

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**
**link
up**
16th April 2023

**Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday**



A new Paschal Candle is blessed and lit every year at the Easter Vigil - a symbol of the risen Christ - the Light of the World. Full explanation of the candle's symbols on Cate Kids page 13.

"Lord, may this candle which we light illuminate all our difficulties and decisions. May this candle be a fire that burns away all our pride, selfishness and all other sins. May this candle be a flame that warms our heart and incites us to love. May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds."



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Finding Faith

What would it be like to have an unerring and unshakeable faith? What would it be like to have a faith driven not by proof



but by an inner voice? Most likely it would be life changing. When we truly believe something in our hearts, we begin to act it out in our lives. An unerring faith would enable us to enjoy peace in the darkest corners of our lives, but is there a real danger that our thirst for that life changing faith could lead us to 'leave our brains at the church door'?

Faith and doubt are the flipside of the same coin. In our hurry for faith we can quietly bury any doubts leaving them to fester. On the other hand, we can give so much weight to our doubts that faith eludes us altogether. Doubt isn't necessarily a bad thing, after all, the disciples needed signs, and Thomas in particular needed concrete evidence. Doubt can be a good thing even, if it leads us to answer the questions that will eventually help us to develop a mature faith. Doubt becomes a bad thing when it builds an insurmountable barrier. Thomas believed that it was foolish to believe something without proof, but if we are so afraid of being foolish or fear to believe without scientific evidence, our doubts will never lead us to ask the right questions. Our doubts will only spur us to pick holes.

So how can we use doubt as a positive tool rather than a negative force? Perhaps there's been a time when you've followed a court case where nearly all the evidence has been circumstantial. The jury have the uncomfortable task of reaching a certain belief without all the evidence they would like. Significantly, barristers don't confront jurors with the hardest parts of the case first. Barristers begin by building a picture based on certainties. Only when the case seems overwhelmingly watertight do they introduce points that are more circumstantial. Perhaps this is the way to approach our religious doubts.

Mass times for the coming week
(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday - Friday: 7.30am & 10am

Saturday: 10am

Sunday

Vigils 5pm & 6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

Sunday: 9.30am

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

Sunday: 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 5pm Mass.



**We welcome into our
Parish Community**

Hanna Katarzyna Lechowska,
Triogue Manor

Who was baptised last weekend.

Trócaire

Please bring any remaining Trócaire Boxes to Mass next Sunday or you can leave them into the Parish Centre. Do **NOT** leave Boxes in the Church at any time please!



Divine Mercy Sunday

This afternoon (Sunday) Divine Mercy Mass in Parish Church at 2.50pm. All are welcome.

The priests of the parish would like to thank all who contributed to the Clergy Collection this Easter.

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Portlaoise Active Retirement meet each Wednesday in the Parish Centre for an afternoon of friendship, fun activities and entertainment. We will not be meeting in the week beginning Monday 24th as our members will be on holidays in Castleross hotel in Killarney, there are still a couple of places available, if anyone is interested call Sheila.

Monday 17th April; Bowls in Sports hall at 3pm, new members always welcome.

Tuesday 18th; Rehearsals for show.

Wednesday 19th; Club day in the Parish Centre at 3pm, we will be exercising our brains with a quiz, no pressure on anyone so come along even if you don't want to be part of the quiz.

Thursday 20th; Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm, come along for cards, chat and fun, tuition given, new members always welcome.

For more information please contact P.R.O Sheila at 087-6204617.

Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 11th April:

Top Score: Catherine Fitzpatrick | **1st Lady:** Bridie Kennedy | **2nd Lady:** M. O'Brien & T. Mulhare

1st Gent: M. Delaney | **2nd Gent:** T. Dunne & T. Kearns | **1st Half:** M. Harte | **2nd Half:** S. Chester

Raffle: 1st V. Kearns | 2nd M.J. Dunne | 3rd B. Murphy | 4th P. Stephens | 5th L. McCartney

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.



Are you, or is someone you know, living with a long term health condition? If so, then you may be interested in the 'Living Well Programme', a free online, 6 week group self-management programme for adults living with long term health conditions, such as asthma, COPD, diabetes, heart conditions, stroke and others to name but a few. There are spaces available on our May 2023 programmes. To book please contact Aine 041-6850676 / 087-1140371 or Joanne 041-6860710 / 087-4308735 or visit www.hse.ie/livingwell

Shanahoe Cemetery Committee AGM: Tuesday 25th April at 8.30pm in Shanahoe hall. This is the first AGM since the pandemic. All support at the meeting is appreciated. Thank you.

