

**Twenty Fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**  
1st September - 4th October

Fr. David journeyed with 6th Year Pupils from Scoil Christ Rí and their religion teachers to Wicklow this week where they prayerfully walked the Cliff Walk from Greystones to Bray. Let us pray for all our 6th Year students as they begin this year. May they always know that their worth does not come from points or exam results.

***God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change,  
the courage to change the things I can,  
and the wisdom to know the difference.***



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

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## Found



When we are young the future is bright. When we are young we know what we want and are optimistic about achieving it. When we are young the difference between right and wrong is clear-cut.

When we are young we are confident that there are people who love us and hold us in high esteem. Then life begins to throw spanners in the works .... very large ones! Suddenly we're not quite so sure what we want after all, and trying to achieve anything worthwhile is like running at an immovable brick wall. Life begins to test our principles. Lapses of courage tempt us to tell lies; poverty encourages us to take what doesn't belong to us; fear of failure encourages us to cheat; depression encourages us to drink or eat too much; desperation encourages us to take drugs or gamble. The path that leads away from God is an out of control downwards spiral. Worse, once we lose our self-esteem, it is very difficult to turn back to God. Once we have spiralled to an all time low, it is difficult to think of ourselves as worthwhile. Once we have hit rock bottom, it is hard to imagine that anybody might care enough to help us, or that anyone could still love us.

Jesus tells three parables that demonstrate God's mercy and compassion. 'The Lost Sheep', 'The Lost Coin' and the 'Lost Son'. As we soldier on through life feeling worthless and insignificant, these three parables tell us that we do not have to accept our sorry lot in life. Jesus reminds us that no one is worthless or insignificant in God's eyes ... not one single person. It doesn't matter how far we have travelled away from God, God is looking to bring us back.

Today's parables are about wholeness and inclusion in a society seemingly intent on division and exclusion. In all of us there is a need to be found and carried, and in all of us there is the ability to seek out and help others. Most of all, today's parables are about forgetting the human instinct to judge others and to feel the joy of God the Father's reconciling love.

## Our Lady of Sorrows Thursday 15th September



Mary, standing by the Cross, 'suffered intensely with her only begotten Son and united herself as his Mother to the sacrifice, consenting with love to the offering of the victim who was born of her', whom she also offered to the eternal Father. **Rosary at the Grotto on Thursday at 8pm.**

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.

## Harvest Thanksgiving Next Weekend 17th / 18th

An appropriate time to thank God for the fruits of the earth seeing as the World Ploughing Championship takes place in the Parish the following week. Opening on Tuesday 20th and continuing until Thursday.

We welcome competitors from all over the World to the event.

On Sunday (18th) at 6.30pm we will hold an Ecumenical Service in the Parish Church with representatives from the 28th countries taking part.

*God bless the work of the plough*

Photo of our harvest Altar on page 17

## The Triumph of the Holy Cross

14th September



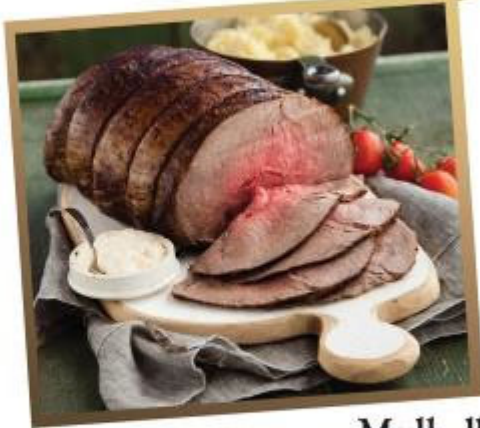
We are called to participate in the struggle against evil in every form: racism, social injustice, oppression, infidelity, dishonesty, and corruption. The Risen Lord wishes to deliver us from all evil. But how? Not by removing every difficulty, but by giving us courage to face it and overcome it. Our sufferings are stepping-stones to victory. We look to the cross as a symbol of triumph over suffering and the promise of eternal life.





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**WHEN?** Friday, September 23rd 11AM-12PM

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 Catriona At 086 793 5234 / cslattery@laoissports.ie  
 Or Eimear At 086 011 1722 / ebryant@laoissports.ie



## Scoil Fionntáin Naofa will host its first Truck, Tractor and Vintage Run



**RESCHEDULED DATE**  
**Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Registration at 1.30 pm**  
**in Shanahoe National School**

**€20 fee**

**all monies raised will help us to establish our new ASD class 'Sonas' and play area**



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The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church,  
**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners. Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm.  
All are welcome.





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*Time; 7:30pm-9pm. Cost; €80.*

**Contact Rosaleen 086-0789241**

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**Sing for Joy;** It gives me great "Joy" to inform you all that our Community Choir, Sing for Joy, returns to Portlaoise Parish Centre next Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September and continues every Wednesday from 11am to 12 noon. Our choir caters for young and older adults who attend Day Care Centres or residential facilities or indeed those who live at home and would enjoy a little break each week to sing and enjoy some uplifting music free.

Contact Maureen 087-6482038 or e-mail [seanchistin@gmail.com](mailto:seanchistin@gmail.com).

**Pilgrimage to Lourdes** from Limerick led by Fr Joe Young, October 18-22, €595 all in, including return coach to Dublin airport, passing by Portlaoise. Please phone Laura or Kieran on 086-3256639.

