

The Most Holy Trinity Sunday

St. Peter & Paul's Cemetery Mass Today (Sunday) at 1pm





The lovely weather during the Month of May added to our wonderful First Holy Communion Masses. Our congratulations to the over 400 girls and boys who received Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time in our Parish this year. Please God it will be the first of many and that He may always be close to you and enrich your lives.

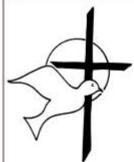
Again a great big 'thank you' to our teachers and schools, parents and guardians and to all who helped prepare the children for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance and First Holy Communion.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142 E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie **Follow Us PortlaoiseParis** & Like Us fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois fb.com/portlaoiselinkup

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





A God Who Doesn't Condemn

We only have to switch the TV on to know there is plenty of evil in the world, but in today's Gospel John reminds us that if we know and believe in God we can stand up to that evil and that we will never be

condemned. If we believe in God we will be saved. But how do we even begin to know God? Do we think of a God who created the world billions of years ago but has been pretty quiet since? Do we think of God who sent his Son to save us, but only know it because the story sits in a bible up on the bookshelf? Or do we think of a God who made us, a God who sent his Son to teach us, and a God who sent his Spirit to guide us through each day of our lives and through each generation that walks the earth?

The Trinity might be a bit of a theological mystery to us, but that doesn't mean to say that we are not able to understand anything of God. We understand God in three ways; as Father and creator, as Son and redeemer, and as God's Spirit left to guide and strengthen us.

God the Father is all around us. God's miracles are in front of our eyes when we wake up in the morning and in the night skies before we go to sleep. We live on the only planet able to support life in our universe. God's miracles are there for all to see in our breath-taking landscapes, in our oceans teeming with life and in mankind itself. How often do we stop to praise God's creation or appreciate the miracles that surround us?

God the Son came to teach us with stories and signs. He came to reveal God's plan for us. God the Son came to show us the way to God the Father. Gods' Son came to us in a great manifestation of God's love. "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

The Spirit of God is the part of God left to guide us and lead us. The Holy Spirit is something we can completely forget about ... or something we can call on every day, in every choice and in every decision we make.

Believing in God means that we are never condemned. Belief begins with knowing God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit in every part of our lives. Mass times for the coming week (Parish Church or otherwise stated)

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

Sunday

Vigils 5pm & 6.30pm (Saturday) 8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & Cemetery Mass at 1pm Today (Sunday) 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.

Summer Schedule for Vigil Masses Saturday Evenings 6.30pm

As and from 1st July our Vigil Mass in the Parish Church will be at 6.30pm. 5pm Mass will not be celebrated during the remainder of the Summer.



A Mass for Leaving Cert and Junior Cert students will be celebrated in the

Parish Church at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th June.

Month of the Sacred Heart

June is traditionally the month when Catholics are urged to show special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Devotion to the Sacred Heart is the



celebration of God's love for us. The Sacred Heart is the symbol of the eternal love by which "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son". (Jn 3:16)



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Thurs: 8:30am - 7:00pm Fri: 9:30am - 5.30pm

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Selfcare Evening For Women.

This evening is for women who currently have a cancer diagnosis or who have had cancer.

Whether you are on treatment, finished treatment or a cancer survivor – this evening is for you.

DATE & TIME:

Tuesday 13th June from 7pm to 8.30pm

COME JOIN US FOR:

- A relaxed, colourful, creative & joyful evening.
- Creating a daily self-care awareness
- Celebrating you in uncertain times
- How to manage everyday living in the home – making space for selfcare goes a long way to wellness for you in your home.



