

**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**  
10th September 2023

**Twenty Third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**



**Season of Creation**  
1st September - 4th October



**A Mighty River**  
Amos 5: 24

**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023

Prophet Amos cries out: *“But let justice roll on like a river,  
righteousness like a never - failing stream!”*

Today, not tomorrow; today, we have to take care of Creation responsibly. Let us pray that the planet’s resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

*Pope Francis*



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)





## Seeking the stubborn



Facebook has gone from a start up to a social network with over 2 billion users and Twitter has over 300 million active users. In a short period of time, through social media, people have found a new voice, a new way to connect. In today's Gospel (Matthew 18:15-20), we learn that 2,000 years ago Jesus also told us that there is power in numbers. First he says, 'If two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven'. And then he says 'where two or three of you are gathered in my name, I am there among them'. Jesus offers a procedure for helping others to see the error of their ways and turn again to God. What Jesus was saying was: 'If anyone sins against you, spare no effort to make that person admit the fault, and get things right again between you'. If we feel that someone has wronged us, we should put our complaint into words. The worst thing we can do about a wrong is to brood over it - that is fatal. It can poison heart and mind until we can think of nothing else but our sense of personal injury. If we have a difference with someone, there is only one way to settle it, namely face to face. If a private and personal meeting fails in its purpose, we should take other people along with us as witnesses should a charge be sustained. What Jesus said is something like this, 'When you have given wrongdoers every chance and they still remain stubborn, you may think that they are no better than tax collectors and the Gentiles hopeless cases. My experience is that they too have hearts to be touched and there are many of them, like Matthew and Zacchaeus, who are among my special friends. Even if the suborn sinners are like tax-collectors or Gentiles, you may still win them over as I have done'. Jesus regards no one as a hopeless case and neither should we.

*"If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves."*

## 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

Senan Leo Patrick Blake, Aghnaharna

Annie Margaret Ryan, Derrygarron

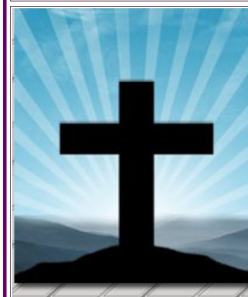
Noah Gerard Bowe, Rathnamanagh

Pádraig Joseph Somers, Bellingham

Melissa Pupikova, Hynds Squire

Scarlett Lakatosova, Kilminchy

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



## The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**Thursday 14th September**

Things must have looked pretty bleak to the apostles at Jesus' crucifixion. The cross must not have seemed a symbol of victory to them at this time, more a symbol of defeat. But with the Resurrection, the seeming failure of Jesus' crucifixion was no longer a failure but a triumph. Death no longer held the same fear.

Everywhere we look, the symbol of the Holy Cross is present to remind us of the infinite sacrifice that the Lord Jesus made for our redemption. The sign of the Cross is found in churches, schools, hospitals, cemeteries and even jewellery. The cross is a strong reminder to us that Jesus promises us that we too can share eternal life.



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an Chláir  
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Expressions of Interest to:

[info@clarememories.ie](mailto:info@clarememories.ie)  
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Tues: 8:30am - 5:30pm    Fri: 9:30am - 5:30pm  
Wed: 9:30am - 5:30pm

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





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Co Laois**  
057 8681492  
[www.cuislecancersupport.com](http://www.cuislecancersupport.com)  
email: [info@cuislecancersupport.ie](mailto:info@cuislecancersupport.ie)



**Mondays**  
**THRIVE & SURVIVE  
PROGRAMME**

This is a self-management programme for cancer survivors with the aim of improving their quality of life to better manage daily health. (Developed by Stanford University)

**18th September**  
**10am-12 noon**  
**Booking Essential**

**CREATIVE ARTS  
CLASS**  
**6 Weeks**  
**Booking Essential**  
**Starting 25th September**  
**2pm-4pm**

**WALKING GROUP**  
Our walking group brings participants through a walking programme gradually increasing fitness over time.  
**Starting 25th Sept. 10am**

**ENTITLEMENTS**

A Citizens Information Adviser will give you advice about the financial help you may be entitled to and will help you to navigate the process. e.g., medical card application etc

oooooooooooooooooooo

**CANCER SUPPORT  
NURSE**

Our cancer care nurse will provide you with information to help you with the emotional and psychological impact of your cancer diagnosis.

