

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Our Lady of Lourdes  
World Day of the Sick  
11th February**



**“Illness is part of our human condition. Yet, if illness is experienced in isolation and abandonment, unaccompanied by care and compassion, it can become inhumane”.**

**Taken from Pope Francis’s message for World Day of the Sick.**

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142**  
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# Salt of the Earth

## Shining Example

We often hear folk proclaim that their faith is a very private affair, something strictly between themselves and God. Of course there's a place for private worship, but at the end of the day, what good is a religious conviction that rarely impacts others and fails to make the world a better place?

Today Jesus tells us that if we live by our faith we will become 'the salt of the earth' and the 'light of the world'. How wonderful to be worthy of such compliments, but lest we get carried away, Jesus warns of us of the pitfalls. If the salt is to lose its taste it will become worthless, and if we are to hide the light beneath a bowl it will obviously fail to serve its purpose. What a silly idea! Why on earth would we go round hiding lights underneath bowls .... yet we do it all the time.

We deny the salt and hide the light every time we keep our faith to ourselves. It isn't fashionable to be a Christian nowadays and hiding God's light gives us a get out clause. Hiding the light means we can choose the comfortable or the easy option. Hiding the light means ignoring someone who is alone, or suffering. Hiding the light means keeping quiet and erring on the side of popular opinion. Hiding the light means keeping quiet in the face of injustice or intolerance.

Today we are invited to remember all those who Jesus might have described as the 'salt of the earth'. We all remember someone who has motivated and inspired us. We all remember someone who has stood out against the crowd. Today we ask, "Are we guilty of practising our faith quietly and only when it's safe, or are we shining examples."

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## Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

**Monday (Bank Holiday): 10am**

**Tuesday - 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.

## Our Lady of Lourdes

**Saturday 11th February**

Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing, but even more of faith. Church authorities have recognized over 60 miraculous cures, although there have probably been many more. To people of faith this is not surprising. It is a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles - now performed at the intercession of his mother. Some would say that the greater miracles are hidden. Many who visit Lourdes return home with renewed faith and a readiness to serve God in their needy brothers and sisters.



### Saturday 11th February 10am

Celebration of the Eucharist

And Anointing of the Sick

In our Parish Church.

There will also be a special blessing  
for all who care for the Sick.

**All are Welcome.**



**Fáilte**

### We welcome into our Parish Community

Fionn Edward Murphy, Green Road  
Shelby Lou Brennan, Straboe  
Harvey Daniel McGuirk, Dysart  
Brian Patrick Darcy, Woodbrook  
Indie Alice Fennell, Dublin Road

**Who was baptised last weekend.**

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[www.cuislecancersupport.com](http://www.cuislecancersupport.com) email: [info@cuislecancersupport.ie](mailto:info@cuislecancersupport.ie)

The Cuisle Cancer Support Centre is operating as normal – we are currently following National Cancer Control Programme guidelines. Facemasks are required to be worn for all attendees. The welfare & care of those attending & working in the centre as always is our priority.



### **Mondays**

#### **WALKING GROUP**

Our walking group brings participants through a walking programme gradually increasing fitness over time.

The walking group helps people diagnosed with cancer take positive steps towards better health. Exercise has been shown to help with fatigue for cancer survivors.

#### **THRIVE & SURVIVE PROGRAMME**

This is a self-management programme for cancer survivors with the aim of improving their quality of life to better manage daily health. (Developed by Stanford University)

**Starting, Monday,  
12th Feb  
10am-12 noon  
Booking Essential**

#### **ENTITLEMENTS**

A Citizens Information Adviser will give you advice about the financial help you may be entitled to and will help you to navigate the process. e.g., medical card application etc

#### **CANCER SUPPORT NURSE**

Our cancer care nurse will provide you with information to help you with the emotional and psychological impact of your cancer diagnosis.

### **Tuesdays**

#### **MEN'S GROUP**

**1st Tuesday of each month  
from 10am-11am  
Next Group 7th March**

#### **MINDFULNESS FOR MEN**

11am-12noon  
**7th February**

#### **PROSTHESIS & BRA FITTING DAY**

**14th February**  
Spaces Available.  
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#### **MINDFULNESS PROGRAMME**

11am-12noon  
6 Week Course  
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#### **PILATES**

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### **Wednesdays**

Next

#### **GARMENT FITTING**

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**15th February**

#### **CHAIR YOGA**

10am-11am Booking Essential

### **Thursdays**

#### **MINDFULNESS IN MENOPAUSE**

10am-11.15am  
Booking Essential

#### **CLIMB PROGRAMME**

Helping Children Understand Cancer. This programme is fun and creative, using drama, arts and play and aims to help children cope with a cancer diagnosis in the family

**February 2023**

#### **WORK & CANCER PROGRAMME**

This is a 6-week programme which will equip you with strategies and skills to help manage everyday symptoms which can impact on work. This programme was developed by TCD and is supported by

TCD & NCCP.

