

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

5th March 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

Congratulations to the 362 young people who were Confirmed in 4 wonderful ceremonies last weekend. Our thanks to them and their parents and sponsors. We do hope it was an enjoyable and memorable occasion for the families involved.

Our thanks also to bishop Denis who presided at our ceremonies and to our school Principals, Teachers, SNAs, and all associated with the Confirmation programme. More photos inside.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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Mountain High Valley Low.

When you hit a low do you feel sorry for yourself and complain bitterly, or do you seek to pull yourself back up and learn from it. When you are on a high do you make the most of the moment, working hard and feeling grateful, or do you sit back and become complacent? How you answer these questions is an important indicator of how you are likely to shape your future. Obviously a more positive attitude is going to shape a more fruitful future.



Today we find Peter James and John in low spirits. Discipleship is proving to be more difficult than they had imagined and understandably they were losing the enthusiasm and drive that had shown previously. Jesus recognises that it is time to treat his disciples to a motivational vision, the vision that we now refer to as the 'Transfiguration'. The glimpse of heaven's glory must surely have stayed with Peter James and John for the rest of their days. But how does that help us? There's no doubt that some people are treated to spiritually motivating moments, but for most of us life seems to be just one long round of paying the bills. Is it any wonder we lose the bright-eyed vision of our youth. Or could it be that God is sending us little words of encouragement all the time and we simply don't remember them?

Peter lends a little human perspective to the story of the Transfiguration. He proposes erecting three tents in which to keep hold of the vision. It might sound trite, but keeping hold of a vision is key to staying motivated. Some people keep letters of encouragement and cards of thanks and congratulations to remind themselves of a time when they were doing a particularly good job. Other people adorn their desks at work with photographs of their children to remind themselves of why they are working, or cover their walls with certificates to keep in mind their original ambition. Others simply keep imagining how things will be once they have achieved their goals.

Jesus teaches us that we can't always control what's happening around us, but we can change our thinking. If we adopt a 'can do' attitude we will make much better choices for shaping the future.

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.

Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

There has been a very generous response to our Turkey-Syria Appeal.

Total amount collected

€25,345.00

Thank you

Too Late for Lent?

So you haven't got round to doing anything for Lent and wonder if it's too late? Are you thinking that you might as well forget about it now and try it next year instead? The answer is that it's never too late to do anything for God, including Lent. Even if there is only one day left to do something, God will be delighted at the effort because, after all, an effort made even if it is small and late, it is still an effort God will see. It's not too late to do something for Lent and one of the places we might start is to say we are sorry, whether to God or to another person.

LENTEN STATIONS

For the support of our Priests

Envelopes are available in Church porches or in Development Boxes and wish to contribute to the Priests Collection. You can drop this envelope in one of the collection boxes in our Churches or to the Parish Centre during Lent.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Nellieanna Dolly Nevin, Conniberry Way

Who was baptised last weekend.

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Wed: 9:30am - 5:30pm

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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)

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

PROSTHESIS & BRA FITTING DAY

28th March

Spaces Available.
Booking Essential

MINDFULNESS PROGRAMME

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PILATES

12.45pm-1.30pm
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Wednesdays

Next

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Thursdays

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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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Portlaoise Active Retirement Club meet every Wednesday in the Parish Centre at 3pm for activities, fun and friendship, new members always welcome.

Monday 6th March; Bowls in St. Mary's Sports hall at 3pm, new members welcome.

Tuesday 7th; Rehearsals for show in the Parish Centre.

Wednesday 8th; Our club day speaker from Citizens information.

Thursday 9th; Cards and chat in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. All welcome, beginners and serious card players, tuition given.

There are still a few places left on our trip to Castleross, Killarney. For info. please call Sheila (PRO) 087-6204617.

Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 28th February:

Top score: Frances Gleeson | **1st Lady:** C. Owens | **2nd Lady:** Catherine Fitzpatrick

1st Gent: Billy O' Keeffe | **2nd Gent:** Frank Keenan | **1st Half:** Tom Lalor | **2nd Half:** Catherine Galvin

Raffle: 1st Margaret Flanagan | 2nd Tom Dunne | 3rd Angela Dunne | 4th M. O' Brien | 5th Billy O' Keeffe, Frances Gleeson

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.