**Tuesdays**  
**MINDFULNESS FOR  
MEN**

9.30am-10.30am  
**Starting 3rd October**

**MEN'S SUPPORT  
GROUP**

10.45am-12noon  
**Starting Tuesday,**  
**10th October**

**PROSTHESIS & BRA  
FITTING DAY**  
**3rd October**

Spaces Available.  
Booking Essential

**GARMENT FITTING**  
Serra Nova  
**12th September**  
**Sleeve/Leg Garments**  
**For Lymphoedema**  
**Booking Essential**

**PILATES**

1pm-1.45pm  
Places Limited  
6 Week Course  
**Starting**  
**3rd October**

**MINDFULNESS  
PROGRAMME**

2.00-3.00pm  
6 Week Course  
Booking Essential  
**Starting**  
**3rd October**

**COUNSELLING**

By appointment only

**Wednesdays**  
**BEREAVEMENT  
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REIKI**

By appointment only

**ART**  
From 2-4pm  
**Starting 4th October**

**CHAIR YOGA**  
10am-11am  
11.20am-12.20pm  
Booking Essential  
6 Week Course  
**Starting 4th October**

**Thursdays**  
**MINDFULNESS IN  
MENOPAUSE**

11.30am-12.30pm  
Booking Essential  
6 Week Course  
**Starting 5th October**

**CLIMB  
PROGRAMME**

Helping Children Understand Cancer. This programme is fun and creative, using drama, arts and play and aims to help children cope with a cancer diagnosis in the family  
**Date to be confirmed**

**Fridays**  
**WORK & CANCER  
PROGRAMME**

This is a 5-week programme which will equip you with strategies and skills to help manage everyday symptoms which can impact on work. This programme was developed by TCD and is supported by TCD & NCCP.  
Booking Essential  
10am-12.30pm  
**Friday, 29th  
September 2023**

**AQUA AEROBICS**  
**EVERY MONDAY - STARTING 25th SEPTEMBER**  
from 12.45-1.30pm - Booking Essential  
IN PORTLAOISE LEISURE CENTRE



Please give the centre a call if you would like to attend this class on 057 8681492  
THIS CLASS IS FREE OF CHARGE AS IS ALL OUR SERVICES





Friday Night Bingo in St. Mary's Hall

Resuming Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm

Buses collecting from their usual pick-up points in the Portlaoise area at 7:30pm.



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**Scoil Fionntáin Naofa,  
Shanahoe**

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**Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
**Registration at 1.30 pm**  
**in Shanahoe National School**

**€20 fee**

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[www.walkthecross.ie](http://www.walkthecross.ie)

14th, 15th and 16th  
September 2023

The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church, **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September** 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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## ST. MARY'S CBS PORTLAOISE

Application forms are now available for 1<sup>st</sup> year for the 2024/2025 school year. The closing date for applications is **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 1pm.**

Applications are available to download from our school website ([portlaoisecbs.com](http://portlaoisecbs.com)), school App, or by e-mailing [stmarys@portlaoisecbs.com](mailto:stmarys@portlaoisecbs.com) and from the school office.

They will be distributed in the primary schools also.

Our **OPEN NIGHT is on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September from 6-9pm** and all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes are invited.

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on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept  
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Jackpot on 50 numbers €2780  
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## SEAN CHISTIN DANCING

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Set Dancing Commencing Monday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8pm  
Line Dancing Tue. Sept.12th 11am  
Sean nós dancing and traditional step dancing on Thursdays 8pm, commencing October 19th.  
Contact Maureen on 087 6482038  
Email: [seanchistin@gmail.com](mailto:seanchistin@gmail.com) for further information.

## PORTLAOISE FATIMA INVALID FUND

present a table quiz on Friday 6th October in De Bruns & Hume's Portlaoise at 8.30pm.  
€40 for a table of 4  
Raffle & Spot Prizes on the night  
Book your table to Maura  
**087-1210263**

## Portlaoise Active Retirement

meet every Wednesday at 3pm in the Parish Centre for afternoon of fun, friendship and activities. New members always welcome.  
Monday 11th Sept.: bowls in St. Mary's Sports hall 3pm. Wednesday 13th Sept.: club - John Sugrue will attend to give us a talk and demonstration about healthy living. Thursday 14th Sept.: card games with tuition in Sue Ryder 3pm. Important notice for all: Abbeyleix Active Retirement group are going on holidays to Clonakilty on 5th October and have some availability for Portlaoise members if they'd like to join them (our own holiday is not going ahead). Cost €425 pps + €80 single supplement. Contact any Portlaoise committee member for more info. For all enquiries contact P.R.O Sheila 0876204617.

## Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September;

**Top Score: Frances Gleeson** | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Patty Murphy | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** Margaret Flanagan | **1<sup>st</sup> Gent:** Frank Keenan

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Tom Jacob & Peter Stevenson | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Molly O'Brien | **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Tom Gowing

**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Frances Gleeson | 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Kearns | 3<sup>rd</sup> Betty Murphy | 4<sup>th</sup> Betty Murphy | 5<sup>th</sup> Margaret Flanagan

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

Classes in Parish Centre on Tuesdays have finished for this season.

**Samaritans Co. Laois:** We need listening volunteers, will you join us? Information/Recruitment Evening in the Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. Please come along to learn more.

