

PORTLAOISE  
PARISH  
**link  
up**

16th July 2023

**Fifteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**



The Youth Group accompanying our Lourdes Pilgrimage organised a very meaningful prayer service with emphasis on remembering the departed. The photograph on the collage is of Michael Fitzpatrick RIP, so closely associated with the annual Pilgrimage. Well done to our young people - proud of you! More photos inside.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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## In One Ear



"In one ear and out of the other," is an expression that could be applied to most of us, for at least some of the time. Today's gospel is about the difference between simply hearing something and really listening. Jesus uses the parable of the sower and the seeds to illustrate the different ways in which God's word can be received ... or not!

Firstly the sower drops seeds on a path only to be eaten by the birds. Jesus is describing those of us who hear the word but neither understands nor even tries to understand it. Next the sower drops seeds on rocky ground and the plants grow quickly but die off because the roots are not nourished. Jesus is describing those of us who receive the word without any real thought or commitment. Without foundation our faith can soon falter when put to the test. Then Jesus describes the seeds which fall among thorns. Sometimes we want to live by Jesus' teachings but worldly demands and temptation choke our good intentions. Lastly Jesus praises the good soil which enables the seeds to grow and bear fruit.

The parable of the sower and the seeds is clearly challenging us to be better prepared to receive the seed of the gospel. It is all too easy for us to go through the motions of listening when really not much is going on between our ears at all. The Bible is a treasure trove of inspiration but because it was written such a long time ago in words that aren't always easily understood we are often inclined to switch off. Do we come to church expecting to be bored by the readings or confused and indifferent before one word is even read? How different things might be if we allowed God's Word to impact our lives.

Listening is more than just opening our ears. Listening is about studying, learning, understanding ...and most importantly, turning that understanding into action.

*"As the farmer sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path.....Some fell on rich soil and produced their crop,"*

## 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.

## We welcome into our Parish Community

Molly Charlotte Sythes, Raheenduff

Méabh Eibhlín Flanagan, Cherrygarth

Freda Nancy Kenny, Heathfields

Eddie Thomas McCarthy, Buttercup Avenue.

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



## St. Mary Magdalene

**Saturday 22nd July**

Mary Magdalene stood by the Cross of Jesus, with two other women she discovered the empty tomb; she was granted an appearance of the Risen Lord early the same day from which incident she has been described as 'the apostle to the apostles'. The Gospels give no warrant for identifying her with the 'woman who was a sinner' who anointed Christ feet (Lk 7:37) or with Mary the sister of Martha who also anointed him (Jn 12:3).



*Imagine a sower going  
out to sow*

Matthew 13:2



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## Raheen Pantomime Group

Contrary to an advertisement that appeared in last weeks Link Up, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023, Raheen Pantomime Group or Raheen Panto Group by which we are also known, wish to categorically state that we are not *under new management*, nor have we instructed anyone to act on our behalf.

Neither are we seeking expressions of interest from participants in a forthcoming Panto production at this stage. However a future Panto production is under consideration by us. The phone contact in the aforementioned advertisement is not belonging to Raheen Panto Group either.

*Signed John Hosey, Producer/Director Raheen Pantomime Group, and on behalf of the Chairperson and Pantomime Committee.*



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Fr. Stephen Imbarrato, a pro-life American Priest, will give a talk on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7pm** in the Heath room of the Parish Centre. For info. contact

**Eleanor Maher  
087-6967807**

### CHILDMINDER REQUIRED

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**089-6135640**

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**Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July:**

**Top Score:** M. Delaney | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** M. Flanagan | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** B. Kennedy | **1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** L. McCartney

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Angela Brennan | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** B. Cahill | **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** P. Purcell | **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:** K. Farrell

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:** P. Murphy | **Best of 4 Games:** P.J. Cahill

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> T. Gowing | 2<sup>nd</sup> S. Duff | 3<sup>rd</sup> C. Galvin | 4<sup>th</sup> A. O' Dowd | 5<sup>th</sup> C. Chester, F. Gleeson, B. Fitzpatrick

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.

