

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

26th June 2022

**Thirteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

WE STAND WITH



UKRAINE



All 650 children from Holy Family Junior School had a 'Teddy Bears Picnic' on the Pitch last Thursday. It was very enjoyable and also raised money for Temple St. Children's Hospital.

Pictured: Eve Montgomery and her brother James, Eve's idea to have this picnic as she is currently attending the hospital. Well done Eve on raising €1,000 for Temple St.

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

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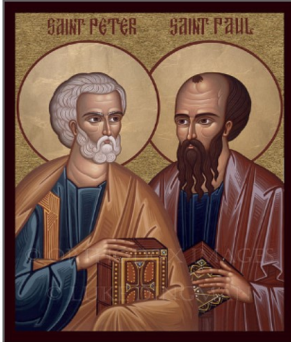


The Feast of St. Peter & Paul

Wednesday 29th June

Carrying the Baton

Because Peter recognised that God was acting through Jesus, he was entrusted with the job of leading the rest of us. The Church today is a testimony to Peter's faith, it exists because Peter and others like him trusted and believed in God. It exists because Peter and people like Peter acted out their faith despite hostilities and persecution. We might not in this country suffer persecution for what we believe in, but we face different sorts of problems instead. Today we face lethargy, conflicting secular values, and the complexities of scientific debate. The Church cannot be silenced. Fearless Christians like Peter and Paul are still needed to carry the baton.



St. Peter and St. Paul Patrons of our Parish
Pray for Us



First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

30th June

The people we honour today had one thing in common: they gave up their lives for Christ. They were martyred because they were followers of the Lord Jesus. By the year 64, Emperor Nero's human rights violations had reached proportions beyond description. Nero's was the first persecution by a Roman emperor, but not the last, but the more the Church was persecuted, the more it grew. The martyrs had paid the price so that all who would come after them could have the opportunity to embrace the faith.

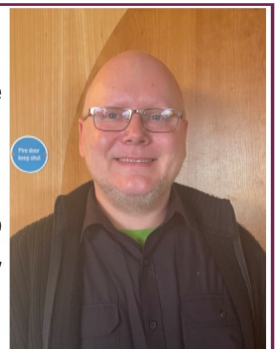


We welcome into our Parish Community
Mason Hunter McEvoy-O'Neill, Birchgrove
Lily Rose Farrell, Green Mill Lane
Finn Donie Ryan, Bramley Court
Cian Edward McEvoy, Ballycarnan.
Who were baptised last weekend.

Mass times for the coming week
ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH
Monday - Thursday: 7.30am & 10am
Friday (First Friday): 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.
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.

Farewell

It seems just a few days since I came to Portlaoise parish. Today, after almost 2 years, I am on the move as I take up an appointment in Carlow Cathedral. So, before I leave, I would like to say goodbye to



all of you who have been with me during this time. My special thanks go to the parish priest, Msgr John Byrne, for welcoming me so kindly, helping me in every way and making me feel at home. To my colleagues Fr, David, Fr. Cyprian and Fr Petru for their understanding, help and co-operation in the work of the parish. To all the lay co-workers of the parish on whom I could always count, especially Michelle, Agnes and Declan of the parish centre. I would also like to thank all our parishioners whom I have tried to serve as I was meant to do. So many of you have shown me so much kindness, thank you! It has been a blessing to stay and work here and it will remain in my heart forever. I wish you all that the Lord will always bless you and give you all the graces for each day. And although physically I will not be able to be with you, in spirit I will remain and offer my prayers for all of you. May the Lord be with you!

Fr Theo.



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Kind Regards, all @ Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

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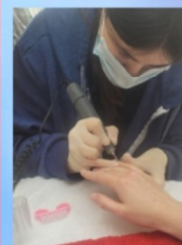
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**Join with us to pray the Rosary via the Parish
webcam daily at 9:30am, 7pm, 9:30pm.**

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

Remembrance Service: Embrace FARM will host their
annual National Remembrance Service this 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: We will be taking a
break for July and August. We will probably organise a
days outing in July and August, will announce later.

