

**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**  
23rd July 2023

**Sixteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**



# WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

SUNDAY 23 JULY 2023

*On this special day for Grandparents and the Elderly, we pray that they may always enjoy dignity, respect and appreciation for the contributions they have made to family and friends.*

As the theme for the 2023, Pope Francis has chosen "His mercy is from age to age," a line from the Magnificat, the great prayer of Mary to tie the celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly to World Youth Day, which will be celebrated just over a week later, in Lisbon, Portugal.



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)





## Wheat and Weeds

Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a field in which the master has sown good seed. In the night, an enemy comes and plants weeds, so when the crop grows it is a mixture of wheat and weed. The



servants' instinct is to pull the weeds out, but the master demands that the bad grow alongside the good ... he himself will sort the wheat from the weeds at the final harvest.

It's a typical Palestinian problem, the darnel weed, which looks just like wheat in its early stages is a menace to the harvest. The roots of the darnel weed intertwine with the roots of the wheat. To pull the darnel out can jeopardise the harvest. Similarly, just as it's hard to tell the difference between wheat and darnel, so it's not always easy for us to tell the difference between good and evil. A bad person can change and become good, and a seemingly good person might not be as virtuous as we imagine. It's best if we refrain from judging; this job is best left to God.

In films and novels, the good guys always win and the bad guys always get their come-uppance. Happy endings satisfy our human sense of justice, but in reality justice seems strangely elusive. We come up against evil time and time again. Sometimes we get so angry that we want to take justice into our own hands. Sometimes we are incensed that God can allow evil to grow alongside good, but before we get too irate, maybe we need to stop and take a good long look in the mirror. What makes us so sure that we're not weeds too? Where did we get that assurance that we are represented in the parable as the wheat?

Rarely is reality black and white. We all have good and bad inside us. We all need to change, and we all deserve the opportunity to make those changes. Perhaps this is the reason Jesus' advises us to leave the evil to grow alongside the good. As Martin Luther King Jnr. once said, "God's purpose is not wrathful judgement. God's purpose is redemption, and the road to redemption is by way of reconciliation."

## 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 6.30pm Mass.

## We welcome into our Parish Community

Harry Chris Coleman, Clondarrig Court

Hugh David Nevin, Oakpark

Neil Jerusalem Salami, Mill Court

Jude Anne Cloherty, Ashton Manor

Elise Joan Cloherty, Ashton Manor

Phoebe Cáit Cloherty, Ashton Manor

Sadie Mary Delaney, Quail Run, Maryborough Village

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



## World Day for Grand- parents and the Elderly

Sunday, 23 July 2023



Pope Francis has instituted a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on this day. Identifying with the more senior members of our society, he says "The whole Church is close to you – to us – and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!" "... We should cherish the elderly and recognise that there's no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to grandchildren."

**The date chosen ties in with the feast day of Saints Joachim and Anne:- 26th July**

By tradition Joachim and Anne are considered to be the names of the parents of Mary, the Mother of God. We have no historical evidence, however, of any elements of their lives, including their names. Any stories about Mary's father and mother come to us through legend and tradition. However, a lovely idea to use this date to celebrate the contribution of parents everywhere.

**Happy Grandparents Day.**



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**Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July;**

**Top Score:** B. Murphy | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** K. Farrell | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** B. Kennedy

**1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** A. O'Dowd | **2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** C. Brennan | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** T. Mulhare

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** F. Keenan & C. Gavin | **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:** M. Delaney

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:** P. Murphy | **13 Tricks:** A. M. Farrell & M. Flanagan

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> P. Stephens | 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Cahill | 3<sup>rd</sup> M. Delaney | 4<sup>th</sup> T. Gowing

5<sup>th</sup> B. Murphy | 6<sup>th</sup> C. Fitzpatrick | 7<sup>th</sup> M. Delaney | 8<sup>th</sup> N. Delaney

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.

**Laois Alzheimer Society** have vacancies on their Community Employment Scheme for Home Care Workers/Carers. Applicants welcome from all areas in Laois. For further information please ring Ann Munnely 086-8372168.

#### 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;

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**Helena 087-9611331**





## Weeds in the Garden

I have weeds in my garden. I made sure that I planted my garden in good soil, and yet, I still have weeds. As you probably know, one of the biggest enemies of a good garden is weeds. Weeds will rob the soil of the nutrients that help your plants to grow and many times they will choke out good plants. What can you do? Well, you could take a hoe and chop down the weeds, but if you do that, you will probably chop down some of the good plants by accident.