Thank you: Maura O'Brien and the Fatima Invalid Committee would like to thank all who supported our recent draw. We thank our sponsors, those who helped to sell tickets and those who helped with our coffee morning. We thank Msgr. Byrne for his assistance with the draw and Declan Kelly for allowing us the use of the Parish Centre. Our thanks to those who provided us with confectionaries and congratulations to all those who won prizes.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

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.

Emmanuel House Clonfert, Co. Galway: Celebration of the Sunday Feast of God's Divine Mercy - Sunday 16th April at 11am. Talks, Confessions and Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Holy Mass. Please bring a packed lunch.

Schedule for Healing Services; Wednesdays 11am and Thursdays 7pm with Confession and Holy Mass included.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, Sunday 23rd April 2023: €499 per person sharing. Price includes return train, 3 nights' in Knock House Hotel with Full Board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre. Single supplement €100. Tel. Patricia 087-1890236 or e-mail knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.



Margaret O' Sullivan pictured at the baptismal font on 28th March, where she was christened 90 years ago.

To Rent: Retired active trustworthy young pensioner gent, soon to be homeless, seeks reasonably priced self-contained 1/2 bedroom house/apartment/flat or a room in a house in the Portlaoise area, for a minimum 6 to 12 month term. I am self-reliant, very tidy and have own car. Please contact Martin 083-2040129.

Elderly Parishioner with mobility issues seeking Rise Recliner Chair. If someone would be kind enough to donate one it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Stacey 089-2142667.



**Mountmellick
MONSTER**

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Mountmellick Community Arts Centre - 30th April - 8pm

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Easter 2023 in our Parish







Checking the Roll

What is the first thing a teacher does at the beginning of the school day? I don't know about your teacher, but the very first thing many teachers do each day is to check the roll. The teacher opens the roll book and begins to call out the names... Johnny, Susie, Aoife, Mary, James. As the student's names are called, they raise their hand and answer, "Here!" If the teacher calls Ciara's name and she is not there, the teacher marks in the roll book that she was absent. Why is it important for the teacher to know that Ciara is absent?



It is important because she needs to be told what she missed when she was absent.

That's similar to something that happened in the gospel today. It was the Sunday after Jesus was crucified and his disciples had gathered together in a locked room. They were together in that locked room because they were afraid. They were afraid of what Jesus' enemies might do to them. The Gospel tells us that, even though the doors were locked, Jesus came in and stood there with his disciples. When the disciples saw Jesus, they were very happy.

One of the disciples, whose name was Thomas, was not there with the others in that room when Jesus appeared to them. I don't know why Thomas wasn't there. Perhaps he was sick, or maybe he just decided to stay at home that day. The next time the other disciples saw Thomas, they told him what he had missed when he was absent. They said, "We have seen Jesus. He is alive!" Thomas didn't believe them. He said, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it,"

The next week the disciples were in the house again, and this time Thomas was with them. The very same thing happened again. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among his disciples. He turned to Thomas and said, "See my hands; put your fingers here. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas didn't need to touch the wounds where the nails had been or put his hand into his side. He fell on his knees before Jesus and said, "My Lord and my God!"

One of the great promises Jesus made was when he said, "Where two or three gather in my name, I am there with them." Each week we come together in the name of Jesus to worship and to praise him. So, what do we miss out on if we are absent? We miss out on the same thing that Thomas missed out on when he was absent -- the chance to be with Jesus!



