

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

20th February 2022

**Seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time**



(Photo) Ceremony of Light in the Parish Church
2020 (pre pandemic!)

325 Confirmation candidates are invited to a
Ceremony of Light
on Monday and Tuesday week (28th Feb/1st March)
See Cate Kids on page 11 for full details.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Follow Us **@PortlaoiseParis**
& Like Us **fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois**
fb.com/portlaoiselinkup

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



Confining War to the Dusty History Books

Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you? Surely that's a recipe for becoming a doormat, yet this is what Jesus is asking us to do in today's gospel. The six o'clock news fuels our anger. We want to fight back at the aggressors. We want to hit back at the terrorists who hurt us. We want to see consequences for those who kill or maim or take away from us. Jesus' advice doesn't make any sense. How can we love those we don't even like! How can we forgive when punishment feels more human? But in the words of Martin Luther King Jr "When you live by the rule 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, you end up with a nation of blind and toothless people'".

These are tremendous words, because they tell us that when we respond to those who hate us with love instead of recrimination, we defeat evil. So how do we make it work? Firstly we have to know that love isn't a warm fuzzy emotion that leaps out of a Valentine's card. Love is a decision. Love is not a feeling it's a choice. We have to make decision to do good and then do it. We know we are loved by the way we are treated, and in the same way we have to show others that we love them by the way we treat them. Next come the rules. Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn and you will not be condemned. Give and it will be given to you. In short we have to treat everyone the way we would like to be treated ourselves whether we like them or not. If everyone could live their lives by Jesus' teaching conflict and war would be confined to dusty history books.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Aniela Calka, The Elms, Forest Park

Annie Lisa Dempsey, Ashley Gardens

Lara Rose Geddes McCann, Rossvale Court

Who were baptised last weekend



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.

This Sunday we welcome

Bishop Denis

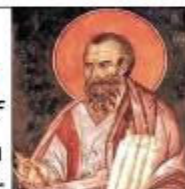
Celebrant 10am Mass.



Visit our website: www.portlaoiseparish.ie

St. Polycarp Wednesday 23rd February

St. Polycarp was Bishop of Smyrna or Izmir in modern Turkey. Born around the year 69, he was a disciple of St. John the Apostle. He was martyred in 155.



The Chair of St. Peter, Apostle

**Tuesday
22nd February**

This ancient feast relates to early Roman custom at this time of year of remembering the ancestors of the family, those who presided over the family fortunes. The feast celebrates Peter as Bishop of Rome and the focus of unity in the communion of one faith.



MULHALL MEATS

ESTABLISHED 1931



Mulhall's Fresh Irish Sirloin Steak

Offer Available Mon 14th Feb- Sun 27th Feb Only

Now
25%
Off

Mulhall Meats Is Located Within Mulhall's SuperValu.
Mulhall's SuperValu is Open Mon-Sat 7.30am-9pm, Sunday 8am-7pm.

Phone: 057 8621044

Mulhall's Butcher Counter is Open Every Sunday 9am - 5pm

AUDIOLOGIST HEARING AID Consultant

Patricia Kilmartin
B.A.A.T., M.I.S.H.A.A.
(28+ years experience with Private & Public Sector)



- Comprehensive Hearing Assessment
- Full range of Digital Hearing Aids available incl. **FREE PRSI HEARING AIDS TO VALUE OF €1000 TO ELIGIBLE CLIENTS**
- Pre-employment tests/Occupational Screening Tests
- Ear moulds, Custom made Swim Plugs, Musicians Moulds, etc.
- Hearing Aid Batteries, Minor Repairs, etc. (incl. postal service)
- Ear Wax Removal Service

In Attendance

10 Lismard Court, Portlaoise Co. Laois.
(Entrance beside Macra Na Feirme Hall on Timahoe Road)

By Appointment Only

Tel: 057 8692289 Mobile: 085 8568808

E-mail: pkaudiology@gmail.com

Website: www.kilmartinaudiology.ie

****STRICT SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE, IN LINE WITH ADVICE OF THE GOVERNMENT & HSE GUIDELINES****



JW ROOFING

THE HEIGHT OF QUALITY



TALK TO US

☎ 089 4892441
Find us on Facebook

*Reliable
Fully Insured
Work Guaranteed*

Gutter Cleaning & Roof Inspection **ONLY €60**

✉ jwroofing77@gmail.com

🌐 www.jwroofing.ie

clubvitae
PORTLAOISE

FITNESS YOUR WAY

Membership from as little as €30 per month



KEY FEATURES

- 20m swimming pool
- Children's pool
- Jacuzzi
- Sauna
- Steam room
- Free parking
- Fully equipped gym with TV entertainment
- Aerobics studio
- Range of classes including boot camp, kettlebells, aqua aerobics & spin
- Resistance & free weights area
- Stretch & Abs area
- Swimming Lessons
- Natural daylight in Gym, Pool & Studio

Open from 6.30am-10pm Monday-Friday • 8am-8pm Saturday
8am-7.30pm Sundays and Bank Holidays

☎ +353 57 8695960
🌐 clubvitae.com/portlaoise

maldron
HOTEL
PORTLAOISE

TAYLOR
TC
CONROY
ORTHOTICS

Taylor & Conroy Orthotics and Insoles

- No long waiting lists to be assessed.
- Qualified practitioners with over 20 years experience.
- Irish-made Orthotics.
- Relieving pain.
- Improving mechanics and posture.
- Preventing issues associated with flat feet and high arches.