Booking Essential  
**April 2023**

#### **COUNSELLING**

By appointment only

### **NEW – AQUA AEROBICS**

**EVERY THURSDAY**

from 1.45-2.30pm

IN PORTLAOISE LEISURE CENTRE



This class is ideal for all cancer patients especially patients who suffer with lymphoedema. Aqua aerobics or exercising in water can really help improve lymphoedema and quality of life, as well as helping you keep fit, healthy and happy. Please give the centre a call if you would like to attend this class on 057 8681492

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### **Admissions:**

**Closing date for applications**  
**7<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

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We offer both a primary and second level programme within a holistic, caring, child-centred environment.

## **KITCHEN STAFF REQUIRED**

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**LADIES RESIDENTS ONLY**

**Portlaoise Active Retirement** meet every Wednesday afternoon at 3pm in the Parish Centre for activities, friendships and fun, all are welcome. Activities for the coming week;

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>**; No Bowls - bank holiday

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>**; Rehearsal for Bealtaine show at 2pm in the Parish Centre, save the date - show on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**; Club at 3pm in the Parish Centre, fun and exercises with Moez.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**; Cards and chat in Sue Ryder Centre Kilminchy at 3pm, tuition given.

**AGM** scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm in Parish Centre. Membership €25 per year. Old and new members welcome.

**24<sup>th</sup> April 2023**; 5 Day Spring Holiday, staying at the award winning 4\* Castlerosse Park Hotel Killarney.

Breath-taking scenic location situated within Killarney National Park. Price €475 p.p.s. includes half board, luxury coach daily tours, local pick-up. For further information call 087-6204617.

**Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>:**

**Top score:** Frank Keenan | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Patricia Horan | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** Theresa Mulhare

**1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** Mary Delaney | **2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Tom Jacob | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Kit Farrell | **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Christy Fitzpatrick

**13 Tricks:** Tom Jacob and V. Kearns

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Maureen Fitzpatrick | 2<sup>nd</sup> C. Galvin | 3<sup>rd</sup> Liam McCartney | 4<sup>th</sup> B.O.B. | 5<sup>th</sup> Betty Fox

Thanks to everyone for their support. Whist continues every Tuesday night at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Anyone interested in learning to play, contact Breda Cooley.

**PATH** (Portlaoise Action To Homelessness), would like to thank anyone who has dropped in donations to the Parish Centre. Your generosity is very much appreciated. At the moment we are not accepting clothes.

**Study Theology Online, is this for you?** The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Register before February 8<sup>th</sup>. Find out more on our website; [www.prioryinstitute.com](http://www.prioryinstitute.com)

**New Year - New Opportunity to get involved:** Are you a parent or grandparent with a few hours free each week? If so, please consider offering friendly support to young parents with Parents First. There is free training and ongoing mentoring. Find out more, call Dolores or Paula at 086-1959221 or 057-9322996.

**Anam Cara Midlands**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 7:15pm in the Mullingar Park Hotel. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01-4045378.



**Join Today!**



*Portlaoise Parish Centre*

*Every Tuesday*

*7am-1:30pm*

*5pm-6pm*

*Call in and chat to Breda  
If not now - when?*



## The Salt of the Earth

Have you ever been in a supermarket when, as you did your shopping, they offered samples of different food items to try? They do this to entice you to buy those items. If the samples didn't taste good, you probably wouldn't buy any, would you?

Say, they asked you to test taste popcorn. If they had two small bowls of popcorn. The popcorn in one bowl has been salted and the other has not. Which one you like best? In my opinion, I would go with the salted popcorn.

I'm sure you all knew that many foods taste much better with a little salt. It doesn't take much. In fact, when you are cooking, a recipe often calls for "a pinch of salt." Not much, just a pinch, but that little pinch of salt makes a big difference in the flavour.

In the Gospel today, Jesus said to his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth." What do you think that means? I think Jesus means that he wants us to improve the quality of life of those we meet each day. How can we do that? We can do that by introducing them to Jesus and by showing them that having Jesus in our life is like having salt on our food. Everything is better when we have Jesus in our life.