**Retired Nurses Laois/Offaly Branch (Raffle Results):**

1<sup>st</sup> Carmel Ward | 2<sup>nd</sup> Geraldine Dunne | 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigid Brassil | 4<sup>th</sup> B. M. Sullivan | 5<sup>th</sup> Margaret Kennedy | 6<sup>th</sup> C. Smith

7<sup>th</sup> M. J. Fleming | 8<sup>th</sup> Margaret Murray | 9<sup>th</sup> Noreen Delaney | 10<sup>th</sup> Theresa McCann | 11<sup>th</sup> Marie Conlon

12<sup>th</sup> A. J. Dunne | 13<sup>th</sup> M. Farrell | 14<sup>th</sup> M. Kelly | 15<sup>th</sup> Margaret Duggan | 16<sup>th</sup> Barbara Maloney | 17<sup>th</sup> Carmel Lynch

18<sup>th</sup> Olive Power. Any member who has not received their prize, contact Breda Cooley on 086-8812228.

**Portlaoise Active Retirement Club:** We are now on our break for the Summer until September but we are still carrying on with some activities; Bowls in St. Mary's Sports hall at 3pm every Monday, Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm every Thursday. Hope everyone is having a nice break and P.G. the weather will improve soon and that we will all be back in September for more friendship etc. For further information please contact P.R.O Sheila at 087-6204617.

**Clothes Collection supporting Friends of Calcutta (CHY No.13218) Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** All items of wearable clothing, footwear, curtains etc. most welcome. Collection up to 2pm outside Ballyroan and Raheen Churches, 2.30pm Shanahoe, 3pm Abbeyleix Church Car Park and 4pm Ballinakill. All enquiries to Michael Hopkins 087-9073074 who will be delighted to arrange a home collection if requested.

**Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to Older People once a week?** ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested please visit [www.alone.ie/volunteers](http://www.alone.ie/volunteers) for more information, e-mail Fiona; fiona.boyle@alone.ie or call 086-1366539.

### RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

**Petition Wall in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church;** Please pray for all petitions and you are welcome to place a petition on the wall at any time.

**Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August;** Bus leaves Portlaoise at 8.45am. Book your seat with deposit to Maura 087-1210263 or Helena 087-9611331.





## The Parable of the Sower



As Jesus travelled around the countryside with his disciples, large crowds often gathered around him to hear him teach. He often taught them by using parables. A parable is a story that Jesus made up to help people understand what he wanted to teach them. Our Gospel today is one of the parables of Jesus. It is called The Parable of the Sower. It was a story about a man who planted seeds in the field. Listen to the story that Jesus told.

A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he scattered the seed, some fell on the hard path nearby and the birds came and ate it up.

As the farmer continued to plant the seeds, some of them fell on soil that was full of rocks. There was not much dirt around the

rocks so the seeds started to sprout and grow the very next day. The only problem was, there was little dirt, so the plants didn't put down roots which would help them become strong and healthy. In the afternoon, the sun was very hot so the plants that had started to grow in the rocky soil withered and died because they had no root in the ground.

Some of the other seeds fell on soil that had been taken over with weeds and thorns. The weeds and thorns grew faster and taller than the plants from the seeds, so they choked out the plants that the sower wanted to grow.

Finally, some seed fell on the good soil that had been ploughed, fertilised, and weeded to make a good place for the seed to grow. Those seeds made healthy plants and produced good fruit.

This is the lesson that Jesus wanted his disciples to learn, and it is also the lesson that he wants us to learn today. The seed that the sower was planting in the story represents the teachings of God's Word. Our heart represents the soil where the sower planted the seeds.

Sometimes the priest at Mass is trying plant the teaching of God's love in our heart. If our heart is hard and filled with anger and bitterness, the teaching falls on hard ground and never grows, just like the seed that fell on the hard ground in the parable that Jesus told.

There are other times when we hear the Word and we get excited about it, but then our excitement fades away because our understanding is too shallow. That's the way it was with the seed that fell on the rocky soil.

