

**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**

6th August 2023

## The Transfiguration of the Lord



Martina Harding wrote this poem marking Fr. David's transfer to Stradbally. It sums up the thoughts and feelings of a lot of parishioners. Photos from Fr. David's last Mass in our Church on page 17.

### Fr. David, A Man of Devotion

You devoted your life to answer God's call,  
Attending Maynooth to learn it all.  
You wanted to spread God's love to the nation.  
By following this special vocation.  
In 2017 it happened for you,  
The life of a priest had come true.  
Your path would lead you to The Town,  
Where you did smile and never frown.  
You spent six happy years here serving the crowd,  
Speaking whole heartedly at your sermons out loud.  
You stood by the people throughout good and bad,  
Giving comfort to people when they were sad.  
Monsignor John was your special guide,  
Supporting you on the side.  
You learned your trade excelling at mass,  
And the parish children loved you visiting their class.  
So kind to all in school,  
Gave you the name of being cool.  
Your appearance on the Tommy Tiernan show,  
Also helped your popularity to grow!  
You enjoyed going on pilgrimage too,  
There was nothing for the parish you wouldn't do.  
On August second we say goodbye,  
To the people of Stradbally you will bring much joy.  
Our loss is their gain,  
But you're not far away which will ease our pain.  
Best wishes in all you do,  
Portlaoise Parish won't forget you.

Penned by Martina Harding



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)





## THE TRANSFIGURATION

### Sunday (Today) 6th August



Professional life mentors could give us a few clues when it comes to staying motivated. The first and single most important factor in staying motivated is to have a vision. Having a vision, and imbuing that vision with a passion, gives us a reason to act. As Christ's disciples we might motivate ourselves with a vision of a world without poverty or war ..... or simply to improve the life of one other person. Jesus is an excellent life mentor. On this feast day, we see him recognise that Peter James and John were downhearted and in need of some kind of emotional boost. He took them up a high mountain and treated them to a vision. The vision showed a transfigured Jesus, as dazzling as the sun speaking with Elijah and Moses. The vision showed the disciples a glimpse of the glory that they would one day share. Mountain top religious experiences are few and far between, but that shouldn't stop us sharing Christ's vision, and it shouldn't stop us getting on with God's work with a passion.

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

**Monday (Bank Holiday):** 10am

**Tuesday 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

Fiadh Ann McCaul Geoghegan, Woodgrove

Bobby Slattery Lyons, Kilminchy

Ella Rose O'Neill, Hillview

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



### St. Clare, virgin

Friday 11th August

The law of God is sweet to those who obey with childlike simplicity. St. Clare, born at Assisi in 1193, died 1253. She followed St. Francis in his life of poverty and was founder and ruler of the Poor Clares. She led an austere life, abounding in works of piety and charity. Patron of television.



### St Lawrence Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Saint Lawrence was martyred for outwitting a Roman prefect and for standing firm in the face of persecution. A saint with a modern day message, from St Lawrence we learn to always

stand against those who seek to destroy us and persecute us for our beliefs in Jesus Christ and His Church. With great confidence and fortitude, we too can overcome the challenges that stand before us. Throughout the world, many of us are being faced with a threat against our religious freedom. We must stand against such tyranny and battle for our freedoms.



### St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

(Edith Stein) 9th August

Edith was born at Breslaw (now Wroclaw, Poland), the youngest of seven children of a Jewish family. A brilliant student, she gained her doctorate in philosophy at twenty-five. She became a Catholic in 1922 and a Carmelite nun. Both Jewish and Catholic, she fled to Holland when the Nazis came to power but she was captured and sent to Auschwitz where she died in a gas chamber on 9 August 1942.