*Make new friends today...*

*They may in time  
become your  
oldest and best.*



## Prayer



Heavenly Father, our prayer is that we may be the salt of the earth by showing the love of Jesus in all that we do.

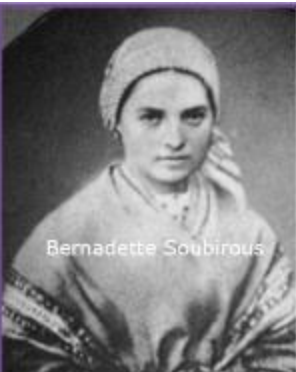
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

# Our Lady of Lourdes

*Saturday 11th February*

In Lourdes, France, in 1844 a baby girl named Bernadette Soubirous was born. Bernadette's family was very poor, and Bernadette was responsible for looking after and caring for her brothers and sisters.



Bernadette was a good natured girl with dark eyes and a round face. The only education Bernadette received was the Catholic teachings which she studied faithfully in the evenings.

At the age of 13, Bernadette was preparing for her First Holy Communion. One of Bernadette's chores was to collect wood for the fire. On a cold day in February 1858, Bernadette and 2 companions headed off to the Gave River to collect pieces of wood. The 2 companions ran ahead and left Bernadette struggling to keep up. As Bernadette was taking off her shoes to make her way through the river, she was startled by a peculiar wind and rustling sound.

Bernadette looked up towards the grotto and the caves on the riverbank. Near the opening of the grotto, Bernadette glanced and noticed the cave was suddenly filled with golden light. Lifting up her eyes, she saw a lady of great beauty, dressed in a pure white robe with a blue sash, a veil over her head, a rosary clasped in her hands and yellow roses at her feet. Bernadette rubbed her eyes. What a beautiful lady! But where did she come from? And what was she doing here?

The beautiful lady smiled at Bernadette and asked her to say her rosary. Bernadette said her prayers and when she was finished she looked up, the lady had vanished. Bernadette caught up to her 2 friends and discovered that they were upset with her. What have you been doing? Playing in the river, while we are out here collecting wood? Bernadette told them about the vision she had just witnessed. The girls told Bernadette she was silly and probably just seeing things.

Bernadette felt drawn to the grotto and returned there on the next Sunday. Again Bernadette saw the beautiful lady. The third time Bernadette went to the grotto, the lady spoke to her. The beautiful lady asked Bernadette to come here every day for fifteen days. She said that she wanted Bernadette to tell the priests to build a chapel there. She told her to drink water from the stream. The lady also told Bernadette to pray for the conversion of sinners. Bernadette followed the requests.

On March 25, the Lady finally told Bernadette that she was Mary, the mother of Jesus, and that her purpose in appearing to Bernadette was to warn her to pray and make sacrifices for sinners. The miracles of body and soul performed at Lourdes are the proof that this message was a true warning from the queen of heaven to her children and that she was deeply interested in their welfare.

Bernadette's daily visits to the grotto caused quite a stir in the countryside. Crowds of people began to gather and watch Bernadette as she examined the cave and obediently did the things the lady asked of her. They watched Bernadette scrape away soil beside the grotto until a spring of water started to trickle out. Would you believe this spring still provides 27,000 gallons of water everyday!

This is the sacred Lourdes water which heals all! At first, the priests, the town's folk, and the families doubted Bernadette's visions and the purpose in her activities. But Bernadette was stubborn and determined to follow Mary's plans for her. Eventually everyone did believe Bernadette and the grotto at Lourdes became a place of worship and the Lourdes holy water was sacred for performing miracles.

At the age of 22, Bernadette became a nun and devoted her life to Mary, to praying for the conversion of sinners and to the service of God. Bernadette died on April 16, 1879, at the age of 36.

She will be remembered for believing in the greater glory of God as she was faithful to her mission, she was humble in glory and she was valiant in her sufferings. Today, Lourdes remains one of the most frequented Christian shrines in the world. More than 3 million visitors, pilgrims and tourists come each year to the Grotto of Massabielle, where the Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette 18 times in 1858.



# Time to Think!

## *Deep Breath of Peace*

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, an elderly man was taking a walk along the beach. He was relaxed and content. The sun shone brightly in the sky, the birds wheeled and sang, the waves washed ashore, the sand was firm underfoot, and a gentle breeze tempered the heat. Some distance in front of him, the man saw the figure of a young man who was behaving strangely. He bent down from time to time, went over to the sea, bent down, and then back to the strand again as he walked along.