**Toastmasters comes to Kavanaghs!** Have you ever wondered how some of the amazing entertainers/presenters get the courage to go up on stage and entertain an audience? Well they all had to start somewhere and where better than in Portlaoise Toastmasters Club. We meet the second and fourth Monday of every month, September to May. Our first meeting of the new season is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm in Kavanaghs Bar and Venue, 28 Main St., Portlaoise, R32EPK2. For details e-mail [toastmastersportlaoise@gmail.com](mailto:toastmastersportlaoise@gmail.com) or follow us on Facebook. Guests welcome!

**Portlaoise Concern Group;** Revised amount collected at recent Church gate collection, €3,057. Many thanks to all the collectors and those who donated.

**Counselling;** Accord Portlaoise are open for Relationship Counselling at The Parish Centre, Portlaoise. Counselling is completely confidential, all counsellors are fully trained. For further info. please contact Mary at 086-4149034 or e-mail [accordportlaoise@gmail.com](mailto:accordportlaoise@gmail.com)

**GROW Mental Health** meeting every Thursday at 7pm in the Parish Centre.



## COFFEE MORNING

The Heath Hall and Cemetery Committee are holding a Coffee Morning on

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

after 9:30am Mass in the Church hall.

Proceeds in aid of the purchase of a defibrillator.

Please support. Donations may be given to any committee member.

**Join with us to pray the Rosary daily via Portlaoise Parish webcam at 9:30am, 7pm, 9:30pm;** Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto after evening Mass on the First Friday of every month.

**Fr. Peter McVerry Trust Winter Collection;** For the month of September, I will be organising a collection for Fr. Peter McVerry Trust. Items required include Toiletries ladies and gents, baby wipes, soap, disposable razors, hats, socks, gloves, underwear, face cloths. Please label all bags "Peter McVerry Trust" and leave into Portlaoise Parish Centre. Thanking you, Judy Preston.

## SAVE CLONKEEN CHURCH & GRAVEYARD (R32HX53)



History will be made Wednesday evening, 14<sup>th</sup> September next. Fr Paddy Byrne P.P. Abbeyleix will celebrate Mass for all of the people buried in this graveyard at 7pm, this will be the first Mass to have been celebrated here for just over 700 years.

An invitation to attend this Mass is being extended to all. People from both denominations have been buried in this graveyard throughout it's long history.

We would like to acknowledge the help that we have received from Gráinne Fennelly, manager of the Abbeyleix Parish development company CLG. Gráinne and her team are making sure that the Graveyard will be presented in a clean and tidy condition before the Mass. We also acknowledge Catherine Casey, Heritage Officer, Laois County Council, Tom Kelly, land owner on who's property this Medieval Church and Graveyard is situated and Sean Murray, archaeologist and Chairman of the Laois Heritage Society.

A meeting will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September in the Manor Hotel at 7pm with a view to forming a committee of interested people that will look after this Historical site. Even if it is not your intention to serve on a committee you may still have an idea that you may like to share and have discussed at the meeting.

*Credit: James G Carroll, Photos, Gerry Ring, Aerial Photograph, Kevin O' Brien, Historian, Noel Burke, Research.*





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## MARCH FOR LIFE

Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2022

at 2.30pm

From St. Stephens Green  
to Leinster House



## PORTLAOISE PARISH

### PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Organised by

Portlaoise Legion of Mary

Bus leaving Lyster Square Carpark  
at 9am sharp

Fare; Adults €20 and Children €10

To book phone **087-9611331**

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## Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September;

**Top score:** Tom Kearns

**1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Betty Srahan

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** Catherine Galvin

**1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** Ann O' Dowd & Frank Keenan

**1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Patricia Horan & Rita Arrigan

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Rita Arrigan, Tom Dunne & Theresa Mulhare

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> S. Duff 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Srahan

3<sup>rd</sup> P. Stevenson 4<sup>th</sup> K. Farrell

5<sup>th</sup> C. Galvin



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

### Portlaoise Active Retirement

14<sup>th</sup> September; Quiz

15<sup>th</sup> September; Day at the races in Naas, €50, includes  
bus, two course meal, race card, seated panoramic view.

Names and money may be given to any committee  
member or at the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

10<sup>th</sup> October; Holiday in Donegal. €355 p.p.s. Money  
needs to be collected immediately.

No Bowls on Mondays until further notice.

Cards in Sue Ryder at 3pm on Thursdays. All welcome for  
chat and cards. For further information please contact  
P.R.O Sheila at 087-6204617.



# ART WITH Caroline

At Portlaoise Library

Join Caroline for a fun art workshop, using clay and a mix  
of other materials this Culture Night, Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of  
September at 3.30 - 5pm in Portlaoise Library.  
Suitable for children between 8 and 12 years.  
Spaces are limited, so booking is essential.



For  
Ages  
8-12

CALL  
057 8622333

OR EMAIL  
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## MORTGAGE INFORMATION EVENING

14<sup>th</sup> September

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Register Now



## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September, the Laois/Offaly Specialist  
Palliative Care Team will join with bereaved families  
and friends to host a Remembrance Service at 7:30pm  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise.  
We will remember all those who have died since 2019  
who were known to the team.







OUR COURSES – SEPTEMBER 2022

HEALTH & HUMANITIES

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

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Ireland's Biggest Coffee Day Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September



Have a cuppa in aid of Laois Hospice Foundation

This year Laois Hospice coffee morning takes place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2022. (or you can host on any day that suits you)

Ireland's Biggest Coffee Morning sponsored by Bewley's and marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the campaign.

Can you host a coffee day in your home or with colleagues in work to raise much needed funds for Laois Hospice?