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





# The Heath Golf Club

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### Friday 11th August

**Men's 18 Hole Singles**  
**Stableford**

*Mark O'Boyle Pro Shop*  
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*Tallis Grasscare*

### Saturday 12th August

**3 Person Team \***  
*RSM Chartered Accountants*

**9 Hole Singles**  
*Donal and Anne O'Sullivan*

### Sunday 13th August

**4 Ball Better Ball\***

*Booth Concrete &*  
*Blossom Time*

### Tuesday 15th August

**Women's 4 Ball Better Ball**

*Shaws Department Stores*

**12 Hole Singles**  
*Midland Grass Machinery*

### Thursday 17th August

**3 Person Scramble \***  
*Sparrow Insurances*

**9 Hole Singles**  
*Rolleston McElwee Solicitors*

### Friday 18th August

**4 Person Classic**  
*Downeys Autostop*

**9 Hole Singles**  
*McElwee Pharmacies*

### Saturday 19th August

**4 Ball Better Ball**  
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**9 Hole – Singles**  
*Square Bar*

### Sunday 20th August

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R32 WR52

*\* Overall prizes and prize for best men's, mixed and women's team as marked*





# Buíoich



 **DUNAMAISE  
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Doors: 7:30pm | Gig: 8:00pm  
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*For further information or to make an appointment please contact:*

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**Email: [empathycounselling@gmail.com](mailto:empathycounselling@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.empathycounselling.net](http://www.empathycounselling.net)**

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## **PORTLAOISE FATIMA INVALID FUND CHURCH GATE COLLECTION**

**12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> August**

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Ratheniska, the Heath and  
surrounding areas. Your support  
would be greatly appreciated.



## **ROSARY AT THE SHRINE**

Market Square,  
Portlaoise  
This Sunday  
and on the

First Sunday of every month  
at 2:30pm. All are welcome.



## **RING FOUND**

In Portlaoise,  
on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July  
For details, please text

**085-1354959**

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



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

**Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> August:**

**Top Score:** Breda Fitzpatrick | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Bridie Kennedy | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** P. Dowling | **1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** Tom Dunne

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Tom Jacob | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Margaret Harte | **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Sheila Duff

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> B. Kennedy | 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Fitzpatrick | 3<sup>rd</sup> B. O'Keeffe | 4<sup>th</sup> B. Kennedy | 5<sup>th</sup> Tom Dunne | 6<sup>th</sup> Sheila Duff  
7<sup>th</sup> Theresa Mulhare | 8<sup>th</sup> F. Keenan | 9<sup>th</sup> T. Dunne | 10<sup>th</sup> Liam McCarthy



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.

**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.

**Emmanuel House, Clonfert, Co. Galway:** Day of Prayer, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 11am including blessing with the first class Relic of St. Philomena. Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee provided.

**Prayer for Life, Unity and Peace:** The annual crossing of Ireland with a statue of Our Lady takes place on 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August as in previous years. The southern leg, Tramore to Mullingar is divided into 6 sections, our section is from Abbeyleix to Killeigh. The statue will be transported on the roof of a car and visible for all to see.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

11.30am; Abbeyleix - Rosary in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary

12.30pm; Portlaoise - Rosary at Our Lady's Shrine

2.30pm; Mountmellick - Rosary in the Parish Church

3.30pm; Killeigh - Rosary in the Parish Church

It is hoped that many will join us in the Rosary and accompany the statue on part of the journey, if not all the way. Rosary beads will be available.

**Spioraid Naoimh Praying Community:** "The Step by Step to Feed the Next Child Walk" starts in Kilkenny and passes through Portlaoise. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Eamonn Kelly, Mary's Meals Ireland, in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm. All are invited to join in this Eucharistic celebration. Contact Michael Nerney 086-8157305 or visit [www.marysmeals.ie](http://www.marysmeals.ie)



This week we welcomed to our Parish, Mary and Bill Roos from Arlington USA, pictured above with Msgr. John Byrne and Fr. Nick Harnan

Mary and Bill are members of our virtual congregation.



**Congratulations**

To Anne Fagan, winner of last week's €20,000 lotto jackpot and Philip Fagan, promoter of the winning ticket.

You too could be as lucky as Anne - play lotto online at [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) or purchase a lotto membership in the Parish Centre.

If you aren't in, you can't win!!