**Breakthrough Cancer Research** are the largest funder of research into poor prognosis cancers in the island of Ireland. We are looking for help with our Abbeyleix collection on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September. If you have an hour to spare please contact Mary at 021 422 66 55 or email [mary@breakcancer.ie](mailto:mary@breakcancer.ie).

**Fourth Wall Laois Theatre** will hold their AGM on Thursday Sept.14th at 8pm in Doogues Bar, Raheen. All new members welcome. Contact Kevin Lalor Fitzpatrick 0879614235.

**Portlaoise Toastmasters returns after the Summer break!** Toastmasters helps people build the skills they need to become more confident public speakers and stronger leaders in every area of their lives. Why not join us upstairs in Kavanaghs Bar & Venue, Main Street, Portlaoise on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> of September at 8pm to see what it's all about? First two meetings are free for guests.

## RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

**St. Pio Mass** - A Special Mass to celebrate the 55th Anniversary of the death of St Pio will take place on Friday 22nd September at 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Edenderry, Co Offaly. The Chief Celebrant will be Bishop Denis Nulty. After Mass the glove worn by St. Pio will be available to anyone who would like to be blessed. Everyone Welcome.





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- Portarlinton
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CE Scheme is funded by the Department of Social Protection, A video on CE Scheme can be seen in the 'Whats Going on' section of the Jobsireland website at the end of the page



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Sleep Therapy 0-3 Years

with Erica Hargaden

Erica Hargaden is a certified Child Sleep Consultant and member of the International Association of Child Sleep Consultants. Erica will offer advice and guidance giving you the tools to create healthy sleep habits for your child.

Wednesday 13th September  
10.30  
Portlaoise Library

Booking is essential. Call Portlaoise Library on 057 862 2333 to book your spot.

Leabharlanna Libraries  
Cairdeanna Chloinne Uilleann  
Offaly County Council

CYPSC  
CHILDREN'S YOUTH PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE  
Laois Offaly

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Do you know in Ireland that almost

**1 in 5** adults

have difficulty with reading and writing, **1 in 4** have difficulty with maths, and **1 in 2** have difficulty using digital devices?

If you or an adult family member would like support, please contact your local ETB. This service is **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL**.

*"Let us empower everyone in Ireland to be their best possible selves"*

Simon Harris TD Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. Adult Literacy for Life Strategy July 2021

### Contacts for services:

Laois Adult Literacy Service: **057 866 1338**

Offaly Adult Literacy Service: **057 934 9444**

NALA freephone number: **1800 20 20 65**

Email: [learninghub@loetb.ie](mailto:learninghub@loetb.ie)







## Counting the Cost

How many of you would like to play the piano? Before you answer that you would like to play the piano, let's see what it would cost to be able to play the piano and see if you are willing to pay the price.

First of all, you would have to buy a piano. It would be rather silly to say that you wanted to play the piano if you weren't willing to go out and buy a piano, wouldn't it? So the first you would need to do is look for a piano. A second hand piano could cost approx. €700. Hmm....€700, do you still want to play the piano?

Next you need to find a teacher. After all, you can't teach yourself. Not if you really want to play well. For a lesson it could cost around €25 per lesson. Let's see, if you have a lesson every week that's €100 a month, do you still want to play the piano?

What else do we need? Oh yes, we will need some music! I went to the music store and found out that most of the music books cost €10-€15 each. If you want to buy a single copy of sheet music, they usually cost around €5 each. Do you still want to play the piano?

Now that you have a piano, a teacher, and some music you must be willing to practice. Most piano teachers require their students to practice at least one hour every day. That means that there will be times when other children will be out playing while you must stay in and practice. Do you still want to play the piano? If you want to play the piano, you have to count the cost and make sure you are willing to pay the price!

Did you know that Jesus said that same thing to some people who said they wanted to be his disciples? Jesus told them that if they wanted to follow him, they had to count the cost. He said they had to be willing to take up their cross daily and follow him. To follow him, they might have to be willing to give up their family and friends. Jesus also said that people might make fun of them and call them names and that some people might even want to hurt them. They had to count the cost and make sure they were willing to pay the price.

A lot of people today say that they want to follow Jesus. They join the church and for a while you will see them every week, but when they find out how much it is going to cost, they fall away. Being a true follower of Jesus is not always easy, but it is always worth it, if you are willing to pay the price.