Activities for the coming week;

Wednesday 29th; Teresa Greene from the Citizens
Information Centre will give a talk and answer questions.
Hope everyone has a relaxed and good holiday and you
all come back in September ready for more fun, games
and friendships. For information on the club please
contact 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.

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stands.

**Results of Whist Drive held in the
Parish Centre on Tuesday 21st June;**



Top score: Frances Gleeson

1st Lady: Eamon Owens **2nd Lady:** Bridie Kennedy

1st Gent: Tom Kearns **2nd Gent:** Tom Jacob

1st Half: Betty Murphy

2nd Half: Peter Stevenson

Raffle: 1st Frances Gleeson 2nd Mary Downey

3rd Molly O'Brien 4th Mary Delaney

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, Mass Bouquets €3 and Candle cards €2
are available from

Michael and Margaret Holohan 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.

PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHARING AND TICKET DISTRIBUTION EVENING

The above committee will be distributing 'flight
tickets' and all information regarding luggage,
departure times etc. at 7pm sharp on 4th July 2022
in the Parish Centre. We invite all those travelling
to please attend this meeting. Lourdes Mass
Bouquets will be available for sale on the night if
anyone wishes to purchase them prior to departure,
please bring your list of names. Cards will also be
available to purchase during the Pilgrimage.

Anyone wishing to have a petition brought to
Lourdes can place it in the box beside Our Lady in
the Parish Church, on or before 8th July.



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Hold on to Jesus



I don't know about you, but I would be lost without a To-Do list. Every day I have a list of all the things that I need to do. If I don't get them all done, I add them to the list for the next day. A To-Do list helps me to make sure I don't forget something that is very important. I have a sample of a To-Do list with some of the things you might put on your list.



- **Make my bed**
- **Ride my bicycle**
- **Clean my room**
- **Play with my friends**
- **Go shopping at toy store**
- **Do my homework**
- **Go to the movies**
- **Help dad mow the lawn**
- **Watch TV**

There is one problem I can see with our To-Do list. There are some things on our list that are fun and easy to do while other things might be more difficult. We might be tempted to do the fun and easy things first and leave the other things to do later. We must remember that all of the things on our To-Do list may be good, but some are more important than others.

One day, Jesus was heading toward Jerusalem with a group of disciples. As they were walked along the road, a man said to him, **"I will follow you wherever you go."**

Jesus said to the man,

"Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but I don't even have a place to lay my head."

He wanted the man to understand that following him might not always be a fun and easy. Then Jesus turned to another man in the group and said, **"Follow me."**

The man answered, **"First let me go and bury my Father."**

One of the other men with Jesus said,

"Lord, I will follow you, but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family."

Jesus answered him,

"No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Jesus wants you and me to follow him too. If he were here speaking to us to-day, he might say to us,

"It's OK for you to have a To-Do list, but you need to make sure that you keep first things first, and the first thing on your list must be to follow me."

It is good for us to have a plan for our daily life. There are many good things that we do each day, but the most important thing is to follow Jesus. Let's remember to keep first things first.

Dear Father,



Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending your Son to save us and to be our guide through life. We are holding on to Jesus. Amen.