*Prescription
Orthotics for
Daywear and Sportswear*

KELLIE TAYLOR BSC (Hons) Ost. M.O.C.I. and DARREN CONROY BSC (Hons) Ost. M.O.C.I.

086-8675060

Unit 10 Kilminchy Court, Kilminchy, Portlaoise, Laois

✉ tcosteopaths@gmail.com 🌐 www.tcosteopaths.ie



- **NEED HOME HEATING OIL?**
- **NEED TRACTOR DIESEL?**

Call Sean Smyth 086-3561669

Laois Satellite 📡

12 Davin Park, Mountmellick, Co. Laois.
085-8397612



**DON'T DELAY!
CALL TODAY!**

Midlands area
22 years experience
Free Quotations

RTE/TV3
Aerials also
supplied and
fitted digital!!!

**SAORVIEW
FREE TO AIR
NO MORE
BILLS T.V.**

Installations and
Service repairs

**FREE TO
AIR FROM
€140**

Call Eamonn 085-8397612



The Killeshin Hotel

Tuesday Mornings;
9am and 10:30am

Saturday Mornings;
8am, 9:30am and 11am

Contact Ingrid 086 8040285

New Year
New You

Slimming
WORLD
Slimmingworld.ie



MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN
GET YOURSELF NOTICED



• Graphic Design • Corporate & Retail Print • Book Publishing • Memorial and Wedding Stationery • Signage • Vehicle Graphics • Promotional Items • Mail Marketing • Pick & Pack

Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 EH11

☎ 057 8634050

mochuaprint.ie

Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 TF83

☎ 045 433569



LAOIS JET WASH SERVICES LTD



C.C.T.V. PIPE & DRAIN INSPECTION
HIGH PRESSURE DRAIN CLEANING
TEL/FAX 057-8681720 MOBILE 087-7749519
HAVE YOU A PROBLEM WITH YOUR DRAINS?

WATER SOFTENERS

Iron Filters, Ultra Violet Filters (For Bacteria Control)
Complete Home and Industrial Water Treatment Systems

Sales & Service

Local authority Grants available to bring individual private well supplies up to E.U. Standards providing dwelling is at least 7 years old.
(Not available to people on mains water supplies)

AQUA TREATMENT

Dromadoon, Mountrath Rd., Portlaoise | www.aquatreatment.ie

Tel: 057-8622400 / 8662525 / 087-2580318

† The Irish Catholic
On Sale in the Parish Shop

OPEN
7 Days
a Week



Techmarket
Sales Accessories Repairs

Located in the Kyle Centre, Portlaoise

Laptops, Macs, iMacs, Tablets and all Computer and Phone Accessories in stock

techmarket.ie @techmarketirl



SALES

ACCESSORIES

REPAIRS



Amy Egan Holistic

Hipwell House, Portlaoise



- Massage
- Reflexology
- Indian Head Massage
- Fertility Treatments
- Holistic Facial and lots more ...

Contact: 087 966 2086

Website: www.amyeganholistic.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/amyeganholistic

DUNAMASE ANTIQUES

Antique Furniture, Lamps, China Tea Sets.

Kitchen Copper and Brass ware, Mirrors.

Pub Memorabilia, "Man Caves World".

Pictures; Michael Collins, Guinness, Whiskies,
Laois/Leix All Ireland Winner 1915.

Waterford Crystal and others.

Mason's Mandlay China.

The Antiques Corner Portlaoise



Main Street, Portlaoise, 085-7657206

Open Monday - Saturday 10:30am-5pm

All major credit cards accepted. Delivery all over Ireland, UK, Europe etc.

