



**Twenty Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Day for Life**



Season of Creation
1st September - 4th October

*God of the heavens and earth
we thank you for the richness of
harvest time and for food.
May the fruitfulness of this time
make us thankful for your
constant love and care for us.
We ask this through our Lord
Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives
and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever.
Amen.*

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The Definition of Insanity

There's a well-known saying that goes, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." We all know what it's like to have endless good intentions, but the good intentions are worth little if we don't actually roll our sleeves up and get things done.

A father asks two sons to go and work in the vineyard. The first son says that he won't but changes his mind and does. The second son says that he will but somehow doesn't get around to it. Which son do we identify with? The first son speaks to those of us who have embraced Christ's teaching late in life. Yet gain Jesus is telling us that those who have managed a change of heart are as important to him if not more important than those who think they've got everything right. The second son speaks to those of us who have lots of good intentions, but at the end of the day the evidence of discipleship amounts to little more than lip service. Originally this parable was aimed at the Pharisees who didn't feel they needed to change how they lived. Like the Pharisees we might feel that we are upright church going people, but that doesn't mean there isn't plenty that we need to address. We still live in a world where there's plenty to put right. God's vineyard needs workers who will say 'yes' to God's plan, and more importantly, roll up their sleeves and get stuck into the job.

Albert Einstein once said, "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." Most of us struggle with those repetitive behaviours that inevitably lead to the same negative results. Like the second son, we might mean well but constantly fail to make a difference. Today's gospel is an invitation for us to look at what holds us back and what drives us forward, only when we can really understand and address what holds us back can we get stuck into God's work. The first son shows us that it's never too late to change.

Feast of the Guardian Angels 2nd October

The concept of an angel assigned to guide and nurture each human being is a development of Catholic doctrine and piety based on Scripture but not directly drawn from it. Jesus' words in Matthew 18:10 best support the belief: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."



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

Monday to Thursday : 7.30am & 10am
Friday (First Friday) : 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm

Saturday: 10am

Sunday

Vigil 6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

Sunday: 9.30am

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

Sunday: 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 5pm Mass.

Communion Rounds

The priests of the parish will attend their rounds during the week.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Dennis Bessa Bodis, Maryborough Village
Sofia Anna Kalnina, Esker Hills
Stephanie McManus, Ballyduff

Who were baptised last weekend.

October, Month of the Rosary

Pope Benedict XVI in an address at the Basilica of St. Mary Major where he prayed the rosary with the faithful said:



"Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new Springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourish for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said."

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- Nelson Mandela



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"Believe you can and you're halfway there."

—THEODORE ROOSEVELT



We are so lucky in our parish to have so many dedicated people who volunteer in the ministries of the Church. There are a wide variety of ways to get involved, maybe as a reader at Mass, or even as an altar server for our younger parishioners. There are also some new ministry groups that will be formed in our Parish very soon, such as our reformed Funeral Ministry Team. We need people in all areas of our parish to help us make our parish a place for all.

There are a number of these ministries listed below and we would love to get more of you involved. If you are interested place tick one or more of the ministries and include your name, phone number and email address and we will be contact with you about upcoming training.

Please Tick



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Portlaoise Active Retirement meet every Wednesday afternoon at 3pm in the Parish Centre for an afternoon of friendship, fun and activities. New members welcome.

Monday 2nd October; Bowls in St. Marys Sports 3pm. New members always

Wednesday 4th October; Our club day. We have John Sugrue back with us again to talk about osteoporosis. We all enjoyed him the first day. New members always welcome

Thursday 5th October; Cards and chat in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. New people welcome. Tuition given
On October 24th older person's council are having an afternoon in Castletown from 2 to 5pm. Guest speaker Anna May McHugh and some entertainment afterwards with music from Martin Delaney. We have booked a bus for the evening €8 per head. For any further information please call Sheila 087-6204617.

Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 26th September;

Top Score: F. Keenan | **1st Lady:** F. Gaynor | **2nd Lady:** T. Kearns | **1st Gent:** T. Jacob

2nd Gent: L. McCartney & C. Gavin | **1st Half:** M. Gowing | **2nd Half:** Cath. Fitzgerald

Raffle: A. Holland | 2nd A.M. Farrell | 3rd F. Gaynor | 4th P. McEvoy | 5th M. Flanagan | 6th A. Brennan
7th L. McCartney | 8th V. Kearns



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

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

Date for your Diary; Niamh Kavanagh & Monasterevin Gospel choir in concert on Friday 13th October 2023 at 8pm. Tickets €30. Booking at the Parish Office Monasterevin 045-525346 or Earley's Fashion shop 045-525395. Proceeds in aid of St. Peter & Paul's Church & Monasterevin Tidy Towns. Concert will NOT be live streamed on the night.

Variety Concert Cancellation; Variety concert on Thursday 19th October in the Abbeyleix Manor Hotel is cancelled until further notice.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm on the first Friday of every month.

Rosary will be prayed at Our Lady's Shrine, Market Square, Portlaoise this Sunday 1st October at 2.30pm. All are welcome.

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; An afternoon of reflection, led by Fr. Chris Alar MIC, acclaimed author of "Understanding Divine Mercy" and "After Suicide - There's hope for them and you", Thursday 5th October at 2pm, all are welcome. Also Saturday 7th October, first Saturday Fatima Devotions, led by Eddie Stones and team, starting at 11am. Please bring a packed lunch.



Parable of Two Sons

Have your mother or your father ever asked you to help out around the house by doing some chores? I'm sure that has probably happened to you. This morning I am going to tell a story about a father who had two sons named John and William. One day dad walked into John's room to find him building a model airplane. "John, we had a lot of wind last night and there are leaves scattered all over the yard. Would you please rake the leaves and put them in these bin bags?" dad asked.

"Aw Dad, I don't have time to rake the leaves. I am working on this model airplane and I really want to finish it today," John answered.

The father turned and left the room and went to look for William. He found William watching TV. "William, there are a lot of leaves in the yard. Would you please rake the leaves and put them in these bags?" dad asked.

"Sure, I'd be glad to," William answered.

"Great!" said dad. "I'll leave the rake and the bin bags in the yard."

After his father left, John began to think about what he had asked him to do. "I can rake the leaves and still have plenty of time to finish my model airplane later," John thought to himself. He went outside and began raking the leaves.

When dad returned home, he saw John raking leaves. "Where is William?" dad asked.

"I don't know. The last time I saw him he was watching TV," John replied.

When dad went into the house, guess what he saw? There sat William, still watching TV! I wonder which of the two sons pleased his father? John, who said he wouldn't rake the leaves, but did -- or William, who said he would rake the leaves, but didn't?

In the gospel today, Jesus told a similar story to show how different people obey what God has called them to do. In Jesus' parable of the two sons, the father asked both sons to go and work in his vineyard. Just as the two boys in my story, one son answered, "No," but went and worked. The other son answered "yes" did not go. In telling the story, Jesus wanted us to realise that what we do is more important than what we say we will do. Jesus wants us to answer, "Yes," when he tells us to "Love one another," but what he really wants is for us to love one another! Jesus wants us to answer, "Yes," when he says, "Follow me," but what he really wants is for us to follow him! That's the kind of child I want to be. Isn't it the kind of child you want to be?

Prayer

Father, sometimes we say, "Yes," but our actions say, "No."
Help us to be faithful to do what you have called us to do.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



The Rosary

October is the month of the Rosary but in October we also remember all those who work as missionaries. While reciting Prayers, you think about certain stories in the lives of Jesus and Mary. These stories are called Mysteries: A Mystery is a story about God. Rosary beads are used to keep count of the Prayers and Mysteries. The word Rosary means garland of roses. The complete Rosary consists of five decades. There are four sets of mysteries and five stories in each set.

The Mysteries are:

- ◆ The Joyful Mysteries
- ◆ The Sorrowful Mysteries
- ◆ The Glorious Mysteries
- ◆ The Luminous or Light Mysteries

(Prayed Monday and Saturday)
(Prayed Tuesday and Friday)
(Prayed Wednesday & Sunday)
(Prayed Thursday)



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.



Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
 The Lord is with thee.
 Blessed art thou among women
 And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
 Jesus.
 Holy Mary, mother of God,
 Pray for us sinners,
 Now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.



Can you say the Rosary every day for the Month of October?

How to Pray the Rosary

The Rosary

START
 1. Make the Sign of the Cross, and pray the Apostles' Creed.