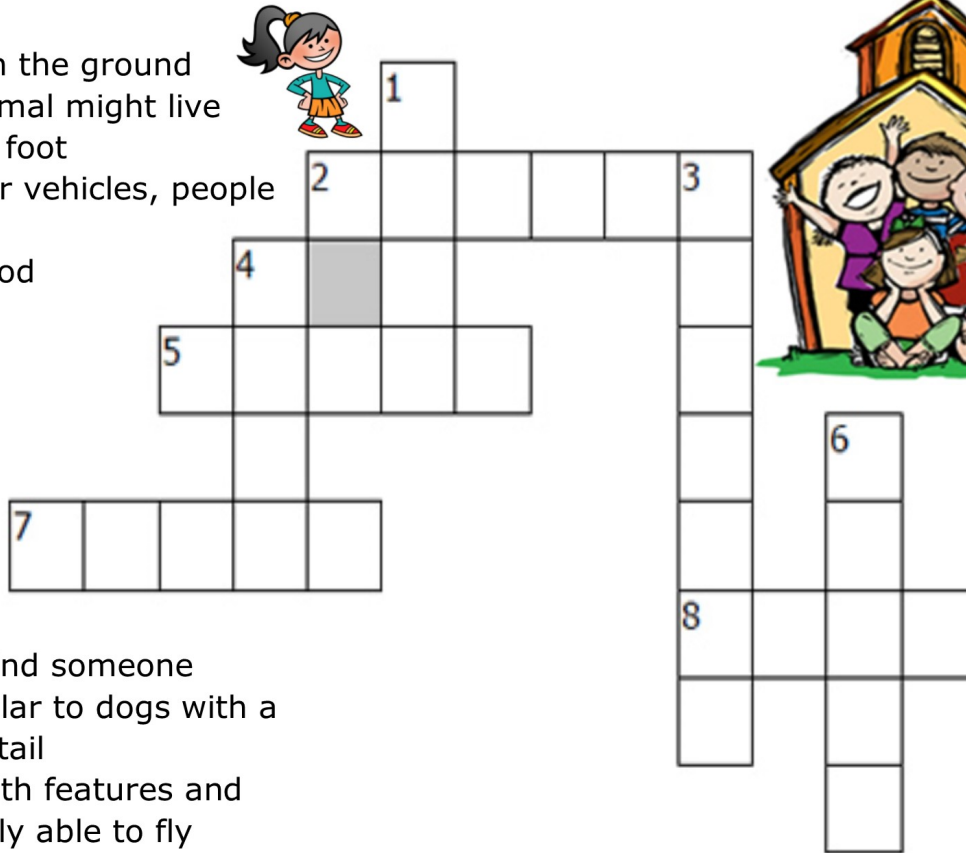
Hold on to Jesus

Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

Based on Luke 9:56-58

DOWN

1. An opening in the ground where an animal might live
3. Travelling on foot
4. A pathway for vehicles, people and animals.
6. The Son of God



ACROSS

2. To walk behind someone
5. Animals similar to dogs with a long, bushy tail
7. Creatures with features and wings, usually able to fly
8. A home for birds

BIRDS

NEST

WALKING

FOXES

JESUS

FOLLOW

ROAD

HOLE

Keeping Safe during Summer Holidays

This week marks the beginning of summer holidays for all our primary school children and teachers. Summer holidays from school are perhaps the best time of the year. No early mornings, long evenings and plenty of time to do fun things. Its very important to get out and play. Don't fall into the trap of being 'stuck in' all day on your computer games.

Its also important to remember to be safe.

Remember the safe cross code.

Never swim without following all proper instructions.

And always let your parents know where you are, following their instructions.



We wish all you a wonderful summer holiday.





Time to Think!

SYNODALITY.LISTENING AND LEARNING

Recently, the chiming of a bell at the ancient monastic site of Clonmacnoise, was significant. Laity, religious, priests and bishops, all participated at a daylong national assembly of the Irish Catholic Church in Athlone. The assembly was the culmination of an unprecedented national consultation, in preparation for the Irish submission to the 2023 Universal Synod in Rome. Each diocese was asked to submit a 10-page synthesis of their own consultation process, and many of these are already posted on diocesan websites. In addition, there were more than two dozen submissions from various other groups and some individuals.

All this is part of the historic, global project of reform of the Catholic Church by Pope Francis with his vision of a "Synodal church", characterised by honest and open speech, as well as deep listening. This listening is with a view to change.

