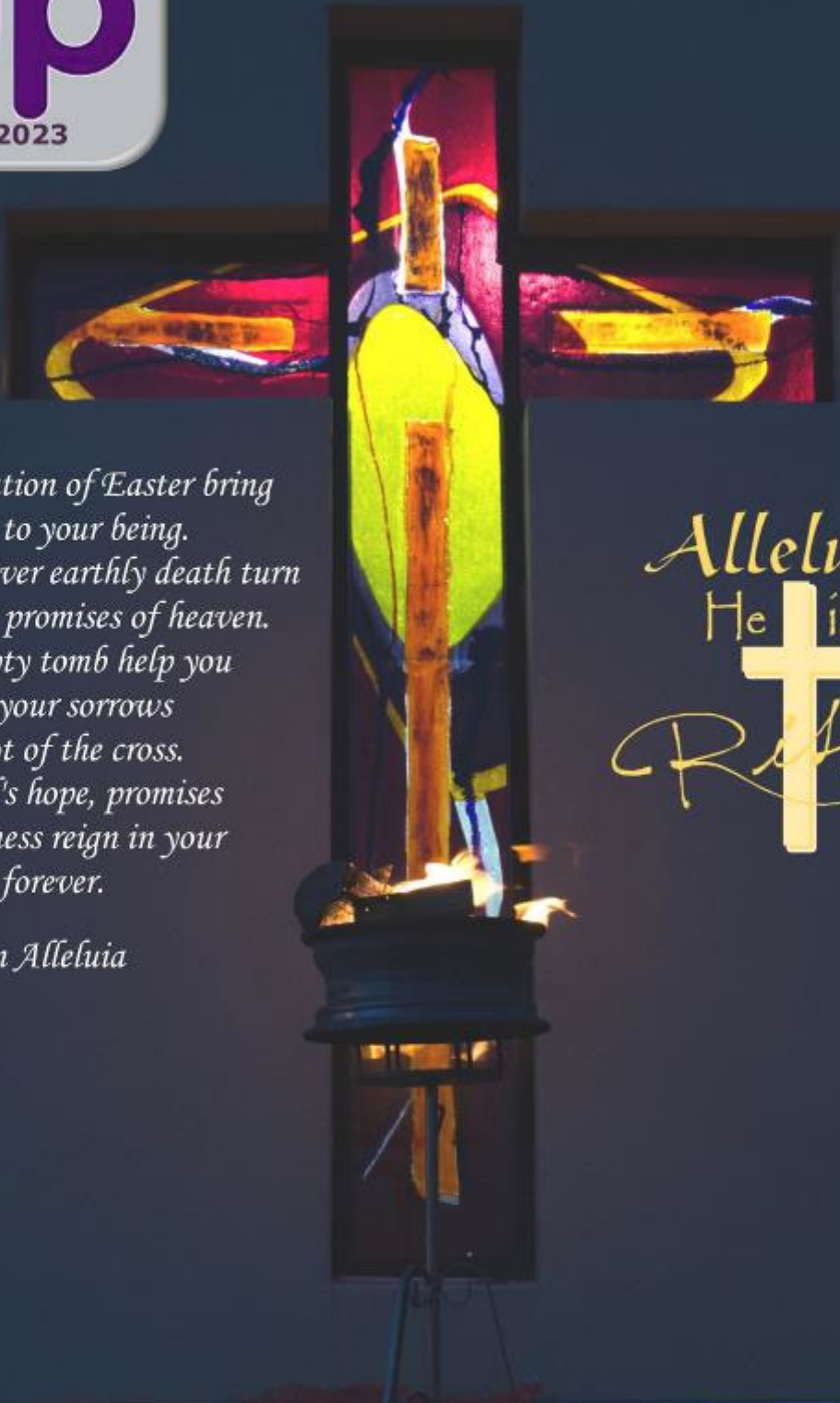
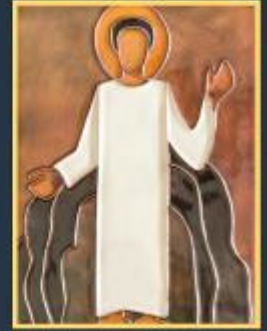


**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**  
9th April 2023

# Easter Sunday



*May the celebration of Easter bring  
new hope to your being.  
May the victory over earthly death turn  
your eyes to the promises of heaven.  
May the empty tomb help you  
to leave your sorrows  
at the foot of the cross.  
So that God's hope, promises  
and forgiveness reign in your  
life forever.*

*Amen Alleluia*

*Alleluia  
He is  
Risen*

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

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Parish and Diocesan Websites: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)



## Life Without End

Belief in the resurrection is essential to our faith, yet the account of Jesus' resurrection, or rather the lack of it, leaves us as confused as the original disciples. We've been left with a puzzle with pieces missing, a

story with an important part untold. As Christians we are reminded that religion is ultimately a faith not a science.

