

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

26th March 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent

New Shrine to
St. Anthony
(1195–1231)
in the Parish Church



Don't forget to put your clocks
forward on Saturday night.

Why is St. Anthony depicted holding the Child Jesus?

The tradition honours a mystical experience St. Anthony had during his life that was witnessed by a benefactor. The mystical vision highlights the child-like simplicity of St. Anthony and the purity of his faith. He was known for his knowledge of Scripture, his profound sermons and his love and care for the poor. All combined with his child like faith.

See page 15 for the story of how he ended up in our Parish Church!



*(From Novena Prayers
to St. Anthony)*

St. Anthony,
powerful in word and work:
Pray to Christ for us.

St. Anthony, our patron and advocate:
Pray to Christ for us.

St. Anthony, attentive to those
who invoke you:
Pray to Christ for us.

O Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of saints,
your love for God and
charity for your neighbour
made you worthy when on earth
to possess miraculous powers.
Encouraged by this thought,
I implore of you
to obtain for me my request.

See also page 15.

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

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



Miraculous Life

Sisters, Martha and Mary send word to Jesus to tell him that his beloved friend Lazarus is seriously ill. When Jesus hears this news, he remains another two days where he is before setting off to Judea. The story is puzzling to say the least! That Jesus delays rushing off to be with his good friends in their hour of need surely smacks of total indifference. In truth, Jesus' delay is essential to the story.

Jesus is about to deepen the faith of his good friends Martha, Mary and Lazarus and all those who know them. It is because he loves his friends and not because he is indifferent to them that he allows Lazarus to die before returning. It is through Lazarus' death that Jesus is about to display indisputable proof of God. Jesus is about to work the ultimate miracle. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

It is not just that Lazarus got his life back that makes this miracle so exciting, it's that everybody who witnessed it or heard about it had their lives changed as a result. The raising of Lazarus reminds us not only that we are to inherit eternal life, but also that our lives can be miraculously enriched by our faith in Jesus.

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday - 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.

**Penitential Service,
Parish Church
Wednesday 5th April
at 7.30pm.**

Chrism Mass



You are warmly invited to join with Bishop Denis and the priests of the diocese in the Cathedral, Carlow at 7:30pm on Monday, April 3rd to celebrate the Chrism Mass - this is the largest diocesan celebration during the year!



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalm 129

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

Visit our website: www.portlaoiseparish.ie



We welcome into our Parish Community

Fiadh Alex O'Connor, The Poplars,
Freddie James Maher, Brockra Walk
Ava Natalie Adams, Gandon Close
Arla Faye Comerford, Kyletalisha
Daniel Fintan Troy, Mell Street
Who were baptised last weekend.

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086-8372168 | amunnely@alzheimer.ie
or Grainne Roche Duff 087-6075037



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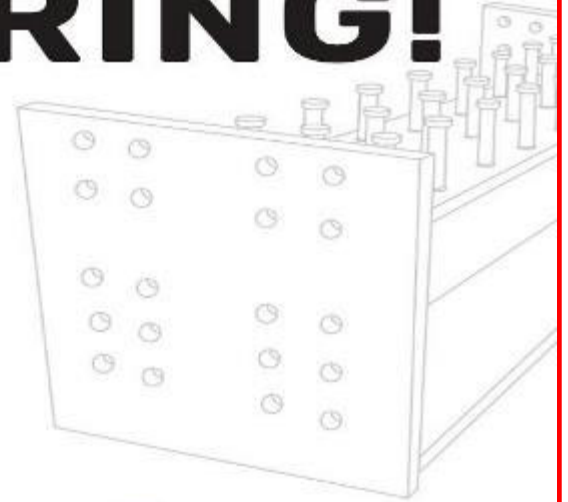
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FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

8th-15th June 2023

Owing to cancellation,
Two Seats available.
We will be in Fatima for the anniversary on 13th. Contact Maura 087-1210263 or any committee member.

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

Portlaoise Active Retirement meet each Wednesday in the Parish Centre for friendship, fun activities and learning, new members always welcome.

Monday; Bowls St. Marys Sports Hall at 3pm, new members welcome.