Sometimes we hear the Word and we believe what it says, but we want to keep on doing the same things we have been doing. That is like planting the seed in with a bunch of weeds. I'm sure you can guess what happens. The weeds will soon take over!

The last seed is the best, it fell on the good ground. If you learn from what you hear in Sunday School and church, the seed that Jesus plants in your heart will grow. Your life will produce good fruit just like Jesus intended. You will be helping others to grow in their knowledge and understanding of God's love.

### Our Prayer

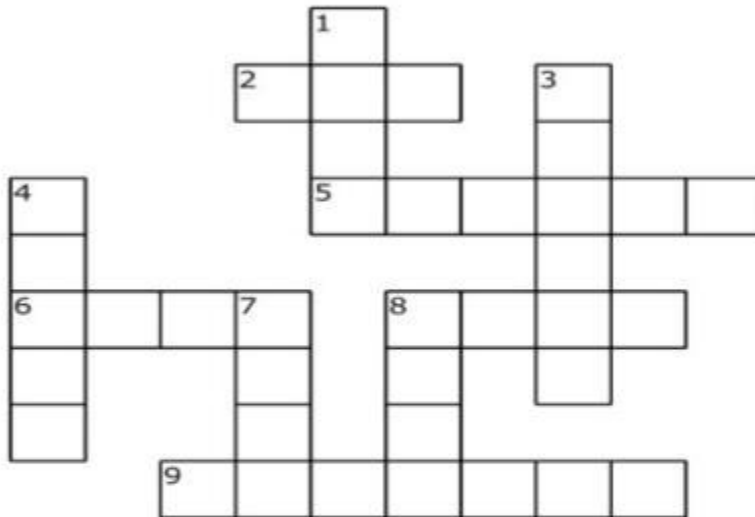
Our Father, help us to be like the good soil in our lesson today. Help us to listen to your Word and grow up to be the kind of boys and girls you want us to be.

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



# The Parable of the Sower

"But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it." **Matthew 13:23a**



## ACROSS

- 2. To put seeds in the ground so that plants will grow.
- 5. Small, sharp, pointed growths on the stem of a plant.
- 6. Plants such as grain, vegetables, or fruit grown by farmers.
- 8. A small, usually hard part of a plant from which a new plant can grow.
- 9. Not deep.

## DOWN

- 1. The part of a plant which grows down into the earth.
- 3. A person who owns or takes care of a farm.
- 4. Covered with stones.
- 7. A way made by or for people walking on the ground.
- 8. The upper layer of earth that may be dug or ploughed and in which plants grow.

**PATH**

**CROP**

**SOIL**

**THORNS**

**ROOT**

**SHALLOW**

**FARMER**

**SEED**

**SOW**

**ROCKY**

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**PLANTS**

**SCORCH**

**FARMER**

**THORNS**

**CROP**

**WITHER**

**BIRDS**

**ROOT**

**SHALLOW**

**SOW**

**SOIL**

**FELL**

**PARABLE**

**CHOKER**

**SEED**

**GREW**

**ROCKY**

**GOOD**

**PATH**

**SCATTER**





# Time to Think!

## *Sitting in Silence*

From the crowded city streets to the busy town hall square, from the local village community to the crofter's moorland cottage we find human beings going about their business. Some have travelled the short distance from home to shop to collect the family groceries, others are making a full day of it visiting big stores rarely seen. All in some way are on the move.

It is no wonder then that we often hear the phrase "I would just like some time to myself". Let's explore some of the words that we might use. We talk of "being alone," of "enjoying our own company", of "experiencing solitude". We speak of "peace and quiet", of "time with a good book", of having "an early night to catch up with sleep", of "time to doze in a comfortable fireside chair" and many other such phrases, all of describing a state we find relaxing and enjoyable. But not all of them are equivalent.