R.N.A.I. Laois/Offaly Branch AGM will be held in Portlaoise Parish Centre on Wednesday 15th March at 2pm. All members welcome to attend. New members also welcome.

Irish Night; Thursday 16th March at 8pm in Seanchistin, Ire, Ballyfin, Portlaoise, R32X5D6. Music, singing, sean n6s dancing, line dancing (to Irish music) poetry, stories etc. Admission free. B6g6 linn agus m6le f6ilte. Contact Maureen 087-6482038, e-mail seanchistin@gmail.com.

Portlaoise Tidy Towns Table Quiz; 16th March in Casey's Pub, all are welcome.

The Irish Cancer Daffodil Day street collection coming soon! Daffodil Day is Friday, 24th March 2023. We need volunteers to collect at various locations in Portlaoise. Please text Cathy on 086-879-7907 or message the Facebook Page Portlaoise Daffodil Day. Give your name, mobile number and time available.

Brigidine Reunion; Reaching out to all Brigidine Past Pupils and inviting you to our annual lunch gathering on Sunday 26th March at 1pm in the Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge. As this is our first reunion in four years, we are looking forward to a great day out. If you are interested you can contact Maeve 087-6569975.

Emmanuel House, Clonfert, Galway; First Saturday Devotions, Saturday 4th March at 11am, conducted by Eddie Stones and Team. Also Healing Service, Confessions and Mass. Please bring a packed lunch.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

The Legion of Mary will pray this week, that the Holy Spirit will dwell in the hearts of all who received Confirmation.

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

Rosary at the Shrine, Market Square, Portlaoise; This Sunday 5th March at 2.30pm (and every first Sunday).

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.

Online Lenten Retreat; The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a FREE online retreat 'Reflecting on the Sunday Gospels of Lent as Stepping Stones on our Journey to East'. Visit our website www.prioryinstitute.com to register or find out more.

Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Committee; We are placing a box for anyone wishing to apply for sponsorship in full or part fare, in the Parish Church beside the statue of Our Lady. The box will be there until 22nd March, Anyone wishing to make an application, please include your name, address and telephone number. If you are nominating another person, please ensure that they know you are nominating them and agree to travel. Thank you.



Confirmation in our Parish last weekend



Gaelscoil, Heath NS. & Ratheniska NS



Scoil Bhríde, St. Francis and Educate Together school





We had wonderful celebrations of the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Parish. Congratulations to all boys and girls and thank you to their parents and teachers, Bishop Denis, our Priests and all who helped. More photos on our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Faith for the Journey

When we do something for the very first time it can be a little bit scary. Do you remember your very first day at school? Your mother probably went in with you to help you find your room and meet your teacher. When you got on a bicycle for the first time, someone probably walked along beside you and helped hold you up at the very beginning. That gave you confidence and soon you were riding on your own. When you went swimming for the first time, you didn't just go out and jump in the pool, did you? No, there was someone with you to hold you up until you could swim on your own. It really helps if we have someone we trust to be with us when we are about to do something we have never done before.

In the first reading today, Abram was a bit scared, when God told him to leave everything behind and to move to a new country. He didn't even tell him where this country was. He just said, "Go to the

land that I will show you." They didn't know where they were going or what they would find when they got there. They trusted God - like we trust our parents to help us do new things. So, even though they were a bit scared, they left everything and set out on the journey to the place that God showed them. It took many years, but God was with them and he led them to their new home.

How about you, do you ever take a journey into the unknown? Sure you do. Just about every day we face things which we have never done before. They may be a bit scary, but we know that God is with us, just as he was with Abram. We just have to trust him to lead the way.



My Prayer

Father, sometimes we are afraid to go where we have not gone before. Help us to remember that you are with us wherever we go. Amen.



First Penance



Congratulations to all the boys and girls who received their First Penance during the week. Next week the boys and girls from Holy Family school, Portlaoise will receive their First Penance.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the 362 boys and girls who received the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise

Congratulations to the 87 boys and girls who received the Sacrament of Confirmation during the week in St. Patrick's Church, Ballyroan and Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeylax.



Now that we have received the Sacrament of Confirmation we are now full members of the Church.

Any other Sacrament you might receive - even Holy Order - does not make you any more a member of the Church than those who have received the sacraments of initiation. To be a member of the Church means to be part of Christ's Body.

