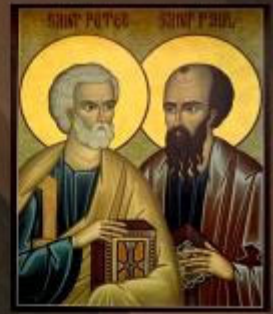
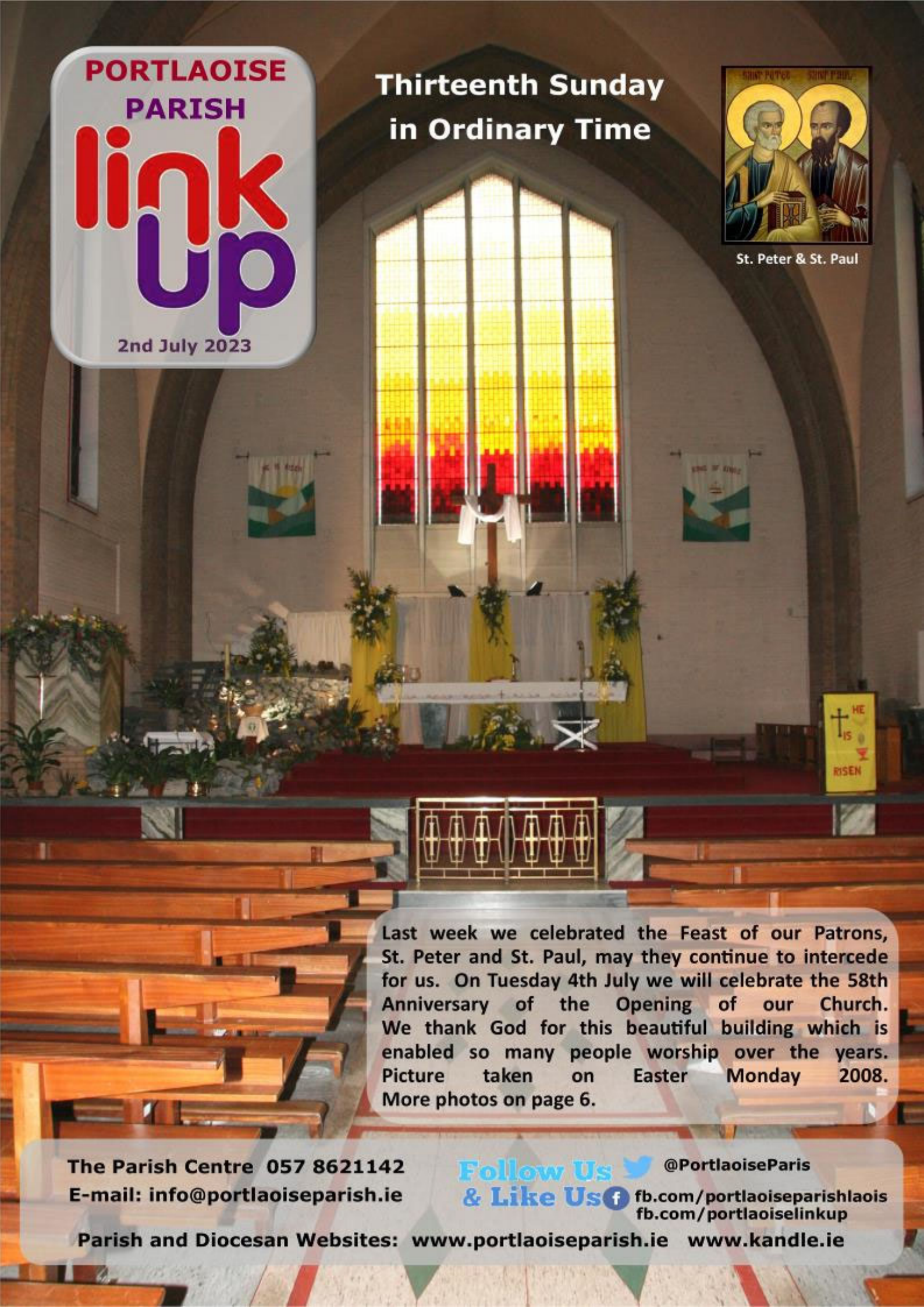