## PRAYER

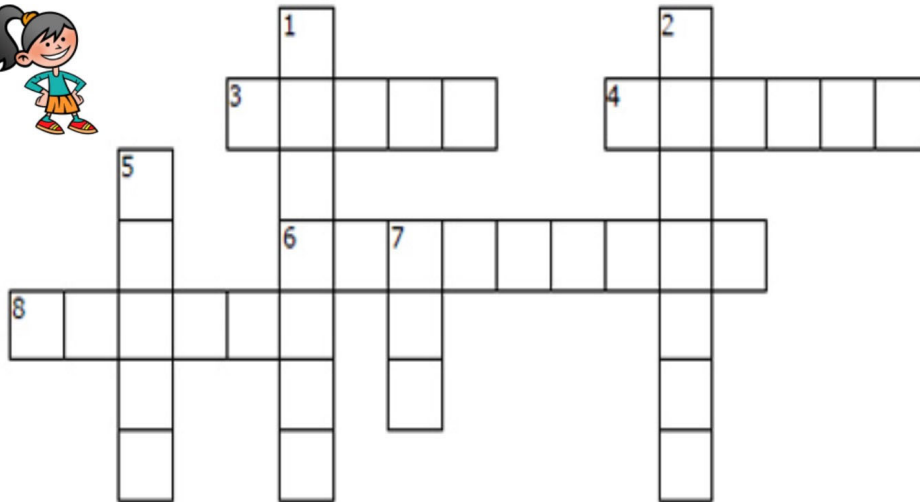
Dear Jesus, it is easy to say that we want to follow you, but it isn't always easy to do. Help us to follow you, whatever the cost. Amen.





# When Someone Hurts You

**"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you". Matthew 18:15**



BROTHER  
TESTIMONY  
SIN  
LISTEN  
WITNESS  
FAULT  
CHURCH  
TRUTH

## ACROSS

3. A statement proven to be accurate
4. To pay attention; to make an effort to hear something.
6. A spoken or written statement that something is true
8. All followers of Christ as a group

## DOWN

1. A member of the same race, church, religious group or organisation.
2. A person who sees an event happen
5. A quality in a person that shows that they are not perfect.
7. Breaking a religious law

## Portlaoise Schools

### Confirmation Ceremonies 23rd–24<sup>th</sup> February 2024



#### Friday 23rd February

12noon Heath, Ratheniska and Gaelscoil  
2pm Scoil Bhride, St. Francis, Educate Together, and other schools

#### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February

12noon Holy Family group A  
2pm Holy Family group B

### First Holy Communion Ceremonies

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>   | 2pm Educate Together, St. Francis and other schools                    |
| <b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b> | 12noon Scoil Bhride group A<br>2pm Scoil Bhride group B                |
| <b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>   | 2pm Gaelscoil  |
| <b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b> | 12noon Heath NS (in the Heath)<br>12noon Ratheniska NS (in Ratheniska) |
| <b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>   | 2pm Holy Family group A  |
| <b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b> | 12noon Holy Family group B<br>2pm Holy Family group C                  |







# Time to Think!

## *Never Give Up...*

This month of September, has begun with bright, warm sunshine. We all respond positively to light and warmth, its energy helps us to grow and blossom. I was particularly inspired, by Pope Francis, recent visit to Mongolia. This vast country, sandwiched between Russia and China, is 20 times bigger than our island. It has a tiny Catholic population of almost 2000 people. Pope Francis, in his reaching out to the periphery and those on the margins expressed solidarity and joy to the indigenous people of Mongolia. He encouraged them to trust in their transcendent God and to hold firm to the values of kindness and compassion. He also sent solidarity to the Catholic community in China, often deeply oppressed by a regime that restricts religious practice. The following text is part of an amazing and uplifting wisdom Francis shared with the people of Mongolia.

"You can have flaws, be anxious and even be angry, but just remember that your life is the world's biggest contest. Only you can stop it from failing. You are appreciated, admired, and loved by so many. Remember that happiness is not having a sky without storms, a road without accidents, a job without effort, a relationship without disappointments.

Being happy means finding strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in fear, love in discord." It's not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It's not just about celebrating success it's about learning from failure It's not just about feeling happy with applause, it's about being happy anonymously. Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel on their own.

Being happy is to stop feeling victimized and become the author of your own destiny." "It is to walk through deserts, but to be able to find an oasis deep in one's soul. It's thanking God every morning for the miracle of life. To be happy is not to be afraid of your feelings and to be able to talk about yourself. Have the courage to hear a "no" and trust the criticism, even when it's unwarranted. It's about hugging your kids, hugging your parents, spending poetic moments with your friends, even when they hurt us.

To be happy is to let the creature that lives in us live, free, joyful and simple." You are mature enough to say, "I made mistakes". Having the courage to say I'm sorry. It's the sense of saying "I need you". It's having the ability to say, "I love you". May your life become a garden of blissful opportunities that in spring is a lover of joy and in winter a lover of wisdom.

And when you make a mistake, start over." Because only then will you be in love with life. You will find out that being happy isn't about having a perfect life. But use tears to irrigate the tolerance. Use your defeats to train your patience.

Use your mistakes with serenity of the sculptor. Use the pain to connect to pleasure. Use obstacles to open the windows of intelligence. Never give up... Above all, never abandon the people who love you. Never stop being happy because life is an amazing show."  
~ POPE FRANCIS



### **Life Is A Gift**

Today before you think of saying an unkind word – think of someone who can't speak.  
Before you complain about the taste of your food – think of someone who has nothing to eat.  
Before you complain about your husband or wife – think of someone who is crying out to God for a companion.