Anointing with Chrism:

Each person that was confirmed is anointed with Chrism. This anointing shows that the Holy Spirit is strengthening them to work for Jesus Christ. Being confirmed means being strengthened. The chrism is preserved in a small silver vessel. The Bishop or Priest dips his thumb into the chrism. He then traces the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the person being confirmed while he says the words, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit".



In Confirmation, God's sign or mark of love is imprinted or sealed on the person being confirmed.

God's sign can never be removed.

We say that in Confirmation we are sealed or marked forever when we are given the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

We hope you and your family had a great day!

Best of luck to the boys and girls in Ballinakill who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday.





Time to Think!

Time to Think Again.....

Jesus wasn't "laid back". He had a sense of urgency about him, and he communicated that to others, especially his immediate followers. Why? Because he cared passionately about people. The mandate he gave his followers was: preach repentance – a word, which, in its original sense, means "to think again". If Jesus were walking the roads of our world today, would he ask us also to think again? I think he would, though perhaps in different ways. We live in a world where an unjust economic order keeps a large part of the world in poverty, because of unjust terms of trade and conditions of debt repayment. We have a TV culture which presents violence and the loss of any moral compass, as normal. It is often said that words like "good", "true" and 'beautiful' have no objective meaning, that one opinion is as good as another, that what is true for one person may not be true for another. That undermines community, and leaves people isolated, and feeling helpless, that there is no common language for dialogue. Sometimes children grow up without parental direction, left to their own devices, and, as a result, without a sense of values, and with nothing to live for.

The pursuit of individual autonomy in the name of personal freedom, commonly results in a loss of trust and security, to isolation, alienation and broken relationships. A world without God is a cold and lonely place, where everyone is a stranger, and there is little sense of family, community or thanksgiving. Any reader can add to the list. We can be part of the answer or part of the problem – the choice is everyone's. Do nothing but moan, and you're part of the problem. But the reality is that everyone can do something. Everything, however small, makes a difference. Everyone can ask themselves: What can I do, in my work place or neighbourhood, to improve human relations? To build community? To show more respect for people? Respect for the person is at the heart of the Christian faith.

There is another point - different, but not unrelated. Are we, in our world, in a situation where the environmental sins of our past are catching up on us? Are we heading into a situation where the only item on humanity's agenda will be survival, and everything else will be subordinated to that? Examples are our abuse of waste and destruction of two of the most basic necessities of human life, clean air, clean drinking water. There has been a reversal of roles in this matter with environmentalists



preaching the message of repentance, taking over from the cartoon figure in sandwich-boards, proclaiming "The End is nigh". Every person has a responsibility to make the world a home fit for humans. For those in a hurry: *'The vocation of every person is to become human in community'*.

Prayer taken from Pope Francis' encyclical
Laudato Si'

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, To be filled with awe and contemplation, To recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 29,000 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

to shape the next LEADER Programme, Laois Partnership wants to hear from you

Public community workshops will be taking place below



Date:	Time	Location
10th March	7:30pm	Killeshin Community Centre
11th March	11am	Portlaoise Laois Partnership Office
14th March	7:30pm	Borris in Ossory - Old Mercy Convent
22nd March	7:30pm	Mountmellick - Beale Centre
23rd March	7:30pm	Ballinakill Parochial Hall
25th March	11am	Portarlinton Community Centre

for more info: please phone 057 86 61900



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Future





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Jessie at 087 7542094
Noreen at 087 4121205
info@mountmellickdramafestival.ie

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Friday 3rd March
Kilrush Drama Group
THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE
by Martin McDonagh

Saturday 4th March
Glenamaddy Drama Group
PROOF
by David Auburn

Sunday 5th March
The Ray Leonard Players
THE KINGS OF THE KILBURN HIGH ROAD
by Jimmy Murphy

Monday 6th March
Wexford Drama Group
THE FATHER
by Florian Zeller

Tuesday 7th March
Hollycross Ballycahill Drama Group
A SKULL IN CONNEMARA
by Martin McDonagh

Wednesday 8th March
Ballyduff Drama Group
THE WELKIN
by Lucy Kirkwood

Thursday 9th March
Enniscorthy Drama Group
FARSIDERS
by Fintan Kelly

Friday 10th March
Thurles Drama Group
THE SEAFARER
by Conor McPherson

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



TOM WALSH
Laurel Court, Dublin Rd.
Portlaoise.