Our human search for certainty urges us to try and work out who moved the stone, but at this point all we can do is put the resurrection into the context of the rest of Jesus' life and teachings. We have to trust that everything Jesus has told us is true, and that the resurrection is not just an invention to give a tragic story a happy ending, but the realisation of the promises Jesus made all along. Jesus promised all along that death couldn't contain us, and the empty tomb points to this not necessarily as proof, but as truth.

So how do we find that trust that everything Jesus has told us is true? First of all we have to develop a toolbox of faith, trust, and intuition. Christians are accused of propping up impossible and improvable theories with blind faith. If this were true the accusers would have a point, but true faith runs deeper than this. We all use faith in every walk of life and we all need trust. People of faith are people who can push boundaries and take brave steps into the unknown. People of trust recognise possibilities in others and in themselves. People of intuition recognise integrity and truth. Anais Nin said, "We don't see things as they are, we see things as we are." "What you believe sets a course for your future and directs your daily activities. Consequently, when you believe only what you can see, a whole world of possibility is lost."

The empty tomb gives our life purpose. Belief in the resurrection means we can live life boldly and well, looking forward to eternal life. The empty tomb gives us a means to deal with pain and suffering, it means that death is not a meaningless end of life, but the door to the fullness of life with the risen Christ.



### Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-37-43

Psalms 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-9

## Trócaire



Please bring any remaining Trócaire boxes to Mass next Sunday or leave them into the Parish Centre. Do NOT leave Boxes in the Church at any time. Trócaire boxes are still available in Church porches or in the Parish Centre.

Mass times for the coming week  
ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

### Easter Sunday

Vigil 9pm & Dawn Mass in the Heath at 6am  
8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

**Sunday: 9.30am**

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

**Sunday: 10am**

**Easter Monday to Easter Friday: 10am**

**Easter Saturday: 10am**

**7.30am Mass will resume on Monday 17th April**

### CONFESSIONS

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



### We welcome into our Parish Community

Beatrice Elsie Clough, Grattan Street

Casey Lawlor, Carrick Hill

Lauren Rose Broderick, Clonroosk Abbey

**Who were baptised last weekend.**

# ALLELUIA!

## Easter Collection

### For the support of our Priests

Easter Collection for the priests of the parish takes place over the Easter period. Envelopes at the Church porches for those not using an Envelope Box. You may also donate to this collection via our website [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) or directly to our Clergy Account, details inside the back cover. The Easter Collection is one of four collections that take place during the year to support our priests.

**The Priests of the parish thank you for your support and take this opportunity to wish you all the joys and blessings of this great Feast.**

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CONOR BOLTON *BSc MSc MSCP*

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Wed: 9:30am - 5.30pm

Thanks as always for your support  
Kind Regards, all @ Laois Physiotherapy Clinic



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For Women

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6 weeks incl. 6 lessons with Golf Pro  
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Total Cost €80

Information evening in Golf Club  
Date: Thursday 13th April 2023  
Time: 7:00 pm  
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For further info contact:  
Theresa 086 8062445  
Rovena 085 7187031  
Club office 057 8646533

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### Ratheniska National School Parents Association

#### Coffee Morning



Easter Sunday after 10am Mass in the hall –  
Entry €2 for Tea/Coffee.  
Bake Sale and Monster Raffle with some  
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*All support greatly appreciated.*



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28th of May - 11:30  
25th of June - 11:30



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



## FOUND

Two chains found during Covid, one gold chain with pearl found in Dunnes Stores, Kyle Centre area and one Newbridge necklet found on the Dublin Road. Contact the Linkup office for details.