Today before you complain about life – think of someone who went too early to heaven.  
Before you complain about your children – think of someone who desires children but they're barren.

Before you argue about your dirty house, someone didn't clean or sweep – think of the people who are living in the streets.

Before whining about the distance you drive – think of someone who walks the same distance with their feet.

And when you are tired and complain about your job– think of the unemployed, the disabled and those who wished they had your job.

But before you think of pointing the finger or condemning another – remember that not one of us are without sin and we all answer to one maker.

And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down – put a smile on your face and thank God you're alive and still around.

Life is a gift – Live it, Enjoy it, Celebrate it, and Fulfill it.

*Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 30,400 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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**September**



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- BUSINESS WITH ACCOUNTING
- BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
- HEALTHCARE SUPPORT
- NURSING STUDIES
- RETURN TO LEARNING



**Scoil Chríost Rí Portlaoise**  
**OPEN NIGHT**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 6pm**



We are inviting applications for enrolment from 6<sup>th</sup> class girls for September 2024

Applications will be accepted from  
**October 2nd to October 28<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Our application form and admissions policy are available on our school website  
[www.scoilchriostriportlaoise.ie](http://www.scoilchriostriportlaoise.ie)

Contact Details: Tel: (057)8668002

Email: [office@scrpl.ie](mailto:office@scrpl.ie)

School Prospectus available on our website.

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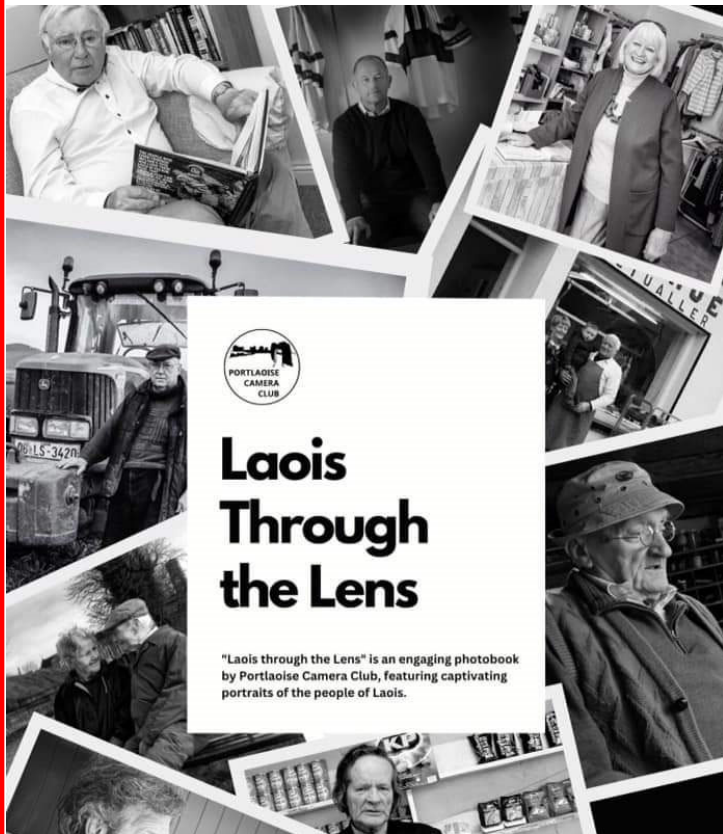
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## Laois Through the Lens

"Laois through the Lens" is an engaging photobook by Portlaoise Camera Club, featuring captivating portraits of the people of Laois.

Now on sale in

**THE Bookmark.ie**



**ALLBOOKS**



## Children's Choir



## Church of the Holy Cross Ratheniska

Welcoming New Members

First to Sixth Classes

Registration & rehearsals resume

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

**3.30pm to 4.30pm**

**in St.Aonghus Hall Ratheniska**

**beside Church of the Holy Cross**

**with Anna Malone & Caroline Keogh**

Children's Choir will sing one Sunday each month.



 Follow us in social media

**Join us on  
Friday September 22<sup>nd</sup>  
at 7pm in**

# Shanahoe Community Hall

**where we will host our first  
Culture Night event**

**Irish Dancing,  
Traditional Music & Poetry.  
Performed by some very  
talented locals**

*Set Dancing continues every Tuesday in Shanahoe Community Hall 7.30 - 9pm. All are welcome.*



Culture Night is brought to you by The Arts Council in partnership with Laois County Council. Cúireann an Chomhairle Ealaíon Oíche Chultúir i láthair, i gcomhpháirt le Comhairle Chontae Laoise.