PRAYER



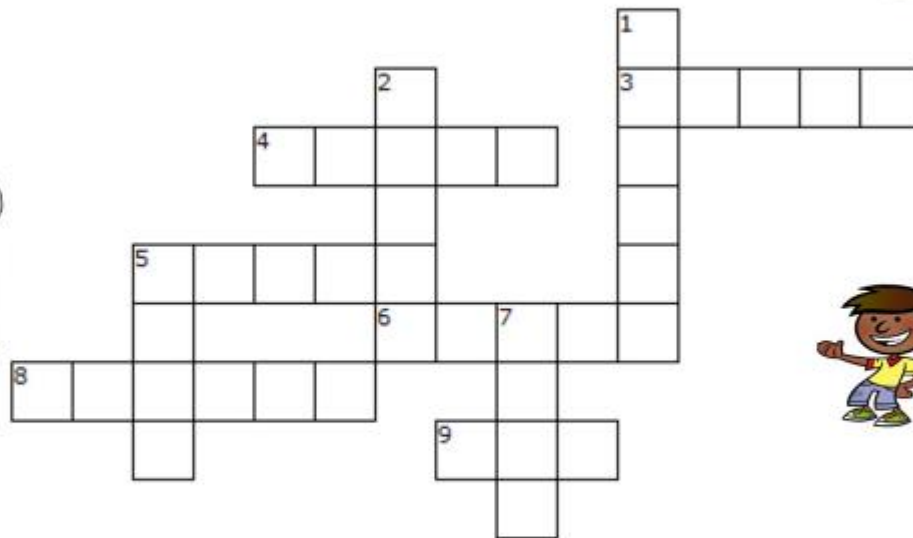
**Dear Jesus, thank You that You help us accept by faith that
You have risen from the grave and that You are alive.**

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Believe it or Not!

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

John 20:25

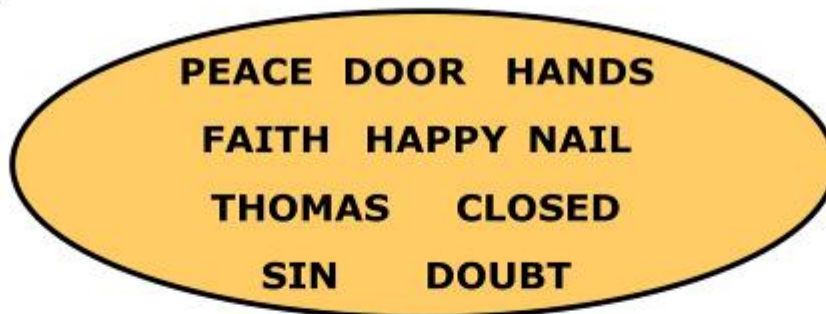


ACROSS

3. To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight.
4. Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
5. To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
6. The body parts at the end of the arms
8. Not open
9. To break God's law

DOWN

1. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
2. To believe in something for which there is no proof
5. An entrance into a building or room
7. A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer.



A new Paschal candle is blessed and lit every year at the Easter Vigil – a symbol of the risen Christ. It is decorated with a number of symbols:

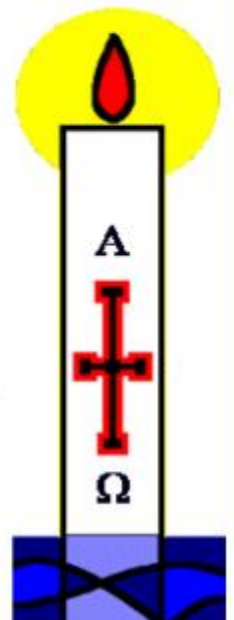
The cross, the most prominent symbol and clearly identifies it as the Paschal candle.

The Greek letters alpha and omega, which symbolise that God is the beginning and the end (from the Book of Revelation).

The year when the particular candle is being used. It represents God amidst the present congregation of 2023.

Five grains of incense which are embedded in the candle during the Easter Vigil to represent the five wounds of Jesus: the three nails that pierced his hands and feet, the spear thrust into his side, and the thorns that crowned his head.

The Paschal Candles will be lit in our Churches throughout the Paschal (Easter) Season and then throughout the year on special occasions, such as baptisms and funerals.





Time to Think!

Accepting Difference

In his recent Easter message, Pope Francis, reminds us "God loves us as we are, in our own unique way, our Creator, delights in what has been created". A worrying trend in contemporary society is the growth of polarization. Polarization of opinion and attitude creates friction and tension, which often fails to embrace the grey zone, where most of us live. It can alienate, discriminate and make others feel alone. The following testimony is very relevant in how we are challenged to share kindness and compassion.

The movie *The Elephant Man* tells the true story of John Merrick. Merrick was born in the slums of England in 1862, and almost from birth experienced massive rejection due to his grotesque appearance. He suffered abnormalities that resulted in a large and severely misshapen head, loose, rough skin, and twisted arms and legs. His mother loved him dearly, but died when he was ten. His new step-mother didn't take to him, and at twelve, he was expected to work to contribute to the family finances. After two years working in a cigar shop he was dismissed because his deformities meant he could not keep up the required pace. His father found him a job, of all things, as a door-to-door salesman. This only accentuated Merrick's self-loathing. When people opened their doors and saw him people would literally scream and slam the door in his face. Those who knew who he was refused to answer their doors.