If you would like to host a coffee morning please contact; Mary Delaney on 086-8157280 or Jennifer McKay on 087-2945420 for supply of coffee.

All monies collected in Laois are spent on hospice services in Laois.

Thanks you for your continued support to Laois Hospice and remember every cup counts and please keep safe.

thank you ☺







## THE LOST SHEEP

I have a very nice collection of stuffed teddies. They come in all shapes and sizes. When I was younger I used to sleep with one of my stuffed teddies, my favourite teddy was called Tenby, the reason why I called him Tenby is because my sister bought this teddy for me when we were on our holidays in Wales, we were in a place called Tenby. One day I lost Tenby and I was so upset, but found him hiding under the bed!! Even though I have a very large collection, every one of them is very important to me and I would be very upset if one of them was lost.



That reminds me of a lesson that Jesus taught to a group of religious leaders one day. The religious leaders were very upset that Jesus was often seen associating with sinners. He was even sometimes seen eating with them. The religious leaders didn't like that at all and were very critical of Jesus. Jesus told them a story to help them to understand.

"Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and you lost one of them," Jesus said. "Wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine who were safe, and go and search for the lost sheep? And when you found the lost sheep, wouldn't you joyfully put it on your shoulders and carry it back home? Wouldn't you be so happy that you would tell all of your friends about finding the lost sheep?" I imagine that all of the religious leaders had to agree that they would do just as Jesus had suggested. Then Jesus said to them, "In the same way, there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

The Gospel teaches us that we are like sheep and sometimes stray away from God. That makes God very sad, but he never gives up on us. He keeps searching for us and calling to us. He wants to draw us back into his arms. He even sent Jesus, his Son, to save those who are lost. Aren't you glad that God doesn't give up on his lost sheep? I am, because "I once was lost, but now I'm found!"

### PRAYER

Dear Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd. We are thankful that you came to save those who are lost. Amen.



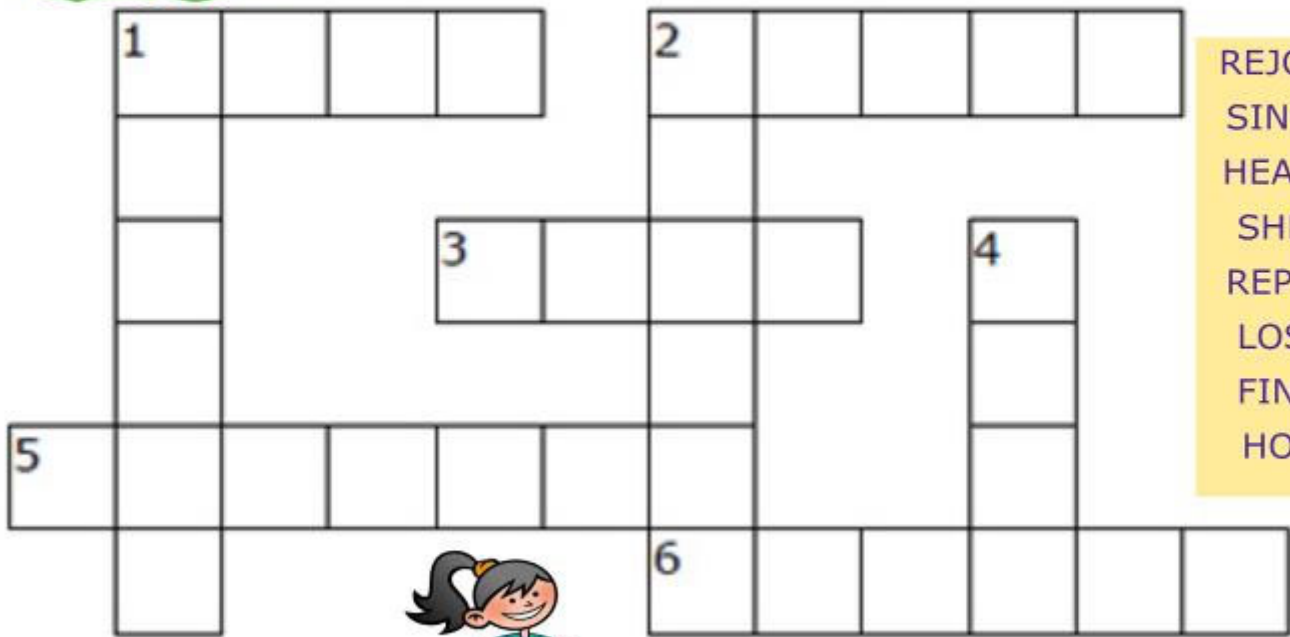




## The Lost Sheep

Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?"

Luke 15:4



REJOICE  
SINNER  
HEAVEN  
SHEEP  
REPENT  
LOSE  
FIND  
HOME



### ACROSS

- The place where a person lives.
- A woolly farm animal related to the goat
- To locate something that was lost.
- To express great happiness and joy
- To turn away from sin.

### DOWN

- The place where God and angels live.
- A person who breaks God's law
- To no longer have something because you don't know where it is.