The lotto draw takes place in the foyer of the Parish Centre every Thursday evening after 5pm and is live streamed on the Portlaoise Parish facebook page; [fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois](https://www.facebook.com/portlaoiseparishlaois)



## *An Exhibition and Concert in honour of Our Lady*



A self portrait of the artist  
Oksana Rohovska

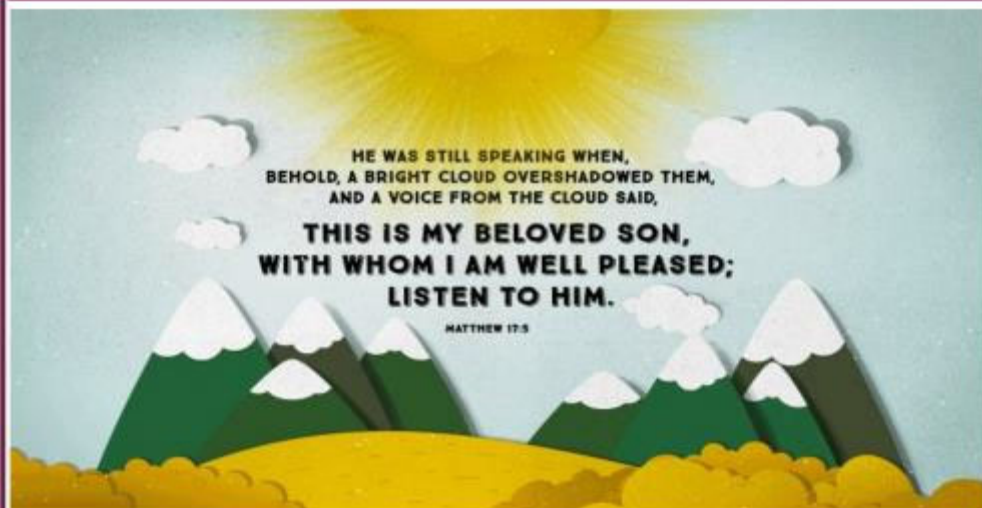


**Oksana Rohovska - a Ukrainian artist living in Portlaoise since the invasion of her country in February 2022 is decorating our Parish Church in honour of Our Lady next weekend in association with Tuesday's Feast of the Assumption. The exhibition will remain in places until 20th August. Also following the 12.30pm Mass on 13th August there will be a short Sacred concert in honour of our Lady. The theme of the display and the concert will be to pray for peace in all the troubled parts of the World and especially peace in Ukraine.**

**All are welcome.**







## Sunshine Mountain

When I was a child, one of my favourite songs was "Climb Sunshine Mountain." Some of you may have heard it. Perhaps some of you have even sung it. It goes like this:



Climb, climb up sunshine mountain  
Heavenly breezes blow  
Climb, climb up sunshine mountain  
Faces all aglow  
Turn, turn from sin and sorrow  
Look to God on high  
Climb, climb up sunshine mountain  
You and I



Isn't that a great song? It reminds me of a day when Jesus and some of his disciples decided to climb a mountain. The Bible tells us that Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up on a high mountain. When they were alone on the mountain, Jesus' appearance began to change and his clothes became dazzling white and shone as bright as the sun. Then Elijah and Moses appeared and began talking to Jesus.

The disciples became very excited, but as you can imagine, they were also a little bit afraid. As usual, Peter was the first to speak. He told Jesus that they should stay up there on the mountain and build three tabernacles. One for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. All of a sudden, a cloud appeared and the voice of God came from the cloud saying, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Then Moses and Elijah disappeared and the disciples were alone again with Jesus.

You and I may never have an experience on the mountain top like the one that Peter, James, and John had, but we can "Climb Sunshine Mountain" if we will stay close to Jesus and walk with him each and every day.