FINISH
 15. Kiss the crucifix.

1. Pray the Our Father.

2. Pray 3 Hail Marys.

3. Pray the Glory.* Name the 1st mystery. Pray the Our Father.

4. Pray the Glory and the Hail, Holy Queen.

5. Pray 10 Hail Marys.

6. Pray the Glory. Name the 2nd mystery. Pray the Our Father.

7. Pray 10 Hail Marys.

8. Pray the Glory. Name the 3rd mystery. Pray the Our Father.

9. Pray 10 Hail Marys.

10. Pray the Glory. Name the 4th mystery. Pray the Our Father.

11. Pray 10 Hail Marys.

12. Pray the Glory. Name the 5th mystery. Pray the Our Father.

13. Pray 10 Hail Marys.

14. Pray the Glory and the Hail, Holy Queen.

15. Kiss the crucifix.

*After the Glory, you may also say the prayer taught by Mary at Fatima (see page 5) or another short prayer.



Time to Think!

Story of a Soul

This year seems to be flying by. It's hard to believe that we are now beginning the month of October. I pray, this new month will be a healthy and happy one for us all. The month begins with the beautiful feast of Saint Therese of Lisieux. She once said "I can do more for you in heaven than I ever will on earth". She is a powerful intercessor listens to our prayers with love and affection.

St Therese of Lisieux (1873-1897) was a French Catholic who became a Carmelite nun at an early age. She died in obscurity at the age of 24. However, after her death, her autobiography - *Story of a Soul* was published and became a best-seller around the world. Her books explained her spiritual path of love and selflessness, and she became one of only three females to be considered a doctor of the Catholic Church. Free gifts make us suspicious. Even with God's gifts, we feel uneasy - how can God give me love unless I deserve it?

Thérèse of Lisieux had unique insight into God's generosity: our failings are like a drop of water in the furnace of God's love. Because we little appreciate God's compassion, we project onto him our narrow human standards. We imagine that our weaknesses drive a wedge between God and us. Thérèse says the opposite: 'Resign yourself to stumbling at every step, even to falling; love your powerlessness,' and again, 'What a grace when in the morning I feel no courage, no strength to practise virtue.' It's OK not to be OK. It is hard for us to believe this, and harder still to live by it.

This may be due to a religious heritage which told us that God's love must be earned by observing his law. The guilt such a tradition induces has more to do with pride than holiness. When I fail, it is not before God that I feel guilty, but before an idealized image of myself. I have let myself down. Despite my efforts I failed to live up to my ideals, so my pride is wounded. The god I'm serving is not the God of Jesus Christ; it is my image of God, my ideal self.

For Thérèse, conversion meant abandoning this illusory God in which there is so much self-centredness. This led to her discovery of the 'little way' that turns upside-down how many of us look at the Christian life, introducing us to a spirituality of imperfection.

Thérèse does not trivialize moral failings, but sees them in the perspective of God's mercy. As a mother overlooks her child's failings, so does God look generously on our weaknesses. Far from displeasing God, they can be grace-bearing. They help us experience Christian life as a celebration of God's love rather than a struggle towards self-perfection.

Thérèse says, 'The more one is weak, without desires and without virtues, the more one is suited for the operations of God's consuming and transforming love.'

This brings our relationship with God to a new level. From being timid and distant, we develop a boldness that thrills God's heart. We experience how passionate is God's love for us. In that strange logic of love, we come to understand the vulnerability of God; he cannot refuse our neediness. Our faults remain, but, rather than damage our relationship, they draw us into deeper levels of intimacy.

There is no room for God's love in the hearts of the proud. Effort, not grace, is their way to God. They need to learn that God cannot be bought. His friendship cannot be won by our achievements.

All is gift. Thérèse tells us, 'Those who live by the gospel are not looking anxiously to see results, not counting on success, not concerned about what progress they have made. They live by faith and confidence, giving themselves completely over to God's mercy.' She illustrates this by the image of a stairs. God is at the top, watching our efforts to reach him. Knowing that we cannot measure up to the gospel ideal, he bends down to us. This is the way we reach union with God - not through grim determination and effort, but through his love taking us to himself.