HOME	D	H	W	G	W	J	Q	U	R	R	S	Q	V	N	C
RIGHTEOUS	F	E	X	W	X	M	L	J	E	K	E	G	T	Z	R
FIND	O	A	D	V	Y	V	Q	L	J	Z	G	P	Y	T	I
SHEEP	U	V	M	S	Z	V	T	R	O	S	C	O	E	U	G
PERSON	N	E	K	H	O	M	E	V	I	Z	H	X	F	N	H
HUNDRED	D	N	D	E	E	J	Q	M	C	I	K	E	L	T	T
HEAVEN	V	G	N	Z	U	X	W	A	E	O	I	I	E	I	E
FOUND	P	O	O	F	P	A	R	A	B	L	E	B	D	P	O
PARABLE	J	V	P	I	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	W	J	D	U
SINNER	H	T	E	N	K	E	R	B	Z	S	C	G	E	S	S
ONE	K	Z	R	D	K	A	G	L	K	I	G	R	G	N	D
LOST	K	B	S	O	R	C	G	I	S	N	D	B	I	M	T
REPENT	M	L	O	J	B	U	Q	R	O	N	H	K	S	S	W
FRIENDS	G	Y	N	G	Y	C	O	A	U	E	C	T	O	K	C
REJOICE	E	W	M	E	N	H	U	H	N	R	O	L	C	C	R

**In 3rd Class and above and interested in becoming an Altar Server?**



If so, we invite you to fill in an enrolment form which includes a permission slip for your parents/guardian. You may collect the form from the Parish Centre or you can download it from our Parish Website - [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) Training will be provided.

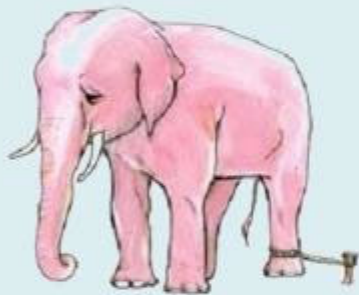




# Time to Think!

## LIVING IN THE PRESENT MOMENT

One day a man walked past a camp of elephants. Looking closer, he was surprised to see that these mighty animals weren't held in cages or kept in chains. The only thing stopping them from escaping? A thin rope tied from one of their legs to a simple pole in the ground. Confused, as to why they didn't use their strength to break the rope, he asked the trainer why they weren't attempting to run away. To this the trainer replied, "As baby elephants, we use the same system. But, at that age, the rope is strong enough to stop them from escaping. They grow up like this, believing they can never break the rope, so even as adults they stay put." In other words, these powerful, magnificent and intelligent elephants didn't *believe* they could free themselves, so they never tried. Our personal beliefs are powerful beyond measure and often dictate our outcomes. They can work for or against us. Identify your limiting beliefs so you can push against them.



### ELEPHANT ROPE

As we journey in life, often of our greatest struggle, is to find ourselves in the present moment. How many of us are burdened and carry too much heavy baggage, because of past events and unresolved issues. How many of us may be overwhelmed and full of worry or anxiety, regarding what may happen down the road. In fact, very few are blessed with the freedom and contentment to live in the present moment. When I am present in the now, I am not consumed by what happened yesterday or fearful regarding what may occur tomorrow.

The great St. Padre Pio, had a powerful spirituality regarding living in the present moment. Towards the end of his life, a life, that contained a huge amount of personal suffering, he made a profound prayer of serenity, rejoicing in his liberation, for being blessed just to live in the present moment. His prayer is a gift for all of us as we walk our daily pathway. The best pathway, proven by the wisdom of the elders, is one that takes one step, one moment at a time. Saint Padre Pio said, *"My past life I give to your mercy, O Lord, whatever may happen tomorrow, I hand into your providence, Today, let me live in your love"*.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 25,800 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)



I've been reading a biography of St. John Henry Cardinal Newman recently. I offer one significant moment of his life to ponder this week. In 1833, several years before his reception into the Catholic Church, he travelled to Rome. Then, on his return voyage, he became seriously ill and, at the same time, the ship was becalmed in the Mediterranean. That is, the winds ceased and the ship was more or less stalled, drifting, until the winds came back. Newman's life coincided almost exactly with the 19<sup>th</sup> century - he lived from 1801 to 1890. It was a time of great advances in scientific knowledge, in mechanisation and industry. Political upheaval was widespread as well; old dynasties fell and experiments in new forms of government began. In all these fields, persons seemed to grasp a greater mastery of their own fates. And yet, even with all humanity's new knowledge and power, one could still be "becalmed." Nature could still do something that simply made you stop.

On this occasion, while at sea, Newman wrote the poem "The Pillar of the Cloud," better known by the informal title, "Lead, Kindly Light." It has been set to many tunes, and has become a well-beloved hymn. There isn't room for the whole text, but here's an excerpt:

Lead, Kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom  
Lead Thou me on!  
The night is dark, and I am far from home —  
Lead Thou me on!  
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see  
The distant scene — one step enough for me.

It's a great expression of trust, and of patience: he doesn't ask to see "the distant scene" - the end of this road, wherever it goes. "One step enough," sufficient grace for the present, is all he asks. Both afflicted with illness, and unable to go anywhere, Newman put his faith in a Light, a Light he knew was kindly disposed to him, and was leading him to safe harbour. May the light of hope and peace bring us all great serenity and acceptance...





Bee-ing Me  
MINDFULLY

Margaret Palmer-Bergin  
Mindfulness Teacher & Coach

Contact:

☎ 087 2254302

✉ beeingmemindful@gmail.com

📱 @beeingmemindfully

"Mindfulness for me  
is to 'see through the heart' the  
moment that is now.  
To Stop, Breathe & Be Grateful"

- Workshops • Classes • 1-to-1
- Corporate • Schools • Parents
- Mindfulness in Menopause
- Mindfulness for Men
- Mindfulness for Health
- Creative Mindfulness for Children & Teens

"Take the  
'Pause'  
out of  
Menopause"  
starting Thursday  
29<sup>th</sup> September  
in Portlaoise  
Parish Centre

# FAMILY CYCLE

## Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

Leaving From Vicarstown Community  
Hall (GAA Field) At 11AM Sharp!