## LAWNMOWER FOR SALE

Husqvarna LC 353V  
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## CHILDMINDER REQUIRED

Seeking Childminder for three kids in own home (4, 2½ and 4 month old). Autumn 2023 start but will require part-time support in interim. Ballacolla area. Call **Louise 087-2032907**

## CHILDMINDER REQUIRED

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## NEW CATHOLIC HOLIDAY FESTIVAL ARISE

10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
In Tramore, Waterford  
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[www.arisefamilyfestival.ie](http://www.arisefamilyfestival.ie)

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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 10<sup>th</sup> April;** No bowls - bank holiday

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>;** Rehearsals for show

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>;** Club activities

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>;** Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm, tuition given, new members always welcome.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup>;** Our Spring holiday in Castle Park Hotel, Killarney, there are still a few places available if interested, contact any committee member.

For any further information call Sheila pro at 087-6204617.

**Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April:**

**Top Score:** Kitt Farrell | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Theresa Mulhare | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** Molly O'Brien | **1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** Tom Dunne

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Sheila Duff | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Mary Gowing | **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Tom Kearns

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Catherine Brennan | 2<sup>nd</sup> Theresa Mulhare | 3<sup>rd</sup> Molly O'Brien | 4<sup>th</sup> Peter Stevenson  
5<sup>th</sup> Betty Fox, M.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.

**Thank You** to all of the helpers and generous donors who made Daffodil Day 2023 such a success in Portlaoise. There is almost €13,000 counted so far, with more to come once the electronic payments have been processed. This will bring services to support cancer patients and families in Laois, through Night Nursing, driving service to treatments and more. Thank You from the Portlaoise Daffodil Day Committee.

**Portlaoise Toastmasters** held our Club International Speech and Evaluation Competition on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March, upstairs at Kavanaghs Bar and Venue, Main St., Portlaoise and what an entertaining night it was! Our next meeting is Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm upstairs at Kavanaghs Bar and Venue and guests are always welcome. Please note the date and day as normally our meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of every month but due to Easter Monday, we are changing to the Tuesday for this week only. What do you have to do? Just turn up! If you have any questions about Toastmasters please e-mail [toastmastersportlaoise@gmail.com](mailto:toastmastersportlaoise@gmail.com) or tel. Martina on 087-2358095.

**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](http://www.hse.ie/livingwell)

## RELIGIOUS NOTES

**Legion of Mary;** Dear Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day.

**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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.



**TO RENT**

Recently retired gentleman seeks a 2-bedroom house/apartment to rent, will also take a room in a house. Contact 083-2040129.



## I've Just Seen Jesus

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb where Jesus had been buried. She found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and another disciple, whose name was John. She told them, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!"



Peter and John started out for the tomb. They were both running, but John outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed -- for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. Then they went home.

Mary stayed behind and stood outside the tomb weeping. As she knelt down and looked inside, she saw two angels dressed in white. They asked her why she was crying. She told them that someone had taken her master and she didn't know where they had taken him. Then, Mary turned and saw a man standing behind her. It was Jesus, but Mary did not recognize Him. She thought he was the gardener. Then Jesus called her by name and, when she heard his voice, she recognised Him. After she saw that it was Jesus, she went to the disciples and said to them, "I've just seen Jesus! He is alive!"

Some people, like Mary, Peter, and John can't see Jesus because they are looking for Him in a grave or on a cross. He isn't there! He is risen and is seated at the right hand of His Father in heaven. If you want to see Jesus, look in His Word, He will reveal Himself to you, just as He did to Mary!



## PRAYER



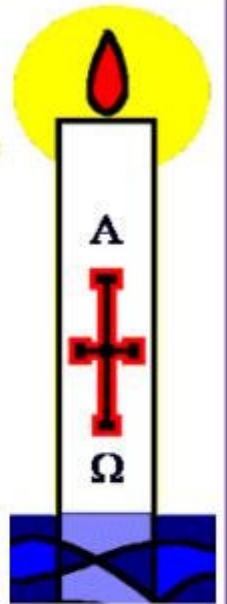
Father, we thank you that Jesus, our Saviour, is not in a grave. He is alive! We serve a risen Saviour! Hallelujah! In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.