'What's he doing?' thought the old man, 'Maybe he's just happy, celebrating life with this strange dance of his. I'll ask him'. A few moments later they met and greeted each other, 'Good morning'. 'A beautiful day'. 'Isn't it lovely by the sea?' And so on. Then the elderly man said, 'As I was walking along I saw you bending down, and then going over to the sea and back again. Do you mind if I ask what you were doing?' 'Not at all', replied the young man.

'Do you see all those starfish that have been washed up on the shore? The whole length of beach is lined with them. They're exposed to the wind and sun, and they're drying up. A drying starfish is a dying starfish, so I'm putting as many of them as I can back into the water. Those that survive will produce the next generation of starfish, and life will go on'. 'How many have you put back in?' asked the old man. The young man replied, 'I don't know; maybe fifty or sixty'. 'So what's the point?' said the old man. That's such a tiny number among the thousands that line the shore. What difference does it make?' The young man didn't reply. He bent down, picked up a starfish, and carried it back to the water. Almost immediately, it took on a healthy, natural appearance as if happy to be back in its own environment. 'It made a difference to that one', he said.

The old man said nothing, but quietly thanked the young man, and began his journey home. As he walked along he thought to himself, 'I've learned something good today. You can't do everything, but you can do something. It's better to do something, even if it's only a small thing, than to do nothing because of being unable to do everything. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something'. He continued on his way.



Then he stopped, bent down, picked up a starfish, and put it in the water. A few steps later, he did the same again, thinking, 'If one person does a small thing, it remains a small thing. If many people do a small thing, it becomes a big thing. Today has been a good day'.

For those in a hurry: 'Those who are faithful in small things, will be faithful also in big things'. (Jesus, in Luke 16.10)

### *Don't Quit*

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will, when the road you're trudging seems all uphill, when the funds are low and the debts are high, and you want to smile, but you have to sigh, when care is pressing you down a bit, rest, if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns, as every one of us sometimes learns, and many a failure turns about, when he might have won had he stuck it out; don't give up though the pace seems slow – you may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than it seems, to a faint and faltering man, often the struggler has given up, when he might have captured the victor's cup, and he learned too late when the night slipped down, how close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out – the silver tint of the clouds of doubt, and you never can tell how close you are, it may be near when it seems so far, so stick to the fight when you're hardest hit – it's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

# The Parish Shop

At the Parish Centre

Open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

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Prayer Books - Rosary Beads - Rosettes

Personalised Cards and Candles

Photo Frames - Gift Sets - Bookmarks

Sterling Silver Necklets, Chains and Crosses

Keepsake Boxes for those cherished memories

Confirmation Certificates

*Confirmation Dates;*

*Portlaoise Parish 24<sup>th</sup> February. Abbeyleix/Ballyroan 2<sup>nd</sup> March.*



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



**AMY DUNPHY**  
Marian Avenue,  
Portlaoise



**ELLY VIRIATO  
DOM-MAZAPI**  
Colliers Wood,  
Portlaoise.



**JOHN BOSCO  
GRANT**  
Colt, Raheen



**BRIDIE DUGGAN**  
née Dooley  
Ballinakill

**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  
EDWARD COOKE**

Rathevan, Portlaoise.  
41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurred 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023.



*The years are passing quietly,  
With pride we speak your name,  
Our lives go on without you,  
It's never been the same.*

*Loved and remembered always Dad  
From Margaret, Gerard, Edward & Gearóid, Katie, Rachel  
and great-grandchildren Madison, Ailbhe and Autumn.*

*May Edward Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
EDWARD COOKE** Rathevan.

Died 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1982.  
41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary; 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023.



*If memories bring us closer,  
We will never be far apart,  
For you are always with us,  
In our thoughts and in our hearts.*

*Loved and remembered always by;  
Your loving daughter Bridie, son-in-law Stephen,  
grandchildren Deirdre, Karen and Eamonn and  
great-grandchildren Ciara, Abbie, Oisín, Lily and Hayley xx*

*May Edward Rest in Peace*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE  
In Loving Memory of  
NANCY BORAN**

The Downs and formerly 74 Main Street, Portlaoise.

Born 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1923  
Died 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020



*We think of you in silence,  
And often speak your name,  
We all have our fond memories,  
And your picture in a frame.*

*Always in our Hearts*

*Rest in Peace Mam*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARY AND JOHN BROPHY**

11 Davin Park, Mountmellick, Co. Laois  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries occurred 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 11.15am.