Total Cycle - 12KM  
Refreshments At Dilly Dilly Café

Disability Bikes, Tandem Bikes  
& Regular Bikes Are Available  
But Pre-Booking Is Essential.

For More Info Or To Register Please Contact  
Catriona At 086 793 5234 / cslattery@laoissports.ie  
Or Eimear At 086 011 1722 / ebryant@laoissports.ie

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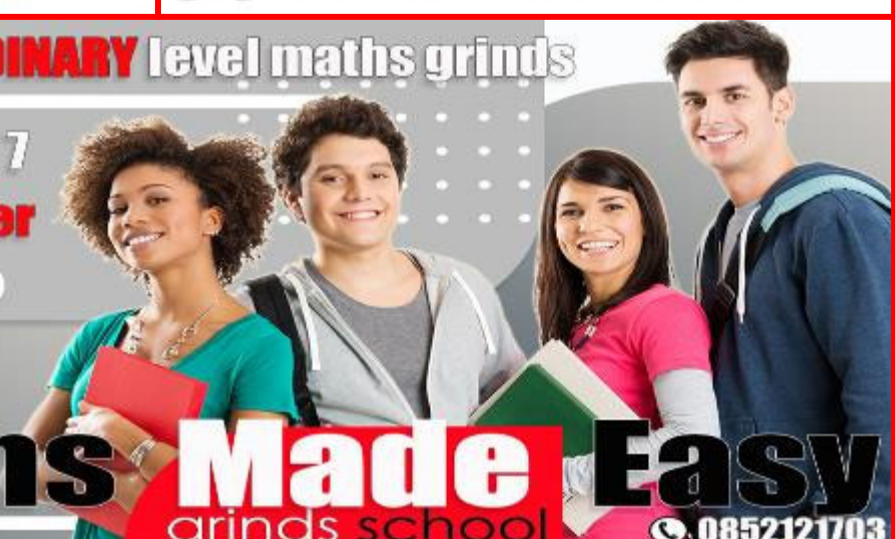


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# WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY 2022

## - 'Creating Hope Through Action'

The theme for World Suicide Prevention Day for 2022 is **'Creating Hope Through Action'**. It is a time when we can spread a message of hope to others. Even though suicide is a very complex issue, we can always look out for those who might be experiencing suicidal thoughts and provide support.

In this way, we can all contribute and play our part in creating a caring society in which those who may need support, feel comfortable in seeking help.

The following are some actions that we can all do to create hope in our society:

### Increase your awareness

If someone tells you that they are having thoughts of suicide, stay calm and don't be afraid. There are training programmes that can help prepare you so that you feel confident in having a conversation. Free suicide awareness and prevention programmes are available from the HSE - **LivingWorks Start** (90 mins online programme) or **safeTALK** (a half-day face to face programme). These can help you recognise people who might be at risk of suicide, give you the language to ask them about their suicidal thoughts and assist you in connecting them with helpful supports and services. Check out: [www.bookwhen.com/suicidepreventiontrainingmidlands.ie](http://www.bookwhen.com/suicidepreventiontrainingmidlands.ie) or [www.nosp.ie](http://www.nosp.ie) or contact your local Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention (details below):



### Reach in

Reach in to someone you know who might be having difficulties. Find a comfortable space and time to sit and be present with them. Use open questions and tell them you care about them. You don't need to have all the answers. If they share things with you, listen - stay calm, be patient and kind. Remember that bringing up the topic of suicide with someone will not make suicide more likely. It can be really helpful for a person to have a safe space to open up in, to know that they are being heard and that they are not alone at a difficult time. Check out **'Tips on being a good Listener'** and **'What to say to someone going through a tough time'** on [www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie)



### Reach out

If you are feeling particularly low, sad or hopeless, always remember that sharing things with someone else will help. Reaching out to talk with someone - someone close or even a support organisation - might initially feel frightening. Even if you can't find the right words, when you take that first step and start to share and talk about what's going on for you, things can become clearer and you will start to feel more hopeful. Check out **'Talk about how you feel'** - [www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie)



### Be The Light for others and your community

Connect with a support or community organisation. Volunteer, help spread their messages and become involved in activities that promote positive mental health and wellbeing or suicide prevention in your community. Always be mindful of what people might be going through when talking about suicide - be sensitive. Be compassionate and respectful of the lives that have been lost and of those within your community who have been bereaved. Remember that people can and do get through times of crisis and that a positive message of recovery, can be protective and hopeful for others to hear.

### Know where to turn

Get to know what mental health supports and services are available both locally and nationally and tell people about them. Tell your family, your friends, your colleagues - you never know when someone might need support. Many are open 24/7 and contact can be made in different ways, on the telephone, by text message, online or face to face. See below for a list of all the available supports and services - emergency 24 hour services and ongoing supports.



Remember if there are immediate concerns, your local GP should be contacted, or the GP Out of Hours Service. The local Hospital Emergency Depts. are also there to provide support, assessments and whatever assistance is required.