ADVERTS.ie

www.dunamaseantiques.com

DoneDeal.ie




**Does your
voluntary or community
organisation need
volunteers?**

Contact us:
info@volunteerlaois.ie
or 0872499659
www.volunteerlaois.ie

**Laois
Volunteer Centre**
Ionad d'Oibrí Dheonach Laois

CENTREPOINT CARPETS LTD

KYLEKIPROE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, TIMAHOE RD. PORTLAOISE, CO. LAOIS
SITUATED BETWEEN LIAM FITZPATRICK TYRES AND MCDONALDS

Phone/Fax; 057-8620792 | E-mail; centrepoincarpets@gmail.com

We are Suppliers of :-

- * Carpets * Vinyls * Wood Flooring * Rugs * Blinds
- * Mattresses * Beds * Bedroom Furniture * Pillows



www.centrepoincarpets.ie



An Seomra Cneasaíthe

Aedín Duff
087 939 0927

aedinholistictherapies@gmail.com

- Reiki Healing • Rahanni Healing
- Angelic Healing • Crystal Healing
- I.E.T. Healing • Kundalini Healing

- Angel Guidance

Mondays - Fridays 4pm - 9pm

Saturdays 10am - 6pm

By appointment only

LOOKING FOR A SOCIAL
EVENT, MINUS THE
BOOZE, TO SHAKE OFF
THE WEEK AND FEEL
GOOOOOD?

FRIDAY FEEL GOOD SESSIONS



Portarlington Community Center Friday 25th February 7.30pm - 9.30pm

€25 per person (reduced price option available).

Cacao ceremony, clarity activation, breathwork, yoga, movement medicine.

Contact 0858246296 to book.

LOURDES

Portlaoise PARISH

PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2022



€585 pps
11th - 15th July 2022

INCLUDED

- Return direct flights Dublin/Dublin (Lisbon)
- Coach to/from Portlaoise & Dublin airport
- Coach transfers to/from Lourdes airport
- 4 nights in the St. Rose Hotel with free Wi-Fi
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner each day
- Services of a Marian Pilgrimage guide throughout
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- All airport taxes and Local City Taxes
- Travel Insurance up to 35 years (€25 extra for those over)

Single room supplement €120

Accompanied by
Spiritual Director

FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT
Sean - 086 363 3785, Frances - 085 814 2666
or Marian Pilgrimages



MARIAN PILGRIMAGES
RENEW OUR SPIRIT OF LOVE, FORGIVENESS & PEACE

WWW.MARIAN.IE

19 Eden Quay, Dublin 1 - (01) 878 81 59 - NI (028) 95680005

Licensed as a Tour Operator to the Commission for Aviation Regulation in compliance with UK & European regulations (2004)

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR FR DAVID VARD



30 JUNE 2022 | 7 NIGHTS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Mass in the Capelinha
Rosary and Candlelit Procession
Stations of the Cross
Homes of the three visionaries
International Mass

FOR DETAILS AND BOOKINGS

MAURA O'BRIEN

TEL: 0871210263 or 0578661601

INCLUDING

- Fully escorted pilgrimage
- Accompanied by Fr Paddy Byrne and Fr Pat Hennessy
- Return flights from Dublin to Lisbon
- 7 nights at Hotel Avenida
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner each day
- Airport taxes
- 20kg check-in bag per person



joewalshours.ie | info@joewalshours.ie | 01 241 0800 | 69 O'Connell Street Upper, Dublin 1 D01FW11
Tours are operated by Petrina Limited t/a Joe Walsh Tours who are bonded and licensed by the Commission for Aviation Regulation
T0273 & T00804 in compliance with the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Package Regulation 2018.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

WITH SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR FR DAVID VARD



8 - 15 JUNE 2022 | 7 NIGHTS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

St James Church
Way of the Cross
Meeting with the visionaries
Climb the hill of Apparitions
Walk to the Blue Cross

FOR DETAILS AND BOOKINGS

JOE CONROY

TEL: 087 1464062

INCLUDING

- Fully escorted pilgrimage
- Led by Spiritual Director Fr David Vard
- Return flights from Dublin to Mostar
- 7 nights in Hotel Leone
- Airport transfers
- Breakfast and dinner
- 20kg check-in bag per person

€749
per person
sharing

EARLY BOOKING
SPECIAL OFFER
€50 OFF
PAY IN FULL BY 10 DEC 21



joewalshours.ie | info@joewalshours.ie | 01 241 0800 | 69 O'Connell Street Upper, Dublin 1 D01FW11
Tours are operated by Petrina Limited t/a Joe Walsh Tours who are bonded and licensed by the Commission for Aviation Regulation
T0273 & T00804 in compliance with the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Package Regulation 2018.