**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**  
2nd July 2023

# Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Peter & St. Paul



Last week we celebrated the Feast of our Patrons, St. Peter and St. Paul, may they continue to intercede for us. On Tuesday 4th July we will celebrate the 58th Anniversary of the Opening of our Church. We thank God for this beautiful building which is enabled so many people worship over the years. Picture taken on Easter Monday 2008. More photos on page 6.

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)



# WATER THICKER THAN BLOOD

Many years ago, I heard a sermon in which the priest made this peculiar, yet intriguing statement: 'Water is thicker than blood'.

He was referring to the question poses in today's second reading from his letter to the Romans: Are you unaware that we who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into

his death? We were buried with him through baptism..... so that... we might live in newness of life.' Similarly, the Gospel of Matthew poses the puzzling and often upsetting assertion: 'Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me.' To understand these claims, we must consider the time and place in which Jesus was making this claim. Jewish families in Jesus time were controlled by the unquestionable authority of the father. Everyone in his household lived in total submission to him. Today's sacred writings reminds us that Jesus and Paul recognised that his notion of family was too small, too narrow, too restrictive. The larger and far more important reality was the conviction that the waters of baptism can create a new kind of family — a family that is composed of people who have discovered that an entirely different style of living is attainable. This new style they are recommending demonstrates how the waters of baptism can truly be thicker than blood. The message is clear: Our baptism matters. It changes us. It calls us to re-think our value system, to review what truly counts, to re-commit ourselves to what will surely last against all odds.

Jesus wants us to leave behind the kind of family that was so prominent in his time, and begin forming a family united by the common desire to do God's will. In doing so, Jesus is asking us to re-imagine the meaning of family, namely a community of people dedicated to witnessing to the world what life could be like if we were willing to be transformed and changed. It will involve stretching us, pulling us out of our small selves, introducing us to something bigger and richer and fuller. It will involve taking us to a whole new level of living. Even to one where water is thicker than blood.

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

**Monday to Friday:** 7.30am & 10am

**Saturday:** 10am

**Sunday**

Vigil 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.

## Peter's Pence Collection takes place this weekend

The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters. Envelopes in Development Boxes. Thank you for your support.

## We welcome into our Parish Community

Theo John Byrne, Parnell Crescent  
Fiadhna Éorann Ní Ghallchobhair, Cherrybrook  
Jax Andrew Lawless Negrut, Cherrygrove

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



## St. Thomas the Apostle 3rd July

'Doubting Thomas' shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the "sons of thunder," Philip and his foolish request to see the Father - in fact all the apostles in their flaws and lack of understanding. However we mustn't dwell too much on these facts, for Jesus chose his disciples because he could see their worth despite their weakness. We are shown that God chooses ordinary men and women just like us to do his work.

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Tues: 8:30am - 5:30pm    Fri: 9:30am - 5.30pm

Wed: 9:30am - 5.30pm

Thanks as always for your support

Kind Regards, all @ Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

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- 4. Vaccinations**
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email: [info@cuislecancersupport.ie](mailto:info@cuislecancersupport.ie)  
Address: Block Road, Portlaoise, County Laois



Photos of more visitors from the United States, John and Pat Rosenauer from St. Louis, Missouri. Also included are photographs of the Church through the years, including the building stage, the day it opened, the Golden Jubilee Celebrations in 2015 and the recent celebration of St. Peter and Paul.





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Contact

Peter **086 2853243** (Lorries)

Dave **087 2729446** (Tractors)



Find us on



Sunday  
July 9th  
2023

# Vintage

# Rally

in aid of **Kolbe Special  
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& other local charities!



