the churches of the Middle East, the history of which was, and still is, characterised by conflict and strife, tainted with blood and darkened by injustice and oppression. The Christians of the Middle East offer these resources conscious that the world shares many of the travails and much of the difficulties that it experiences, and yearns for a light to lead the way to the Saviour who is the light that overcomes darkness.

Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to the human being, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalised. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest society. This is a call for churches to work together so that young people can build a good future according to God's heart, a future in which all human beings can experience life, peace, justice, and love.

Celebrating Church Unity Week again this year in the throes of a World Pandemic means we cannot have a public coming together for prayer with other Christian Churches in our area. Prayers for Church Unity will be included in all our Masses and we encourage you to include this intention in your prayers during the week.

(Resources available at Irish Council of Churches website; [www.irishchurches.org](http://www.irishchurches.org))