Tuesday; Rehearsals for show.

Wednesday; Club day - a person giving us instructions and talk on CPR.

Thursday; Cards and chat in Sue Ryder Centre at 3pm, new members welcome, tuition given.

Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 21st March;

Top score: Peter Stevenson & Betty Murphy | **1st Lady:** Theresa Mulhare | **2nd Lady:** E Owens | **1st Gent:** P. Dowling

2nd Gent: Liam McCarthy & Frank Keenan | **1st Half:** Catherine Fitzpatrick | **2nd Half:** Margaret Flanagan

Raffle: 1st Sheila Duff | 2nd P. Dowling | 3rd Catherine Fitzpatrick | 4th Betty Murphy | 5th Mary Lillis

6th Mary J. Dunne

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

Anyone interested in learning to play, contact Breda Cooley.

Pioneer Notice; Portlaoise Pioneers are having a Committee/Council meeting on Thursday 30th March 2023 at 8pm in the Parish Centre. Anyone wishing to join the Committee/Council is very welcome to attend.

Knitting and Crocheting Group; Every Monday in O' Gorman's, Kilminchy, 7pm to 9pm. Beginners very welcome.

Mary's Meals Monthly Online Quiz; Friday 31st March at 8pm. For info. contact Martin Colfer 087-2596159 or www.marysmeals.ie

RELIGIOUS NOTES

Legion of Mary; Dear Lord, Lent reminds us that you died on the Cross in order to save us. We thank you for the great love you have shown for us and for all the blessings and graces you have given to us all.

Rosary will be prayed for Lent in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, Monday-Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 3pm.

Divine Mercy Chaplet 3pm every Sunday in the Parish Church.

Gospel Readings; Fr. Eddie guided a group every Friday to reflect on the Sunday readings. This group has now recommenced and all are welcome, Friday after 10am Mass. Contact Angela 086-0683085.

Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat; Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise, Saturday 1st April 10am to 1.30pm. Holy Mass 10am, Confessions available. Retreat continues in the old Sacristy (behind Altar) from 10.45am to 1.30pm. Exposition, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry. Contact Michael Nerney 086-8157305. Spiritual Director; Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P. All are welcome.



Coffee Morning and Cake Sale **Friday 31st March in the Parish Centre** **In aid of the Fatima Invalid Fund.**



We would be grateful for cake donations for the coffee morning. Contact Maura 087-1210263 or John 087-1254841.

We would appreciate if all raffle tickets could be returned asap as the draw will take place on 31st.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Laois Open Door Theatre presented a cheque for **€1,000** to the Irish Red Cross for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal.

This was the proceeds of the raffle held at the recent performance of "It's the Real McCoy" in the Dunamais Theatre.

Thank you to our patrons for their generous support.



A Saviour Who Weeps

Do you ever cry? Of course you do. Even you big strong boys sometimes cry - even though someone may try to tell you that "big boys don't cry." Have you ever fallen off your bicycle and hurt yourself so badly that you cried? Have you ever moved to a new school where you didn't know anyone and you were so lonely that you cried? Has anyone ever said something mean and hurt your feelings so badly that you cried? Have you ever had a friend that was crying, so you just cried along with them? I think that we all could answer, "yes" to at least one of these questions. We all cry, don't we?



Did you know that Jesus cried? The shortest verse in the entire Bible says, "Jesus wept." What are some of the things that made Jesus cry? I know of at least three things that made Jesus cry.

(1) The Bible tells us that Jesus cried when he prayed for others. It says, "While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears." (**Hebrews 5:7**)

(2) The Bible also tells us that Jesus cried when he saw people who were missing out on what God wanted for them. Luke tells us that as Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "I wish that even today you would find the way of peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from you." (**Luke 19:41-42**)

(3) Another time, the Bible tells us that Jesus cried when friends of his were hurting. Jesus had a friend named Lazarus who became very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus and asked him to come and heal Lazarus, but when Jesus arrived, Lazarus had already died. The Bible tells us that when Jesus saw Mary weeping because her brother had died, he cried too. That isn't all that Jesus did - listen to what happened next.