PAT REGAN
Knockmay Road
Portlaoise.



MICHAEL GREENE
Well Road
Portlaoise.



COLETTE DELANEY
née Metcalfe
Abbeylex Rd. Portlaoise.



JOHN DUNNE
Rathmoyle Rd. Abbeylex

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



Stations of the Cross

with UMI Sisters Raheen

Every day during Lent at 3pm
(Apart from Sundays)



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

**In Loving Memory of
PHILIP (Chilly) WARD**

Ballymorris Manor, Portarlinton. Died 30th January 2023
Birthday occurred 28th February 2023



DAD

*Although we cannot see
you Dad, you are with us
night and day,
For you and us had a special
love, that death cannot take
away.*

*They say that hearts don't
really break,
Dear Lord that's just not true,
The day you took our Dad from us, you broke our
hearts in two.*

*Dad we were always your angels,
Now you are ours.*

*Sadly missed, loved always, never forgotten
Your loving son Jason and daughter Katie xxx*

Rest in Peace Dad

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL FITZPATRICK**

Boughlone Way, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 15th March 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 11th March at 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 left behind.*

*Loved and remembered always by his loving family
and friends.*

Rest in Peace Michael

**In Loving Memory of
BOB MULHALL**

85 Marian Place, Portlaoise. Died 1st March 2013.
10th Anniversary occurs at this time.



*Dad, our thoughts are always with you,
Your place no one can fill,
In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still.*

*Always loved and remembered by
your loving family.*

May Bob Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of SHARON TOBIN

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.

1st birthday away from home occurred 27th February.
1st Anniversary occurs 6th March 2023.



*We think of you in silence,
We often speak your name,
But all we have are memories,
And your picture in a frame.
Your resting place we visit,
And put flowers there with care,
But no one knows the heartache,
As we turn and leave you there.*

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

*So rest in peace dear loved one,
And thanks for all you've done,
We pray that God has given you,
The crown you truly won.*

Love always Mammy

Love from Victoria, Lennon and Noah xxxxxxxx

Rest in Peace Sharon

In Loving Memory of SHARON TOBIN

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 6th March 2023.



*Your weary hours and days
of pain, your troubled nights
are passed,
In our Hearts we know you have
found your sweet rest at last.*

*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.*

Love from your heartbroken Mam and Dad.

Rest in Peace Sharon

In Loving Memory of SHARON TOBIN

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 6th March 2023.



*A long year has passed, and still
we struggle,
Nothing feels the same,
Our hearts break a little more,
Each time we hear your name.*

*But we think of you as living,
In the hearts of those you touched,
For nothing loved is ever lost,
And Shar, you were loved so much.*

*Heaven needed a special Angel,
So we know that's where you are,
Keep watching down upon us Shar,
We take comfort in knowing you are.*

**With love from your sisters, your brother, your
brothers-in-law and all of your nieces & nephews.**

Rest in Peace Sharon

In Loving Memory of

BRIGID O'BRIEN, Ridge Road, Portlaoise
Died 10th March 1968. (55th Anniversary)



*Softly the leaves of memory fall,
Gently we gather and treasure
them all,
Unseen, unheard, you are always
near,
So missed, so loved, so very dear.*

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

May Brigid Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of PADDY SAUNDERS

Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary occurred 24th February 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".*

*Sadly missed always by all his
loving family.*

Rest in Peace Paddy

In Loving Memory of SHARON TOBIN

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 6th March 2023.



*Along the road of suffering, you found a
little lane, that took you up to Heaven
and ended all your pain.*

*You may be out of sight, we may be
worlds apart, but you are always in our
prayers and forever in our hearts.*

**Loved and missed always by
Philip, Noah and Lennon xxx**

Rest in Peace Sharon

In Loving Memory of
KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3rd March 2018.
5th Anniversary occurs at this time.



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 remembered always,
Joyce, Des, Katie and Ashling.

May Karen Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3rd March 2018.
5th Anniversary occurs at this time.



It does not take a special day to
bring you to our minds,
A day without a thought of you,
is very hard to find.