You can also call the HSE YourMentalHealth Information Line, anytime day or night, for information on what other services and supports are available near you - **freephone 1800 111 888** or visit [www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie)



Someone is always there to listen to you



If it's an emergency, Dial 999/112

### Emergency 24 hour Services

**SAMARITANS**  
TALK IT THROUGH, WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN  
116 123  
jo@samaritans.ie www.samaritans.org

**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

**text about it**  
TEXT HELLO 50808  
A free 24/7 text service, providing support for people going through a mental health or emotional crisis - by text or email.  
www.text50808.ie

**ISPC Childline**  
1800 66 66 66  
(24 HRS A DAY, EVERYDAY)  
Text TALK to 50101  
Online chat - www.childline.ie

CONTACT YOUR GP OR GP OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

**MIDOC** 1850 302 702 **NEDOC** 1850 777 911

**HSE** Seirbhís Sláinte Níós Fear & Forbairt Building a Better Health Service

### Other ongoing Supports

**yourmentalhealth.ie**  
Information | Support | Services  
1800 111 888  
www.yourmentalhealth.ie

**SpunOut**  
SpunOut.ie  
@SpunOut  
SpunOutMedia

**turn2me**  
Online Therapy & Counselling

**Mind**  
Online Therapy & Counselling

**Connecting for Life**  
Midlands, Louth and Meath

### Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention contact details:

Josephine Rigney  
Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention  
Laois/Offaly and Longford/Westmeath  
Email: josephine.rigney@hse.ie  
Mobile: 086 815 7850.  
WEBSITE: [www.connectingforlifemidlandslothmeath.ie](http://www.connectingforlifemidlandslothmeath.ie)

Rosaleen Dolan  
Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention  
Louth/Meath  
Email: Rosaleen.dolan@hse.ie  
Mobile: 087 216 5846.



Connecting for Life  
Midlands, Louth and Meath

'Someone is always there to listen to you'



**Congratulations to our 5 lucky Jackpot winners of last week's Parish Lotto draw.  
Pictured below are two of those winners receiving their prize.**



*Pictured Left;*

Agnes Kaczmarek presenting Thomas McEvoy with a cheque for €4,000 and Peter Ryan, promoter of the winning ticket with the promoter's prize €400.

*Pictured Right;*

Msgr. John presenting Elizabeth Hilliard with her promoter's prize €400. Elizabeth also collected a cheque for €4,000 on behalf of the winner Noel Hilliard.



*Pictured Left; Visitors from Illinois*

Fr. Ciprian Matei, John Joe and Brid Griffin, Msgr. John Byrne, Fr. David Vard, Fr. Octavian Enache



**What is Ireland's Favourite Hymn?**



Bishop Denis has launched the search to find Ireland's Favourite Hymn and the result will be revealed at the Diocesan Stand (291) at the Ploughing Championship on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. There are thousands of hymns to choose from; ones that we learned at school, from parents and grandparents, or some of the more contemporary compositions that we have come to know and love in recent years.

Have your say by sending the name of your favourite hymn to:  
[favouritehymn@kandle.ie](mailto:favouritehymn@kandle.ie)



*Harvest Altar 2019*





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



*Kathleen Molloy*  
née Dunne  
Cullenagh, Portlaoise and  
Portarlinton



*Peter Fitzpatrick*  
Formerly Meelick  
Died in Canada



*Lizzie Boylan*  
Kilminchy Lodge,  
Portlaoise. Late of  
Woodbrook, Mountrath



*Constantino (Tino)  
Del-Rjo*  
Abbeyleix and Dublin

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

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**  
*Our sympathy to their families.*

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to  
the death notice at [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)



***In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK (PAT) MILLS***

Formerly St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 12:30pm.

*To the world you were our father,  
But to us you meant the world.  
You are missed so much by your  
loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Dad*



***In Loving Memory of  
JOHN CLEARY***

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise. Died 10<sup>th</sup> September 1979.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6:30pm.

*Always a smile, never a frown,  
Always a hand when one was down,  
Always true, gentle and kind  
Wonderful memories you left behind.*

Always remembered by his wife Kathleen,  
nieces, nephews and lots of friends.

*Rest in Peace John*



***In Loving Memory of  
PETER O'BRIEN***

Ridge Road, Portlaoise, who died 12<sup>th</sup> September 1980.  
42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.



*God saw the road was getting rough,  
The hill too hard to climb,  
He gently closed your weary eyes,  
And whispered 'Peace Be Thine'.*

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

*Rest in Peace Peter*



***In Loving Memory of  
BREDA MAHER***

7 Rathmoyle, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois  
Died 9/9/2021 aged 78 years

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022.



Lovingly remembered by her husband  
Jack, her family Martina and P.J.,  
Edel and Tony, Shaun and Sinead, her  
grandchildren, great-grandchildren,  
sisters and brothers and all extended  
family and friends.

*Rest in Peace Breda*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### *In Loving Memory of PETER CARROLL*

Lyncar, Ballytegan, Portlaoise.



On this, the first anniversary of Peter's passing, his wife Clare, sons and daughters, and all his extended family, wish to express our deep gratitude to everyone who sympathised with us on our very sad loss. To everyone who called to the house, phoned, travelled, posted messages of condolences online, sent Mass cards or floral

tributes, attended the funeral, or helped out in any way, know that your support and comfort was much appreciated.

To all the Priests of the Parish, we thank you for all your support and help, especially to Fr. David for the lovely celebration of the Mass. Thanks also to Msgr. Byrne and Fr. David for calling to the house, it was much appreciated.

Thanks to Heather Fogarty and Gary Knight for their beautiful singing both during the Mass, and at the cemetery.