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artclasseswithcarolinekeane@gmail.com



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Spreading

Friday 23rd June 2023 An Spioirid It costs just €22 to feed a child for an entire school year, all donations received will be greatly appreciated. Naoimh Sponsorship cards are available at the reception desk in the Parish Centre or for further information contact; PRAYING Michael Nerney 086-8157305 | Bernie Reddin 086-8630039 | Eddie Cullinane 087-6595293 COMMUNITY E-mail; spioraidnaoimh@gmail.com SUMMER CAMI PADDY<mark>.</mark> HOLY FAMILY SENIOR FITZPATRICK SCHOOL, PORTLAOISE PLANT AND AGRI HIRE Activities Groundworks Sports, Computers, Concrete Camp Information: **Bubble Soccer**, • Tarmac Art, Baking 🛗 Week 1 - July 3rd - 7th New Site Layout and a lot more! • Pipework 📾 Week 2 - July 10th - 14th Block Laying 🕓 10am-2pm BOOK YOUR Drainage

Holy Family Senior School,

Portlaoise

For more Information email:

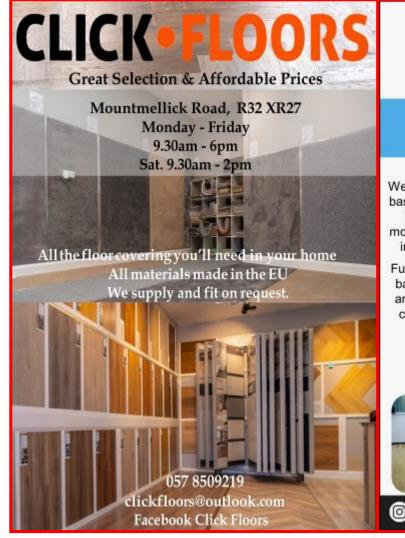
holyfamilyseniorcamps@gmail.com

ATE 3 SHOWER S BUIL

Portlaoise ARA "Forever Young"

Tuesday 13th June at 7pm in the Dunamaise Theatre Joined by the 65 Kitchen Choir and Men's Shed Portlaoise

Tickets €10/€8 Concession, available from the theatre 057-8663355 | www.dunamaise.ie



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- 2. Stability Skills
- 3. Manipulative Skills





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WHERE Holy Family Senior School Portlaoise

WHO? Kids 1.5 - 3 years - 9am Kids 3 - 5 years - 10am

LAOIS HOSPICE FOUNDATION SUNFLOWER DAY Friday 9th June 2023

We are seeking volunteers to collect on the day. Would you have **1 hour** to spare on **Friday 9th June** to help with Sunflower Day? If you have please contact Mary Delaney 086-8157280 or Mary Finlay 087-2968433.

This is one of our biggest fundraising events each year. Celebrate precious memories of your loved one and dedicate a virtual Sunflower in our online Remembrance Garden in support of Laois Hospice at

www.sunflowerdays.ie

All monies collected on the day will stay in Laois to fund the much needed <u>hospice home care</u> services in Laois. Please support Laois Hospice on the day and

Thank you!

AOIS

thank you for your continued support.

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Pictured Left; Michael Sullivan, Richmond, Virginia with Msgr. John in the Parish Centre, during the week.

PORTLAOISE FATIMA PILGRIMAGE 8TH-15TH JUNE 2023

Have your loved ones included in our daily Mass during our pilgrimage; the sick, deceased, your intentions, thanksgiving, exam results etc. Candle cards, Mass Bouquets available from Michael & Margaret Houlihan 087-9212028 or any member of the committee. Give your petitions to Michael or Margaret and we will leave them in Fatima for you. We will be bringing donations to the convent in Fatima

for anyone wishing to contribute.

IN THE ESTATE OF DENIS KAVANAGH DECEASED

Following the closure of this shop premises in September 2021 due to the illness and subsequent death of Denis Kavanagh on November 11th 2022, it is now intended to clear this shop premises in the course of the administration of his estate. Kindly be advised that all unclaimed goods from the shop premises at Railway Street, Portlaoise will be disposed of unless claimed before 30th June 2023, with proof of ownership to kavbikes@gmail.com

White O'Donoghue and Company Solicitors on behalf of C Kavanagh, Personal Representative

PORTLAOISE PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 7th-15th SEPTEMBER 2023 Spiritual Director; Msgr. John Byrne. 6 SEATS REMAINING Trip of a lifetime! Tel. John 087-1254841 Chris 086-1987596 Kitty 087-9506634 Joe Tully Travel Ltd. 059-9136100