# WATER SAFETY CLASSES

Laois Leisure  
Portlaoise

**Junior (12-15 years)  
Water Safety Classes  
Autumn Programme  
Beginning  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept  
9.50am - 10.45am**

Juniors/  
Students:  
€60



**Adult & 16 yrs +  
Water Safety Classes  
Autumn Programme  
Beginning  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept  
6.45pm - 7.30pm**

Adults: €75  
Students/Unwaged:  
€60

**With Water Safety Ireland - Laois**

Water Safety Ireland Certified Bronze Gaisce Award Approved

Places are limited and booking is essential.

Please email [sports@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:sports@laoiscoco.ie) or call 057 8664058



Promoting Water Safety in Ireland



**Laois Partnership Company are hiring!**

We are looking for suitably qualified staff to work in our busy, fun childcare services based in Portlaoise.

Assistant Afterschools Coordinator	20hrs/week afternoon hours
Experienced Cook	30hrs/week flexible hours



Please visit us on social media or contact us on 057 8661900 for further information on both positions.

*Thank You!*

Portlaoise Concern Group would like to thank people of Portlaoise & Heath for their generous contribution to Concern Church Gate collection which was held on 19th and 20th August.



Total collected €3184.62  
Portlaoise €2855.52  
Heath €329.10

*Thank You!*

Maura O'Brien and the Fatima Invalid Committee would like to express their sincere gratitude to all those who supported our recent Church Gate collections in Portlaoise, The Heath, Ratheniska, Abbeyleix, Ballyroan, Ballinakill, Raheen, Spink and Shanahoe and Fr. Paddy Byrne and Mary Siney. Very special thanks to those who volunteered to help us out.



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



**Gavin Young**  
Newpark and London



**John Murphy**  
The Hermitage,  
Portlaoise



**Claire Delaney**  
New Ross, Wexford and  
Marian Avenue, Portlaoise



**Andrew (Andy)  
Morrissey**  
Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise



**William (Billy) Ring**  
Celbridge & Abbeyleix

*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)

**Portlaoise Parish Bereavement Support Team**



Bereavement Support

*To make an appointment  
with a member of the  
Bereavement Support Team  
contact the following  
number  
087-9878300*



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**



In Loving Memory of  
**MICHAEL BROPHY**

Kylebrook, Portlaoise.

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023**



The family of the late Michael Brophy would like to sincerely thank all those who sympathised with us on our loss over the last year.

Thanks to everyone who attended his funeral, sent cards and messages of condolence following his passing. Thanks to the wonderful staff in Beaumont and Portlaoise hospitals and Laois Pharmacy for their kindness, support and professionalism.

Thanks to Olive and the Palliative Care team for their guidance and empathy.

To Fr. David and the Priests of Portlaoise Parish, thank you for Michael's beautiful Mass and to Aishling Rohan for the wonderful singing and music.

We would like to thank Matthew Keegan and colleagues for the outstanding support and professionalism with Michael's funeral arrangements. A heartfelt thanks to my wonderful work colleagues, friends, neighbours and relatives who called to the house, sent Mass cards, messages, flowers and brought food.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude.

Remembered always by his loving wife Nuala, sons Finn and Owen and daughter Sarah.

*"What he suffered he told but few,  
He did not deserve what he went through,  
Tired and weary he made no fuss,  
But tried so hard to stay with us"*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 10am.

*Rest in Peace Michael*



**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK (PAT) MILLS**



Formerly St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

**8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023**



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm.

*To the world you were our father,  
But to us you meant the world.  
You are missed so much by your  
loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Dad*



**In Loving Memory of  
ALICE ROGERS**

9 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023



*Though your smiles are gone forever,  
And your hand we cannot touch,  
We shall never lose the sweet memories  
of you, we loved so much.*

*Also remembering at this time;  
Her husband Michael and son Tony.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family.*

*May Alice Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
KATHLEEN (Brigid) DEEVY**

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.  
Whose 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023



*God knew that she was suffering,  
That the hills were hard to climb,  
So He closed her weary eyelids,  
And whispered, Peace be thine.  
Away in the beautiful hills of God,  
By the valley of rest so fair,  
Some day, we know not when,  
We will meet our loved one there.  
Will those who think of Mam today,  
A prayer to our Blessed Mother say.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 11.15am.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by her daughter Marie, son-in-law Seamus, grandchildren Blaine, Evan, Aoife, Clodagh and partners and great-grandchildren Ellie-Mae, Heidi-Marie, Leah, Molly and Bobby, extended family and friends.*

*May Brigid Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PETER O'BRIEN**

Ridge Road, Portlaoise, who died 12<sup>th</sup> September 1980.  
43rd Anniversary occurs at this time.



*God saw the road was getting rough,  
The hill too hard to climb,  
He gently closed your weary eyes,  
And whispered 'Peace Be Thine'.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered  
by your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Peter*

**In Loving Memory of  
PETER CARROLL**

Lyncar, Ballytegan, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023



*A light from our household is gone,  
A voice we loved is stilled,  
A place is vacant in our home that  
never can be filled.  
We think of you in silence,  
We talk about you too,  
We have loving memories,  
But we wish we still had you.*

*Nothing can replace you, nothing ever will,  
In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still.*

Loved and remembered by your loving wife Clare, sons and daughters and all your extended family.