Some of the implications and tensions involved in the transition to this new ecclesial paradigm are evident in this first phase of the Irish consultation. People have been delighted to be asked their views, there is a sense of hope and energy, and many are calling for a continuation of this Synodal way of proceeding. There is a call for real change. And yet, after years centuries of a different model of church, and real breaches of trust, it can seem almost too good to be true; there is a lot of scepticism, cynicism and apathy. Numbers were tiny, and the age demographic very high.

The open wound of abuse, clerical and institutional, and its poor handling by leaders, inevitably hung over the process. There were strong statements from some survivors who engaged generously. It is clear that despite various efforts made at different levels, a reckoning still needs to be had. As Derek Scally discovered in his book on Irish Catholicism, there is a reluctance to have conversations, in the church and in wider society, around this topic. Within the church it may be that the abuse issue is a helpful lens through which to view many other issues: attitudes towards power, the absence of women in governance, clericalism, sexual teaching.

It is clear in the submissions that an overwhelming majority want equality for women in the church (in particular at decision-making levels and in terms of ordained ministry) and an inclusive approach to the LGBTQI+ community. This will inevitably raise questions around church teaching and its non-reception by the "sense of faith of the faithful". The consensus (conspiratio) between pastors and faithful, highlighted by Cardinal John Henry Newman as the mark of sound teaching, is lacking. There was similar disquiet around the issue of divorced and remarried Catholics; again, it is clear that much church discourse on sexuality and gender is unpersuasive.

All this is part of a deeper sense of a gap between faith and life, and between the institutional church and the ambient culture. And so there is much talk of more adequate adult faith formation; a liturgy with language that is less archaic and more inclusive; new ways to approach sacramental preparation; a co-responsible model of leadership that includes laity; the need to reconnect with young people; and the breakdown of the relationship between family, parish, school and wider society in our atomised and secularised culture. There is a minority voice which dissents from the overall consensus and insists on adherence to more traditional ways.



This reminds us of the need to discern carefully the difference between simply following the prevailing culture in a superficial way, out of an almost desperate desire to be accepted, and being humble enough to realise that we get things wrong and (as Vatican II taught) we can learn from the world and culture about us.

Many of the submissions are self-critical in that they recognise not sufficient attention has been given to issues such as care of the Earth, the poor, inequality, homelessness, immigration, peace on our shared island. There is an acknowledgment of the limited inclusion in the process of people on the margins, as well as the inadequate treatment of relationships with other churches and people of other faiths. This can serve as a reminder that the Church has taken only the first step on a much longer journey. This journey will continue in the specifically Irish phase of the Synodal pathway over the next few years.

The chiming of the bell at Clonmacnoise will be gentle and invitational, not triumphalist. Nonetheless, we dare to hope that this church, on the way to reform and renewal, might be of service to all Irish citizens, believers or not, in our common task of building up a better world for our children and grandchildren.

Kildare & Leighlin Synod Prayer

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 24,800 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles



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Summerhill, Portlaoise

Josephine Guilfoyle

née Reeves

Boley, Abbeyleix

*Even though I walk through the darkest
valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me;
Your rod and your staff - they comfort me.*

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

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

2nd ANNIVERSARY
SEAN BUCKLEY
Portlaoise Road, Abbeyleix.
2nd Anniversary occurred 23rd June 2022



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 Peace Sean



In Loving Memory of

*A Precious Daughter, Sister, Aunt and
Granddaughter*

LEONA CUDDY

Meelick, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary away from home occurs 2nd July.



*You were a precious gift from God
above, so much beauty, grace and
love. You touched our hearts in so
many ways, your smile so bright
even on the bad days.*

*You heard God's whisper calling you
home, you didn't want to go and leave
us alone.*

*You loved us so much, you held on tight, till all the strength
was gone and you could no longer fight.*

*He had called your name twice before, you knew you
couldn't make Him wait anymore, so you gave your hand to
God and slowly drifted away, knowing that with our love
we will be together again some day.*

**Missing you always, forever in our hearts, Dad, Mam,
Gary, Shane, Rhys, Luke and granddad Mick.**

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, Friday 1st July at 7:30pm.