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Clothes line poles, covered clotheslines, winders, pulleys, saw horses, bicycle stands. <u>Portlaoise Active Retirement</u> meet every Wednesday at 3pm in the Parish Centre for an afternoon of friendship, fun and activities. This week's activities; Monday 5th June; No bowls bank holiday | Tuesday 6th June; Rehearsals for show Wednesday 7th June; Sing along with Caroline | Thursday 8th June; Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm New members welcome for chat and game of cards, tuition given. For further info. contact P.R.O Sheila 087-6204617. <u>Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 30th May;</u>

Top Score: Ann Healy & Sadie Chester | 1st Lady: Veronica Kearns & Mary Downey | 1st Gent: Ann O'Rourke 2nd Gent: Betty Fox | 1st Half: Mary Gowing & Margaret Flanagan | 2nd Half: Molly O'Brien

Raffle: 1st Mary Downey | 2nd Mary Dunne | 3rd Bernie Cahill | 4th Sheila Duff | 5th Frances Gleeson Thanks to everyone for their support. Whist continues every Tuesday night, 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Anyone interested in learning to play, contact Breda Cooley.

Anyone interested in learning to play, contact Breda Cooley. <u>Pioneer News</u>; Committee meeting to organise the Jubilee presentation will be held Wednesday 14th June at 7.30pm

in the Parish Centre. <u>Jack and Jill Childrens Foundation</u> are looking for volunteers for our online shop. Volunteers will need to have good English and be comfortable using a smart phone. Please contact Julie on 087-4312219.

<u>Relay for Life</u> is a unique and beautiful opportunity to celebrate those that have survived cancer, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and to stand shoulder to shoulder with those battling cancer. Relay For Life is a celebration of solidarity. We are happy to again be hosting this event in Laois for 2023. The event will be held on the grounds of Emo Court and Parklands from 1pm Saturday 29th July 2023 to 1pm Sunday 30th July 2023. We are looking for teams from the Laois area to get involved. For info. please e-mail laoisrelayforlife@gmail.com or call Caroline 087-4499903 or Alan 086-1222227.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

Gospel Readings; Group to reflect on the Sunday readings, we meet every Friday in the Parish Centre after 10am Mass. All are welcome to join us. Contact Angela 086-0683085.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 6th June after 10am Mass.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help continues this Monday 5th June at 7.30pm in St Clare's Church, Graiguecullen, Carlow. Guest Speaker; Dr. Nicola Brady - Chair of the Steering Committee of the Irish Synodal Pathway.

Bus to Knock Shrine: The National Mary's Meals Annual Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine takes place on Saturday 1st July. Bus will leave Roscrea at 9am. To book a seat (€20), please contact Angela at 089-4339592.

<u>St. Joseph Prayer</u>; O' Great St. Joseph of Cupertino who while on earth did obtain from God the grace to be asked at your examination only the questions you knew, obtain for me a like favour in the examinations for which I am now preparing. In return I promise to make you known and cause you to be invoked. Through Christ our Lord.

Portlaoise Parish www.portlaoiseparish.ie.

The Most Holy Trinity

What do you remember from today's reading?

HALE

This story is part of Jesus' farewell conversation to the disciples before he dies on the cross.

Jesus says to the disciples that after he has gone, the Holy Spirit will guide them. The Holy Spirit will be their teacher and will speak to them just as Jesus did when he was alive and with them. The Holy Spirit will show the disciples what they must do and what they must say in Jesus' name.

Who teaches you and guides you? Teachers, parents, friends and family all teach us and guide us. And the Holy Spirit is there to guide us too.



HANDING ON

God is made up of three parts: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. This is what we call the Trinity. Trinity means three. Their relationship is a relationship of being together but each having different tasks to do. This is like our families - we have mums and dads, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, cousins and grandparents. Whatever the size of our family, we know there are different people in our family who are of different ages, have different relationships and jobs, and live in different places, but they are all connected to us through our family bond.

Who do you live with? Do you live with lots of people or just a few? Do all your friends and family live close by or are they spread far apart?

We are also all part of one big global family that includes everyone in the world. We are all God's children. We are all special, and even though we are all different we are all equally important. We all have our own job to do depending on our talents.

We are all called to care for one another and for the earth that we live in. But how we do this depends on who we are and our own gifts.