## Prayer

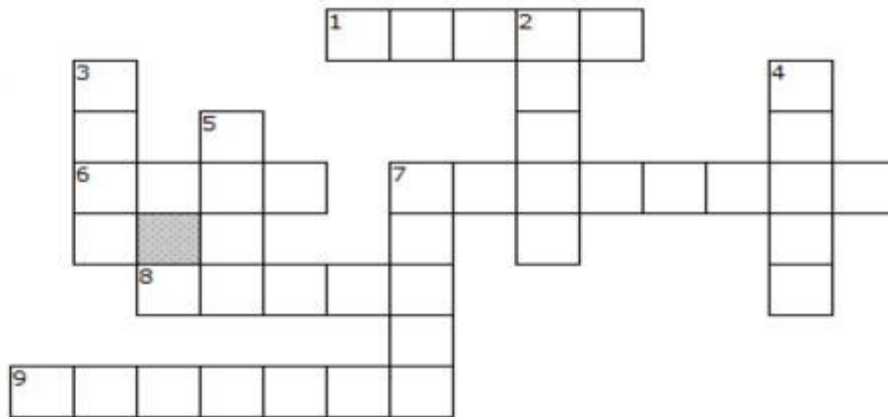
Dear Father, we want to walk with Jesus and let his light shine on us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen





## On the Mountain Top

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. **Mark 9:2**



### ACROSS

1. The sound produced by the vocal organs; what we use to speak.
6. Something that is pleasing, enjoyable, or of high quality.
7. A raised part of the earth's surface, larger than a hill
8. The Son of God
9. Articles of apparel such as trousers, shirts, dresses etc.

### DOWN

2. A white or grey mass of very small drops of water that floats in the sky.
3. Having a great distance from top to bottom.
4. The colour of snow or milk
5. To have a strong feeling of affection for someone
7. Jewish leader who received the Ten commandments

**CLOTHES**  
**MOSES**

**MOUNTAIN**  
**CLOUD**

**WHITE**  
**JESUS**

**LOVE**  
**HIGH**

**VOICE**  
**GOOD**

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



**LEFT**  
**THANKS**  
**ATE**  
**FOOT**  
**BASKETFULS**  
**CROWDS**  
**FOOD**  
**PEOPLE**  
**TWELVE**  
**LANDED**

**SATISFIED**  
**LATE**  
**FOLLOWED**  
**HEALED**  
**JESUS**  
**TOWNS**  
**LOAVES**  
**FISH**  
**SICK**  
**BOAT**





# Time to Think!

## *When will the Sun come out to shine...*

As I write this article, I look out and wonder when the sun will come out. July has been the wettest month ever recorded on this island. Unfortunately, so far this August has been wet and grey. I think of holiday makers who must be very disappointed despite the fact that Ireland perhaps has never looked as green. Light affects our mood, that's why the sun is so important, not just for vitamin D, but as a positive stimulus to our mental health. I suggest reading the following may well indulge us with necessary positivity. Believe that anything can happen and that we can reach out beyond the confines of our present thinking and celebrate with a new heart.

A motivational speaker walked confidently around the room holding a glass of water while leading a seminar on stress management. Everyone guessed she was going to ask the ultimate question, 'half empty or half full?' She fooled them all. "How heavy is this glass of water?" she inquired with a smile. Answers called out ranged from 8 oz. to 20 oz. She replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes." She continued, "And that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on." "As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden - holding stress longer and better each time practiced. So, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the evening and into the night. Pick them up again tomorrow if you must.

### *And remember;*

1. Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully... It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
6. If you lend someone €20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.



7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird - sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
15. Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
16. We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colours, but they all have to live in the same box.
17. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
18. Save the earth..... It's the only planet with chocolate!

We all know that life is the best educator. Simply it's never too late to begin again. Every day the challenge is for us all to see the glass half full. The more we grow in our inner journey the greater we will notice the beauty and gift that is this moment, so be positive, calm and mindful. Enjoy the beauty of this Harvest time. May the month of August be a healthy and happy one for us all.

