

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ



A wonderful celebration of the blessing and official opening of St. Francis School by Bishop Denis and Norma Foley (Minister for Education). Our congratulations to all who brought about this beautiful new School and to the Pupils, Principal and Staff of this very special school.



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The Spiritual Diet

The uncanny thing about being out of shape is that none of us consciously allow ourselves to become that way; it's something that creeps up

on us. The extra pounds that pile on around our waistlines are the result of making wrong choices on a daily basis. Just as we can become physically unfit so we can become spiritually unfit. None of us make bad choices on purpose, but nonetheless if we make choices on a daily basis that are not based on God's values we can easily feel weighed down, dissatisfied and unhappy. The feeding of the five thousand is prophetic. Jesus is showing us that God's reign is about satisfying both human spiritual and physical need. The importance of the miracle is not so much about the multiplication of food, but the message that God can provide for all our needs.

On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we are reminded that in just the same way as we care for our physical diet, we need to make Jesus part of our spiritual diet both in communion and in our daily choices to live as Christians so that we might be spiritually whole. We are invited to feel alive and rejuvenated and ready to impact the world around us.

Jesus was all about sharing. He gave his time, his love and finally his body and blood. When we receive Holy Communion in Mass our action is twofold. The Eucharist is a banquet for the multitudes in which we remember Jesus' sacrificial self-giving. More than this, we remember the promise that anyone who eats his bread and drinks his blood will share eternal life.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Luke John Harney McDonnell, Forest Park Joey Noel Brew, The Hermitage Liam Vincent Flannery, Ballymaddock Tilly Jules Flanagan, Green Road Nina Conroy, Old Dublin Road 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.



WELCOME Fr. Simon

Greetings! My name is Fr. Xishou "Simon" Jin. Thank you to Msgr. John, brother priests, and all of you for providing this lovely opportunity for me to spend

this summertime with you.

I am originally from Wenzhou, Zhejiang province, China, and grew up in a traditional Catholic family. Among my six siblings, one older brother is a fellow priest, and one younger sister is Sr. Gabrielle, whom some of you may be familiar with. I graduated from Shanghai Sheshan Seminary and was ordained in 2003. I then returned to serve as Pastor in my home parish. I moved to the United States in 2014 and settled in San Francisco, California, where I served as Parochial Vicar and Director of Chinese Ministry, while also spending time at San Francisco General Hospital as their Catholic Chaplain. In 2019, I was invited to join another diocese nearby, to serve as the Director of the Chinese Pastoral and Cultural Center, After my parish assignment ended, I took a sabbatical and had the pleasure of visiting some sites around the United States.

I am delighted to join you as a visiting priest, and am very excited to learn more about you and Ireland. I hope that we can continue to renew and grow in Christ together, through the Liturgical celebrations, prayers, and parish life.

Thanks and God bless.

Fr. Simon

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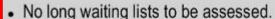


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Remembrance Service; Embrace FARM will host their annual National Remembrance Service on Sunday 26th June at 2pm in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix, to remember all the farmers who have died suddenly or survived farming accidents. For more info. e-mail info@embracefarm.com

Portlaoise Active Retirement; Meet every Wednesday, at 3pm in the Parish Centre. Come along, make new friends, enjoy our activities - friendly welcome ensured. Forthcoming Activities;

June 22nd; No club, show rehearsals only.

June 24th; Meitheal show in the Parish centre, 7pm, our first in 3 years. Free entry, tickets limited to two per member. If anyone would like to go contact us, there might be some unused tickets.

Singing rehearsal for our show every Monday morning, 10.45am to 11.45am in the Parish Centre

Dancing rehearsal for our show every Wednesday 1.45-2.45pm in the Parish Centre

Bowls every Monday, 3pm, St. Mary's Hall, all welcome. Card playing (Whist) in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy every Thursday, 3pm. All are welcome for cards, chat and fun. For information on the club, tel. 087-6204617.

Fisherstown Tractor and Truck Run in aid of Laois Hospice Palliative Care; Sunday 3rd July at 12 noon, behind the Final Furlong, Ballybrittas. Food, live music and children's amusements. All welcome. Please support a great cause.

Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 14th June;

Top score: Eamon Owens and Tom Kearns

1st Lady: Bridie Kennedy 2nd Lady: Betty Srahan 1st Gent: Frank Keenan

2nd Gent: Willie Carroll and B. Fox 1st Half: Sheila Duff and Ann Dunne

2nd Half: Rosaline Cole

Raffle: 1st Nora Fitzpatrick, 2nd Nora Fitzpatrick, 3rd Ann Dunne, 4th Frances Gleeson, 5th Rosaline Cole, 6th Kit Farrell.