MOUNTMELICK DRAMA FESTIVAL

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE AMATEUR DRAMA COUNCIL OF IRELAND

4-11 MARCH 2022

Community Arts Centre Mountmellick
Commencing Nightly at 8pm sharp

Main Sponsor



MOUNTMELICK
CREDIT UNION

Adjudicator:
Mr. David Scott

TICKETS:

€12 Nightly
(€7 concession)
Season Ticket €60
(€35 concession)

Online Booking:
mountmellickdramafestival.ie

For Booking and
Enquiries contact:
Jessie at 087 7942994
Noreen at 087 4121205

Find us on  

Friday 4th March
The Ray Leonard Players
**THE BEAUTY QUEEN
OF LEENANE**
by Martin McDonagh

Tuesday 8th March
Ballyduff Drama Group
RABBIT HOLE
by David Lindsay-Abaire

Saturday 5th March
Sibberville Theatre Society
BRIGHTON
by Jim Nalon

Wednesday 9th March
Kilrush Drama Group
LITTLE GEM
(strictly over 18's)
by Elaine Murphy

Sunday 6th March
Palace Players
CHAPATTI
by Christian O'Reilly

Thursday 10th March
Dalkey Players
EURYDICE
by Sarah Ruhl

Monday 7th March
Mullingar Theatre Lab
**ONE FLEW OVER THE
CUCKOO'S NEST**
by Dore Wasserman

Friday 11th March
Prosperous Dramatic Society
GOD OF CARNAGE
by Yasmina Reza

LAOIS LCDC 2040
Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development

PAINTING & DECORATING

- Interior & Exterior
- Spray Painting
- Powerwashing
- 10 years experience

089-4459958
www.kukic-hms.ie

WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIRS

- Hinges/Handles
- Letterboxes
- Slide Patio Doors Rollers
- Window and Door draught proofing

083-3153211
www.kukic-hms.ie

FUEL FOR SALE

3 large net bags Logs €10
5 bags of Kindling €10
Orders over €50 receive two bags of kindling free
Free delivery to suit. Tel.
Fintan 087-7645855

TV SERVICES

Repairs to TV and home entertainment equipment. Also we supply and fit and repair Saorview, Aerial and Satellite systems. Contact;

057-8732998
087-3636497 / 083-3742600

PLUMBER AVAILABLE

All domestic, solid fuel and oil servicing.
Water softener installation.
Full Bathroom Renovations.

Contact Alan;
085-1141395



RAMPS & RAILS

Concrete ramps to avoid using steps, steel handrails installed to provide safe access for everyone. Designing accessible environments.
For more info. call David

087-2675106

A1 CHIMNEY SWEEP & CAMERA SURVEYS

Brush & Vac. No mess - totally clean job. Bird guards and cowls fitted.
Contact Martin;

087-9616098

ERAWAN THAI MASSAGE

Pepper's Court
Portlaoise

Open 7 Days
11am-7pm

083-0988602

YARN HAUS **The Midlands Trading Post** **Kilminchy, Portlaoise.**

- Gallery of handmade in Ireland art and crafts.
- Craft supplies including paint, fabric, yarn and many more.
- Workshops for teens, children, adults.
- Birthday parties.

Visit us to discover our extensive range of products and services.



089-958-0696
057-863-5185

or shop online;
www.yarnhaus.ie

Hugh Thompson **MIDLAND HEATING SERVICES**

For all your Heating & Plumbing needs
Service and Repair of Oil Boilers,
Oil Cookers & Gas Boilers
Plus Power Flushing of Heating Systems
Removing all the old sludge and water that has built up in your radiators and boilers over the years with clean water and Inhibitors to reduce fuel bills and save money.

Ballyfin, Portlaoise. Call:

086-3758503

PODIATRIST **MAY COLLINS**

Bsc (Hons) Podiatry MCHSI
2 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise.
Tel.;

086-3785327

By Appointment only.
VHI-Aviva-Laya approved

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

ACTIVE BUILDING SERVICES

Domestic Plumbing.
Oil Fired Central Heating.
Plumber on call, Portlaoise and surrounding areas. Tel.;

Fergus 089-4541868



HANDYMAN AVAILABLE

to do tiling,
timber floors,
painting etc.

All jobs considered.

Phone Jim 087-6885017



STRAD TRAD

Next Open Trad Night
Friday 4th March at 9pm
In Dunne's Lounge,
Stradbally.
Musicians and Singers welcome. Enquiries to;
086-8451138



FOR SALE

Natural Gas
Electrolux
Stove with double ovens,

grill, four gas hobs.
Nice, clean and in very good condition.
€350 o.n.o. *Contact;*
087-6916989

FOR SALE

Canon EOS 2000D + EF-S
18-55mm IS II Lens, backpack
and SD card.

Retail price; €639.99

Selling for €550 o.n.o.

All money raised from this sale will
be going to the Healing Whispers
fundraiser for the Irish Motor
Neurone Disease Association.

Contact;

085-7313631



Vintage Clothing Sale; Sat./Sun. 26th/27th Feb.

SVP Stradbally

11am-4pm

Beautiful vintage pieces at
knockdown prices and
genuine leather jackets.



*Join with us to pray the
Rosary via the
Parish webcam daily at
9:30am, 7pm and 9:30pm.*

*Rosary will be prayed at the
Grotto after evening Mass on
the First Friday of every month.*



CLEANING STAFF (2)

Two part time Cleaning Staff
required for CBS and Scoil Christ
Rí School Complex, Borris Road,
Portlaoise. Previous experience with
cleaning equipment, such as floor
buffers and cleaning chemicals
preferred. Garda Vetting required.