**Time:** Starting at 12pm

**Place:** Corbally, Portlaoise Rd,  
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on the day!



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

### Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> June;

**Top Score:** Paddy Purcell | **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Lady tied:** Norah Delaney & Breda Fitzpatrick | **1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** Damien Carter

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Chelsey Meaney | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Frank Keenan & Tom Gowing | **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Bridie Kennedy

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:** Margaret Flanagan | **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:** Mary Downey | **Best of 3:** Molly O'Brien

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Angela Brennan | 2<sup>nd</sup> A.M. Farrell | 3<sup>rd</sup> Liam McCartney | 4<sup>th</sup> Tom Kearns | 5<sup>th</sup> Catherine Galvin  
 6<sup>th</sup> Chelsey Meaney | 7<sup>th</sup> Molly O'Brien.

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

Anyone interested in learning to play, classes in the Parish Centre on Tuesdays from 10am to 11.30am.

**Parkruns in 2 locations every weekend in Co. Laois:** Vicarstown - Junior Sunday 11am, Senior Saturday 9:30am.

Rathdowney - Junior, Sunday 9:30am. For more information on any of these parkruns contact John or Helen.

Vicarstown; Contact John 085-174-2251

Rathdowney: Contact Helen 089-408-1693

### **RELIGIOUS NOTES**

#### **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

3pm every Sunday in the Parish Church.

**Friday Morning Reflections** on Sunday readings will recommence early September D.V.

### **PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Lourdes signed Mass Bouquets** are now available for anyone wishing to purchase them for a relative/friend or an ill person and they will be included in our Masses on our pilgrimage. These signed Mass Bouquets are available from Pat 086-3293068 or Teresa 087-2922787.

**Petitions;** A box will be available in the Parish Church (beside Our Lady) for anyone wishing to place a petition that they would like brought to Lourdes. No petitions will be collected after 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Please do not put money in the envelope with your petitions.

**ROSARY AT THE SHRINE,** Market Square, Portlaoise, this Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 2.30pm and on the first Sunday of every month.



## Temporary Reduced Hours

Portlaoise Library will close for lunch from 1pm -2pm and at 5pm each day.  
 This will take effect from Tuesday, 27th June to Saturday, 8th July inclusive,  
 to allow us to prepare for your

## New Portlaoise Library

Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause  
 Library Management





## Welcome

Have you ever seen a welcome mat? Where have you seen something like this? Usually we'd see a mat like this outside the door to our home, wouldn't we? A mat such as this usually has two purposes. Do you know what those two purposes are?

Well, for one thing, it is a friendly reminder for people to wipe their shoes off so that they won't track dirt or mud into your home. And second, it is placed outside your door as a sign to let people know that they are welcome in your home.

Welcome — what does the word "welcome" mean? It means to receive someone in a warm and friendly way. Are people always welcome in our homes? Do we welcome people into our home if their skin is a different colour from ours? Do we welcome people into our homes if they don't have as much money as we do?

How about in our church? Do you think that we make everyone feel welcome in our church? Do we speak to those people who are visiting our church that we do not know? If someone comes to our church and they are not dressed the way we are dressed, do we make sure that they are made to feel welcome?

Jesus said, "He who receives you receives me." If we turn that around, we will understand that if we do not welcome others into our homes and into our churches, it is the same as if we are refusing to welcome Jesus. We wouldn't do that, would we?

Well, let's put the welcome mat out — and let's be sure that we mean it!



Dear Jesus

Dear Father, help us to remember that when we refuse to welcome others to our homes and to our church, it is the same as refusing to welcome you.

In Jesus' name we pray. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Keeping Safe during Summer Holidays

This week marks the beginning of summer holidays for all our primary school children and teachers. Even though we have been on lockdown, it might have felt like you were on your holidays! Summer holidays from school are perhaps the best time of the year. No early mornings, long evenings and plenty of time to do fun things. It's very important to get out and play. Don't fall into the trap of being 'stuck in' all day on your computer games.