Jesus went with Mary and Martha and some others to visit the grave where Lazarus was buried. It was a cave with a large stone across the entrance. When they arrived at the tomb, Jesus said to some of the men who were with them, "Take away the stone." Then Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus walked out of the grave. I imagine that when she saw that, Mary's tears of sadness turned to tears of joy.

We all cry, and I am glad that we have a Saviour who weeps too. I am glad that he loves us so much that he hurts when we are hurting. He feels our pain. He sees our tears and, who knows, perhaps he keeps our tears in a bottle.

My Prayer



Dear Jesus, It is comforting to know that when we cry, you cry with us. But it is even more comforting to know that you have power over death and the grave and that one day we will be in heaven with you - and then there will be no more tears. Amen.

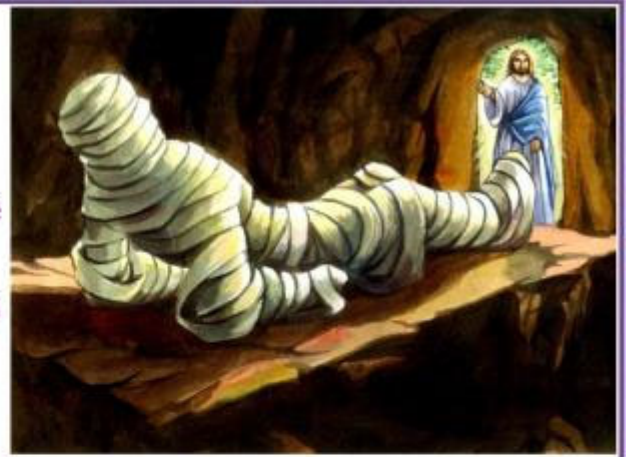
Amen.



Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies."

John 11:25



- ___ 1. To be physically ill; not well or healthy
A. tomb B. asleep C. alive D. sick
- ___ 2. To stop living
A. die B. live C. sleep D. resurrection
- ___ 3. To be alive or have life
A. live B. sleep C. sleep D. die
- ___ 4. A man that Jesus raised from the dead
A. Mary B. Lazarus C. Martha D. John
- ___ 5. Woman who poured perfume on Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair
A. Lazarus B. Martha C. Mary D. tomb
- ___ 6. One of Lazarus' two sisters
A. Lazarus B. Martha C. Deborah D. Elizabeth
- ___ 7. A place where someone is buried
A. bed B. live C. die D. tomb
- ___ 8. Rising from the dead or returning to life
A. die B. resurrection C. sick D. asleep.



Word search

L A Z A R U S E S L E E P M P
 Q E N T R A N C E B D F L Y U
 L J O A S O W D Y L I F E V L
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MARY **DISCIPLES**
JESUS **GLORY**
PRAYED **DEATH**
ENTRANCE **LAZARUS**
WAKE **LIFE**
STONE **MARTHA**
WEEPING **TOMB**
LOVE **BROTHER**
SICK **BELIEVE**
SLEEP **RISE**



Time to Think!

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis, recently celebrated his 10th anniversary since becoming leader of the Catholic Church. His leadership is a remarkable one. Actions always speak louder than words, Francis, by his humility and courageous endeavour to reach out to the periphery has demonstrated the continued relevance and attraction of the gospel, in a secular world. He is universally respected among all world leaders as a voice that speaks with authentic witness. I feel energised and enthused by his vision of church. He has transformed the papacy from one perhaps caught up too much with the externals of rich vestments and tall hats to a more authentic and pragmatic presence. His vision is one of mercy and tolerance. The following are 10 examples of how Francis inspires. So to celebrate Francis' ten extraordinary years as pope let me give ten reasons why Francis became my hero to such a degree that, God willing, I pray that he may live happily and healthily to continue his great work.