## *Easter Vigil Mass*

On Holy Saturday night we gather to celebrate that Jesus is risen from the dead. We light our Paschal or Easter Fire as a reminder that Jesus is **the light in the darkness**. From that fire a new Paschal or Easter Candle is lit, placed in a special candlestick and put where we can all see it, usually near the altar or ambo. The Paschal Candle will be lit at every Mass during the Easter Season. It is also lit during Baptisms and Funerals throughout the year. The Paschal Candle is different from other candles because it has special markings or symbols on it that remind us of how much Jesus loved us. Look at the coloured picture and see if you can make your own Paschal Candle.

First draw a **large red cross** on the candle. Now draw a Letter **A** at the top of the Cross and the **upside down horseshoe** at the bottom of the Cross. In Greek, the letter A is called **Alpha** and the upside down horseshoe is the final letter of the Greek alphabet. It is called **Omega**. This is to remind us that Jesus is the beginning and the end of everything.

The current year is placed in the four corners of the Cross, so now put the figures **2 0 2 3** in the corners. Go in a clockwise direction starting with **2** in the top left hand corner. Finally five pieces of incense are placed in the points and centre of the Cross representing the five wounds that Jesus got when he was crucified.



## *Easter Sunday*

Before daybreak Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb and found the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She hurried to tell Jesus' friends Peter and John, who raced to the tomb. Peter went in and Jesus was not there. He had risen from the dead!

### *On Easter Sunday*

*We celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.*



*May your  
Easter basket be full of*

*Joy, Happiness & Peace*

*Today & Always!*

*Happy  
Easter*





# Time to Think!

## Easter - "All is New"

Easter is a wonderful time of year. Nature, reflects the transformation, from darkness into light. New green leaves, spring blossoms and brighter days lift our mood and awakens within us a deep sense of hope. Easter 2023 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement. This wonderful historical peace process, has been achieved by patience, listening and reconciliation. I pray that this peace, will continue on our island, because, together we are stronger.

Easter embraces new opportunity, with a confidence that boldly rejoices, "All is possible, no matter what", a sentiment mentioned on Palm Sunday by Pope Francis, when he encouraged Christians, "Be confident, joyful and grateful, we are not alone, God is very near."

Easter is a time of hope and new life, an opportunity to begin again in a new way. The Angel said to the wounded followers of Jesus "Why Look among the living for the dead". Easter reminds us in a very powerful way that we belong to a place that is so much bigger than whatever situation we may find ourselves in. That place is about gentleness, hope, compassion and love. That sacred place is told through the eyes of faith. Faith is a necessary and wonderful gift. Faith will carry us up any mountain, no matter how overwhelming the climb maybe. Faith brings with it a sense of perspective and a deep confidence, that no matter what "All will be well". Easter is about new possibilities and opportunities. Easter is rich in gifts and blessings. There is no recession in the Lords love. Where the shadows of bereavement, unemployment, sickness prevail the Easter message contains a dawn that promises brighter days ahead.

Mountains play a huge part in our faith story. Mountains in the Old Testament were sacred places where the creator often communicated to holy people and revealed how best to live life by giving Moses the ten Commandments. Jesus himself loved Mountains, he often spent long periods of time on the Mountain, where he felt close to his father, consumed by the beauty and peace that is given from a mountain view. Jesus Sermon on the Mount contains the essential ingredients that make us a holy people called to do great things in all our lives. It was on a mountain where the first followers of Christ witnessed him transfigured. The mountain was also the place where the first followers of Jesus were commissioned to spread good news, that all who believe in Christ will be surrounded by his love and peace.

These days are very difficult for so many people. Mountains of many challenges including sickness, uncertainty, anxiety and fear have to be climbed by too many in all our localities. This climb often is not a voluntary one. Gentle and prosperous pathways have been replaced by rugged mountains where all the resilience and energy of the human spirit is necessary in order to take that important, one step at a time. For this very reason we must take on board the free gift that is life giving contained in the message of this important story of hope we celebrate. Jesus Christ is Risen.

His Mountain of suffering and pain has been transformed to the calm and peace that is so often associated with the views that come from a mountain top. Hope is witnessed in so many places familiar to us all. Loving Parents, enthusiastic young people, our wise elders and countless volunteers responding generously to so many needs. The significant contribution to the Trocaire national appeal, highlights generosity and selflessness in a time of recession.

Reading a newspaper these days can be very draining. Namely war in Ukraine and the Refugee crisis; Climate Change; Cost of Living increase, and Homelessness. It is a dismal litany, and we can't afford to ignore the very serious threat and challenge posed by all of them. It's hard to be cheerful when so many people in our One World are suffering so much. But the story doesn't end there, as I was reminded recently by a poem called simply 'Easter', it is by the Jesuit priest and poet Gerard Manley Hopkins.