Time 'to myself' can lead to loneliness unless it is directed, has some purpose, leads us somewhere. We seek to disconnect in a positive way. Being alone can offer real opportunity to make ourselves available to others, it can create a space that others can occupy without feeling obtrusive, a time to listen, a time to be. In such times, God is with us.

Too often in our noisy and cluttered world we do not listen because we cannot hear. Lost in a cacophony of sound we drift from one task to another, unable to focus with any purpose and end up achieving very little. For some are disturbed by silence, without a background buzz, they feel uncomfortable, ill at ease. There is the evident need for rest and relaxation, taking time to care for oneself. Who cares for the carers? Nobody can give all the time without being replenished. Times of prayer are such times, when we seek renewal in the gift of God, be it in uttering of familiar phrases, the repetition of a few words or the silent attention of our stillness.

Mark, at the beginning of his gospel, tells us that early in the morning Jesus went out alone to seek a time for prayer. There is a stillness in the hours of sunrise, a stillness that encourages our body to be at rest, to be focused, a time of recollection before the work of the day. Value the gift of time to listen and to be. It's the way of our lives now - the work we do, the transport we enjoy, the myriad facilities we take for granted. We never had so many time-saving devices and yet we never had so little time. The conundrum of our days. And how do we cope with the stress that comes from never having enough time to do the things we want to need? Open practically any paper or magazine now and you'll find



something about stress or pressure or tension. And invariably the antidote to our modern ills is some version of the same bit of advice Jesus gave his followers 2,000 years: 'Go away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'.

In the midst of our busy world, full of noise, movement and deadlines, we're given some straight forward advice about making a little space, creating a still centre so that we find our bearings in the hustle and bustle of life.

But where is this 'lonely place' where we can get sufficient perspective to enable us to distinguish what's important from what, relatively speaking, hardly matters at all? Where is this still centre that helps us to create a workable balance in our often crazy world? Everyone needs this 'lonely place'. Everyone needs a periodic visit to a place of stillness, silence, solitude. We need to let life sit with us so that we can place the cares and concerns of life in a healthy context. Some people sit in a church. It's quiet and usually empty. Some pray, others just sit in silence. Maybe just sitting there allowing the stillness to envelope us. Listening to the beat of our own hearts. Or our own breathing. Letting the thoughts come. Giving it time. Others like to go for a long walk along a beach and use the rhythm of their walking to calm the demons of distraction so that they can get outside themselves in order to view reality with more clarity and perspective.

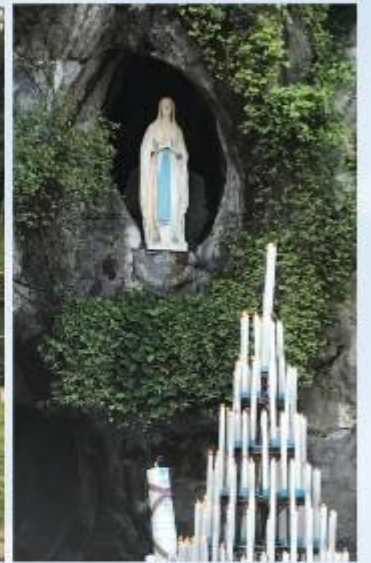
O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublesome life, until the shades lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done; then Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 30,100 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)*

# Parish Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes







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



**Emily Dunne**  
Pembroke Terrace,  
Abbeyleix



**Michael Daly**  
Rathmoyle, Abbeyleix  
and Donegal

**Jim Quigley** - Dublin Road, Portlaoise

**Jadviga Sisko** - Kilminchy, Portlaoise

**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)

**Treasured Memories of  
CAMILLUS RYAN**

*O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Year and 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from Home*



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

*Sadly missed by his son James, daughters Denise, Aileen & Melissa, daughter-in-law, sons-in-law, grandchildren and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Camillus*

**In Loving Memory of  
MICHAEL (Anthony) TIMMONS**

*Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023*



*Many the thoughts I give to you, as the long hours go by, thinking of the things we used to do and say, just you and I.*

*Sometimes they make me smile, sometimes they make me cry, but are precious to me alone, memories of You and I.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by Frances, Anna, James, Marian, Joan and family.*