1. **Humanity;** Francis hasn't, even in the midst of his woes, stopped smiling in ten years except when he has to stand for a photograph with people who didn't impress him, like Donald Trump. Francis, in the warmth of his personality and in his engaging & reassuring presence, invariably has brought a humanity and an empathy to bear on his numerous dealings with others. He has taught Catholicism to begin to smile again.
2. **Mercy not fear;** Catholics remember a time when fear was the dominant theme in Catholicism. 'You couldn't move at all', John O' Donohue famously wrote, 'without committing some sin'. And the practice was based on the belief that people could be scared into Heaven through fear of Hell. Still enduring in the minds of some elderly Catholics is a level of acute distress and scrupulosity from that sin-obsessed teaching and preaching. Francis has brought God's mercy back into centre stage.
3. **Child abuse scandals;** It took time to drag the Vatican and the Church to deal with the toxic reality of clerical child abuse. Some found it hard to imagine that it happened at all, others too worried about what the revelations were doing to the reputation of the Church and some imagining that somehow it might all go away. Eventually Francis placed a focus on the victims, as he did on his visit to Ireland. A lot done, more to do.
4. **The Poor;** At the conclave that elected him, when the votes were announced, a cardinal sitting beside him whispered to him, 'Don't forget the poor'. The cardinal was pushing an open door because Francis hit the ground running in constantly reminding Catholics in word, in deed and in symbolic ways that the real test of our Christian faith is our care of the poor.
5. **Field Hospital;** Francis has a telling ability to present a simple image as a way of helping everyone to understand the point he's making. As on the day he mentioned that the Church was 'a field hospital' where those bruised and broken are cared for and rehabilitated. It set in relief the image of a huge impersonal institution in danger of losing its way by missing the wood from the trees.



6. **Vatican Two revisited;** After the Council, the vision of Vatican Two was almost airbrushed out of existence. A restoration policy attempted to revisit the old by side-lining the new. But Francis was adamant that a Council of the Church – the highest teaching in the Catholic world, with its teaching voted through often by 90% plus of the world's bishops – could not be cast aside indefinitely. Even by popes.
7. **Vatican One revisited;** A running sore in the Church, pre-Francis, was the arrogance of a Vatican elite who were out of control, dictating matters beyond their remit and known for lecturing their canonical superiors and focussing on building their own careers. From his first meeting with them, Francis indicated that he intended to limit the influence and status of the cossetted denizens of 'Vatican One'. In his sometimes gruff style, spades were called spades.
8. **Widening the tent;** This is Francis himself telling us that in the Catholic Church every baptised person is included and should feel included. And if they are not included or don't feel included we have to widen the tent and make space for them. For example, Francis has supported LGBTQ+ people who, in recent memory, were described by a pope as 'intrinsically disordered', and from the day he made his famous comment – 'Who am I to judge?' – Francis has sought to bring them (and others) out of the shadows and the margins back into the centre of the Church.
9. **Simplicity;** From day one the message from Francis was that the ordained should lead simple lives. And he didn't just talk the talk but walked the walk in the example of his own life: in carrying his own case rather than getting an assistant to do it; in taking the Vatican bus instead of the Lamborghini presented to him; in opting to live in a B&B rather than the papal palace; in his disapproval of the pandemic of monsignors by limiting such laurels; by appointing as bishops priests in parishes rather than theologians in universities; and by appointing bishops as cardinals from around the world from ordinary dioceses rather than from city dioceses in Europe and the USA.
10. **Synodality;** This is the new way of being Church where a Synodal approach – Catholics listening to one another, discussing issues together, deciphering what God wants and deciding together. Francis says it is the way of the Church for the future.

May God give him the strength to deliver it.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 29,300 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

Our New Shrine to St. Anthony

I am very grateful to a kind and generous parishioner who organised the purchase and gifted the lovely statue of St. Anthony to our Parish Church. It is a 4ft marble statue depicting St. Anthony with the child Jesus. It was sourced in Italy.



The story of this new shrine to St. Anthony goes back a few years. Those who were present at the Ceremony on Good Friday 2019 will probably remember.