One verse in particular captured my imagination. It reads:

*"Beauty now for ashes wear,  
Perfumes for the garb of woe,  
Chaplets for dishevelled hair,  
Dances for sad footsteps slow;  
Open wide your hearts that they,  
Let in joy this Easter Day."*

He is making the point that there is light shining in the darkness. That light shines from the Risen Christ, and (as St. John put it) the darkness has not and cannot ever overcome it. From the sheer evil of the Crucifixion came the eternal Hope of Resurrection. From the chaos of night – there dawned a new day. So, my prayer this Easter is for a foretaste of that Resurrection: in the world; in our nation; and in the lives of everyone we know and love as we turn our eyes upon Jesus: because He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

### Love Overcame

Love overcame, emerging from a cold tomb  
All the truth, majesty and creativity of a living God  
Transforming a broken heart  
Making a quiet return, in a still and sorrowful garden  
The grave stone rolled away, to release redemptive love  
Jesus resurrected and restored  
Comforts a weeping woman  
Speaks with travellers on a journey  
Meets with his faithful friends  
And they bow down before Christ alive  
And acknowledged that the saviour has arrived  
That the word of God has come alive  
And that the extraordinary transformation of Heaven and earth is complete.

**Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 29,400 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)**

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April 18th



**BEGINNERS SIGN LANGUAGE**

6:30pm-8:30pm  
April 18th

**CONTACT US:**  
057 8731127 OR EMAIL [HDUFFY@LOETB.IE](mailto:HDUFFY@LOETB.IE)



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



**Mary (Pippy) McEvoy**  
née Booth  
Garryduff, The Heath,  
Stradbally



**Lillian Corcoran**  
née O'Neill  
Clontyglass, Portlaoise /  
Mountmellick



**Thomas (Tom)  
Lawlor**  
Ballyroan Road, Abbeyleix

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

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



We pray for the family of six  
year old **Mateusz Orlowski**,  
Buttercup Avenue, Esker Hills  
Funeral arrangements later.

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



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 11.15am.

*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  
MAURA FARRELL**

62 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm.

*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.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by Maureen,  
William, Siobhan, Fionnuala and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Maura*

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE CONROY**

Ridge Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 11.15am.

*In loving care you rest above,  
In our hearts you rest with love.  
Sadly missed by his loving wife  
Josie and family.*

*Rest in Peace Eugene*

**In Loving Memory of Our Son  
CATHAL CLOONEY**

Ballytarsna, Abbeyleix.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023



*Of all the special gifts in life,  
however great or small,  
To have you as our Son was the  
greatest gift of all.  
A special time, a special face,  
A special son we cannot replace,  
With an aching heart  
We whisper low,*

*We miss you Cathal and love you so.*

*Always in our hearts, love Mam and Dad xx*

*Brother*

*I wish I could have you back a while,  
I miss your laughter, I miss your smile,  
I would hold you tightly and never let go and tell you  
how much I miss you so.*

*Love Liam x*

*May Cathal Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARY BURNS**

*Block Rd. Portlaoise.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023**



*There are some who bring a light so great to the world, that even after they have gone, the light remains.*

Sadly missed by her daughters Brigid, Margaret & Mary, sons-in-law Joe, Pat & Seamus, grandchildren Joanne and her husband Patrick, Michelle and her husband Conor, Mark, James, Megan, Sarah, Shane and Lauren and great grandchildren, Patrick, Jane-Mai and Conor.

*Rest in Peace Mum.*

**28<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

In Loving Memory of Our Father & Grandad

**MICHAEL KERRY**

*Late of 48 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.*



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

*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, we have you in our hearts.*

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

*Rest in Peace Dad*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET SCULLY**

*19 Millbrook, Portlaoise. Died 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm.

*Eight years have passed since that sad day when one we loved was called away, God took her home, It was His will, but in our hearts she liveth still.*

*Always remembered and loved by your husband Patrick and son Mark.*

*Mam*

*There is a sad but sweet remembrance, there is a memory fond and true, there is a token of affection Mother and a heartache still for you.*

*Love you always, your daughter Sharon, Cliff and grandchildren Ryan, Emma and Kate.*

*May Margaret Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
SALLY (Sarah) WHELAN**

*The Cottage, Beladd, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.*

**28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023.**



*Quietly today your memory we treasure, missing you always, forgetting you never.*

*Sadly missed by Bridie*

*Rest in Peace Sally*

**In Loving Memory of  
BREDA WHELAN**

*Ralish, Abbeyleix.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023**



1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 5pm.