CARETAKING STAFF (2)

One full-time and one part-time
Caretakers required to join the
Caretaking Staff at CBS and Scoil
Christ Rí School Complex,
Borris Road, Portlaoise.
Previous experience in light building
maintenance required and
knowledge of plumbing and heating
systems preferred.
Garda vetting will be required.

Walk-in Informal Interviews February 21st-25th 9am-4pm daily

**For further info. re all positions
above, call or text John;
087-3996509**



Healing Whispers

All proceeds from the sale of this book are going to

15€

"And on those days
you stop & think how
far you've come
and plough on"
— Lisa Rowland

"Your negative
thoughts are not your
friend
Would you entertain
bad company?"
— Lisa Rowland

*All proceeds in aid of IMNDA
Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association*

This book is retailing at €15 and available locally in Laois Pharmacy
and Allbooks and News in Portlaoise.

The book is dedicated to Aine Purcell, who sadly passed away in
May 2021 after battled Motor Neurone Disease with great dignity
and courage. The book includes some of her lovely photography
and is a beautiful gift for any occasion.

THANK YOU: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Abbeyleix, would
like to sincerely thank the community for their very generous support
of our recent Christmas collections and would like to remind people
that The Society of St. Vincent de Paul are here to help people, our
confidential phone number is 087-6247868.

Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club; Auto-jumble, Sunday 20th March,
from 8am in the Community Hall, Ballyfin. Strictly vintage, veteran
and artisanal related stalls & traders. Pre-registration and approval for
stalls required. Proceeds in support of local charities. For queries or
information on the Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, please message,
text or call Pat O'Connor at 087-7824481.

Sean Doyle Light Engineering, Ballacolla, 087-2068972

seandoylelightengineering

Clothes line poles, winders, pulleys, saw horses, bicycle stands.



The Pioneer magazine is being
replaced with a newsletter, which
will be posted directly to the reader.

At least 5 editions will be printed
this year. If you would like to
receive the newsletter, which is
available to Pioneers/non-Pioneers
please contact **085-1354959**.
Annual remittance is €20.

There is a monthly Pioneer Hour on
Radio Maria which is broadcast on
the First Fridays on Digital Radio,
Saorview Channel 210 or online
at 8pm.

Also, the Sunday Service on RTE 1
this Sunday 20th February 2022
will have a Pioneer input as it is
Temperance Sunday.



The Golden Rule

What do you think of when you see a heart? Most of us would probably say that when we see a heart, we think of love. Who do you love? Do you love your parents? Do you love your brother or sister? How about your best friend? Do you love your teacher? It is easy to love these people, because they love us too. Are there any boys or girls that are mean to you at school? Has anyone ever said something about you that was not true? Do you love those boys and girls? Should we really be expected to love people who are mean to us, treat us badly, and say ugly things about us? Well, let's listen to what Jesus told us to do.



One day Jesus was teaching out on a hillside. We call his lesson that day "The Sermon on the Mount." In his sermon, Jesus said some things that really surprised his listeners. "You have heard that you should love your neighbours and hate your enemies," Jesus said. "But I say, love your enemies - and if someone does mean and hateful things to you, pray them."

Why should we love our enemies? Jesus said that when we love our enemies, we are acting like children of God. If we only love those who love us, will God reward us for that? If we are only kind to our friends, what is so great about that? Everybody does that!

It isn't always easy to love your enemies, but there are some good reasons for doing it.

- It demonstrates the love of God to others.
- It sets a good example for others to follow.
- It turns enemies into friends.



Our Prayer

Father, it is easy to love those who love us. Help us to love our enemies so that they might know that we are your children.

In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**



THE GOLDEN RULE

"Do to others as you would have them do to you"

Luke 6:27-38

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



FATHER
ENEMIES
REWARD

BLESS
SINNERS
CURSE

WICKED
HATE
MISTREAT

GREAT
LOVE
MERCIFUL

Portlaoise Ceremony of Light for Confirmation Candidates

Holy Family Group A (Mr. Finn, Ms. Maloney, Ms. Duff and Ms. O'Hara)

Monday 28th February at 5pm



Holy Family Group B (Mr. Miller, Ms. Dooley and Mr. Malone)

Monday 28th February at 6pm

Scoil Bhride

Tuesday 1st March at 5pm

The Heath NS, Ratheniska NS, Gaelscoil,
St. Francis, Educate Together and other schools
Tuesday 1st March at 6pm





Time to Think!

*** The Starfish ***

In the Bible, the Virgin Mary was named Sella Maris, which means star of the sea. The Virgin Mary is a symbol of guidance and protection for people in difficulty such as sailors who sought her for their safe journeys. The star and the starfish are considered important celestial symbols in the bible representing infinite divine love. The following spiritual story, invites us to be hopeful and enthusiastic, important attributes in all our lives.