*Rest in Peace Michael*

**In Loving Memory of  
EILEEN GRIFFIN**

*Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.*

*14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 6:30pm.*



*Our thoughts are ever with you, Though you have passed away, And those who have loved you dearly, Are thinking of you today.*

*Sadly missed and always loved by Mary & Tommy, Ger & Olive, Geraldine & Tommy, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her great-great-granddaughter.*

*Rest in Peace Eileen*

**In Loving Memory of  
BRIDGET (Cis) MILLS**

*Formerly St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.*

*5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023.*



*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 6.30pm.*

*Mammy; We think of you as present, You're not part of the past, For in life we loved you dearly, And in death it still can last.*

*Sadly missed by all your loving family.*

*Nanny; When tomorrow starts without you, We know we're not far apart, For every time we think of you, You're right here in our hearts.*

*With love from your 12 grandchildren.*

*Rest in Peace Cis*

**35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK FARRELL**

*39 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.*

*35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023*



*Quickly and quietly came the call, Without farewell you left us all, A sudden call from God on high, You had no chance to say goodbye.*

*Without farewell you fell asleep, But memories of you, we'll always keep.*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 12.30pm.*

*From his sons, daughters, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, sister-in-law, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family and friends.*

*May Patrick Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
FRANCES CARROLL**

72 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Frances' Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm.



God looked around His garden and found an empty place, He then looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face.

He put His arms around you, and lifted you to rest,  
God's garden must be beautiful,  
He always takes the best.  
He knew that you were suffering,  
He knew you were in pain,

He knew that you would never, get well on earth again.  
He saw the road was getting rough, and the hills were hard to climb,  
So He closed your weary eyelids, and whispered, 'Peace be thine'.

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

Loved and sadly missed by Maria, Dermot, Fiona, Aidan, Fergal and Christine, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law & grandchildren.

*May Frances Rest in Peace*

**19<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
ANTHONY (Tony) SAUNDERS**

40 Borris Road, Portlaoise.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 6.30pm

*Wherever we go, whatever we do,  
Memories of your love keeps us near to you.*

From your loving wife Christina, daughter Ellis, son-in-law Ger and grandchildren, George, Clare, and Trevor.

*May Anthony Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MICHAEL CUMMINS**

Roscrea and Portlaoise.

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.



The family of the late Michael Cummins, would like to express their sincere gratitude to all who sympathised with us, sent Mass cards and flowers.

Michael's 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 10am.

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

*No words can tell, no tears express, the love, the loss,  
the emptiness, you are not just a memory or part of the past,  
You are ours to remember as long as life lasts.*

*We miss you in so many ways,  
We miss the things you used to say, and when old times we do  
recall, it's then we miss you most of all.*

*Sadly missed by your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Dad*

**13<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
Of our Mother and Grandmother  
ROSALEEN KERRY**

Late of 48 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
Died 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 10am.

*Heavy are our hearts today,  
Memory brings you back once more,  
To the time you were with us,  
To the happy days of yore.*

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

*May Rosaleen Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
THOMAS (Tom) KELLY**

147 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 19<sup>th</sup> July. Missed so dearly.

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 10am



*I lost my life companion, a life linked with my own, and day by day I pray for you,  
As I walk through life alone.*

*The house you left is lonely and I am lonely too, those left behind are good and kind, but my heart still aches for you.*

*Always remembered by his loving wife Frances and family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Tom*

**In Loving Memory of  
KEVIN GRIFFEY**

50 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

*Although death has seperated us physically, faith and love have bound us eternally.*

*Though we cannot see you, we know you are here with us, in our every thought, as we think about you each day.*

*Though we cannot touch you, we feel the warmth of your smile, as we turn the page to a new chapter in our lives.*

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

*Loved and remembered always by Martina, Sharon, Craig, Colin, Alda and Mollai, sisters and brother, extended family and friends.*

*May Kevin Rest in Peace*

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

**FERGUS (Patrick) DUNNE**

Late of Dr. Murphy Place and Kilminchy, Portlaoise.