*Rest in Peace Peter*

**In Loving Memory of  
KATHLEEN (Kitty) KERRY**

Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise. Anniversary occurs 4th September.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 10th September at 12.30pm.

*Loving memories never die,  
As years roll on and days pass by,  
In our hearts a memory is kept,  
Of one we loved and will never forget.*

*Sadly missed by your loving family.*

*May Kathleen Rest in Peace*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE  
Grandmother**

**TERESA KHANDKER** née McCormack  
London and formerly Portlaoise.  
Birthday occurs 13<sup>th</sup> September



*We think about you always,  
We talk about you still,  
You have never been forgotten,  
And you never will.  
We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you will remain,  
To walk and guide us through our  
lives, until we meet again.*

*Missing you so very much on your birthday,  
Wishing we could all celebrate with you here.  
Loved and missed by all your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Teresa*

**In Loving Memory of  
CONOR MURRAY**

Parnell Crescent, Portlaoise  
Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter and Paul's Church on Sunday 10th September at 12.30pm



*"Wherever a beautiful soul has been  
there is a trail of beautiful memories"*

From Mam Siobhan, partner Chris, brother Sean, sisters Aoife, Kayleigh and Mollie, brothers in law Gavin, Craig, Josh and sister in law Ciara, nephews, nieces and all relatives and friends.

*Rest in Peace Conor*

*let His light shine.*



**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of  
RITA LALOR**

57 Hillview Drive, Portlaoise.  
Birthday occurred 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023



*Sister, for all of us you gave  
your best, now the time has come  
for you to rest, so rest in peace,  
you've earned your sleep, your love  
in our hearts we'll eternally keep.*

*Missed, loved and remembered by  
Mary and all her brothers, sisters  
and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Rita*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of our Beautiful Mother  
MARGARET HARDING** née Conroy

36 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

2nd Birthday in Heaven - 11th September 2023



*Birthday wishes sent to Heaven  
From your family below  
We miss and love you dearly  
And we want you to know.*

*Your birthday's not forgotten  
And your memory lives on  
We celebrate the life you had  
Even though you have gone.*

*If we were given just one wish  
One that would come through*

*We'd wish you back beside us  
To spend this day with you.*

*We will always love and miss you  
And often shed a tear  
Especially on your special day  
Year after year.*

*Happy Birthday in Heaven!*

**Love always from your Children David, Paul, Ray, Jennie, Tracy  
& families xxxxx.**

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN BURKE**

13 Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023.



*John, sadly missed,  
quietly remembered,  
no longer in our life,  
but always in our hearts.*

**Loved always - Mary, Conor, Kate,  
Maeve and Ruairi xx**

*Rest in Peace John*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN CLEARY**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise. Died 10<sup>th</sup> September 1979.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 6:30pm.

*Always a smile, never a frown,  
Always a hand when one was down,  
Always true, gentle and kind  
Wonderful memories you left behind.*

Always remembered by his nieces, nephews  
and lots of friends. We also remember his  
wife Kathleen who died during the year.

*May They Rest In Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
A Treasured Uncle  
WILLIAM (Bill) DOYLE**

13 New Road, Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023



*As each day dawns we think of you,  
As each night falls we pray for you,  
And throughout our lives,  
No matter where,  
In our hearts Bill, you are always there.*

**Loved and remembered today, yesterday  
and in all our tomorrows.  
From all his loving family.**

**Also remembering Bill's nephew Liam Doyle at this time.**

*Rest in Peace Bill*

**In Loving Memory of  
MICHAEL & JOSEPHINE  
GALVIN**

Burnwood, Clonad  
Whose Anniversaries occur 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Michael (29 years) & Josephine (58 years)

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Raheen Church  
this Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.

*Sadly missed and remembered by Sean, Michael, Noel,  
Mary, grandchildren & greatgrandchildren.*

*Too dearly loved to be forgotten*

*May Michael & Josephine Rest in Peace*

**Peace I bequeth to you,  
my own peace I give you**

John 14:27



**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICIA (Thrush) O'BRIEN**

13 St. John's Square, Portlaoise

14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 8<sup>th</sup> September.



*Loving memories never die,  
As years roll on and days pass by,  
In our hearts a memory is kept,  
Of one we loved and will never forget.*

*Never Forgotten, Tony  
May Patricia Rest in Peace*

**1<sup>st</sup> BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**AMY DUNPHY**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

1st Birthday Away from home occurs 9th September.



*If tears could wash away our pain, we would not feel such hurt again. The heartache felt since you've been gone, we wouldn't wish it on anyone. But to stay only brought you pain Tears of love will never wake you, but today is your Birthday, so we'll have to be brave and accept God's taken what he first gave.  
Happy Heavenly Birthday Amy!*

Loved always by Mammy, Daddy, Brody, Gemma, Gary, Ava & Noah and all your loving family.