Thanks to both Dr. Whites and their staff for their kindness, help and support to Peter through all the years that he was a patient there, especially in the last few months of his life. To all the Palliative Care Team, we could not have managed to care for Peter without all your support, help and kindness. A special thanks to Paul for all his help in looking after Peter. We will be eternally grateful to you all. To Marcus and staff in Breslin's Pharmacy, we thank you for all the kindness, help and support you gave to Peter over the years. It is very much appreciated. Thank you to John Maloney and staff for the compassionate and professional manner in which you carried out the wake and funeral arrangements. Thanks to Portlaoise GAA for the guard of honour for Peter.

As it is not possible to thank everyone individually, we hope you will accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation to you all for your kindness, generosity, thoughtfulness and support. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

**Peter's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 11:15am.**

*Rest in Peace Peter*

## *In Loving Memory of PATRICIA O'BRIEN*

*Whose Anniversary occurs at this time*

*From your loving sister Mary and Jimmy  
and family.*

*May Patricia Rest in Peace*



## *In Loving Memory of*

### **PETER CARROLL**

Lyncar, Ballytegan, Portlaoise.

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022



*A light from our household is gone,  
A voice we loved is stilled,  
A place is vacant in our home that  
never can be filled.*

*We think of you in silence,  
We talk about you too,  
We have loving memories,  
But we wish we still had you.*

*Nothing can replace you, nothing ever will,  
In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still.*

Loved and remembered by your loving wife Clare, sons and daughters and all your extended family.

*Rest in Peace Peter*

## *In Loving Memory of TIMMY SCULLY*

3 New Road, Portlaoise.

8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022



8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm.

*Those we love don't go away,  
They walk beside us everyday,  
Unseen, unheard, but always near.  
Still loved, still missed, and very dear.*

Loved and missed by your daughters Mary & Bernadette,  
son-in-law John, grandsons Senan and Cillian, sister Ellie,  
extended family and friends.

Also remembering his loving wife Bernadette at this time.

*May Timmy Rest in Peace*

## *In Loving Memory of KATHLEEN (Brigid) DEEVY*

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

Whose 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022



God knew that she was suffering,  
That the hills were hard to climb,  
So He closed her weary eyelids,  
And whispered, Peace be thine.  
Away in the beautiful hills of God,  
By the valley of rest so fair,  
Some day, we know not when,  
We will meet our loved one there.

*Will those who think of Mam today,  
A prayer to our Blessed Mother say.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish  
Church, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 11.15am.

Sadly missed and always remembered by her daughter Marie,  
son-in-law Seamus, grandchildren Blaine, Evan, Aoife, Clodagh  
and partners and great-grandchildren Ellie-Mae, Heidi-Marie,  
Leah, Molly and Bobby, extended family and friends.

*May Brigid Rest in Peace*



**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**  
*Of a Very Special Friend*  
**TERESA KHANDKER**  
 London and formerly Portlaoise.



*Our friendship was truly priceless,  
 I will cherish it forevermore,  
 Until that day when we meet again,  
 When I knock on Heavens door.*

*Always remembered Pal  
 Frances and Tom.*

*Rest in Peace Teresa*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**  
 Grandmother  
**TERESA KHANDKER** *née McCormack*  
 London and formerly Portlaoise.  
 Birthday occurs 13<sup>th</sup> September



*We think about you always,  
 We talk about you still,  
 You have never been forgotten,  
 And you never will.  
 We hold you close within our hearts,  
 And there you will remain,  
 To walk and guide us through our  
 lives, until we meet again.*

*Missing you so very much on your birthday,  
 Wishing we could all celebrate with you here.  
 Loved and missed by all your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Teresa*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**MICHAEL & JOSEPHINE**  
**GALVIN**

*Burnwood, Clonad*

*Whose Anniversaries occur 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
 Michael (28 years) & Josephine (57 years)*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Raheen Church  
 this Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.*

*Sadly missed and remembered by Sean, Michael, Noel,  
 Mary, grandchildren & greatgrandchildren.*

*Too dearly loved to be forgotten*

*May Michael & Josephine Rest in Peace*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**  
*In Loving Memory of our beautiful Mother*  
**MARGARET HARDING** *née Conroy*

*36 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday away from Home*



*We hope you are celebrating with angels  
 and past family there,  
 With no illness in sight,  
 Just love everywhere.  
 For your birthday brings back memories,  
 Of laughter and of tears,  
 Of all the celebrations throughout your  
 precious years.*

*We'll always cherish times we had and  
 smile just at the thought,*

*We hope you know the magnitude of joy your life has brought.*

*On birthdays it's so hard to be apart,  
 Like everyday that falls between,  
 Your memory fills our hearts,  
 You are with us now everywhere we go,  
 You're part of all we do,  
 We'll celebrate your special day,  
 And the gift of knowing and loving you.*

*Always remembered and loved by your children David, Paul,  
 Ray, Jennifer, Tracy, your Mammy, brothers, sons-in-law,  
 daughters-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews xxx*

*Wishing the sweetest Granny a happy birthday in Heaven*

*Sending kisses and cuddles from all your grandchildren  
 and your great-grandchild xx*

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**THOMAS CARROLL**

*72 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.*

*12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
 Sts. Peter & Paul's Church this Saturday  
 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm.*

*The thoughts we held most dearly,  
 are the times we spent with you,  
 The laughs, the jokes and silly things,  
 are memories fond and true.*

*Forever in our thoughts.*

*Sadly missed by all his loving family,  
 extended family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Thomas*



**In Loving Memory of**  
**PATRICIA (Thrush) O'BRIEN**

*13 St. John's Square, Portlaoise*

*13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 8<sup>th</sup> September.*