Loved and remembered always by Eddie and Mary.

May Karen Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3rd March 2018.
5th Anniversary occurs at this time.



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church, this Sunday
5th March at 11.15am.

Our hearts still ache in
sadness, and secret tears
still flow,

What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know.

Sadly missed by her husband Owen, son Matthew,
parents Anne and Brendan, brother Alan,
extended family & friends.

May Karen Rest in Peace

We fondly remember John today on his
4th Anniversary

A Loving Husband, Father, Grandfather & Brother
JOHN GING

Mountrath Road, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurs 11th March 2023.



The happiest days we ever knew,
were as a loving family,
Now sadly, not complete without you,
We know you can feel our tears,
But you don't want us to cry,
Yet our hearts are broken, because we
can't understand why you had to die.

Missing you everyday.
Lots of love Phyllis and all your
heartbroken family.

Rest in Peace John

In Loving Memory of
ANGELA (Jill) KEENAN

4 New Row, Green Road, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs 14th March 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 11th March at 10am.

To hear your voice, to see your smile,
To sit and talk to you a while,
To be together in the same old way,
Would be our greatest wish today.

Loved and remembered always by
your family and friends.

Rest in Peace Angela

ST. PETER & PAULS
PORTLAOISE CEMETERY
COMMITTEE

ANNUAL CHURCH GATE COLLECTION

will be held on
Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th of March

Please support generously and thank you for your continued support.



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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of **AIDAN BYRNE**

Borris Little, Portlaoise. Died 13th February 2023.



We, the family of the late Aidan Byrne, of Borris Little, would like to extend our sincere, heartfelt thanks for all of the love and kindness we were shown after the unexpected passing of our beloved husband and father.

Our thanks go to the paramedics who were quick to arrive at the scene and showed great care and professionalism while attending to Aidan.

The same qualities were also shown by the staff of the Emergency Department as well as both the ICU's day and night staff and all those who attended to our family during our few hours at the hospital.

Sincere thanks also go to all our neighbours, friends and work colleagues who came to Tullamore to give their condolences at the funeral home, as well as to attend the funeral Mass. Particular thanks to all the Penneys Portlaoise Staff, Fr. David Vard and the McEvoy family.

We would also like to thank the Portlaoise Prison Service and its Chaplin for the pallbearers, beautiful music and the guard of honour which was provided to Aidan. The care and warmth shown to our family by all his colleagues, working or retired, was much appreciated.

As it is impossible for us to thank each and every person for the kindness that we have been shown during this sad time, please accept this message as our expression of heartfelt gratitude.

Rest in Peace Aidan

In Loving Memory of **CHRISTOPHER LaCUMBER**

The Cottage, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 5th March 2023

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 5th March at 11:15am.



Many the thoughts I give to you,
As the long hours go by,
Thinking of the things we used to
do and say, just you and I.
Sometimes they make me smile,
Sometimes they make me cry,
But are precious to me alone,
Memories of You and I.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his loving wife
Bridie and family and brother Jim.*

May Christopher Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of **PATTI DONELLAN (née Deane)**

Glenside, Portlaoise

1st Birthday in Heaven occurs 9th March



The family of the late Patti Donellan (née Deane) would like to thank everyone who sympathised with them on their recent, sad loss. A sincere thanks to the family and friends who supported Joe, Conor, Eoin and Neil and the entire Donellan family over Patti's illness.

We thank those who travelled from near and far to celebrate Patti's life; Fr. David Vard and the priests of the parish and those who called to the Donellan house, attended the wake at Keegan's funeral home, attended the funeral in St. Peter & Paul's Church and burial afterwards in St. Peter & Paul's cemetery.

We thank everyone who sent flowers, left messages of condolences, gave cards or letters and to the Glenside residents for their help before, during and after the funeral.

We offer a heartfelt thank you especially to Maeve Jacob, Michelle Bartley, Joan Croke, Dr. Anna Gullane, Dr. Sharon McDonald in the medical centre and to the nurses, doctors and healthcare assistants in St. James' Hospital, Dublin, Portlaoise Hospital who looked after Patti so well. A special thanks to the Clerical and Nursing staff, who did the guard of honour at the removal and to the Cemetery. Thanks to Portlaoise Gardai for managing the traffic flow.