*Always in our thoughts  
Forever in our hearts*

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

*Rest in Peace*

*Your light will shine  
like the dawn*

Isaiah 58:8

**In Loving Memory of  
MARY DOOLEY**

29 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.  
9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023



9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 10am.

*Sadly missed along life's way,  
Quietly remembered everyday,  
No longer in our lives to share,  
But in our hearts, you're always there.*

*Sadly missed by all her loving family, neighbours and friends.*

*Mary*

*No more tomorrows for us to share but yesterday's memories will always be there.*

*Always remembered by Jim and Maureen Lynch and family.*

*May Mary Rest in Peace*

**ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of  
ALICE NEVIN**

Formerly 12 Mountain View Square, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from us.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> February at 10am.

*We would give the world if we could have you here in the same old way,  
In our hearts you live forever,  
because we thought the world of you,*

*The shock of you passing still lingers, the ache in our hearts still remains, but the wonderful memories you left us, stay with us each passing day.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered, love from your brother Paddy, Kathleen, family and grandchildren.*

*Rest in Peace Alice*

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

St. John's Square, Portlaoise.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 11.15am.

*A whisper on a February day,  
You heard a gentle call,  
You took the hand of Jesus,  
And gently left us all.*

*Sadly missed by your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Peter*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE O' CONNOR**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
Another Birthday away from home; 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023.



*Thinking of you today as I do everyday.  
Happy Birthday Euge*

Loved and missed by your twin sister Lucy, brothers, sisters, your children James and Zoe and your grandsons Odin and Zane xxxx

*Rest in Peace Eugene*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOAN DOOLEY**

Late of Killamuck, Abbeyleix.  
34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023



Also her daughter  
**ELIZABETH**

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 8<sup>th</sup> March

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

*Sadly missed by your family - Edward, Laurence.*

*Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
My Husband  
CHARLIE CLARKE**

5 Abbeyleix Rd. Portlaoise.  
28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023



*Always in our thoughts  
Forever in our hearts*

*Always remembered by his loving wife Peggy and his daughter Dorothy.*

*May Charlie Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
HELEN PHELAN née Moore**

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023



*Time may hide a sadness,  
Like a smile can hide a tear,  
But memories will last forever,  
Of the sister we loved so dear.*

*Loved and remembered always  
by Pat, Catherine, Teresa, Mary  
and families.*

*Rest in Peace Helen*

**In Loving Memory of  
BRIAN LARKIN Snr.**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023.



No morning dawns, no night returns,  
but that we think of you,  
Those left behind are very good,  
but none replaces you,  
Many a silent tear is shed, when we are  
all alone,  
The one we love so very much,  
The one we call our own.

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Catherine, sons Michael,  
Brian (rip) and Alan, daughter Denise, daughters-in-law  
Samantha, and Fiona, son-in-law Thomas and all your  
extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Brian*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE (Hughie) McLOUGHLIN**

63 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

Died 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022



Hughie's wife Patsy and family, would like to express their sincere thanks to all those who called to the house, sent Mass cards and condolences via RIP.ie and to those who attended Hughie's Requiem Mass either in person or via the webcam.

A special thank you to Fr. Paddy and Msgr. John Byrne and to Michelle in the Parish Centre.

To our families from both sides, near and far, and our neighbours and friends, your kindness will never be forgotten.

Thanks to our G.P., Dr. Gerald White and to Jim and Deirdre in Hughes Pharmacy. Thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff of the Regional Hospital Portlaoise and St. James' Hospital, Dublin, for the great care they gave to Hughie, especially in his final hours.

Sincere thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode, funeral directors, for their professionalism and compassionate manner in which they carried out Hughie's funeral arrangements and to the gravediggers Brendan and Adrian, for preparing his final resting place with such care.

Thanks to Aishling Rohan for her beautiful music. Thanks to Victor Novak and all who sent refreshments to the house. To Tony Brown and Tony Reddin and all those in Hughie's fellowship who took great care of us, we are eternally grateful for everything, especially the great send off at the grave.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our gratitude and sincere appreciation.

*Rest in Peace Hughie*

**In Loving Memory of  
ALICE McEVOY**

Late of 80 St. Brigid's Place. 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary. Died 5/2/1992.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm.**

*A face that is always on our minds,  
A smile we have seen a million times,  
Two eyes that would light up the sky at  
night, one last battle you could not fight.*

*Sadly missed by all her loving family.*

Also remembering her sisters Esther and Mary at this time.