Bishop Denis joined us and led the Solemn Commemoration ceremony. All was going well until it came to the distribution of Holy Communion. As you will know there is no Consecration of Hosts on Good Friday – the hosts need to be Consecrated and a sufficient number reserved from Holy Thursday. Alas when the time came the key of the Tabernacle containing the reserved hosts could not be found. It wasn't where it was meant to be – but that's another story! Panic set in – and in front of the Bishop! I mentioned from the Ambo that we had a problem and suggested we enlist the help of St. Anthony to locate the missing key. When I had given up I suggested with an apology that we pray an act of Spiritual Communion. Just then the key was found. In the heat of the moment I said we had better get a statue to St. Anthony in thanksgiving – something that was suggested by others from time to time. I have to admit to putting the fulfilment of that promise on the long finger! So again thanks to our kind benefactor, who wishes to remain anonymous, who not only didn't let me forget but generously sponsored the statue.

John Byrne, P.P.

Thanksgiving prayer to St. Anthony

St. Anthony, I thank you for being my protector and friend. You intercede for me and have helped me in so many ways. Accept my offering, and I will do my best to follow your example to love Jesus and my neighbour and I hope and pray that in God's house for ever more my dwelling place shall be.

St. Anthony of Padua

He was born to a wealthy family in Lisbon, Portugal on 15th August, 1195. Named Fernando Martins de Bulhoes. Having been Ordained for the Augustinian Order he was strongly attracted to a new Order founded by St. Francis of Assisi. When the Franciscan Order was only 11 years old Anthony joined them. Noted for his powerful preaching, expert knowledge of Scripture and undying love and devotion to the poor and the sick, he was one of the most quickly canonized saints in church history, less than a year after his death on 13th June (celebrated as his feast day) 1231 at only 35 years of age.

How did St. Anthony become associated with helping to find items that are lost?

The traditional practice of praying for St. Anthony's help in finding lost or stolen things is traced to an incident during his lifetime that occurred in Bologna. According to the story, Anthony had a book of psalms that was important to him, as it contained his notes and comments for use in teaching his students. A novice who had chosen to leave had taken the psalter with him. Prior to the invention of the printing press, any book was hand-copied, and thus, an item of high value; a Franciscan friar in particular, given his vow of poverty, would have found such an item difficult to replace. When Anthony realised his psalter was missing, he prayed it would be found or returned, after which the thief was moved to not only return the book to Anthony, but also return to the order. Anthony's prayers are not only credited with finding the lost book but helped the thief to find himself and rediscover the Lord. The stolen book is preserved in the Franciscan friary in Bologna (Italy).

Divine Mercy Sunday



Where: St. Peter and Paul's Church Portlaoise

**When: April 16th at 2.50pm beginning with the
Devotion.**

Confession from 2pm.

A plenary indulgence, granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honour of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus.



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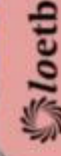
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**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;**



KATHLEEN CLEARY
St. Brigid's Place,
Portlaoise.



**MICK (Michael)
KENNEDY**
Shanahoe, Abbeyleix



JIM KELLY
Raggetstown, Ballinakill



NUALA BEALE
née Dunne
Glenbrook, Ballyroan



MAURA PHELAN
née Guilfoyle
Shanahoe

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



We pray for
JOHN (Jack) HEDIGAN
Clonakilty/Mitchelstown, Cork
Father of Norma Booth, who
passed away recently aged 104
Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
TOM WALL**

23 Beladd, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurred 24th March 2023.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter and
Paul's Parish Church this Saturday 25th March, 6.30pm.



*Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for other's needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories you left behind.*

*Sadly missed by his
loving wife and family.*

Rest in Peace Tom

**In Loving Memory of
ANNIE (Na) CARROLL**

25 Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise.
24th Anniversary occurs 27th March 2023



*Just close your eyes and you will see,
All the memories that you have
of me,
Just sit and relax and you will find,
I'm really still there inside your mind.
Don't cry for me now I'm gone,
For I am in the land of song,
There is no pain, there is no fear,
So dry away that silent tear.*

*Don't think of me in the dark and cold, for here I am,
no longer old,*

*I'm in that place that's filled with love,
Known to you all as "up above".*

*From her loving family Mickey, Tommy, Ann, P.J., Eileen,
John, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.*

May Annie Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARY McEVOY (née Houlihan)**

Formerly 43 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurred 14th March 2023



*In the quiet moments
I miss you most*

*Missed and loved always by
your sister Anne x*

Rest in Peace Mary

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN DEVOY**

*Borris Great, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 28th March 2023.*



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

Greatly missed and fondly remembered by family and friends.