Many thanks to Keegan Funeral Directors, for their guidance and professionalism, and to Fr. David Vard, for the lovely funeral Mass and to Sarah Troy for providing the beautiful music at the funeral Mass.

It is not possible to thank everyone individually here, however, we wish to acknowledge everyone's contribution and support; we are very grateful to all those who helped us during this difficult period. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Patti's Birthday Remembrance will be celebrated this Thursday, 9th March at 7.30pm in St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.

May Patti Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **PATRICK LEWIS**

Raheen, The Heath, Portlaoise. 7th Anniversary; 4th March.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, this Sunday 5th March, 9:30am.

*You left us special memories,
Your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you,
You are always by our side.*

Loved and remembered by his wife Kathleen and family.

May Patrick Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of LAR DOOLEY

29 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 7th March 2023

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Tuesday 7th March at 10am.



*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 and fondly remembered by
his family, neighbours and friends.*

Rest in Peace Lar

In Loving Memory of WILLIAM (Billy) O' SULLIVAN

Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurs 9th March 2023



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

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 12th March at 8.30am.

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

May William Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of PAUL CONROY

O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.

Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 11th March at 10am.



Just One More Day

*Sometimes I wonder what I would say if we
had just one more day*

*Would I tell you the news from home?
Ask you about where you now roam?
Would I tell you all the things left unsaid?
The guilt and regrets still in my head?
Would I want to know that you're okay?
Beg you please to come back and stay?*

*Would I not say all that much? And just reach out for one last touch?
I don't know what I would say, but I do sure wish for that
one more day.*

Love your daughter Jade x

Rest in Peace Pa

*We have heard him ourselves
and know he is the saviour*

John 4:42

In Loving Memory of JOSEPH DEEVY

Late of Lakeglen, Portlaoise.
25th Anniversary occurs 6th March 2023

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church this Sunday 5th March at 11:15am.



*Though your smile is gone forever,
And your hand we cannot touch,
Still we have so many memories,
Of the one we loved so much.
Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part,
God has you in his keeping,
And we have you in our hearts.*

*Sadly missed by his loving daughter Marie, son-in-law
Seamus, grandchildren Blaine, Evan, Aoife & Clodagh,
their partners, great-grandchildren Ellie Mae,
Heidi Marie, Leah, Molly & Bobby and families.*

May Joseph Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of NANCY (Johanna) HORAN

Late of 23 Grattan Street, Portlaoise.
10th Anniversary occurred 2nd March 2023

Mammy

No words can tell, no tears express,
The love, the loss, the emptiness.

You are not just a memory or part of the past,
You are ours to remember, as long as life lasts.

*Love and missing you always,
Hannah, Andy, Cian, Pat, Fiona, Jason & Rachel.*

Also remembering

*Sheila Horan, late of 9 Grattan Street, Portlaoise
whose anniversary occurs 9th March.*

Also remembering

*Michael McEvoy, late of Mountrath Rd., Portlaoise
whose 3rd anniversary occurs 21st March.*

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

Always remembered by your loving family.

Anniversary Mass for Nancy, Michael and Sheila
will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
on Saturday 11th March at 6.30pm.

May They Rest in Peace

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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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07 SEP – 15 SEP 2023

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Portlaoise Parish



Results for
2nd March 2023

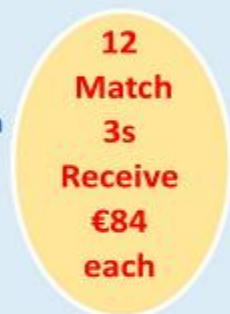


No €11,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Cody's Clan
Emer Farrell
Breeda Dunne
Tom & Anne Heffernan
Tommy Timmons
Ailish Bowe
Mossie Bergin
Margaret Bogon
Ann Marie Phelan
Calvin Daly
Kitty Timmons
Ken Graham

MATCH 3s €1,000



PROMOTER

Julie Conroy
Janet Farrell
Breeda Dunne
Tony Cahill
Bernie Binns
Bernie Lalor
Veronica Doheny
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Rocky Kehoe
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Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4 | Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, 22
2 Timothy 1:8-10 | Matthew 17:1-9

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.

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Donation facility on our website

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(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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(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)



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Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

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**