We believe that Jesus' promise to the disciples - that the Holy Spirit would be with them and guide them, is still true for all of us today and all people after us. The Holy Spirit can guide us to do what is right and to use our talents in the best way to help others.

Can you listen to the Holy Spirit in the coming week, and see how the Spirit guides you, especially in the way you treat those you live with and the members of our global family throughout the world?

Let us all do our best this week to listen to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and try to live as he asks us to.

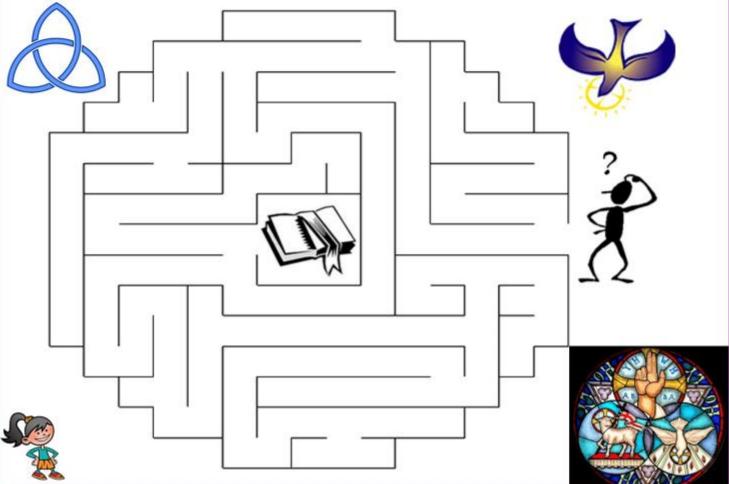




Loving God, you are with us always. Send us your Spirit to teach and guide us to live in peace with each other every day. Amen.

Trinity Sunday But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. John 16:13







Time to Think! The Strangest Dream

People meeting with people, discussions held round tables decorated with flowers, microphones adjusted for clarity of sound and a fine meal together in the evening. The formal setting of the art of the diplomatist.

Ed McCurdy's song, first recorded in 1950 and since covered by many well-known singers including Joan Baez, Simon and Garfunkel and Johnny Cash reflects on this theme. The song became the anthem of the late 20th Century peace movement.

Last night I had the strangest dream I ever dreamed before

I dreamed the world had all agreed to put an end to war

I dreamed I saw a mighty room, the room was filled with men

And the paper they were signing said they'd never fight again

And when the papers all were signed and a million copies made

They all joined hands and bowed their heads and grateful prayers were prayed

And the people in the streets below were dancing round and round

And guns and swords and uniforms were scattered on the ground

Last night I had the strangest dream I ever dreamed before

I dreamed the world had all agreed to put an end to war

We all have dreams and aspirations, and these five verses reflect on our long sought-after dream of peace among the people of our common planetary home. Promises are made, treaties and agreements signed, hands shaken and elbows grasped against a background of where there is sadness, joy. national flags, ready made for television news. Until the next time. Promises made, promises ignored, distrust sown. The never-ending request for more sophisticated weaponry echoes round our houses as the international insecurity is spoken of again and again. Alliances are made, only to be broken with the first light of it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, dawn.



It is somewhat ironic that on arrival in a foreign country the Pope is often greeted with an armed guard. Since 1945 there has scarcely been a week go by when war was not being waged somewhere on this earth. Our respect for the prince of peace wears thin with the passing years. The current G7 talks have taken place at the rebuilt city of Hiroshima in Japan, the site in August 1945 of mankind's first nuclear outrage. We can only hope and pray that our strangest dream is reality as the build-up continues on the plains of Eastern Europe threatening further conflict and loss of life.

Peace Prayer

St. Francis of Assisi, Peace Prayer Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 29,750 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

Gen Offaly Centre Independent Living

PERSONAL ASSISTANTS/HCAs/CARERS NEEDED

Offaly Centre for Independent Living are currently looking for Personal Assistants/Healthcare Assistants to join their Relief Panel in the Portlaoise and Laois area.

Rates of pay are €15.16-€17 per hour Monday to Saturday and €30.32-€34 on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

The role involves supporting people who live with disabilities, in our communities, to live independent lives. The duties include but not limited to are assisting people with personal care, light housework, accompanying to appointments or engaging in their hobbies with them.