It's also important to remember to be safe.

*Remember the safe cross code.*

*Never swim without following all proper instructions.*

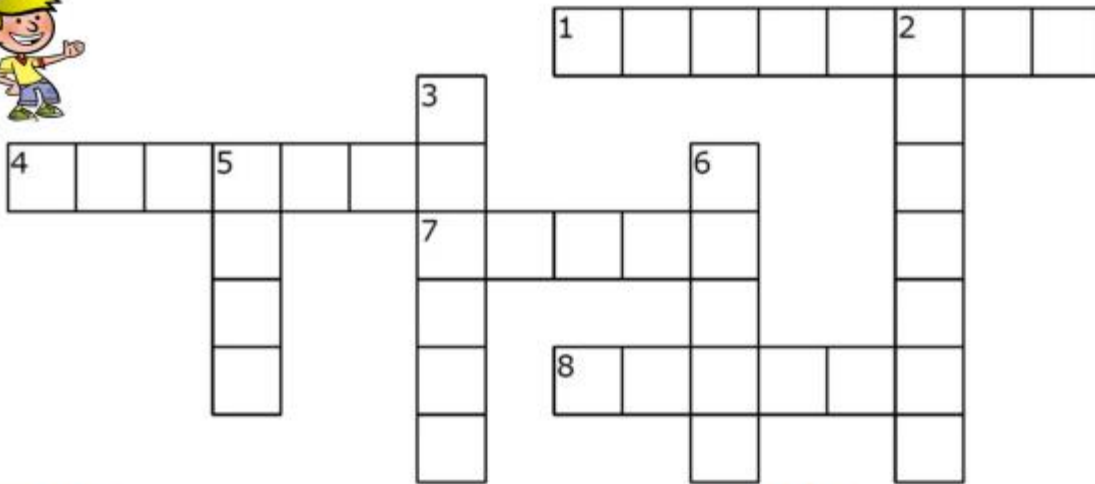
*And always let your parents know where you are, following their instructions.*

*We wish all you a wonderful summer holiday.*



# "Welcome!"

"He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me" **Matthew 10:40 (NIV)**



## ACROSS

1. A follower of Jesus.
4. To gladly receive someone into your own house.
7. An odourless, colourless, tasteless liquid; H<sub>2</sub>O.
8. Small; not large

## DOWN

2. A person who speaks for God.
3. Recognition of someone's good behaviour.
5. The opposite of hot; having a very low temperature.
6. A fact that has been proven.

**PROPHET**

**TRUTH  
WELCOME**

**DISCIPLE  
REWARD**

**COLD  
WATER**

**LITTLE**

R B Q S L O S E K X F S D E O  
 W A T E R Q N Y Y T S A I V S  
 D A M K N Q H W B M H Y S H M  
 L I T T L E P P H F I A C I C  
 X T R U T H H B S O R V I J L  
 R T R E W A R D J F I I P V C  
 R N C G O N E S K X G Q L R W  
 H G G N Q Z M H Z B H E E E R  
 Y D I E A G R R R W T T D C X  
 G I T V U N G U J Z E L J E H  
 T H B X E T Y F Z H O T U I C  
 J E W E J S H O P C U I K V U  
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 Q U E L E R R A U E S H Q S T  
 R V S M O P H J S Q A N I U R



- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| <b>RIGHTEOUS</b> | <b>TRUTH</b>  |
| <b>WATER</b>     | <b>ONES</b>   |
| <b>RECEIVES</b>  | <b>COLD</b>   |
| <b>REWARD</b>    | <b>CUP</b>    |
| <b>LOSE</b>      | <b>ANYONE</b> |
| <b>PROPHET</b>   | <b>WHO</b>    |
| <b>DISCIPLE</b>  | <b>GIVES</b>  |
| <b>TELL</b>      | <b>LITTLE</b> |
| <b>WHO</b>       |               |