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, an elderly man was taking a walk along the beach. He was relaxed and content. The sun shone brightly in the sky, the birds wheeled and sang, the waves washed ashore, the sand was firm underfoot, and a gentle breeze tempered the heat. Some distance in front of him, the man saw the figure of a young man who was behaving strangely. He bent down from time to time, went over to the sea, bent down, and then back to the strand again as he walked along. 'What's he doing?' thought the old man, 'Maybe he's just happy, celebrating life with this strange dance of his. I'll ask him'.

A few moments later they met and greeted each other, 'Good morning'. 'A beautiful day'. 'Isn't it lovely by the sea?' And so on. Then the elderly man said, 'As I was walking along I saw you bending down, and then going over to the sea and back again. Do you mind if I ask what you were doing?' 'Not at all', replied the young man. 'Do you see all those starfish that have been washed up on the shore? The whole length of beach is lined with them. They're exposed to the wind and sun, and they're drying up. A drying starfish is a dying starfish, so I'm putting as many of them as I can back into the water. Those that survive will produce the next generation of starfish, and life will go on'. 'How many have you put back in?' asked the old man. The young man replied, 'I don't know; maybe fifty or sixty'. 'So what's the point?' said the old man. That's such a tiny number among the thousands that line the shore. What difference does it make?' The young man didn't reply. He bent down, picked up a starfish, and carried it back to the water. Almost immediately, it took on a healthy, natural appearance as if happy to be back in its own environment. 'It made a difference to that one', he said.

The old man said nothing, but quietly thanked the young man, and began his journey home. As he walked along he thought to himself, 'I've learned something good today. You can't do everything, but you can do something'.



It's better to do something, even if it's only a small thing, than to do nothing because of being unable to do everything. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something'. He continued on his way. Then he stopped, bent down, picked up a starfish, and put it in the water. A few steps later, he did the same again, thinking, 'If one person does a small thing, it remains a small thing. If many people do a small thing, it becomes a big thing. Today has been a good day'.

For those in a hurry: '

Those who are faithful in small things, will be faithful also in big things'. (Jesus, in Luke 16.10)

Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When 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 so far,
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit - it's
when things seem worst that you must not quit.

Take your first step
to a world of new
opportunities!

**ENROLLING NOW FOR
SEPTEMBER
2022**



www.Abbeyfeild.ie or
phone us on 057 873127



*We offer a flexible and supportive
learning environment with NO FEES!*

 **loetb**
Abbeyfeild

Nursing Studies

Business

Science

Healthcare

Animation

Return to Learning

Art, Craft & Design



Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Có-mhaoinithe ag an
Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union

**NUMBERS
IF YOU
NEED
THEM**

If it's an emergency, Dial 999/112

SAMARITANS

TALK IT THROUGH,
WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN

jo@samaritans.ie www.samaritans.org

116 123

pieta

1800 247 247

TEXT HELP TO 51444 mary@pieta.ie
Pieta supports people and communities in crisis by
providing freely accessible, professional services to all.

www.pieta.ie

**your
mental
health.ie**

Information | Support | Services

1800 111 888

www.yourmentalhealth.ie

text about it

**TEXT
HELLO 50808**

A free 24/7 text service, providing
support for people going through a
mental health or emotional crisis
— big or small.

www.text50808.ie

ISPC
Childline

1800 66 66 66

(24 HRS A DAY, EVERYDAY)
Text TALK to 50101

Online chat - www.childline.ie

SPUNOUT.ie

[SpunOut.ie](https://www.facebook.com/SpunOut.ie)
[@SpunOut](https://twitter.com/SpunOut)
[SpunOutMedia](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSpunOutMedia)

**CONTACT YOUR GP OR GP
OUT OF HOURS SERVICE**

**MIDOC
1850 302 702**

**NEDOC
1850 777 911**



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt | Building a
Better Health
Service



Connecting for Life
Midlands, Louth and Meath

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

Peggy Kelly née McEvoy
Mountrath Road, Portlaoise



Joss Robinson
St. Brigid's Place
Portlaoise



Phyllis Keavey
née Murphy
Borris Road
Portlaoise



David Downes
Melpot Close
Portlaoise



Patience Osunbor
Holdbrook Lodge
Kilminchy
Portlaoise

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to
the death notice at www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices

**In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH (Joe) O' TOOLE**

Shanahoe, Abbeyleix.
5th Anniversary occurred 16th February 2022.



*It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.*

Forever in our Hearts

*Loved and remembered always by his
loving family; Anne, Siobhán, John,
Pamela, Gráinne and their families.*

Rest in Peace Joseph

In Loving Memory of

Our Loving Father WILLIAM KERRY
61 Knockmay Estate, Portlaoise. Died February 1999.
23rd Anniversary occurs 19th February 2022.