*"Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones" (Proverbs 16.24)*



# The Parish Shop



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*At The Parish Centre*

*057 862 1142*

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



***"May the Lord give you peace."***

Dear parishioners of Portlaoise Parish, please allow me to introduce myself to you. I am Fr. Adriano Oliveira, a diocesan priest from the State of Minas Gerais in Brazil. I was born in 1976. I am the second-youngest son in a family of eight children. My dad passed away almost two decades ago, and my mother just celebrated her 80th birthday. Her name is Aidee. She is in good health and doing very well. My brothers and sisters are married and have kids and even grandkids. And most of them live less than 10 miles away from my mother's house. I have a nephew working and studying in Portugal, and we are the only members of our family living abroad.



I joined the diocesan seminary of Divinópolis in 1995. After eight years of philosophical and theological studies, I was ordained a deacon and a priest in 2003. Throughout my years of priesthood, I have served as a curate and administrator in different parishes and worked in our seminary and in education. I must admit that my early contact with "Irish culture" was through music. I grew up listening to U2 songs. I was 14 years old when the live version of *I still haven't found what I am looking for* became a hit on our pop radio stations. As far as I remember, most of the time I was trying to sing along the lyrics without knowing the meaning of the words.

In 2009, I had the opportunity to travel to Ireland to visit the country and learn English. I keep in my heart very fond recollections of those days. The insecurity of driving on the *other side* of the road. The enormous variety of green. The enjoyment of having the four seasons in a single day. The peculiar layout and architecture of the towns. The different accents and the unpronounceable Irish words. The immediate yes to a cup of tea for any occasion. Fresh scones with butter and jam, and a cup of coffee... The warm welcome from people. These are living memories in my soul.

Last year, the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin received me for a pastoral experience. The first assignment was as a curate in Kilcock, north Kildare. And recently, Bishop Denis Nulty appointed me as a curate here in Portlaoise. It is an honour and pleasure for me to serve this community under the guidance of Msgr. John Byrne and work along with fellow priests, deacon and the parish team. Keep me in your prayers. And if you see me around, don't hesitate to say hello or *olá*, as we do in Portuguese. My best wishes to Fr. David Vard in his new mission.

*Fr. Adriano*



We welcome Fr. Adriano to Portlaoise and hope he will be happy and fulfilled in this new post for him. All the way from Brazil we know he will receive a warm Laois welcome.



The wonderful turn out for Fr. David's final Mass in the parish last Wednesday and the many who attended the Parish Centre afterwards speaks volumes of the high regard and affection in which he is held.

As he takes up his new position of Administrator of Stradbally Parish our prayers and good wishes accompany him. We are

grateful for his services to Portlaoise and there is consolation in the fact that he will be a neighbour. And as the recent Diocesan initiative of Pastoral Areas becomes more of a reality we look forward to working closely with him and the parish of Stradbally into the future. We are also grateful that he will continue in his roles as chaplain to both Christ Rí and St. Mary's CBS secondary schools.



## Fr. David's Farewell





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



**Donal Breen**  
Portlaoise/Timahoe



**Lynn Cahill**  
*née* McSweeney  
Moate, Ballinakill



**John Kirwan**  
Mountrath/Shanahoe

*Even though I walk through the darkest  
valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me;  
Your rod and your staff - they comfort me.*

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

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

**In Loving Memory of  
KIERAN DELANEY**

*A Dear Son, Uncle and Daddy*

*Late of Green Mill Lane & St. Brigids Place, Portlaoise.  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023*



*When I come to the end of my journey  
and I travel my last weary mile,  
Just forget, if you can, that I ever frowned  
and remember only my smile.  
Forget unkind words I have spoken,  
Remember some good I have done,  
Forget that I ever had a heartache,  
And remember I've had loads of fun.  
Forget that I've stumbled and blundered  
and sometimes fell by the way,  
Remember I have fought some hard battles and won, ere the  
close of the day.*

*Then forget to grieve for my going;  
I would not have you sad for a day, but in summer just gather  
some flowers and remember the place where I lay.  
And come in the evening when the sun paints the sky in the  
west, stand for a few moments beside me and remember  
only my best.*