Thanks to everyone for their support. Whist continues every Tuesday in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

PORTLAOISE PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

The Portlaoise Pilgrimage to Fatima is now full. For those who wish to have a loved one prayed for, candle cards are available for €3 from Michael and Margaret Houlihan on 087-9212028, or from any of the committee members. Your candle will be lit at the Capelinha before our Mass in Fatima, between June 30th and July 7th.

Mass will be celebrated on the green in Marian Avenue, Monday 20th June at 7pm. All welcome.



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

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



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The Feast of Corpus Christi: Food for the Journey What We Are Celebrating

On the Sunday after Trinity Sunday, the Church celebrates The Feast of Corpus Christi, also known as The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This Feast commemorates the immense gift of the Eucharist in our lives and in the Church.

In Latin, Corpus Christi means Body of Christ. On Holy Thursday, we remember the institution of the priesthood and the Eucharist, the Last Supper, the Agony in the Garden, the betrayal of Judas and the beginning of the Passion of Christ. It is easy to become lost in so many beautiful things to remember. Corpus Christi Sunday allows us to focus solely on celebrating the real presence of Christ – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – in the bread and wing

A Feast Begins

The origins of the Feast of Corpus Christi date back to the Middle Ages!

During the thirteenth century, a Belgian nun named Sister Juliana, had a great devotion to the Eucharist. Through visions, Our Lord told her to establish a Feast dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament. Through the influence of Sister Juliana, the importance of spreading devotion to the Blessed Sacrament reached the future Pope Urban IV. Sister Juliana died in 1258 and is now recognised as a Saint.

In 1263, a German priest by the name of Father Peter, stopped to celebrate Mass in Bolsena, Italy while he was on his way to Rome for a pilgrimage. Father Peter was having doubts at the time as to whether the Eucharist was truly the Body and Blood of Christ. However, as he celebrated Mass, when he prayed the prayer of Consecration, blood emerged from the consecrated host, spilling onto the altar.



Father Peter reported the miracle to Pope Urban IV, who sent delegates to investigate the miracle. Today, the Cathedral of Orvieto, Italy, is the resting place of the relics from this Eucharistic miracle.

The message of Sister Juliana and the Eucharistic Miracle in Bolsena, greatly affected Pope Urban IV. In 1264, through a papal bull called *Transiturus de hoc mundo*, Pope Urban IV instituted the Solemnity of Corpus Christi after Pentecost. Under Pope Clement V, Corpus Christi became a universal Feast. However, under Pope John XXII, devotion to the Holy Eucharist spread widely.

Today we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi otherwise known as The Body and Blood of Christ

Fill in our word search

Н	I	C	R	M	A	S	S	L	Z	T	C	L	C	N
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Jesus
Altar
Mass
Body
Blood
Sacrament
Communion
Holy
Eucharist
Wine
Host
Chalice
Church
Father

Prayer for Corpus Christi Sunday

Jesus, Body and Blood,
we are grateful for the gift
of your life and the way it
strengthens us
to live ours.

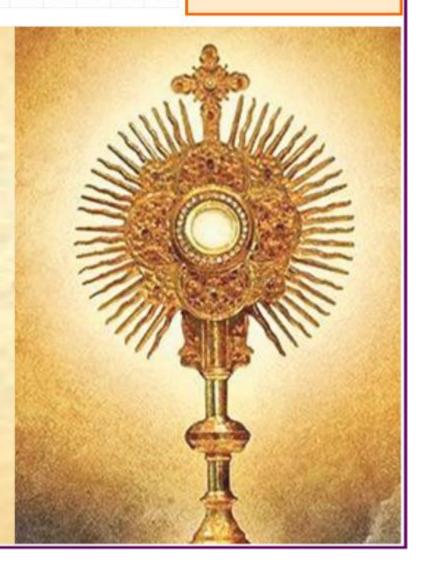
Teach us to draw on the gift of your Body and Blood for energy, renewal, strength and grace.

May we never take the gift

Amen.

granted.

of your presence for





Time to Think!

A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups - porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite, telling them to help themselves to the coffee. When all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor said: "If you noticed, all the nice looking expensive cups were taken up, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups and then you began eyeing each other's cups." "Now consider this," he continued...