After this "failure" Merrick's father began beating him. Merrick wound up on the street and was rescued by a kindly uncle, the only person who would help him out. Not wishing to further burden his uncle Merrick left to live in a squalid workhouse for drunks, cripples and the mentally ill. His life there was so miserable that he offered himself to a carnival owner as a sideshow act. Merrick was a hit. People would pay money to line up and observe him like some animal in a zoo. But the carnival finally provided him with security and a place he belonged. It was while the sideshow was in London that Merrick met Dr. Frederick Treves. Disgusted by Merrick's treatment Treves wanted to help. He gave Merrick his card, but lost track of him. The police started clamping down on the sideshows, so Merrick was sent to Belgium to work in a sideshow there. But when Belgian police also clamped down Merrick was forced to make his way back to England. As he limped down Liverpool Street station, foul smelling and misshapen, a crowd gathered simply to watch him.

The police took him aside to sort things out, but Merrick's speech was so slurred by his deformities that they couldn't understand him. It was at this point Merrick showed them Dr Treves' card. The police sent someone to get him, and Treves rushed back. He took Merrick back to London hospital and began a newspaper appeal for funds to help Merrick. The response was very warm, and soon sufficient that Merrick was able to have his own house on the hospital grounds with permission to live there permanently and Treves' care marked a real turning point for Merrick. At first Merrick would act like a frightened child and hide when anyone came into his room, but over time he began to engage some in conversation.



Dr Treves discovered that Merrick was in fact highly intelligent and sought to nurture his growth. Yet Merrick's greatest hurdle was still to fall. All his life Merrick had known only fear and rejection from women. They had literally run from him. So Dr. Treves asked an attractive widow he knew if she could come into Merrick's room, smile at him and shake his hand. When she did Merrick broke down into a ball of tears, later telling Treves that she was the first woman in his life apart from his mother to have showed him kindness.

That was a breakthrough moment for Merrick. In the coming years more and more people, women included, would meet him and show him kindness. He began meeting Countesses and Duchesses. He even had many visits and letters from the Princess of Wales, forming a friendship with her. Throughout this time Dr. Treves reports Merrick changed dramatically. He began to develop some self-confidence, to spend time traveling in the country, to discuss poetry with another new friend, Sir Walter Steel. Merrick died in April 1890. His deformities had never allowed him to sleep lying down as most people do. He had to sleep in a sitting position, his head resting on his knees. He apparently tried one night to sleep lying down, to be more "normal", and sadly dislocated his neck and died. Merrick's story shows us the power of love and acceptance. Rejected all his life, treated as a "thing", it was the loving welcome of others that liberated him to become all he could be. His life was made tragic not by his deformities but by the response people made to them. We all respond best to love and encouragement. We may not be marked by the physical crosses that Merrick lived with, but may well disguise our inner wounds and fragile vulnerability. Empathy and kindness bring friendship and love, important values in a wounded world.

O God, my Strength, show me how to be a person who accepts others for the way they are without demanding complete change. Show me that stereotyping someone is wrong and provide me with opportunities to overcome this problem in my thinking. Allow me to see others with Your eyes, for I know we are to love our neighbour as we love ourselves. Encourage me to accept new personalities and friendships. Show me how being different can be better, and how it can allow me to have a welcoming heart.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 29,500 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

URBAN

by John Coss

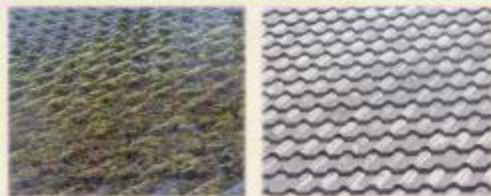
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Jo Rice
Drummin Village & Lisboney,
Nenagh, Tipperary and
Portlaoise



Catherine Devoy
née Cotter
Raheenabrogue, Ballyroan



Maureen Linehan
née Kirwan
Shanahoe

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

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

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



We pray for the family of six
year old **Mateusz Orlowski**,
Buttercup Avenue, Esker Hills,
whose Mass of the Angels was
celebrated on Monday.