*Always in our thoughts Kie; Mam, Angie, Kelley, Tracy,  
Brendan, Sean, Laura and his son Adam, nieces and  
nephews and all his loving family.*

*May Kieran Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE O'CONNOR**

*St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.*

*12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023.*



*The memories we made are  
the strings of love, weaving  
your heart to ours.*

*Always loved and remembered  
by James, Zoe, Odin, Zane  
and Ange xxxxx*

*Rest in Peace Eugene*

**In Loving Memory of  
EUGENE O'CONNOR**

*St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.*

*12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023.*



*Thinking of you today, on your  
anniversary, as I do everyday,*

*Loved and missed by your twin  
sister Lucy, brothers, sisters, your  
children James and Zoe and your  
grandsons Odin and Zane xxxx*

*Rest in Peace Eugene*



**In Loving Memory of**  
*A dear Mother and Father*  
**VIRGINIA & PATRICK DOYLE**

*Lakeglen, Portlaoise.*

*Virginia's 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023.  
 Patrick's 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023.*



*We hold you both within our hearts and there you shall remain,*

*To walk with us throughout our lives, until we meet again.*



*Sadly missed by their children*

*Lisa, Thomas and Patrick*

*and grandchildren, Jane, Brian, Barry, Jack and Joe.*

*May They Rest in Peace Together*

**In Loving Memory Of**  
**JOHN DUFF**

*Died 13<sup>th</sup> August 1968  
 (55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)*

*And his Son*

**PATRICK  
 DUFF**

*Died 10<sup>th</sup> August 1983  
 (40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)*

*Kyle, Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.*

*Softly the leaves of memory fall, gently we gather and treasure them all, for the ones we loved so dearly.*

*John and Patrick's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Thurs. 10<sup>th</sup> August at 10am.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by all their loving family.*

*Rest in Peace John and Patrick*



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
 VIRGINIA DOYLE**

**Lakeglen, Portlaoise. Died 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022.**



The family of the late Virginia Doyle, would like to acknowledge the many expressions of sympathy on their sad loss. Thanks to all who attended the funeral or watched online, all who called to see us, all who sent cards and flowers, and all who placed messages of condolences online when Virginia passed away.

Thanks to Paul from Rankin's Funeral Directors, Matthew Keegan, and Timmy for all your help, kindness and professionalism.

Thank you to the gravediggers for preparing Virginia's final resting place.

Sincere thanks to Msgr. John Byrne for the lovely Requiem Mass and to Nuala Kelly, thank you for the music.

Sincere thanks to the staff working in the Oncology Ward at the Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore who looked after Virginia so well right up until the end, especially Angelina, Cathy and Michelle. A special thanks to Frances.

Heartfelt thanks to colleagues and friends at LOETB and Finline Furniture who were so kind, understanding and thoughtful in the past year, our first year without our beloved mother.

A special thanks to Bosco Ramsbottom for being so good to Patrick. Thanks to all of our relations, friends and neighbours who supported us and continue to do so. As we cannot thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation and gratitude.

Virginia is sadly missed and remembered forever by her heartbroken children, Lisa, Thomas and Patrick, her grandchildren Jane, Brian, Barry, Jack and Joe, her brothers and sisters, mother-in-law, sisters-in law and brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, neighbours and friends.

*Rest in Peace Virginia*

**In Loving Memory of  
 PAULINE HOOBAN**

*15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023.*



*Even though you are not with us,*

*Your presence is still strong.*

*Loved and missed everyday by your sister Mary and family.*

*Rest in Peace Pauline*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
 EMILY DUNNE**

**Pembroke Terrace, Abbeyleix.**



The family of the late Emily Dunne would like to thank our good neighbours from Abbeyleix and our friends from all over Ireland and the UK who sympathised with us, sent us Mass cards and messages of sympathy on the loss of our darling Emily.

A special word of thanks to Emily's wide circle of friends in the teaching profession in Liverpool, London and Ireland, and her many other good friends in various walks of life for their kind and comforting messages.