*Rest in Peace Amy*

**In Loving Memory of  
TIMMY SCULLY**

3 New Road, Portlaoise.

9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023



9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm.

*Those we love don't go away,  
They walk beside us everyday,  
Unseen, unheard, but always near.  
Still loved, still missed, and very dear.*

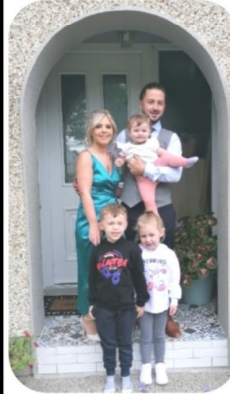
Loved and missed by your daughters Mary & Bernadette, son-in-law John, grandsons Senan and Cillian, sister Ellie, extended family and friends.

Also remembering his loving wife Bernadette at this time.

*May Timmy Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
CONOR MURRAY**

Parnell Crescent, Portlaoise



*Those special memories of you will always bring a smile  
If only I could have you back,  
if only for a little while  
Then we could sit and talk again  
just like we used to do  
You always meant so very much  
and always will do too.  
The fact that you're no longer here  
will always cause me pain  
But you're forever in my heart,  
until we meet again.*

All our love, Leanne, Bobby, Evie and Fiadh

*Rest in Peace Conor*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
PETER FRAWLEY**



The family of the late Peter Frawley wish to express our gratitude to our families, friends and neighbours for your kindness at this time. We would also like to thank Dr. Cuffe and all the oncology team at St. James Hospital, Abbeyleix Rehabilitation Centre and to Bluebird Carers who looked after Peter.

Special thanks to Dr. Karn and all the staff on Emo Court Ward who looked after Peter in his final days.

Thank you to Msgr Byrne for a lovely Mass and to Aisling Rohan for the music, also to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their help and professionalism.

Many thanks to Fr. David for his kindness and compassion to Peter's Mam Nancy, much appreciated by all of the family.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude.

*Month's Mind Mass for Peter will be celebrated in St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church on Sunday 17th September at 11.15am.*

*Forever in our thoughts,*

*Mam Nancy, late father Tom, sister Sylvia, brother John, brother in law Pat and sister in law Tanya, niece and nephew and all extended family.*

*May Peter Rest in Peace*

**PLEASE NOTE**

Anniversary Masses included on memorial notices must be booked at reception prior to submitting your notice. Tel. 057-8621142

If we have **died** with him  
then we shall **live** with him  
Timothy 2:11



**In Loving Memory of  
DOLORES FAHY**  
55 Beladd, Stradbally Rd. Portlaoise.  
19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023



*Mam, We don't think of you as gone away,  
Your journey just begun  
Life holds so many facets,  
this earth is only one.  
We think of you as resting,  
From the sorrow and the tears,  
In a place of warmth and comfort,  
Where there are no days and years.*

*We think how you must be wishing,  
that we could know today,  
How nothing but our sadness, can really pass away.*

*We think of you as living,  
In the hearts of those you touched,  
For nothing loved is never lost and you were loved so much.*

*Love you always Mam, James, Ber, Sharon, Elaine, Dor,  
sons-in-law, daughter-in-law, grand-  
children & great-grandchildren xxx*



**JAMES McEVOY**  
32 Upper Beladd, Stradbally Rd.  
Portlaoise.  
11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

*James, God looked around his garden  
And found an empty place  
and 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 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.  
Love and miss you so much, Daddy, Mammy, Keith, Eve,  
your adorable niece Aoife, aunts, uncles and cousins xxx*

**Anniversary Mass for Dolores and James will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 12:30pm.**

*May Dolores & James Rest in Peace*



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David **087-2369887**

**HENRY RANKIN**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

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PAUL; 087-2562137  
NIALL;  
086-2770095



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## Portlaoise Parish



## Results for

7<sup>th</sup> September 2023



**No €15,000 Jackpot Winner**

### WINNERS

**MATCH 3s €1,000**

### PROMOTER

Michael Brennan

Anne Brennan

Mary Fingleton

Mary O'Connell

Dinny Saunders

On Line Lotto

Kelly McMahon

On Line Lotto

Eamon Byrne

Paul Dooley

Karen Parkinson

Parish Centre

PJ McCormack

Eoin Byrne



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& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

**Next Week's Jackpot is €16,000**



### Twenty Third Week in Ordinary Time

**Ezekiel 33:7-9**

**Psalm: 94:1-2,6-9**

**Romans 13:8-10**

**Matthew 18:15-20**

## 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. 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 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 Health 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](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

**PARISH SHOP**

**057 8621142 - Claire Scully**



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- \* Sacred Art items for your home*
- \* Bibles & Spiritual Books for adults and children*



**At The Parish Centre**

**Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm**

**057 862 1142**

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