**In Loving Memory of
BREDA DUNNE** née Whelan
Capoley, Portlaoise.



*Silent thoughts of times together
Hold memories which will last forever
Always in our thoughts
Forever in our hearts*

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by her husband Liam, son Declan,
daughter-in-law Maeve,
grandchildren Cillian and Aoife, sister Mary,
brother John and extended family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Breda



**In Loving Memory of
JOE DOYLE**



Maryborough Village, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurred 12th April 2023.



*4th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on
Saturday 15th April at 6.30pm.*

You're Forever in my Heart

*For all you were to me in life,
And all the joy you brought,*

*Your memory is with me, in every single thought.
The pain I felt at losing you, will never go away,
But knowing that you're in my heart, helps me
through each day.*

*When you were here I always felt, that nothing could
go wrong, but you're still my inspiration and your
memory keeps me strong.*

*And though my heart is heavy, it's also full of love,
And that's enough to comfort me, while you're in
Heaven above.*

*Always loved, never forgotten, forever missed,
by Clare X*

*Also remembered by The Delaney and Doyle families
and friends.*

Rest in Peace Joe



*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.*

In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH MARY
McEVOY

64 Beladd, Summerhill Lane, Portlaoise.
8th Anniversary in Heaven and away from
home occurs Tuesday 25th April 2023.



A Silent Tear

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".

A Gift from Heaven

I am with you always,
I live in your heart,
I speak to your soul,
We are not far apart.

When you feel a light breeze,
Hear the songs the bird sings,
Know that I see every smile,
your kindness can bring.

I see you building your dreams, with wisdom and
grace, and asking his guidance with each challenge
you face,

I am more than a memory, you will feel my love grow,
I am forever your angel, some things you just know.

Please tell me your thoughts, your hopes and your
fears, and know that through faith he will heal all
your tears,

For today I can share that in Heaven above,
God has taken my hand, I am complete, I am love.



From sunrise to sunset, every moment
would have been more wonderful if you
were with me today.

Your memory will never be forgotten.
Missing you Mum always and forever.

Your memories will keep me going until we meet
again. Love James x

Elizabeth's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Tuesday 25th April at 7:30am and 10am.

Rest in Peace Elizabeth



In Loving Memory of
MARY (Mollie) KEOGH

Ridge Road, Portlaoise,
whose 25th Anniversary
occurs at this time.



ALSO HER SON
PAT KEOGH
whose 29th Anniversary
occurs 21st April 2023



We can't have the old days back,
When we were all together,
But we have our memories of you both,
Which will stay with us forever.

Loved and remembered everyday by all your
loving family.

May Mary & Pat Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
MICK KENNEDY

Shanahoe, Abbeyleix.



The family of the late Mick Kennedy, Shanahoe,
Abbeyleix wish to acknowledge the many
expressions of sympathy and gestures of
kindness shown to us following our sad loss.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to the many
friends, neighbours and well wishers who visited
our home, attended the wake, funeral Mass and
burial and who provided emotional and practical support for us
at this difficult time.

A special word of thanks to Fr. Paddy Byrne for the lovely
funeral Mass and his kind words, to Martin Delaney for the well
chosen music, to Eamon Kelly undertakers for their care,
understanding and professionalism in carrying out the funeral
arrangements.

A special thanks to the emergency services, Abbeyleix fire
department, paramedics team, an Garda Sióchána and Dr.
Madden who attended the call so promptly and professionally.
To those who helped out in anyway, your contribution made our
loss more bearable.

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

Micks Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Brigid's
Church, Shanahoe on Sunday 16th April at 12 noon.

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 family.

Rest in Peace Mick

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

Late of 6 Marian Ave., Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 17th April 2023.



Mammy
I hide my tears when I say your name,
but the pain in my heart is still the
same. Although I smile and seem
carefree, there's no one who misses you
more than me.
My mind knows that you are gone,
but my heart will never accept it.

Miss you so much, love, Conor, Lisa and Conor.

Rest in Peace Annie

**In Loving Memory of
MARGARET MURPHY**

10th Anniversary occurs 13th April 2023



Dear Mother

Those tears we shed are because we miss you
so, especially on this special day,
And we just wanted you to know you're
always in our hearts, and will be till the end
when we see you again.