Rest in Peace Dad

**In Loving Memory of
THOMAS HALPENNY**

*Late of Ardee and Portlaoise.
21st Anniversary occurred 14th March 2023.*



*May you continue to inspire us:
To enter each day with a generous heart.
To serve the call of courage and love
Until we see your beautiful face again
In that land where there is no more
separation, where all tears will be wiped
from our mind,
And where we will never lose you again.*

*Always missed and forever loved, your daughters Alison,
Laura & Trudy and your son Martin XXX*

*A light went out on earth for me, the day we said goodbye,
And on that day a star was born, the brightest in the sky,
Reaching through the darkness with its rays of purest white,
Lighting up the Heavens, as it once lit up my life,
With beams of love to heal the broken heart you left behind,
Where always in my memory, your lovely star will shine.*

With love always Dad, Jeanette & Lana XXX

*In life I loved you dearly, in death I love you still,
In my heart you hold a place, that no one could ever fill.
It broke my heart to lose you, but you didn't go alone,
For part of me went with you, the day God took you home.*

Miss you always and love you forever, Ann X

Rest in Peace Thomas

**In Loving Memory of
JERRY LODGE**

*'Curradubh', Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 3rd April 2023*



*No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew it,
And only God knows why.*

*Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on
Saturday 1st April at 10am.*

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal

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

*née Moss
Beechlawn Portlaoise, Derrycloney Mountmellick and Dublin.
1st Anniversary occurs 25th March 2023*



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

*Also remembering Ann's husband Billy,
whose anniversary occurs 27th March*

*Will those who think of Ann & Billy today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JIM MAHER**

*Thornberry, Abbeyleix.
1st Anniversary occurs 24th March 2023*



*God saw the road was
getting rough,
The hill was hard
to climb,
He gently closed your
weary eyes,
And whispered peace be
thine.
So rest in peace dear Da
and thanks for all you've
done,*

*We pray that God has given you,
The crown you truly won.*

*Loved and missed always by your ever
loving family.*

Rest in Peace Jim

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL LEWIS**

Newpark, Portlaoise. 6th Anniversary occurs 30th March.



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

*Will those who think of Mike today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

Rest in Peace Michael

In Loving Memory of
A Wonderful Wife, Mother and Friend
ELIZABETH 'Liz' FLYNN

Clonagh, Ballyfin
16th Anniversary occurs 25th March 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 26th March at 11.15am.

Sadly missed by her husband Mick, sons, Michael (Calgary, Canada) Darren, Barry, (Vancouver, Canada) Shaun, her daughters, Leeza, Jenna, Ciara (Australia), her grandchildren Jack, Olly, Tommy, Kayla, Luke, Conor (Calgary, Canada), daughters-in-law Christina and Michelle (Calgary, Canada) and son-in-law Lawrence.

Never a day without thoughts and memories of you. It's true that we never get over our dearest departed, it's just a little bit easier to live with it. Your legacies live on in your children and grandchildren. Love always X

Rest in Peace Liz

In Loving Memory of
Our Daddy
KENNETH (Ken) CLEAR

44 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary away from Home - 1st April 2023



Next Saturday is the anniversary of the day that we lost you, And for a time it felt as though our lives had ended too, But your loss has taught us many things and now we face each day, With hope and happy memories, to help us on our way.

And though we are full of sadness that you're no longer here, your influence still guides us,
And we still feel you very near.

Oh daddy if we could turn back time and once more hear your voice, we'd tell you out of all the daddys you'd still be our only choice.

You'll never be forgotten, that simply is a must,
As long as we are living, we will carry you with us.
Safely tucked within our hearts, your light will always shine, a glowing ember never stilled, throughout the end of time.

No matter what the future brings or what may lie ahead,
We know that you will walk with us,
Along each path we tread.

So, rest now Daddy, be at peace, and let your soul fly free, one day we will join your glorious flight,
For all eternity.

Always just a thought away.

Loved and missed everyday.

From Becky and Dylan xx

May Kenneth Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL GREENE

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Sunday 2nd April at 8.30am.