Rest in Peace Leona
May Heaven be your Bed



Birthday Remembrance

In Loving Memory of

PATRICK & ELIZABETH CULBERT



*Happy birthday up in Heaven from your family here below,
We love and we miss you and want to let you know,
That your birthdays aren't forgotten and both your
memories live on,
We still celebrate your lives with us even though you are
gone.*

**Remembering with love our Mam and Dad whose
90th and 100th birthdays occur at this time. Xxx**

Mass offered on Sunday 26th June at 12.30pm.

Loved and remembered by their loving family.

May They Rest in Peace

† KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS †

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**

HENRY RANKIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

Contact;

057-8620567

PAUL; 087-2562137

NIAL; 086-2770095



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For the perfect tribute card for your loved one
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In Loving Memory of KATHLEEN O' DOWD



Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.
19th Anniversary occurs 28th June 2022.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
on Tuesday 28th June at 10am.

*Peace is the serenity of the soul,
The tranquillity of the mind,
And the simplicity of the heart.*

Sadly missed by all her loving family.

Rest in Peace Kathleen



10TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE



In Loving Memory of JOHN CONNAUGHTON

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
10th Anniversary occurred 23rd June 2022.



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

Dearly missed by your loving wife Esther,
son, son-in-law, daughters, brothers,
sisters and two grandchildren.

Rest in Peace John

Do not be afraid;
only have faith

Mark 5:36

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!





**DE LA SALLE BROTHERS
CASTLETOWN
CEMETERY DAY**

SATURDAY 9TH JULY

MASS AT 2PM

For further information, phone;
05787-32359 | 087-1763729



*A beautiful celebration of Mass in Marian Avenue
on Monday evening.*

*It was great to gather together again after three years
and we were blessed with sunshine.*

**Teac
Com**

Supported by The Thomas Hayes Trust

*A community based Suicide Intervention,
Mental Health Awareness and
Bereavement Support Charity.*

Open Monday-Friday

9:30am to 4:00pm

And by appointment

24 hour helpline

056 779 6592

www.thethomashayestrust.com



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
23rd June 2022

08

10

17

21

No €11,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Stanislov Tworkowski
Christina Conroy
Sharon Cullen
Mary Dunne
Martin Dunne
Martin Dunne
Chloe, Harris, Ali
The Cats Pyjamas
Katie O'Neill
Stella Styles
Olive Maher
Chris Coss
Ger
Mick Shortall
Aileen Carey
Josie Fitzpatrick
Liz Deegan
Emily Delaney
Linda Maguire
Jody Guilfoyle
Mick Mulhall
Kellie Tynan
Caoimhe Fitzpatrick

MATCH 3s €1,000

**23
Match
3s
€44
each**

**Next
Week's
Jackpot
is
€12,000**

PROMOTER

Online Lotto
Online Lotto
Online Lotto
Mary Dunne
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Julie Conroy
Geraldine O'Neill
Barbara Moore
John Loughlin
John Loughlin
Parish Centre
Liz Hilliard
Parish Centre
Peter Ryan
Paul Dooley
Lil Gleeson
Catherine Burke
M Farrell
Bernie Phelan
Peg Lawlor
Jerry Dooley

Play PARISH



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

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& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

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
viewed on our website and our Church
Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church
are live streamed www.portlaoiseparish.ie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times
057 8600119)



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

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Peter's Pence Collection takes place at this time

The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.

Envelopes in Development Boxes.

Thank you for your support.

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 Pandemic. The generosity of so many means we **continue** to be well supported and can pay our way at this time. Please find your way to contribute.

Ways to contribute to our Parish

Donation 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



Congratulations

To all the boys and girls
who are graduating from
Primary school these days