Love and miss you dearly Mam,
your sons, daughters, grandkids,
great-grandkids, sister Lynda, extended
family and friends.

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



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 15th April.

Rest in Peace Margaret

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

Late of 6 Marian Ave., Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 17th April 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 16th April at 11:15am.

God saw you getting tired,
And a cure was not to be,
So He put his arms around you,
And whispered "Come to me".

With tearful eyes we watched you,
And saw you pass away,
Although we love you dearly,
We could not make you stay.

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.

Sadly missed and always remembered by her loving
husband Billy, daughters and sons; Elizabeth, Liam,
Martina and Michael.

Rest in Peace Annie

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL (Mick) GRIFFIN**

19 Marian Place, Portlaoise.
32nd Anniversary occurs 17th April 2023



Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
And we will always remember you.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church,
Monday 17th April at 10am.

Sadly missed and always loved, Mary & Tommy,
Ger & Olive, Geraldine & Tommy, grandchildren,
great-grandchildren and great-great-granddaughters.

Rest in Peace Michael

**In Loving Memory of
PADRAIG McGOVERN**

Lynden Court, Portlaoise and Glangevlin, Co. Cavan.
1st Anniversary occurs 24th April 2023



1st Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
Sunday 23rd April at 12.30pm.
A loving husband, father, brother,
uncle and friend.

Deeply missed, always loved
Siobhan, Daniel, Aidan,
Liam & Laura, Ciara & Kevin.

Rest in Peace Padraig

The Star

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 beautiful star will shine



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
In Loving Memory of
ANGELA FINGLETON

née Keenan
Munny, Stradbally



The family of the late Angela Fingleton would like to thank all who sympathised with them on their sad loss.

A sincere thanks to the friends who supported Angela during her short illness.

We thank those who travelled from far and near to Angela's funeral and burial in Ratheniska. We would like to thank everyone who brought food to our home, left messages of condolences, sent cards and phone calls, your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

To Park/Ratheniska GAA Club for organising the parking at the Church, thank you. We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to the nurses, doctors and all the healthcare staff in both Portlaoise and Tullamore hospitals, also to the Oncology and Palliative Care team in Tullamore hospital.

Many thanks to Lynch/Comerford funeral directors for their guidance and professionalism.

To Fr. Vard for his help with preparing Angela's funeral Mass and for the lovely ceremony, assisted by Msgr. John Byrne, Fr. Sean Kelly and Fr. Jim Fingleton, thank you.

To Louise and the Portlaoise 10am Church choir, your hymns at the Mass and song at Angela's graveside made the celebration very special.

Thanks to Bosco and his staff who provided refreshments in the hall after Angela's funeral.

Though it is not possible to thank everyone individually, we do acknowledge all the kindness and support that we received and we are so grateful to you all. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Angela's 1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Holy Cross, Ratheniska, on Sunday 23rd April at 10am.

Rest in Peace Angela

In Loving Memory of
CATHERINE CARROLL

Shambo, Borris-in-Ossary and New Ross, Co. Wexford.
 2nd Anniversary occurred 14th April 2023



2nd Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in New Ross Parish Church, on Saturday 22nd April at 5pm.

Rest in Peace Catherine

In Loving Memory of

UNA TYNAN *née McEvoy*

Old Road Ballydavis, The Heath, Co. Laois.
 3rd Anniversary occurred 14th April 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 15th April at 6:30pm.

May the winds of Heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear, How much we love and miss you, and wish that you were here.

We cannot forget the face we loved, Or the memory of your smile, Or the countless things you did for us, to make our lives worthwhile.

Remembered always by her loving husband JJ, her children Stephen, Eddie, Glen, JJ, Sylvia and Esther, their partners and grandchildren, great-granddaughter, all the McEvoy family and her many friends.

May Una's gentle soul Rest in Peace

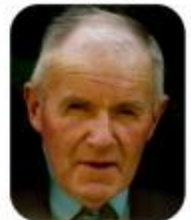
In Loving Memory of
JOHN and BILLY CARROLL

Newtown, Ballyroan.

John's 2nd Anniversary occurs 15th April
 Billy's 10th Anniversary occurred 11th April



*Your presence we miss,
 Your memory we treasure,
 Loving you always,
 Forgetting you never.*



Sadly missed by all their loving families.