The ideal candidate:

- At least 6 months related experience providing quality care is essential.
- Must hold a QQI level 5 Healthcare Award or working towards completing a major award in Healthcare Support or equivalent within the next 12 months.
- Must be a resident of Ireland.
- Up to date patient moving and handling certificate is desirable.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Reliable and trustworthy with a strong commitment to providing high levels of care.
- Full clean drivers licence with own transport is essential.
- Fluency in English
- Ability to work alone, use initiative and be mindful of health and safety and other organisational policies at all times.

To Apply:

If you meet the criteria, we are interested in hearing from you to fill upcoming vacancies for day, evening and weekend work.

For all interested candidates, please forward a copy of your CV to Lorraine Weldon, PA Service Manager via email at <u>lorraine@ocil.ie</u> or call (085) 8894828 for more information.



First Holy Communion in our Parish last weekend - Holy Family Jnr School



















Photos courtesy of Agnieszka Kaczmarek. See more photos on our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie/galleries/

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY ;

Anne Fennell née Foyle Grattan Street, Portlaoise



Mary O' Mahoney née Keyes Ballycarnan, Portlaoise

Even though 9 walk through the darkest valley, 9 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

This Week's Legion Prayer Intercession

We pray for those sitting or preparing for examinations, that the Holy Spirit may guide their efforts and renew their hope.

Follow us on Facebook Search Legion of Mary Portlaoise Legion of Mary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT In Loving Memory of AGNES MORTIMER née Hade Mountrath Rd., Portlaoise. Died 10th June 2022.



As we remember our Mother on the first anniversary of her passing, Aidan, Esther, Declan and our families wish to take this opportunity to thank the following; The wonderful Health Care Staff and residence of St. Vincent's Community Nursing Unit, Mountmellick, especially those in

St. Mary Theresa's Ward who took such outstanding care of Mam in the four years while she was there. To Fr. David Vard who prayed the rosary and celebrated Mam's Mass for us.

To Nuala Kelly for her beautiful singing. To Seamus Burke, undertaker and Matthew Keegan for facilitating us with the use of his funeral home for Mam's wake. To the gravediggers in Camross where Mam is reunited with our late father Paddy Mortimer. To the Camross Inn for their hospitality and Eddie Phelan who took care of the catering.

To our wonderful neighbours, friends and relatives for their continued support to us all. To everyone who attended Mam's wake, Rosary and funeral and all those who phoned, sent texts, left messages online and sent Mass cards. Thank you all so much. As it is impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation and deepest gratitude.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Mam's 1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, Saturday 10th June at 10am.

Rest in Reace Agnes

In Loving Memory of



The committee of Portlaoise Old Peoples Association (P.O.P.A.) deeply regret the sad passing of founder member and friend Dickie Byrne.

Dickie was integral to the success of the annual dinner which ran for 55 years with the very first event taking place on 23^{rd} January 1966.