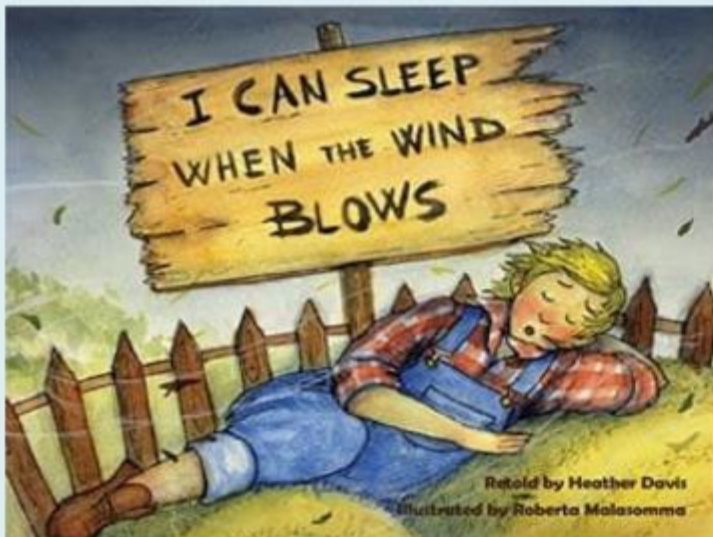
# Time to Think!

## Summer Tales of Wisdom

How do you handle adversity? What are you thinking when the sun goes down on those cold, windy nights, when you're trying to get to sleep, and the wind keeps swirling and howling through your bedroom windows?

### Sleep Soundly When the Wind Blows

Years ago a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic. They dreaded the awful storms that raged across the Atlantic, wreaking havoc on the buildings and crops. As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals. Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer. "Are you a good farm hand?" the farmer asked him. "Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man.



Although puzzled by this answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired him. The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk, and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work. Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore. Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters. He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!" The little man rolled over in bed and said firmly, "No sir. I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows." Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot. Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the coops, and the doors were barred. The shutters were tightly secured. Everything was tied down. Nothing could blow away.

The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the wind blew. Can you sleep when the wind blows? When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally and physically, you have nothing to fear.

### A Cat goes to Heaven

A cat dies and goes to Heaven. God meets him at the gate and says, 'you have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask.' The cat says, 'Well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, a fluffy pillow appears. A few days later, 6 mice are killed in a tragic accident and they go to Heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that He made the cat. The mice said, 'All our lives we've had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn't have to run anymore.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates. About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks, 'How are you doing? Are you happy here?' The cat yawns and stretches and says, 'Oh, I've never been happier in my life. And those Meals on Wheels you've been sending over are the best!

### Prayer to let go of the past

Lord Jesus I pray that You would enable me to forget the things which are past and help me to press forward, knowing that my hope and my future is in You. Help me not to dwell on past hurts and painful memories and enable me to forget what is behind and to walk forward into each new day, holding Your hand. Lord I release all of the painful memories I have to You and pray that You would help me to renew my mind day by day and to focus my thoughts on the Lord Jesus Christ. Help me also to forgive all those that have caused me pain so that by Your grace You would help me to fill my heart with new and joyful thoughts. Lord I believe that You came to heal the broken-hearted and set the captives free. Wash away all these hurtful memories that are causing me so much heartache I pray – and replace them with the joy of my salvation, which I have received in Christ Jesus my Saviour – for which I offer You thanks and praise. Lord may the words of my mouth and all the thoughts in my mind be filtered through You – and may I build up new memories that are sweetened by the beauty of Your Person, in Jesus name I pray, Amen.