*May Alice Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PHYLLIS KEAVEY**

48 Borris Road, Portlaoise.

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 10am.

*Thoughts wander as daylight fades,  
To the land of long ago,  
Memory paints the scenes of old,  
In the gold of the twilight glow.  
We seem to see in the dim light,  
A face we loved the best,  
And think of her when the sun's rays go down,  
In the far off west.*

*Remembered always by your loving husband  
John, Patricia, Tom, Darran, Emma and Daniel.*

*Rest in Peace Phyllis*



**In Loving Memory of**  
**ELIZABETH (Lizzie)**  
**FARRELL**

*"Chestnut Drive", Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary away from home occurred*  
*4<sup>th</sup> February 2023.*



*Our lives go on without you,  
But nothing is the same,  
We have to hide our heartache,  
When someone speaks your name.  
Sad are the hearts that love you,  
Silent are the tears that fall,  
Living here without you,  
Is the hardest part of all.  
You did so many things for us,  
Your heart was kind and true,  
And when we needed someone,  
We could always count on you.*

*The special years will not return when we are all together,  
But with the love in our hearts you walk with us forever.*

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

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*

*Missing you Gran*

*A little tribute true and tender,  
Just to show that we remember,  
Time may pass and fade away,  
But memories of you will always stay.*

*Loved and Missed dearly by Jennifer, Stephen, Ava,  
Saoirse, Leon & Jaxon xx*

*Rest in Peace Gran*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**FINT GORMAN**

*84 Cherrygrove, Portlaoise.*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday in Heaven occurs 5<sup>th</sup> February.*



*Today is your birthday in  
Heaven above,  
My blessing I send on the  
wings of a dove,  
Not just for today, but for  
everyday, I think of you  
always with all my love.*

**Happy Birthday**

*Always loved, forever missed by your wife Ann, sons,  
daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and  
Catherine and Joe.*

*Rest in Peace Fint*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**PETER ALLEN**

*Eyne, Portlaoise.*  
*25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023.*



*No space of time, no lapse of years,  
can dim the treasured past,  
A loving memory keeps it dear,  
Affection holds it fast.*

*Lovingly remembered and sadly  
missed by Bridie and all your  
loving family xxx*

*Rest in Peace Peter*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**BRIGID & JOE CARROLL**

*4 Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise, whose 37<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversaries occur at this time. (February and March)*



*We won't forget ye,  
We won't even try,  
We just miss ye more,  
as time goes by.*



*Sadly missed by all their  
loving family and friends.*

*May Bridget & Joe Rest in Peace*

*Do not stand at my grave and weep  
I am not there, I do not sleep  
I am a 1,000 winds that blow  
I am the diamond glints on snow  
I am the sun on ripened grain  
I am the gentle autumn rain  
When you awaken in the morning's hush  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circled light  
I am the soft star that shines at night  
Do not stand at my grave and cry  
I am not there; *I did not die.**



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☎ [moranundertakerslaois@gmail.com](mailto:moranundertakerslaois@gmail.com)



*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.*

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## Portlaoise Parish

## Results for

2nd February 2023



4

6

17

25

No €15,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Paul Allen  
Mona Lisa Crabb  
Patrick Dwane  
Hilary Gray  
Derek McGinn  
Alice & Des O'Sullivan  
Pauline Sythes  
Maria O'Gorman  
Marcella O'Shea  
Ann-Marie Conroy

MATCH 3s €1,000

10  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€100  
Each

### PROMOTER

Paddy O'Connor  
Mona Lisa Crabb  
Anne Ging  
Rocky Kehoe  
Derek McGinn  
Paul Dooley  
Chris Lacey  
Parish Centre  
Betty McCarthy  
Greg Keenan

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### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10

Psalm 111:4-9

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

## 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

## 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. Simon Jin  
Tel: 057 8661605



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

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

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times  
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Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday

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Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

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PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully



# LÁ FHÉILE BRÍDE

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## ST BRIGID'S DAY



*Our thanks to all who gave so generously of their time and talents to assist in the making of our St. Brigid's Crosses.*

### ***Prayer to Saint Brigid***

*Brigid, you were a woman of peace,  
You brought harmony where there was conflict,  
You brought light to the darkness,  
You brought hope to the downcast,  
May the mantle of your peace cover those who are  
troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly  
rooted in our hearts and in our world.  
Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has  
made. Brigid, you were a voice for the wounded  
and the weary. Strengthen what is weak within us.  
Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.  
May we grow each day into greater wholeness in  
mind, body and spirit. Amen*