Your gentle face and patient smile,
with sadness we recall,
You had a kind word for each
and died beloved by all.

Sadly missed by your loving family
Rest in Peace William

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL RIGNEY**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurred 18th February 2022.



*No words can tell, no tears express,
The love, the loss, the emptiness.
You are not just a memory or part of
the past, you are ours to remember,
as long as life lasts.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by
your loving wife Kathleen, family & friends.*

May Mick Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH (Lil) GALLAGHER**

Mosse Lane, Portlaoise. Died 25th February 1999.
23rd Anniversary occurs at this time.



*O far the touch of a vanished
hand,
And the sound of a voice that is
still.*

*Always loved and remembered by
Frank, George and Mary.*

Rest in Peace Elizabeth

In Loving Memory of **PETER LALOR**

32 The Green, Kilminchy, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary in Heaven occurs 23rd February 2022

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 19th February, at 5pm.



The Day you went away
Today is such a painful day,
Full of sadness and grief for me,
As I mourn the moment that you left,
recalling how life used to be.
You were someone very special,
who left your mark on so many lives,

Things just haven't been the same,
since we said goodbye.
The bond we shared will never end,
even though we are apart,

I find comfort in the memories deep within my heart.

This heartfelt message is for you,
I miss you more than words can say,
The world lost someone precious,
On the day you went away.

Forever loved and missed by your loving wife Jean.

Rest in Peace Peter

In Loving Memory of **PETER LALOR**

The Green, Kilminchy, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 23rd February 2022



Brother;

No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knows why.
My heart still aches in sadness,
And secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

Loved and missed every day, Ger xx

Brother/Uncle;

May the winds of Heaven blow softly and whisper in
your ear, how much we love and miss you,
And wish that you were here.

Love and miss you every day P
Marie, Christy, Kyle and Finn xxxx

Brother/Uncle;

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
Daithi, Mags, Shauna, Oisin and Cillian xxxxx

Brother/Uncle;

I wish I could have you back a while,
I miss your laughter, I miss your smile,
I would hold you tightly and never let go,
And tell you how much I miss you so.

Everyday is hard without you
Olive, Willie, Ciara, Aimee, Jodie and Tierna xxxxxx

Rest in Peace Peter

In Loving Memory of +



**Mary Kate (Kitty)
McCormack**

Late of Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise
Who died 20th February, 1984 RIP.
38th anniversary.

Whose anniversary occurs at this time

*Time may pass and fade away,
But silent thoughts and memories stay.*

Loved and always remembered
by all your family

In Loving Memory of **CATHERINE DOWLING**

7 Borris Road, Portlaoise.

Anniversary occurred 19th February 2022



*Will those who think of
Catherine today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.
Always remembered by all
her loving family.*

Rest in Peace Catherine

Fr. DAVID VARD
presents

**VOCATION
STORIES**

WED @ 2PM

only on

RADIO MARIA



In Loving Memory of
MARGARET LAWLESS

née Lawlor

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 18th February 2022



My Mother kept a garden,
A garden of the heart;
She planted all the good things,
That gave my life it's start.
She turned me to the sunshine,
And encouraged me to dream;
Fostering and nurturing,
The seeds of self-esteem.
And when the winds and rains
came,

She protected me enough; but not too much,
She knew I'd need to stand up strong and tough.
Her constant good example, always taught me right
from wrong;

Markers for my pathway, to last my whole life long.

I am my Mother's garden, I am her legacy,
And I hope today she feels the love,
Reflected back from me.

From your husband Sonny, sons Thomas, daughter-in-law
Louise, Alan and son-in-law David, Terry, daughter-in-law
Siobhan and your loving grandchildren Tamara,
Thomas (Jnr), Jack, Luke and Rhea xx

Missed every day

Rest in Peace Margaret

In Loving Memory of
A Cherished Sister
MARGARET LAWLESS *née Lawlor*

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 18th February 2022



Our time together was so special,
So were the memories we made,
And although you live in Heaven now,
Those memories will never fade.

We bow our heads in silence,
And remember you sister with love,
And we know that you are up there,
Watching over us all from above.

Everyday is a struggle, and nothing feels the same,
And our hearts still break a little more, every time
we hear your name.

You will always be remembered and time may heal our
hearts, but a piece of us is missing since the day we had
to part.

Someday the time will come, when we no longer feel this
pain, that is the day when Heaven calls and we will see
your smiling face again.

*Loved with a love beyond telling,
Missed with a grief beyond all tears.*

*Missed, loved and remembered by her brothers,
sisters and extended family.*

Rest in Peace Margaret

In Loving Memory of
SEAN KAVANAGH

Main Street, Abbeyleix.