7<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from home; Special Birthday Remembrance



As I look upon your picture,  
Sweet memories I recall,  
Of a face so full of sunshine,  
And a smile for one and all.  
Missing you always,  
Forgetting you never,  
Rest in peace dear loved one, with  
Jesus in His Heavenly home.

From your loving partner Esther, your  
brothers, sisters, relatives & friends.

Also remembering other deceased relatives and friends at this time.

*May Fergus Rest in Peace*

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

**JANE SHIELS**

Formerly of Dr. Murphy's Place, whose birthday occurs 14<sup>th</sup> July.



Mammy, on your Heavenly birthday,  
You were an angel on earth,  
Now you are an angel in Heaven,  
To the world you were our Mother,  
To us, you were our world.

Loved and missed everyday by your  
sons, daughters, son-in-law,  
grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

*Rest in Peace Jane*

In Loving Memory of our dear

Mammy and Nanny

**PATRICIA O' BRIEN née Rice**

Cherrygrove, Portlaoise.

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> July.

4<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from home occurs 24<sup>th</sup> July.



Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 10am.**

Mammy;  
To your resting place we visit, place  
flowers there with care, but no one  
knows the heartache when we turn  
and leave you there.

Missed beyond words by your daughters Yvonne and  
Sandra, grandchildren Gordon, Evan, Teagan and  
Grace, also John xxx

*Rest in Peace Mammy*

In Loving Memory of  
**OLIVER CLEAR**

Late of 32 Liogard Portlaoise.

24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 11.15am.

Now God has called you to His home above,  
There to protect you with eternal love,  
Often at night when we pray for you,  
I hope you look down and pray for us too.

Sadly missed and always remembered by all your loving family.

*May Oliver Rest in Peace*

† **KEEGAN'S** †  
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50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

**087-2549195**

David **087-2369887**

**HENRY RANKIN**

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

We have opened a new office and show room on  
Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise.

(opposite the E.S.B. and Condell tractors)

Contact;  
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PAUL; 087-2562137  
NIALL;  
086-2770095



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## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
13<sup>th</sup> July 2023



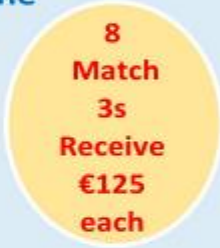
**No €20,000 Jackpot Winner**

### WINNERS

**MATCH 3s €1,000**

### PROMOTER

Lorraine Rock  
Patti & Sean Dunne  
The Dandy Man  
Gemma Lalor  
Eimear & Orla  
Jim Kerwick  
Dave Griffey  
James Jordan



Parish Online  
Christina Harris  
Rockie Keogh  
Peter Ryan  
Kathleen Rigney  
Anthony Preston  
Anthony Preston  
M Farrell



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

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**Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000**

**Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time**  
Isaiah 55:10-11 | Psalm: 64:10-14  
Romans 8:18-23 | Matthew 13:1-23

## 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

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly  
Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley  
Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

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

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP  
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