"Life is the coffee. The jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life, and the type of cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of life we live. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us." God brews the coffee, not the cups... Enjoy your coffee! "The happiest people don't have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything they have." Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly... and leave the rest to God.

George Carlin was a brilliant comedian and wordsmith. He was fully present as he observed the human condition. His commentary on life is both honest and deeply reflective. A spirituality that brings light and pragmatism to where experience has become stale and cynical. The flowing is part of an observation of contemporary culture that remains very appropriate for us all to reflect upon.

A Message by George Carlin:

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness. We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.



We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbour. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things. We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete. Remember; spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side. Remember to give a warm hug to the one next to you because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent. Remember, to say, "I love you" to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you. Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again. Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY;



Agnes Mortimer née Hade Mountrath Road, Portlaoise



Eilish Hennessy née Kinsella Ballyroan

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



Fathers Day Remembrance

In Loving Memory of our Daddy KENNETH (Ken) CLEAR

44 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise. 9th Father's Day away from home - 19th June 2022.



The day you left and gained your wings, our heart just broke in two, we wish you could have stayed with us, but Heaven needed you.

You left us with the memories, and we love you dearly still,
No matter how much time goes

by, you know we always will.

You were a very special person, with kindness in your heart, and the love we had together grows stronger now we're apart.

We know we cannot bring you back although we wish it everyday, but a piece of us went with you, The day you went away.

Happy Father's Day Daddy

Forever in our thoughts. Lots of love Becky and Dylan xx



In Loving Memory of MARY (Maisie) DOLLARD

32 St. John's Square, Portlaoise. 12th Anniversary occurs 20th June 2022.



Life is a beautiful memory,
Death is a silent grief,
You sleep now in God's beautiful
garden, in sunshine and
perfect peace.
We miss you oh so very much,

We miss you oh so very much, But trust that God knew best,

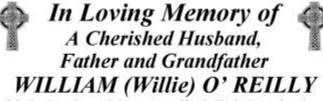
He let us have you for many years, And then gently let you rest.

Always in our hearts and never forgotten by your loving family.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, this Saturday 18th May at 6:30pm.

Rest in Reace Maisie





28 Lakeglen, Mountmellick Rd. Portlaoise. 5th Father's Day away from home; 19-6-2022







We don't know why but we always thought you would always be around, and knowing you're not here with us feels really strange we have found. But even though we have grown up and have lives of our own, there's still a child inside of us that feels lost and so alone.

You see since you've been gone, there's something life just seems to lack, for nothing is the same now, we wish we had you back. Now we know why you always told us to be strong, you knew one day we would need the strength to bear your loss,

And now that father's day is here we are feeling very sad, and know that there will never be a time that we won't miss our dad.



Happy Father's Day

Very sadly missed and never more than a thought away, your wife Anne, sons and daughters, son-in-law, daughters-in-law and all your grandchildren xxx

Rest in Reace William



In Loving Memory of *NUALA McNAMARA*



née Deevy Ross, Ballyfin, Portlaoise. 2nd Anniversary occurs Saturday 25th June 2022

Two years ago to this day, we had to do the hardest thing in the whole world, Say "goodbye" for the last time, To a wife, mother and grandmother who had a huge heart, So many memories are our keepsake, For which we hold them close in our

hearts.

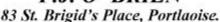
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on Saturday 25th June at 8pm and can also be viewed on the Ballyfin parish webcam.

Loved and always remembered by Dan and family, Mary, Liam and Una, Marguerite and John, John, Pauline and Eddie and her loving grandchildren xxxx

May Kuala Rest in Sternal Reace



Father's Day Remembrance In Loving Memory of P.J. O' BRIEN





Dad

To a Father who is truly missed, We wish we could share just one last kiss, Or to sit and listen and hold your hand, Or just try to even understand. But you left behind your strength and love for us to cherish while you watch from above.

Truly missed by your loving wife Teresa, sons, daughters, grandchildren and circle of friends.

Rest in Reace R.J.



In Loving Memory of MARGARET RYAN



33 Newpark, Portlaoise. 8th Anniversary occurs 18th June.

8th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 19th June at 12.30pm.



Just a prayer from the family who loved you, Just a memory fond and true, In our hearts you will live forever, Because we thought the world of you.

Sadly missed by all her loving family. May Margaret Rest in Reace



In Loving Memory of NOREEN COSS

26 Grattan Street, Portlaoise. 2nd Anniversary occurred 17th June 2022.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday, 25th June at 6:30pm.

> Your life was a blessing, Your memory a treasure, You are loved beyond words, You are missed everyday.