Another way to get rid of the weeds is to buy some weed killer. This stuff will really kill the weeds. The biggest problem with weed killer is that it doesn't know a tumble weed from a tomato plant. It kills every plant that it touches. Sometimes, it is best just to leave the weeds alone until it is time to harvest the crop. Then you can separate the weeds from the good plants.

One time Jesus told a story that compared his church to a garden that was infested with weeds. Sometimes there may be people in the church that don't really belong. They do things that aren't very loving and they don't seem to believe what the Gospel teaches. They sometimes say hateful things about the other members of the church and try to hurt them. They are like weeds in a garden.

We have to be very careful about trying to remove those people from the church. In his story, Jesus said that we shouldn't worry about pulling up the weeds that grow around us. If we do, we may do more harm than good. He suggests that we leave the weeds for God to take care of - and concentrate on doing what he wants us to do - which is producing good fruit.

Whenever you see someone in the church that you don't think should be there, before you grab your hoe or your weed killer, remember the advice of Jesus. Just leave it up to God to separate the weeds from the good plants. If we try to take matters into our own hands, we will probably do more harm.

## Prayer

Dear Father, help us to love one another and leave the matter of judgment in your hands. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## More than a sign

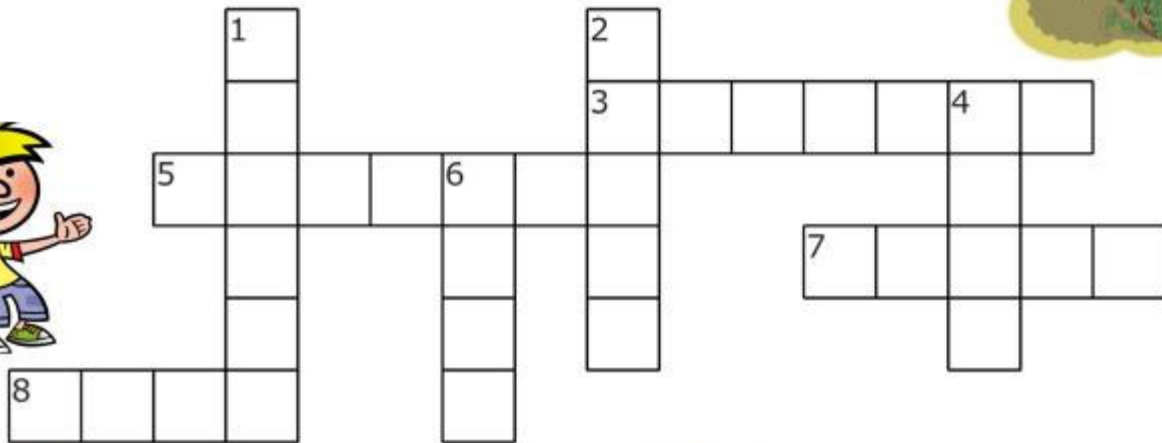
Sometimes, we can look and look, search, long, beg and pray for a secret message from God, just for us. But Jesus is right there in front of us, in our neighbour, in the poor, in the sacraments and in his word. Jesus loves us, draws us to holiness, and fills our hearts with the wisdom of God.





# The Parable of the Weeds

"When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared." *Matthew 28:26 (NIV)*



## ACROSS

- 3. The time of gathering crops.
- 5. Stories told by Jesus to teach his followers.
- 7. A plant that crowds out the good plants.
- 8. A building used for storing grain and housing farm animals.

## DOWN

- 1. The place where God is.
- 2. A grain that is ground into flour used in cooking.
- 4. A small pod placed in the ground to grow a plant.

<b>WEEDS</b>	<b>BURN</b>	<b>SEED</b>	<b>HARVEST</b>
<b>HEAVEN</b>	<b>WHEAT</b>	<b>BARN</b>	<b>PARABLE</b>

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



- SOW**
- FIELD**
- GOOD**
- UPROOT**
- HARVEST**
- WHEAT**
- GROW**
- WEEDS**
- SEED**
- PARABLE**
- HEAVEN**
- BURN**





**Congratulations to all the couples recently married in  
PORTLAOISE PARISH**  
*Every good wish and blessing for a happy future together.*



*Ellen Healy and Gearoid Buckley who were married in the Parish Church, on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Celebrant; Fr. David Vard*