10th Anniversary occurs 25th February 2022



You gave us years of happiness,
Then sorrow came with tears,
You left us lovely memories,
We will treasure through the years.

Loved and remembered always by your
wife Maree, your daughter Caroline
and your son Brian.

Rest in Peace Sean

In Loving Memory of
DENIS GRIFFEY

32 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

36th Anniversary occurs 22nd February 2022



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

*Sadly missed by all his loving family.
May Denis Rest in Peace*

*Love your neighbour
as yourself*

Leviticus 19:18



In Loving Memory of JOHN KELLEHER

Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs 23rd February 2022.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Wednesday 23rd February at 10am.

Our thoughts are ever with you,
Though you have passed away.

*Always remembered by all his loving
family and friends.*

May John Rest in Peace

KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**



Portlaoise Stone Centre

- ♦ We supply an extensive range of headstones and plaques in granite, marble and limestone, any design made to order.
- ♦ We also supply bronze eternal lamps, statues etc.
- ♦ Sandblasting cleaning carried out.
- ♦ Inscriptions added and old headstones renovated.
- ♦ Cement top and wide range of chippings available.
- ♦ We also supply and fit artificial grass.
- ♦ We supply ceramic photos - single and double.
- ♦ All grave work carried out to a high standard.

Please visit our new website www.portlaoisestone.ie



Unit 3b Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Laois.

Tel: (057) 8660258 | Mobile: (087) 2538930

Email: info@portlaoisestone.ie

HENRY RANKIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS

We have opened a new office and show room on
Abbeylex Road, Portlaoise.
(opposite the E.S.B. and Condell tractors)

Contact;

057-8620567

PAUL; **087-2562137**

NIAL;

086-2770095



DES & CARMEL MORAN FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Main St., Ballyroan, Co. Laois

24 hour service and personalised attention

057-8731115

Carmel 087-6144280

Des 087-2794532

moranundertakerslaois@gmail.com



MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN THE MEMORIAL CARD SPECIALIST

*For the perfect tribute card for your loved one
— our bespoke memorial cards.*

*Create a collage of images illustrating
the life of your loved one with our
expert Design Team.*

*All our Cards are individually designed
unique keepsakes, with no hidden charges
for additional photos or images.*

Unit 3, Clonminam Business Park
Portlaoise, Co. Laois
057 86 34050
www.mochuaprint.ie



Kelly's Funeral Services

Since the 1940's the Kelly family have
been providing Funeral Services in the
Abbeylex area.

We offer a 24 hour personal and
professional funeral service.

057-8731048

087-2535866

www.kellysfuneralservices.ie

E-mail: info@kellysfuneralservices.ie



Main
Street
Abbeylex

The Parish Shop

At the Parish Centre

Open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

**WE STOCK A WIDE RANGE OF
CARDS AND GIFTS FOR CONFIRMATION**

Prayer Books - Rosary Beads - Rosettes

Personalised Cards and Candles

Photo Frames - Gift Sets - Bookmarks

Sterling Silver Necklets, Chains and Crosses

Keepsake Boxes for those cherished memories

Confirmation Certificates

Confirmation in our Parish; 4th/5th March



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
17th February 2022

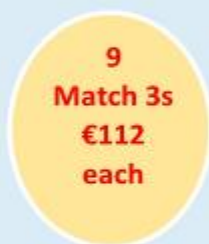


No €10,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Kate Guilfoyle
Paul Dooley
P Dooley
Micheal Scully
Madeline Crowley
Michael Conroy
Shane O'Neill
Kathleen Whelan
PJ & Teresa Gorman

MATCH 3s €1,000



**Next
Week's
Jackpot
is
€11,000**

PROMOTER

Ross Moylan
Paul Dooley
Paul Dooley
Online Lotto
Ber Breen
Lotto Gift
Geraldine O'Neill
Evelyn O'Rourke
Bernie Phelan

Follow Us **@PortlaoiseParish**
& Like Us **portlaoiseparishlaois**

Play PARISH
LOTTO
ONLINE
www.portlaoiseparish.ie

**Join us live on Facebook every Thursday evening at 5pm
for our parish lotto draw**

Support for the Parish

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

Ways to contribute to our Parish

Envelope boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre

Direct payment by cheque or cash

Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church

Donation facility on our website

Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre

Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account:

IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU

Clergy of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.
Tel: 057 8621142



Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C.
Tel: 057 8600122



Fr. David Vard C.C.
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Theodore Tomasik SVD
Tel: 057 8622301



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Mick Daly dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparish

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

CELEBRATING 18 YEARS



**Domestic extensions, One off Design, Planning Application,
Domestic, Commercial, Agricultural, Industrial Planning
Land Registry Mapping, Building Surveys,
Land Surveys, Sustainable Design Innovation.**



Enquiries to 057 86 81705

Email: info@dka.ie

Website: www.dka.ie