May their gentle souls Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
TONY CARROLL

Lambeth, London, formerly 47 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs
 15th April 2023

*A daily thought, A silent tear,
 A constant wish that you were here.*



Sadly missed by all his family in Portlaoise and London.

Rest in Peace Tony

Birthday Remembrance

CATHERINE QUIGLEY née Whelan

Rockdale, Portlaoise. Died 24th November 2022.

1st Birthday away from home.



*Deep in the heart lies a picture,
Of a loved one laid to rest,
In memories frame we keep it,
Because she was one of the best.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by your husband Kevin, daughters
Selene, Siobhan and Noreen,
son Ronan and grandchildren.*

Rest in Peace Catherine

In Loving Memory Of JOHN O' LOUGHLIN

Clonad, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurs 18th April 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 15th April at 6.30pm.

*We miss your smile, your joking ways,
We miss the things you used to say,
And when old times we do recall,
It's then we miss you most of all,
Deep are the memories,
Precious they stay,
No passing of time can take them away.*

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

Rest in Peace John

In Loving Memory of SUSAN FITZPATRICK

Abbey Crescent, Abbeyleix.

1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary,
Abbeyleix,
this Sunday 16th April at 11am.



On the occasion of Susan's anniversary,
Fiona, John, Cathal & Siobhan and extended
family would like to thank everyone who
supported them during Susan's illness and
passing. It was very much appreciated.

*"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 maybe worlds apart, but you are
always in our prayers and forever in our hearts."*

Sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Padraig

In Loving Memory of PHIL McCORMACK

16 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 24th April 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
on Sunday 23rd April at 10am.

*A wonderful Mother, only lent,
One of the best God ever sent,
You shared our joys,
You shared our tears,
Thank you Ma for those wonderful
years.*

*Loved and missed always by
your daughter, son, son-in-law,
daughter-in-law, grandchildren & great-grandchildren.*

Rest in Peace Phil

In Loving Memory of

A dear Husband, Father & Grandfather

BRENDAN DELANEY

Green Mill Lane and St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

Brendan's 91st birthday occurred 11th April 2023

27th Anniversary occurred 14th April 2023



*It's lonely here without you,
We miss you more each day,
For life is not the same to us,
since you were called away.
To your resting place we visit and
place flowers there with care,
But no one knows our heartache
when we turn and leave you there.*

*Sadly missed, never forgotten by your loving wife Anne,
Angie, Kelley, Tracy, Brendan, Séan, Laura,
grandchildren and great-grandson.*

Also remembering his mother Mary Delaney, Green Mill Lane,
whose anniversary occurred 13th April. Rest in peace.

Rest in Peace Brendan

In Loving Memory of My Dear Mother

BRIDGET GORMAN

Late of Ballacolla Village.

14th Anniversary occurred 12th April 2023



*Mam, deep are the memories,
Precious they stay, no passing of
time can take them away.
They bring a smile, sometimes a
tear, but always a wish that you
were still here.*

*Sadly missed, always remembered
by your daughter Kathleen,
Michael, Grainne, Ciarán and
Diarmuid.*

Also remembering my brother

DICKIE GORMAN

Whose Months Mind occurs 15th April. R.I.P. Dick

Rest in Peace Bridget



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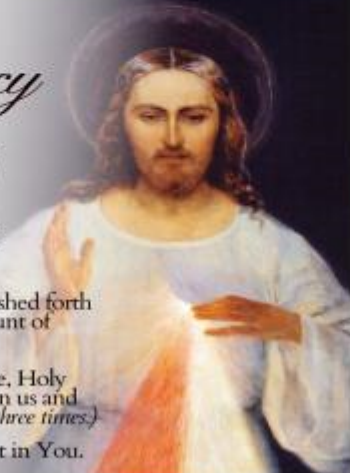
Prayer to the Divine Mercy

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O blood and water which gushed forth from the heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in you.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. *(Repeat three times.)*

Jesus, King of Mercy, we trust in You.



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Portlaoise Parish



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13th April 2023



No €17,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Winnie Moore
Dooley Family
Mary Thompson
Ciara Molloy
Catherine Vaughan
Deirdre Bredin

MATCH 3s €1,000



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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Parish Centre



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Subject to availability of space
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PARISH SHOP
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
St. Peter 1Pt 1:3-9
John 20:19 -31

Support for the Parish

We have traditionally depended on the passing of 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.

- * Making your offering in the boxes at the entrances
- * Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - 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

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.