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by all his loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Michael

In Loving Memory of
THOMAS BROPHY

Late of Market Sq. Portlaoise.
56th Anniversary occurs 25th March. Died 25/3/1967.



Will those who think of him today, A little prayer to Jesus say.

Always remembered by his son John, daughter Phyllis and all their families.

Rest in Peace Thomas

You are the
Light
of the World



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM MARUM

171 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
2nd Birthday away from home - 31st March.



Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same,
We have to hide our heartache,
When someone speaks your name.

The special years will not return,
When we were all together,
But with the love within our hearts,
You walk with us forever.

Loved and remembered by his wife Phyllis, daughters Susan, Samantha, Sawnya, Sabrina, son William, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and extended family.

Rest in Peace William

In Loving Memory of
Our Dear Dad

TOM WALSH

Laurel Court, Dublin Road, Portlaoise.
Months Mind occurs 24th March 2023

Also our Dear Mother

MOIRA WALSH

2nd Anniversary occurs 28th March 2023



*We hold you close
within our hearts and
there you shall remain,
To walk with us
throughout our lives,
until we meet again.*



*Sadly missed by their children Shane, Caroline and
Aoife, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren
and all their loving family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Dad & Mam

Treasured & Loving Memories of

PAT BEERE

Beladd, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 24th March 2023



**Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church, this Sunday
26th March at 11.15am.**

*We did not know that morning,
What sorrow the day would
bring,
When a heart of gold stopped
beating, and we couldn't do a
thing.*

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

*Lovingly remembered and dearly missed by his
heartbroken wife, daughters, son-in-law and
grandson, also his extended family and friends.*

Ar Theis de ar a Anam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT In Loving Memory of COLETTE DELANEY

née Metcalfe

Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Colette Delaney would like to thank all those who sympathised with them on their great loss.

We like to thank everyone who contacted the family, attended the funeral in person or via the parish webcam, sent Mass cards and floral arrangements and those who posted messages of condolences online.

We would like to express our gratitude to the wonderful staff of the Beacon Hospital, Dublin and the Regional Midland Hospital, Portlaoise.

A special words of thanks to the Priests of the Parish for all their help over the funeral especially to Msgr. Byrne for the lovely funeral Mass and his kind words.

A special thanks to John Maloney Undertakers for their care, understanding and professionalism in carrying out the funeral arrangements; we appreciated how kind and helpful you were to us.

As it's impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude. Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Colette's Month Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Sat. 25th March at 6.30pm.

Rest in Peace Colette

Stations of the Cross

Daily Masses for Lent
Parish Church
7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm
(Monday to Friday)



VISIT THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Adoration takes place in the
Parish Church from after the
10am Mass to 7pm
Drop in to say a prayer

**Every Friday during Lent
after the 10AM Mass**

Portlaoise
PARISH

**I will raise you from your
graves. my people**

Ezekiel 37:12



**In Loving Memory of
SEAN FENLON**

19 Liogard, Portlaoise.

17th Anniversary occurs 29th March 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 25th March at 10am.

*A day without a thought of you is very hard to find,
I'm always thinking of you and you are always on
my mind, all the things we did together,
I'll remember them forever.*

Always remembered by his loving wife Bridie, daughters Mary and
Theresa, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Sean

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AGM MEETING

Portlaoise Cemetery Committee
would like to invite anyone
who wishes to join the committee
or to help out, to our open
AGM meeting
on the 5th of April in the
Portlaoise Parish Centre at 8pm

(MARYBOROUGH ROOM)

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12

18

31

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Veronica Hyland
Eileen Maher
Mary Reilly
Paul & Kathleen Dunne
Anne Brennan
Ann Ward
Philomena Dwane
Nora Walsh
Sarah and Billy
Bertie and Brian
Michelle Cooney
Annette and Greg
G & B.

MATCH 3s €1,000

14
Match
3s
Receive
€72
each

PROMOTER

Lotto Gift
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Rita Conroy
Theresa Kelly
Kathleen Dunne
Anne Brennan
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Betty O'Rourke

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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. The generosity of so many means we **continue to** be well supported. Please find your way to contribute.

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 be 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

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