*Rachel O'Connell and Cathal McNamara who were married in the Parish Church, on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Celebrant; Msgr. John Byrne*



*Zita Dillon and David Sutton, who were married in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Rathfeigh, Co. Meath on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Celebrant; Msgr. John Byrne*



*Ciara O'Reilly and Michael Lalor who were married in the Parish Church, on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Celebrant; Fr. David Vard*



*Chelsea Erasmus and James Conlon who were married in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Celebrant; Msgr. John Byrne*

AND THE  
*Two*  
SHALL  
BECOME  
*one*  
EPHESIANS 5:31







# Time to Think!

## The Cost of "Stars"

Every institution needs to be accountable, transparent and discerning. We have lived through the consequences of poor governance and its drastic consequences from Church to Banking, the latest on this Island is our National Broadcaster.

RTÉ did what institutions tend to do. It created an elite and inevitably a culture of precedence and entitlement followed. It also side-lined a defining principle of good governance - everyone has to be supervised. And, the twin fissures in the system, garnished by the glamour and allure of television, created the illusion that less was more. Thus, RTÉ ended up believing that the anointed, the invented and the ordinary, regardless of talent, given particular attention and adulation, were 'stars'.

RTÉ, imagining it was the BBC, invented a monster. So the monster (or the crocodile) was fed and, as nature would have it, the crocodile kept coming back for more. The process was facilitated by allowing presenters be 'contractors' and to employ agents to exert as much pressure as possible on the RTÉ management. As is the way, the bottom line was the fear that RTÉ's self-generated 'stars' might withdraw from the station and put at risk the lucrative advertising revenue of specific programmes on which the station had come to depend.

The monster that RTÉ created has, inevitably it seems, come to threaten its very existence. Living beyond its means with its resources compromised by agents and adding nothing to its core work value but milking fortunes from the enterprise, there was a creeping inevitability about the present implosion. Keeping sweet the few 'contractors' whose natural talent was of significant benefit to the station encouraged those of significantly lesser ability to imagine and to receive undue recompense for their belief that they too were stars in the RTÉ galaxy and that they too could be 'contractors' drawing from the same lucrative well. There were (naturally) very few Ryan Tubridys who might be enticed by the larger players in the BBC or ITV but RTÉ ended up over-lavishing their bounty in the sense of giving special treatment to an ever-expanding coterie of very ordinary talents.

The truth is that RTÉ itself unnecessarily boosted the profiles of average presenters (not least through the RTÉ Guide) and turned them into celebrities who naturally exploited their celebrity status to extract increased levels of fees both inside and outside Montrose. The truth too is that besides the 20 or more untouchable 'stars' creaming the gold dust there are competent hundreds willing and available to replace them, for a fraction of the cost.

The heresy RTÉ has created is that presenting programmes on radio or television demands exceptional talent. It doesn't. It's not rocket science or brain surgery. And paying 'personalities' for presenting news programmes or interviewing sports people or listening on the phone to the public complaining for five or ten hours a week should not merit the salary of a brain surgeon. More pointedly should Joe Duffy, a talented communicator in his own right, actually merit a salary of €350,000 - €120,000 more than what An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar earns (€230,000)? At the kernel of RTÉ's problem now is that the policy of allowing members of a perceived golden circle to embellish (sometimes) their curriculum vitae but (mainly) their bank balances have delivered a mixed benefit to the station.



Reading the list of incomes among the 'contractors' against the background of a few hundred other RTÉ employees protesting their comparatively modest earnings set in due relief the extraordinary earnings of the elite minority - in both earned incomes and add-ons. Here's a sample of the top earnings in 2021:

- Ryan Tubridy	€440,000
- Joe Duffy	€351,000
- Ray D'Arcy	€305,000
- Claire Byrne	€350,000 (now 2023)
- Miriam O'Callaghan	€263,500
- Brendan O'Connor	€245,504
- Brian Dobson	€209,282
- Mary Wilson	€196,961
- Darragh Maloney	€183,738
- Áine Lawlor	€183,662 in 2020
- George Lee	€179,131

(In 2008, Pat Kenny is estimated to have earned €950,000 and Gerry Ryan €630,000.)

The list (though a moveable feast) has some spectacular and quite remarkable earnings per individual output. While Tubridy earned almost half a million, his Monday to Friday radio schedule of five hours a week plus two and a half hours of the Late Late Show for 30-plus Friday nights of the year is a huge ask - in terms of talent and sheer endurance. By comparison, Joe Duffy's or Ray D'Arcy's workload seems a breeze, and ditto the last seven on the above list.