## Diocesan Appointments 2023

### **Bishop Denis Announces Diocesan changes**

Last Monday Bishop Denis announced the personnel changes for 2023. They will come into effect on 4<sup>th</sup> August. It is with sadness we note that Fr. David, who has been Curate in Portlaoise since his Ordination six years ago, is set to leave us. We congratulate him on his appointment as Administrator of Stradbally and there is consolation in the fact that he is not moving too far away from us. Also as you see elsewhere in the Link Up (pages 14+15) it is envisaged that neighbouring Parishes will work more closely together into the future as new Pastoral areas develop. So please God we will still benefit from his presence and youthful enthusiasm. Fr. Adriano Oliveira is appointed as CC Portlaoise. We welcome Fr. Adriano and hope he will be happy here. He is a native of Brazil and has been CC Kilcock for the past year.

### **Kildare & Leighlin Diocesan Appointments 2023**

The appointments take effect on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August are as follows:

Fr. Willie O'Byrne PP Kill to retire and reside in Naas

Fr. Pat O'Brien SPS CC Rathvilly to retire to St. Patrick's Missionary Society, Kiltegan

Fr. Ger Breen PP Stradbally to go on sabbatical, residing in Doonane

Fr. Pdraig Shelley PP Arles in addition to become Adm. Doonane

Fr. Joe O'Neill CC Portarlinton/Emo to become PP Kill (and to assist in the Cluster of Naas, Sallins, Two-Mile-House and Kill in Naas Pastoral Area)

Fr. David Vard CC Portlaoise to become Adm. Stradbally (while assisting in the wider Portlaoise Pastoral Area)

Fr. Eugen Dragos Tamas CC Newbridge to become CC Portarlinton /Emo (and to assist in neighbouring parishes in the Portarlinton Pastoral Area)

Fr. Adriano de Oliveira CC Kilcock to become CC Portlaoise

Fr. Antony Arackal (Kerala, India) to become CC Newbridge

Fr. Kolwani Nyoni to assist in Kilcock while continuing to pursue his studies in St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth

*Kindly keep in your prayers all who take up new appointments this year and the people and the parishes where they will serve.*

# PORTLAOISE PASTORAL AREA GATHERING

23rd May 2023

A gathering of the Portlaoise Pastoral Area took place on the 23rd May 2023 in Portlaoise Parish Parish Centre. The gathering consisted of the clergy and representatives from each of the parishes that make up the Pastoral Area. Jim Deeds led the meeting remotely and the meeting was also attended by members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council including Bishop Denis.

## *Who is Jim Deeds?*

Jim Deeds has many years of experience working with Pastoral Councils and Parishes in promoting faith communities. He is an husband and father and has been employed by the diocese to further the work of the Diocesan Pastoral Council and Bishop Denis' recent Pastoral Letter 'Put out into the Deep Water'.

## *'Put out into the Deep Water'*

A Pastoral Letter published in September 2022 to promote the wonderful opportunity for our Diocese to work together to bring positive changes in the celebration of our Faith. This letter established the creation of Parish Areas and Pastoral Areas. The Portlaoise Parish Area consists of the Parishes of Portlaoise, Ballyfin, Mountrath, Stradbally, Raheen, Abbeyleix and Ballinakill, our clusters also consists of the same parishes.



**KANDLE**

## Q1. When we see the new clusters; what do we think?

- Optimistic
- Hopeful and exciting
- Opportunities for liturgies
- This could be better for smaller parishes as long as they don't get swamped
- Concern for clergy and smaller numbers
- Hopeful and exciting
- Fear of losing the next generation if we don't change
- Operating on a bigger scale
- Uncertain, nervous and sad
- Train and support lay people.