*We thought of you with love today but that is nothing new,  
We thought about you yesterday and every day before that too.*

*We think of you in silence, we often speak your name,  
All we have are memories and your picture in a frame.  
Your memory is our keepsake, with which we'll never part.  
God has you in His keeping, but we have you in our hearts.*

*Forever in our Hearts*

*Ned, Veronica, Debbie and all the family.*

Our family would like to acknowledge everyone who helped and supported us in any way over the past year. It was truly appreciated and made our loss more bearable.

*May Breda Rest in Peace*

**John**

11:25-26 (niv)

*"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.'"*



## 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 Síochána 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 PATRICK (Paddy) CARRIGAN

Capoley, Portlaoise, late of Ballyfoyle, Co. Kilkenny.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 7<sup>th</sup> April 2023



Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, this Sunday  
9<sup>th</sup> April at 10am.

*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.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his loving  
wife Lizzie and family.*

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam*

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

### *In Loving Memory of DICK (Richard) SIDES*

6 Ridge Rd., Portlaoise. Died 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023.  
Remembering Dick, whose 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday would have  
been celebrated on 12<sup>th</sup> April.



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

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

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam*

## *In Loving Memory of CHRISTINE MAHER*

28 Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
the Church of the Holy Cross,  
Ratheniska, this **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 10am.**

*Although we cannot hear your voice or see  
your smile no more, our Mother walks  
beside us still, just as she did before.  
Talk to her in silence and her spirit will  
reply, you'll feel the love she has for you,  
You'll hear it in your heart.*

Loved and missed always by your loving husband Joe,  
sons, daughters, brothers, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law,  
grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family  
and friends.

*Rest in Peace Christine*

## *In Loving Memory of CATHERINE FINGLETON*

The Tocker, Grange, Stradbally.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
the Church of the Holy Cross,  
Ratheniska, Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 10am.

*How we miss the welcome footsteps,  
Of the one we loved so dear,  
Oft we listen for her coming,  
Fully sure that she is near.*

*Thou are gone but not forgotten, fresh our love will ever be,  
For as long as there is memory, we will always think of thee.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by her sons,  
daughters, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law,  
grandchildren and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Catherine*



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*Members of the Parish Contemporary Choir with Fr. David at the Chrism Mass in Carlow*

## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
6<sup>th</sup> April 2023

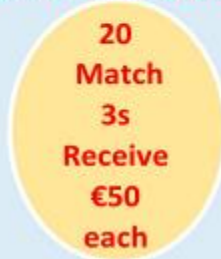


**No €16,000 Jackpot Winner**

### WINNERS

Matt Brophy  
D J Doheny  
Kathleen Dunne  
Frank Cullen  
John Joe Ging  
Bartle & Mary  
Joe & Annemarie Brennan  
Deirdre Donoher  
Paddy O'Connor  
Aidan Lynch  
Ger & Liam  
Lily & Aidan Jnr Moore  
Raymond Carroll  
Emer Murphy  
Sophia Feighery  
Sean Byrne  
M. A. & C. Hetherington  
Mary Kirwan  
John Gosling  
Bridie Phelan

### MATCH 3s €1,000



### PROMOTER

Paul Dooley  
Mary Hennessy  
Kathleen Dunne  
Frank Cullen  
Anne Ging  
Richard Phelan  
Anne Brennan  
Lil Gleeson  
Paddy O'Connor  
Paul Dooley  
Geraldine Greene  
Breda Conroy  
Anne Carroll  
Mai Murphy  
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Catherine Byrne  
Keegan's  
Frances Byrne  
Rita Watkins  
Conroy's Pharmacy



**Next Week's Jackpot is €17,000**

## 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
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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](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm  
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**MANAGER** Declan Kelly  
**Parish Secretaries** Michelle Bartley  
Agnieszka Kaczmarek  
**Accounts** Michelle Conroy  
**Sacristans Parish Church**  
Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

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PARISH SHOP  
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# *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.