When the RTÉ implosion started a few weeks ago, predictions that Tubridy's career in RTÉ might be over and that RTÉ itself might suffer the same fate seemed greatly exaggerated. But few would rule out those possibilities now. When brands become toxic, as the Catholic Church has learned, it's very difficult if not impossible to detoxify them. Stone-walling by the RTÉ Board and creating the illusion that nobody really knew what was going on were quickly unmasked under cross examination as simply digging a deeper hole for those involved. This is the time to undo the present RTÉ culture: introduce a policy of accountability and transparency; ban 'contracting' and the use of 'agents'; moderate the top salaries; end the star/talent syndrome and the personality cult it nurtured which generated grotesquely excessive pay levels; take advantage of the available personnel in local radio and other community media; and introduce the kind of basic standards that are expected from those who are responsible for dispensing taxpayers' money. In a democracy we deserve true accountability from our National Broadcaster.

*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)*



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### Family Health and Urgent Care

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Urgent Care

Minor Injuries

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Travel health advice

Sexual health advice

Medical and fitness certificates

Prescription services

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### Women's Health

Early pregnancy scans

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STI Clinic

Menopausal services

Gynaecology services

Contraception advice

Emergency contraception

Post natal follow up

Pre pregnancy advice



## Rapid Health Clinic

[www.rapidhealthclinic.com](http://www.rapidhealthclinic.com)

0578509472

### LAOIS ALZHEIMER

#### Family Support

#### Group Meeting



THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of IRELAND

**Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm**

This meeting is a support for carers and families who are living with someone with dementia in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

For further information please contact Ann Munnelly

086-8372168 | [amunnelly@alzheimer.ie](mailto:amunnelly@alzheimer.ie)

### LAOIS ALZHEIMER

#### CAFÉ



THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of IRELAND

**Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 11am**

The Laois Alzheimer Café will provide a warm, welcoming space for people with dementia, their family and friends, social and health care professionals, to meet, exchange ideas and learnings. All are welcome.

For further information please contact Ann Munnelly

086-8372168 | [amunnelly@alzheimer.ie](mailto:amunnelly@alzheimer.ie)

or Grainne Roche Duff 087-6075037

### **Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat**

Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 10am to 1.30pm**

Holy Mass at 10am - confessions available

Retreat continues in the old Sacristy (behind the Altar) from 10.45 am to 1.30pm

(Exposition, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry)

Contact: Michael Nerney 086-8157305

Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P.

*All are Welcome*



Mary Delaney being presented with an image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, gifted by the late Msgr. Caoimhín O' Neill.



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



**Jim Quigley**  
Kilminchy, Dublin Road,  
Portlaoise and Tipperary



**Jadviga Sisko**  
Kilminchy, Portlaoise



**Liam Styles**  
Marian Avenue, Portlaoise



**Thomas Scully**  
Colliers Court, Portlaoise



**Eoin and Dylan  
Fitzpatrick**  
Clonroosk Abbey, 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)

**In Loving Memory of My Dear Father  
GARRETT KEOGH**

*Borris Rd., Portlaoise.  
53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.*

*Always Loved and  
Remembered*

*Your daughter Margaret and son-in-law  
Oliver and grandchildren xx*

*Rest in Peace Dad*



**Birthday Remembrance  
OLIVER BARTLEY**

*91 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise  
9<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from home  
(85<sup>th</sup> Birthday - 27<sup>th</sup> July)*



*Thinking of you on your Birthday  
It's especially difficult today not to  
have you here,  
To celebrate the times we've  
shared, over another joyful year.  
I wish I had just one more chance  
to see your happy smile, to laugh  
and celebrate with you,  
Just for a little while.*

*I'll hold onto you forever deep within my heart,  
And though you are not here with me,  
Know that we'll never part.  
This day was always special, so I just want to say,  
That I'm thinking of you with love, on this,  
your Birthday.*

*Sadly missed, loved and forever remembered by  
his daughter Monalisa, son-in-law Donal,  
grandsons Darryl and Stefan, sons John, Oliver,  
Shay & Darren, daughters-in-law, grandchildren,  
great-grandchildren and the Bartley family.*

*May Oliver Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
DESMOND (Des) RANKIN**

*Annebrook House, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023*



*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
S.S. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 6.30pm and  
Holy Cross Church, Ratheniska on  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 10am.*

*It's lonely here without you,  
We miss you more each day,  
For life is not the same to us,  
Since you were called away.*

*To your resting place we visit,  
Place flowers there with care,  
But no one knows our heartache, when we turn and  
leave you there.*

*Sadly missed and remembered by your loving wife  
Maureen, your daughters Anne and Mary, son-in-law  
Trevor and grandchildren Ben and Anna.*

*May Des Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
JULIA GORMAN**

11 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023



*Your life was one of kindly deeds,  
A helping hand for others needs,  
Sincere and true in heart and mind,  
Beautiful memories left behind.*  
Sadly missed by your loving family  
and extended family.