## Q2. As we prepare to put out into deep water are their principles that we should agree to that would guide our decision making? together

- Communicate - tell people what's needed
- Rediscover youth participation
- Have courage to let go - be not afraid, be simple
- Keep Christ at the centre
- Make missionary disciples
- Stay in the boat together
- Faith will always be the comfort
- Face the reality in a spirit of openness
- Abandon fear
- Move forward with a plan and review at the next meeting
- We need to grow in knowledge of our parishes
- Be open and try new things

## Things to Work on this Summer

- Clergy will look at the numbers of Masses and share at the next meeting after assessing what is possible going forward
- Explore how to have one message communicated across the parishes - using the Link Up and newsletters.
- Move priests on a rota so that congregations get to know other priests
- Celebrate what we have - the people involved in parish life
- A family friendly event inviting families from across the Pastoral Area.

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

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



**Msgr. Caoimhín O'Neill**  
'Emmaus', Ballyroan Road,  
Abbeyleix, native of  
Trumera, Mountrath and  
former President of  
Carlow College.



**Michael (Mick) Ging**  
Green Road, Portlaoise



**Sibongile (Bongi)  
Mtati**  
Lakeside Gardens,  
Kilminchy



**David Dunne**  
Nottingham, England  
and formerly of  
Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise.  
*Died in England 10<sup>th</sup> June*

*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](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)

**In Loving Memory of  
JOAN SAUNDERS**

*Dublin Rd. Portlaoise. 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023*



Joan's Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish  
Church on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm.**

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

*Loved and sadly missed by all your loving family.*

*May Joan Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN EGAN**

**6 New Terrace, Dublin Road, Portlaoise.**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**



The family of the late John  
Egan would like to express  
their sincere gratitude to all  
who sympathised with us,  
sent Mass Cards and flowers.  
Many thanks to;  
- Fr. Ciprian Matei, who gave  
John the last rights.

- Fr. Michael Hickey of Drum Parish, Athlone, Co. Roscommon, who presided over Mass for John and interment of his ashes with his parents.
- Phyllis and Olive and the Palliative Care team.
- The wonderful staff of Comfort Keepers and Sara Breen for their kindness to John.
- Tina and Aideen, district nurses.
- Dr. Adrian McDonald and Hughes Pharmacy.
- The staff in Kilminchy Nursing home.
- Matthew Keegan and David Goode of Keegan Funeral Directors.
- The retired members of An Garda Síochána for the guard of honour.

For all the above's support and professionalism shown to John and his family. I would like to extend a very special thanks to John's sister Kathleen, husband Jimmy, daughters Paula, Orla, Ashling and Niamh and my brother Joe for the endless support in our time of need.

Loved and remembered always John by your loving wife Anne, children Adrian and Karen, daughter-in-law Janice, grandchildren Adam, Chloe and Caleb.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 12.30pm.

*Rest in Peace John*



**In Loving Memory of  
FRANK RODDY**

**3 Well Road, Portlaoise.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 10am.

*Husband; You were my favourite Hello  
and my hardest Goodbye. No longer by  
my side, but forever in my heart.*

Sadly missed by his wife Mary, family and friends.

*May Frank's Gentle Soul Rest in Peace*



**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of**

**THOMAS HALPENNY**

**Late of 2 Craydon Court, Portlaoise & Ardee, Co. Louth.  
Remembering you on your 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday - 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023**



*Life is a beautiful memory,  
Death is a silent grief,  
You sleep now in God's beautiful garden,  
In sunshine and perfect peace.  
We miss you oh so very much,  
But trust that God knew best,  
He let us have you for many years,  
and then gently let you rest.*

Loved and missed dearly by your loving wife Anne  
and family xxx

*Rest in Peace Thomas*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
WILLIAM (Bill) DELANEY**

**Roskelton, Mountrath, Co. Laois**

**Died 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023**



The family of the late William Bill Delaney, would like to thank most sincerely all those who sympathised with them on their recent sad loss.

William was predeceased by his wife Nora, brothers and sisters and grandson Conor. Deeply regretted by his loving children; Fintan, Martin and Brid, daughters-in-law

Carmel and Miriam and son-in-law Brendan, grandchildren Eanna, Orlaithe, Shauna, Brian, Liam, Aine and Eoghan, relatives, neighbours and friends.