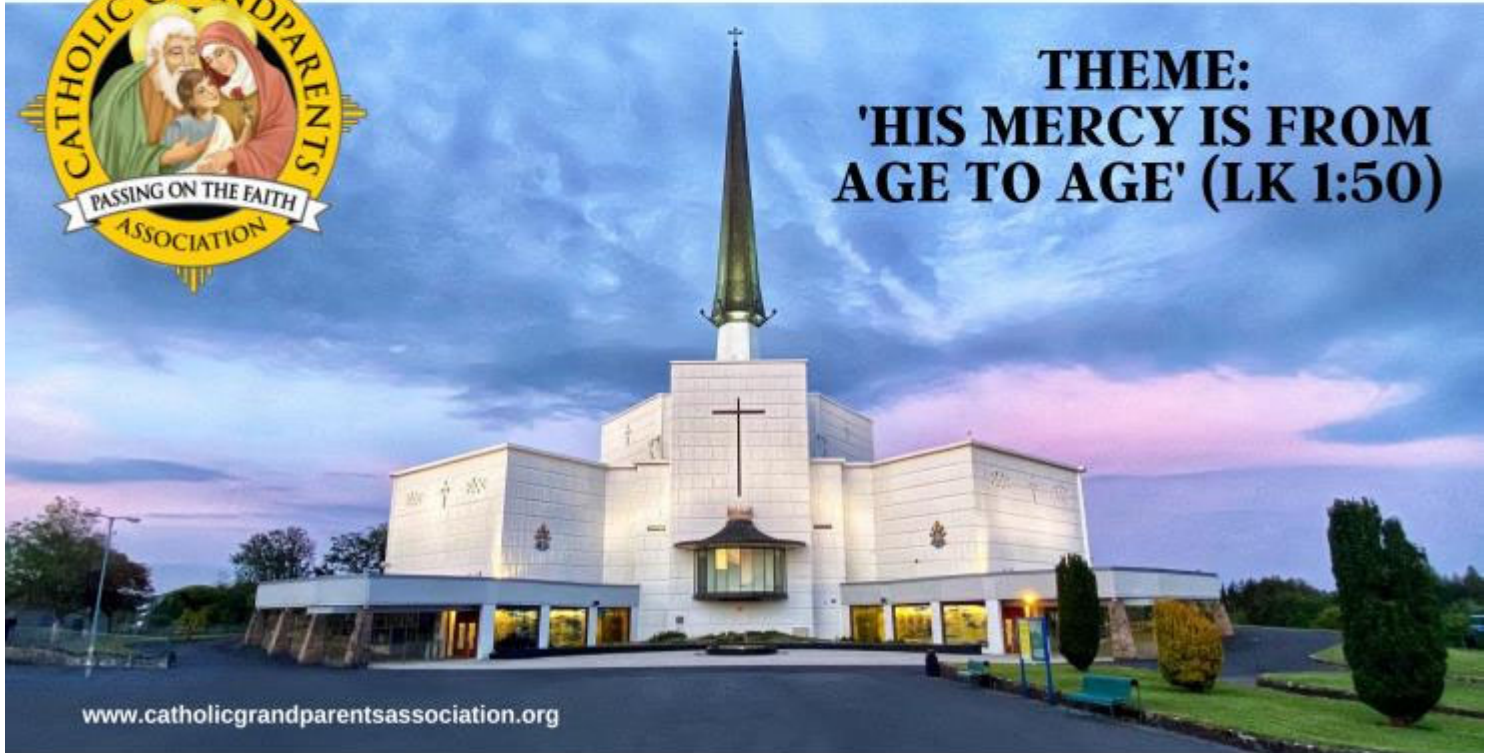
# NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE 2023

Celebration of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

3.00pm on Sunday 23 July 2023 in Knock



**THEME:**  
**'HIS MERCY IS FROM  
AGE TO AGE' (LK 1:50)**



[www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org](http://www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org)

**Principal Celebrant:** Bishop Denis Nulty, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin and Chair of the Council for Marriage and the Family of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference. Bishop Nulty will lead the pilgrimage and the celebration of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly at Knock Shrine.

**Music at the Mass:** The combined choirs of Knock Parish directed by Una Nolan, Director of Music at Knock Shrine.

**Dana** will sing the pilgrimage favourite *Lady of Knock* as well as her new hymn *Light the Flame*.

**Children's Prayer Appeal:** Inviting all children to write a prayer for their grandparents and send it to Knock Shrine Museum.

**Schedule for the day in Knock Basilica:**

**2.30pm:** Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

**3.00pm:** Pilgrimage Mass followed by the Rosary.



Telephone:

+353 (0) 85 870 4722

All are welcome!

THOSE UNABLE TO JOIN US IN PERSON CAN TAKE PART ONLINE AT [WWW.KNOCKSHRINE.IE/WATCH](http://WWW.KNOCKSHRINE.IE/WATCH)