*May Julia Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
BERNADETTE MITCHELL**

17 River Court, Portlaoise and formerly  
4 Stradbally Rd., Portlaoise.



*2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary away from home  
occurred 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.*  
*Always in our thoughts  
Forever in our hearts*

*Sadly missed by brother Kevin,  
loving family, friends & neighbours.*

*Rest in Peace Bernadette*

**In Loving Memory of  
STEPHEN McELROY**

21 Carmody Way, Portlaoise.

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurred 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023.



*Thinking of you Stephen is easy,  
We do it every day,  
But missing you is a heartache,  
that never goes away.*

*Sadly missed by your Mam, sisters,  
brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews.*

*Rest in Peace Stephen*

**In Loving Memory of  
LARRY HEARNS**

Church View, Abbeyleix.

19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2023



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

*Sadly missed by Mary and family.*

*Rest in Peace Larry*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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

5 Green Road, Portlaoise.

Died 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023



The family of the late Michael Ging would sincerely like to thank all those who sympathised with us, sent Mass cards and flowers during our recent loss.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to our many friends, neighbours and well wishers.

We would also like to sincerely thank the following:

- Fr. David and Fr. Simon for their support with the rosary and requiem Mass.
- Aishling for her beautiful music during the requiem Mass.
- Pat McGill funeral directors for their care and support towards our family.
- The ambulance service.
- The staff at Duns Ward in St. James's Hospital who went above and beyond with the care they provided for Mick.
- Mr. John Connaughton and Mr. Sean Fleming from Portlaoise Regional Hospital. We will forever appreciate the care they provided to Mick.
- The staff at Portlaoise Regional Hospital, Micks colleagues and friends, words cannot express how much we appreciate the level of care and support to Mick and our family during the last few years. The guard of honour they provided at his funeral would have made him extremely proud.
- The staff at Home Instead Senior Care, especially Enda and Julieanne.
- The staff at the Cedar Clinic.
- Thomas Timmons who was a great friend to Mick.
- Trevor Flanagan thank you for your kindness.
- All of Micks friends for your calls, texts, and support.

Mick is deeply regretted by his loving wife Breda, daughters Yvonne and Antoinette, sons Pdraig and John, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law, grandchildren, brother Paddy, sisters, Nan, Theresa and Rosie, sisters-in-law, Pattie and Phyllis, nieces and nephews.

Mick's Month Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 10am.

*Rest in Peace Michael*



**In Loving Memory of  
GERRY ALLEN**

*Eyne, Portlaoise.*

**39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**



*Deep are the memories,  
Precious they stay,  
No passing of time can take  
them away.*

*For the memories of the  
ones we love, still cast a  
gentle glow, to grace our  
days and light our paths,  
wherever we may go.*

**Forever loved and missed by Mam and  
all your family x**

*May Gerry Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
KEVIN FRANCIS MURPHY**

*Late of Beladd, Portlaoise*

**Died 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.**



*Time unfolds another year,  
Memories keep you very near,  
No need for words except to say,  
You're loved and missed  
each passing day.*

**Sadly missed by your loving  
wife Mary, daughters Sinead &  
Niamh, sons Cathal and Tadhg,  
son-in-law James, daughters-in law Clare and  
Susan, grandchildren, extended family and friends.**

*May Kevin Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
TOM PHELAN**

*Clonkeen, Portlaoise and formally Ballinakill.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.**



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

*God saw you were getting tired,  
When a cure was not to be,  
He closed His arms around you,  
And whispered "Come to Me".*

*In tears we watched you sinking,  
We watched you fade away;  
And though our hearts were breaking,  
We knew you could not stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating,  
Hard working hands at rest,  
It broke our hearts to see you go,  
God only takes the best.  
Your painful days are over Dad,  
Your restless nights have passed,  
God gently closed your eyes,  
And gave you peace at last.  
You gave us years of happiness,  
Then sorrow came with tears,  
You left us lovely memories,  
We will treasure through the years.  
May you Rest in Peace dear Dad,  
Is now our daily prayer,  
We thank you Dad for everything,  
Your love and all your care.*