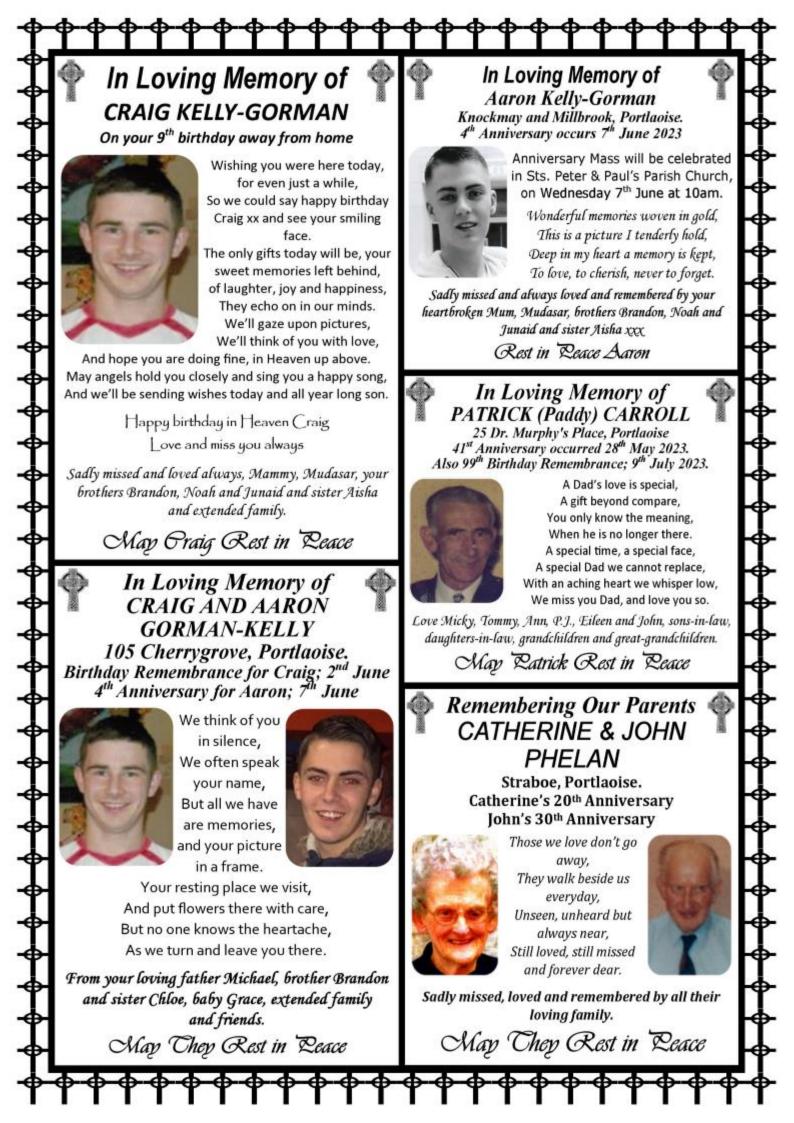
Dickie's dedication to POPA, in particular his exceptional fund raising skills, had a significant impact on its success - his kindness and great sense of humour will be fondly remembered by all the committee.

The committee extends its deepest sympathies to Jane, Irene and all the family.

The POPA committee remember also Paddy Reddin at this time, another founding member R.I.P.

May They Rest in Reace







BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE In Loving Memory of my Beautiful Son JAMIE-LEE MOORE 8th Birthday away from home occurs 5th June 2023.



If I could have one wish in life, that wish would have to be, That God would take away my pain, and send you back to me.

Your birthday's here today, my son And I just wanted you to know, How much I deeply love you and that

I miss you so.

On days like this we should celebrate, But for me that now proves hard,

For unlike other mothers, I cannot send a simple birthday card.

No kisses can I give you or birthday gifts to buy, Only flowers I now can give you which I place down where you lie.

Two other things I send you are my thoughts and all my love, So hold them close and keep them safe in Heaven up above, And please wait for me, my darling son, until my days are through, and then I'll come and spend all time in Heaven just with you.

Happy Heavenly 25th Birthday Jamie Love and miss you always, Mammy XXXXXXX

Brother

You were the centre of our world, a brother held so dear, But now that world is shattered and you're no longer here, But all you need to know today is how much joy you brought, You brightened every moment though your life was far

too short,

+++++++++++++++

You were loved completely from the day you were born, And no one could imagine such a dreadful day would dawn, But memories are wonderful and though they still bring pain, They give us hope and keep us strong until we meet again.

> Happy Heavenly Birthday brother Loved and missed always Tanya, Tirna, Jake & Tayler XXXX

Uncle

Holy Angels up above, give our Uncle Jamie-Lee a great big hug. From all your nieces; Kyra, Nellíe, Jamíe, Lorren, Darla XXXXX

Nephew/Grandson

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.

Happy 25th Birthday Jamie-Lee Loved and missed always Aunty Sharon, James, cousins, Nanny Maureen and Uncle Kevin, Nanny Mag, Caroline & Boys XXXXXXX

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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.



Thursday June 22nd
THE WHISTLIN DONKEYS
The Dooley Brothers
OLD FORT

Friday June 23rd **QWEEN** Showdown - The ELO Experience

Saturday 24th June JOHN GIBBONS Marty Guilfoyle Atlas

Sunday 25th June
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