*Loving memories never die,  
 As years roll on and days pass by,  
 In our hearts a memory is kept,  
 Of one we loved and will never forget.*

*Never Forgotten, Tony*

*May Patricia Rest in Peace*



Christ Jesus came into the world

TO SAVE SINNERS

I Timothy 3:15



**In Loving Memory of  
DOLORES FAHY**

55 Beladd, Stradbally Rd. Portlaoise.  
18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022



*Mam, You are too precious to be forgotten,  
And too priceless to ever replace,  
We wish we could share another moment  
with you,  
And see that smiling face.  
Someone so special as you is truly rare to  
find, someone with a heart so pure,  
so loving and so kind.*

*We'll cherish the memories we made,  
All the times we spent together,  
And we'll hold them dearly in our hearts,  
From now until forever.*

*Love eternally, James, Ber, Sharon, Elaine, Dor,  
sons-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandchildren &  
great-grandchildren xxx*

**JAMES McEVOY**

32 Upper Beladd, Stradbally Rd.  
Portlaoise.

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2022

*James, you are missed so dearly,  
now you're no longer here,  
When we're thinking of you,  
Sometimes we shed a tear.*

*We will always treasure you, you were so gentle and kind,  
Your love lives on within our hearts,  
With memories of you in our mind.*

*Life goes on from day to day, but something is out of place,  
We would give almost everything to once more see your  
smiling face.*

*You were such a blessing, so thoughtful and so true,  
We feel eternally grateful to have loved someone like you.*

*Love and miss you always, Mam, Dad, Keith, Eve, your  
loving niece Aoife, aunts, uncles and cousins xxx*

Anniversary Mass for Dolores and James will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 12:30pm.

*May Dolores & James Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN BURKE**

13 Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022.



*John, remembering you is easy,  
We do it everyday,  
Missing you is a heartache that never  
goes away.*

Loved and missed dearly from Mary,  
Conor, Kate, Maeve and Ruairi xx

*Rest in Peace John*

**In Loving Memory of  
A Treasured Uncle  
WILLIAM (Bill) DOYLE**

13 New Road, Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022



*As each day dawns we think of you,  
As each night falls we pray for you,  
And throughout our lives,  
No matter where,  
In our hearts Bill, you are always there.  
Loved and remembered today, yesterday  
and in all our tomorrows.  
From all his loving family.*

Also remembering recently deceased Virginia Doyle and her family  
at this time.

*Rest in Peace Bill*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
In Loving Memory of  
ROSE DEMPSEY née Minnock**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.



Rose's husband, Patrick, daughter, Cora, son Cyril along with the extended Dempsey/Minnock family would like to thank all of those who sympathised with us over the sad loss of Rose. We are thankful for everyone who came to the house, the Requiem Mass and the burial especially those who travelled far to be with us. We are grateful for everyone's kindness since her passing.

It is impossible to thank everyone who assisted throughout the days of the funeral but we would like to extend a special thank you to Sharon in Boscós. Thank you to Rose's nephew, Vinny, for liaising with Boher parish where Rose was laid to rest and thank you to Fr. O'Sullivan of Boher for providing the prayers at the graveside and his kindness shown. Thank you to the people of Ballycumber who came out to see Rose off to her final resting place.

Many people cared for Rose during her illness from the staff in Midland Regional hospital Tullamore to the carers who visited her twice daily while she was at home. Also thanks to Jim Murphy and the staff of Hughes Pharmacy and the staff of the Cedar Clinic who provided help and support to Rose over the years. We will never forget the care that Rose was given and we will be forever thankful for this.

A special thank you to Fr. Ciprian for celebrating the funeral Mass but for also visiting Rose and Paddy. We appreciate the kind words you spoke about Rose during the ceremony. Thank you to Aishling Rohan for providing the music for the ceremony.

Thank you to David and Matthew from Keegan's funeral directors for their professionalism and care shown while handling Rose's funeral arrangements.

It is impossible to thank everyone individually for their help and support throughout this time. Please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our gratitude.

Rose's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6:30pm.

*Rest in Peace Rose*



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*May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of  
His hand.*



## Portlaoise Parish



## Results for 8th September 2022

08

16

22

32

### WINNERS

Pat Kelly  
Danny Flaherty  
Betty Lynch  
Betty McCarthy  
Anne Ging  
M. Kinsella  
Mark Sheeran  
Betty Phelan  
Sheila Bergin  
Sarah McDowell  
Nicola O'Connor

### MATCH 3s €1,000

11 Match  
3s  
€91  
Each



### PROMOTER

Paul Dooley  
On Line Lotto  
Betty Lynch  
Betty McCarthy  
Anne Ging  
Ann Carroll  
M. Farrell  
Betty Phelan  
Joan Bergin  
Sarah McDowell  
Michael O'Connor

Next Weeks Jackpot is €12,000

## Clergy of the Parish



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



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



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



Deacon Eugene Keyes  
Tel: 057 8621142



Fr. Octavian Enache  
Visiting Priest  
(will be with us until mid September)

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  
Kathleen Sherry safeguarding@kandle.ie

## Parish Centre



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

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley  
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and  
the Heath Church are live streamed  
[www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times  
057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday  
11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm  
057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday  
Subject to availability of space

E-mail: [linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

### Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14;

Psalms 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-32

## 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



PHOTOS FROM THE RECENT SCOIL CHRISTO RÍ 6TH YEAR RELIGION TRIP