**Loved and always remembered by his children Andrea,  
Ruairi, Ciara and Tomas and their mother Marie,  
daughter-in-law Carol, sons-in-law Brian and Paul and  
his adored grandchildren Alex, Emma, Oisín, Rebecca,  
Sarah, Tommy and Jim along with his extended family  
and many friends.**

*Rest in Peace Tom*

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

*Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurred 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  
your Mother Mrs Timmons, Anna, James, Joan and family.**

*Rest in Peace Michael*

**In Loving Memory of  
JULIA MARGARET "BELL" DOHENY**

*23 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.*

**7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023.**



*Mother: A mother like ours is more than a  
memory, she is a living presence.*

*Our mother is always with us, she's the  
whisper of the leaves as we walk down the  
road; she's the smell of bleach in our freshly  
laundered socks; she's the cold hand on our  
brow when we're not well.*

*Our mother lives inside our laughter and she is  
crystallised in every tear drop.*

**She's the place we came from - our first home, and she's the map  
we follow with every step we take.**

**She's our first love and our first heartbreak, and nothing on earth  
can separate us, not time, not space - not even death.**

**Always remembered and never forgotten.**

**From her daughters, sons, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, grandchildren  
and great-grandchildren, relatives and friends.**

**Also remembering other deceased relatives and friends at this time.**

*May Julia Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
CATHERINE BERGIN**

*Liogard, Portlaoise. 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 30<sup>th</sup> July.*



*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 12:30pm.*

*God called your name so softly that only  
you could hear, and no one heard the  
footsteps of angels drawing near.*

*The golden gates stood open, God saw you needed rest,  
His garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by her  
family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Catherine*

**In Loving Memory of  
SEAN DUNNE**

*Meelick, Clonad. 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 20<sup>th</sup> July.*



*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
this Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 10am.*

*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 by his sons Sean, Denis, Pat, Tom and  
Terry, daughters Mary and Bridget, sons-in-law,  
daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great-grandchildren,  
nieces, nephews and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Sean*



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NIALL;  
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## Portlaoise Parish



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



One €20,000 Jackpot Winner  
Congratulations to  
Eugene & Mag, Promoter Pam Killeen

### WINNERS

Pauline  
Elizabeth Lalor  
Kathleen O'Brien  
Noreen Ryan  
Sean McEvoy  
John Joe Ging  
Liam O'Grady  
Joseph Walsh  
Stephen Marum  
Tara Kane  
Shirley  
Joe Brennan  
Roisin Keegan  
Fran Kelly  
Victoria Feighery  
Jason McDowell  
Mag & Eugene

### MATCH 3s €1,000



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

### PROMOTER

Online Lotto  
Lotto Gift  
Lily Whelan  
Bergin Family  
Anne Ging  
Anne Ging  
Anthony Preston  
Betty Lynch  
Parish Centre  
Flanagan's Foodstore  
Peter Ryan  
Peter Ryan  
M Lowry  
A Kelly  
Breda Conroy  
Sarah McDowell  
Pam Killeen

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Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

### Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 | Psalm: 85:5-6, 9-0, 15-16  
Romans 8:26-27 | Matthew 13:24-43

### 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: @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  
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057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm

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Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

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PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully



# POPE BENEDICT'S PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS



## PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

Lord Jesus,  
you were born of the Virgin Mary,  
the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne.  
Look with love on grandparents the world over.  
Protect them! They are a source of enrichment  
for families, for the Church and for all of society.  
Support them! As they grow older,  
may they continue to be for their families  
strong pillars of Gospel faith,  
guardians of noble domestic ideals,  
living treasuries of sound religious traditions.  
Make them teachers of wisdom and courage,  
that they may pass on to future generations the fruits  
of their mature human and spiritual experience.

Lord Jesus,  
help families and society  
to value the presence and role of grandparents.  
May they never be ignored or excluded,  
but always encounter respect and love.  
Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed  
in all the years of life which you give them.  
Mary, Mother of all the living,  
keep grandparents constantly in your care,  
accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage,  
and by your prayers, grant that all families  
may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland,  
where you await all humanity  
for the great embrace of life without end. Amen!

*Benedictus 11<sup>o</sup>*