We would like to thank Fr. Paddy Byrne P.P. for calling to the house, Fr. Petru Medves for reciting the rosary and Fr. Liam Morgan and Fr. Kelly who joined in concelebrating William's Requiem Mass. Thanks to Martin Delaney who sang so beautifully at Bill's Mass.

We would also like to thank Seamus Burke funeral director for his professional and dignified funeral arrangements.

A special word of thanks to Dr. Simon Honan, the doctors and nurses of Emo Court medical ward in the Regional General Hospital, Portlaoise, who cared for William during his illness.

As it would be impossible to thank individually all those who called to the house, sent floral wreaths, Mass cards or who helped out in any way, we trust that this acknowledgement will be a mark of our sincere thanks. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

William's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen, this Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 7pm.

*Rest in Peace William*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN & ANN BENNETT**

**Hophall, Portlaoise, Co. Laois**

**Anniversaries occur at this time.**



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

*Dad & Mam; Our thoughts are always  
with you, our memories never fade,  
We treasured all the years we shared and all the love  
you gave.*

From your family, extended family & friends.

*May They Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
GAVIN RICE**

**Cloncough, Kilbricken, Mountrath.**

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 29<sup>th</sup> June.**



*Deep in our hearts you will  
always stay,  
Loved and remembered everyday.*

*Miss you and love you always, Mam,  
Dad, Niamh, Deirdre, Ann-Marie  
and extended family xxx*

*Rest in Peace Gavin*

**I will sing forever  
of your love O Lord**

Psalm 88





## In Loving Memory of

A Precious Daughter, Sister, Aunt  
and Granddaughter

**LEONA CUDDY**

Meelick, Portlaoise.

5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home occurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July.



A silent grief that's in our hearts,  
No human eye can trace,  
For many a broken heart is hid,  
Beneath a smiling face.

Forever in our hearts.  
Missing you always.  
Mam, Dad, Gary, Shane, Rhys,  
Luke and granddad Mick.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 6:30pm.**

*Rest in Peace Leona  
May Heaven be your Bed*



## KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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David **087-2369887**

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PAUL; 087-2562137  
NIALL;  
086-2770095



### This Week's Legion Prayer Intercession

*We pray for all Vocations to the  
Priesthood, especially all  
Priests in our Diocese who take up  
new appointments this year and the  
parishioners in the Parishes  
where they will serve.*

*Follow us on Facebook  
Search Legion of Mary Portlaoise*



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*"I will place my dwelling in your midst, and I shall not  
abhor you. And I will walk among you, and will be your  
God, and you shall be my people." (Leviticus 26: 11-12)*



## RUACH RESIDENTIAL ENGLISH RETREAT

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● Limited places available so early registration essential.

## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
29<sup>th</sup> June 2023

18

24

27

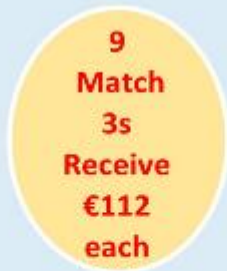
31

**No €20,000 Jackpot Winner**

### WINNERS

Helen Dunne  
John White  
Martin Maher  
Guys & Dolls  
Don Devlin  
Philip Bartley  
Tommy Byrne  
Anthea Greene  
Lucy Dunne

**MATCH 3s €1,000**



### PROMOTER

Parish Online  
Parish Centre  
Brid Davis  
Ann Brennan  
Anthony Preston  
Peter Ryan  
Nora Walsh  
Anne Ging  
Anne Ging

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**Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000**

**Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time**  
2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16 | Psalm: 88:2-3, 16-19  
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11 | Matthew 10:37-42

## 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**

## 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

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)

Twitter: @portlaoiseparish

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley

Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed  
[www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times  
057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm

057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

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