Fondly remembered by your loving family, much loved grandchildren, extended family and many friends.

Rest in Reace Noreen



In Loving Memory of BRENDAN O'BRIEN

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise. 1st Anniversary occurs 20th June 2022



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Sunday 26th June at 12:30pm.

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 family and friends.

Rest in Reace Brendan



Father's Day Remembrance In Loving Memory of P.J. O' BRIEN

83 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

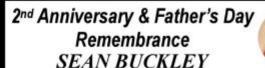


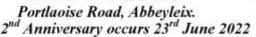
Dad

To a Father who is truly missed,
We wish we could share just one last kiss,
Or to sit and listen and hold your hand,
Or just try to even understand.
But you left behind your strength and
love for us to cherish while you watch
from above.

Truly missed by your loving wife Teresa, sons, daughters, grandchildren and circle of friends.

Rest in Reace R.J.







We miss you in so many ways, We miss the things you use to say, And when old times we do recall, It's then we miss you most of all.

Loved and remembered by all your loving family.

Rest in Reace Obean



In Loving Memory of FINT GORMAN

84 Cherrygrove, Portlaoise. 1st Father's Day in Heaven.

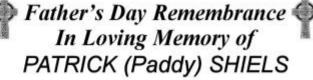


A Dad's love is special,
A gift beyond compare,
We only know the meaning
when he is no longer there.
A special time, a special face,
A special Dad we can't replace,
With an aching heart we whisper
low, we love you Dad and
miss you so.

Loved and missed always by your wife Ann, sons, daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Rest in Reace Sint





Formerly Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise.



If we could write a story,
It would be the greatest
ever told, of our kind and
loving father who had a
heart of gold.
We could write a million
pages, but we still just
couldn't say,
How much we love and
miss you Dad since you
went away.

Remembered lovingly on this Father's day by his sons, daughters, son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rest in Reace Ratrick

† KEEGAN'S † FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Contact Matthew 087-2549195 David 087-2369887

In Loving Memory of My Wonderful Daughter SAMANTHA MOORE

2 Triogue Manor, Portlaoise. 7th Anniversary occurs 21st June 2022.



I close my eyes and see your face, smiling at me from a beautiful place, I ask if you can stay a while, I miss your voice, I miss your smile, You whisper sweetly in my ear, I'll never leave you, I'm always here.

Thinking of you every minute of every

day, your broken-hearted Mam xx

Rest in Reace Samantha

HENRY RANKIN

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



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Różaniec do Matki Bożej, Królowej Pokoju

Zapraszamy wszystkich do wspólnej modlitwy przed Grotą Matki Bożej przy Kościele Św. Piotra i Pawła w Portlaoise 26 Czerwca o godz. 15.30 Pomódlmy się razem o pokój!

Portlaoise Parish

Results for 16th June 2022



08





No €10,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Joe Kelly Chris Coss **Christina Conroy**

Jack Ryan

Claire Maher

Breda Delanev

Lily & Sadie Cahill

Thomas O'Connor

Andrea Dunne Doreen Brennan

Liz Hilliard

J Davis

Joan Marum

Sean Keenan

MATCH 3s €1,000

14

Match

3s

€72

each

Teresa Kelly Stefan Crabb Online Lotto

13

Kathleen Brown All Books

PROMOTER

Rocky Kehoe

Peter Ryan

Paddy O'Connor

Mary J Dunne

Thelma Brown

Liz Hilliard

May Bartley

Rita Watkins

Peg Keenan

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

Next Week's Jackpot is €11,000

Peter's Pence collection takes place on the first Sunday in July. Envelopes in Development Boxes.

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



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722 E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley

Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church are live streamed www.portlaoiseparish.ie (Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy Monday to Thursday 11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm 057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday Subject to availability of space E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

> **PARISH SHOP** 057 8621142 - Claire Scully



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- . EARLY LEARNING AND CARE- STAGE 1
- EARLY LEARNING AND CARE STAGE 2
- COMMUNITY HEALTH WITH PSYCHOLOGY
- HEALTHCARE
- NURSING WITH MIDWIFERY
- PRE-PARAMEDICS
- SOCIAL STUDIES

- . CARE SUPPORT IN HEALTHCARE
- . CARE SKILLS IN HEALTHCARE
- DIGITAL MARKETING
- BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE
- REFLEXOLOGY
- LASER & MICRODERMABRASION

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- **BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY**
- COMPUTER SCIENCE

- . ENGINEERING
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- SPORTS LEISURE MANAGEMENT

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