A special word of thanks also to Eamon Kelly, the beautiful choir and the Priests who celebrated her Mass with such kindness, sensitivity and spirituality. Emily's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at 5pm.

*Emily - Fly high with the Angels*



**In Loving Memory of  
ROSE DEMPSEY**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 9th August 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this **Saturday 5th August at 6.30pm.**

*We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name,  
But all we have are memories,  
And your picture in a frame.*

*Your resting place we visit,  
And put flowers there with care,  
But no one knows the heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving husband Paddy, daughter Cora, son Cyril, family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Rose*

**In Loving Memory of  
TERRY DOWNEY**

Wellview, New Road, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 13th August 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday **12th August at 6.30pm.**

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

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Mary and all the family.*

*Rest in Peace Terry*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE  
In Loving Memory of  
ALICE NEVIN**

5th Birthday away from home occurs 10th August.



Birthday Remembrance Mass will be offered in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Thurs. 10th August at 10am.**

*Also remembering her Mother*

**MARY NEVIN**

13th Anniversary occurred 31st July.

Mass was offered 30th July at 10am.

*Love and miss you both always, from Paddy, Kathleen, family and grandchildren.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

**Portlaoise Parish Pilgrimage  
to the Holy Land  
7th - 15th September 2023**



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David **087-2369887**

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NIALL;  
086-2770095



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**This Week's Legion Prayer Intercession**

*The Month of August is dedicated to the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary*

*The Memorare*

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never  
was it known that anyone who fled to thy  
protection, implored thy help, or sought thine  
intercession was left unaided.*

*Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee,  
O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come,  
before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.*

*O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my  
petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.*

*Amen.*

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



*The Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Kildare  
and Leighlin  
and the  
Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Ossory*



The Roman Catholic Dioceses of Kildare and Leighlin and Ossory are jointly seeking to recruit a **Diocesan Director of Safeguarding** with responsibility for children and vulnerable adults. This post will be based between Carlow town and Kilkenny City and will require travel around both dioceses with parishes in all of counties Carlow and Kilkenny as well as parts of counties Kildare, Offaly, Laois, Wexford and Wicklow, giving a combined total of 98 parishes.

As this role will also require delivery of training the successful candidate may be required to attend and deliver training during evenings and weekends.

A full job description giving qualifications/experience needed and details of how to apply can be accessed on the Diocesan website;

<https://www.kandle.ie/diocesan-director-of-safeguarding/>

Closing date; 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023





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## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023

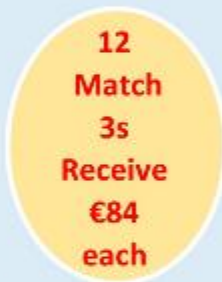


No €10,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Gerry Murphy  
Dominic Clarke  
Maura Hyland  
Kathleen Lawless  
Kathleen Carroll  
Colette Fingleton  
Joe & Martina Walsh  
Lorraine Devoy  
Leanna Colohan  
Ryan Cian & Kacey Fitzpatrick  
Breda Conroy  
John Mortimer

### MATCH 3s €1,000



### PROMOTER

Paul Dooley  
Parish Centre  
Maura Hyland  
Kathleen Lawless  
Ambrose Larkin  
Betty Lynch  
Peter Ryan  
Paul Dooley  
Tom Colohan  
Celine Cripps  
Breda Conroy  
Anne O'Keeffe



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Next Week's Jackpot is €11,000

## Clergy of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.  
Tel: 057 8621142



Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C.  
Tel: 057 8600122



Fr. Simon Jin  
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira  
Tel: 057 8600121



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  
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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(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](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

PARISH SHOP  
057 8621142 - Claire Scully



## HEATH CEMETERY MASS

Tuesday, 15th August

Feast of the Assumption

Procession, Rosary at 7pm. Mass at 7.30pm.

## 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)

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**10TH - 13TH AUGUST 2023**

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MEET OTHER YOUNG  
CATHOLICS.  
EXPLORE YOUR FAITH.**

**COME AND SEE.**