Miraculous Invocation to St. Therese

*O Glorious St. Therese,
whom Almighty God has raised up to aid
and inspire the human family,
I implore your Miraculous Intercession.
You are so powerful in obtaining every need
of body and spirit from the Heart of God.
Holy Mother Church proclaims you "Prodigy of Miracles...
the greatest saint of Modern Times."
Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition
(mention in silence here)
and to carry out your promises of
spending heaven doing good on earth...
of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses.
Little Flower, give me your childlike faith,
to see the Face of God
in the people and experiences of my life,
and to love God with full confidence.
St. Therese, my Carmelite Sister,
I will fulfil your plea "to be made known everywhere"
and I will continue to lead others to Jesus through you.
Amen.*



Our Annual Thanksgiving Harvest Mass

HARVEST PRAYER

Father, as we celebrate this season of thanksgiving, We give thanks for the blessings of food, provision and nourishment. Please, grow in us a harvest for the world. Come, sow a seed of hope within our souls Lord, that we might yield goodness, patience and kindness in abundance. Sow a seed of peace in our lives Lord, that we might bear the fruits of forgiveness, compassion and righteousness. Come, sow a seed of love in our hearts Lord, that others would reap the blessings of family, friendship and community. May each seed of hope, peace and love grow within us into a harvest that can be feasted on by all. Amen.



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



**Gertrude (Gertie)
O'Connor
Carrick Hill,**



**Maureen
Reynolds
(née Dooley)
Beladd Upper**



**Gavin
Young
London & Newpark**

*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



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



**In Loving Memory of
MARGARET (Maggie) Duggan
Dublin Road, Portlaoise
Died 13th September 2023**



Maggie's husband Dan, and family, wishes to acknowledge the many expressions of sympathy and gestures of kindness shown to us following our sad loss of Maggie.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to our relatives, friends and neighbours who attended the wake and funeral and visited our home, providing emotional and practical support at a very difficult time.

To everyone who sent Mass and Sympathy cards, floral tributes and uploaded condolence messages online, thank you.

We would like to express our appreciation to Monsignor John Byrne for celebrating Mam's Requiem Mass and to Michelle and the team at The Portlaoise Parish Centre. Also to the Priests who attended Mam in hospital. Special thanks to Nuala Kelly for the beautiful music and to Mam's thirteen grandchildren for enriching Mam's Requiem Mass so wonderfully.

We wish to extend our gratitude to Matthew Keegan and David Good Funeral Directors for their help, support and professionalism in carrying out the funeral arrangements. Thanks also to the gravediggers for preparing Mam's final resting place.

Our sincere gratitude must also be extended to: Liz, Mam's principal carer, Mam & Dad's Home Care Team, the Public Health Team especially Evelyn and Aideen, The entire Nurse, Caring and Medical Teams and the Palliative Care Team at Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise, The Ambulance Service

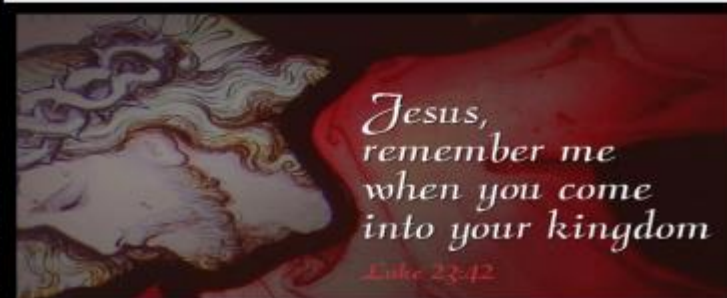
Our thanks to Portlaoise GAA Club for providing a guard of honour at the Church and Graveyard and to mam's colleagues from St. Fintan's Hospital who supported us in such great numbers.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our appreciation and gratitude. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Maggie's Month Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts Peter and Pauls Church, Portlaoise on Saturday 7th October at 6.30pm

*Lovingly remembered and dearly missed by her
husband Dan, Ann, Liam, Cyril, Noeleen, extended
family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Margaret



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

**In Loving Memory of
PHIL GORMAN (nee Dooley)**

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise

1st Anniversary occurred 29th September 2023



1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Sunday 1st October at 12.30pm.

Dearly loved and missed by her children, grandchildren and extended family

May Phil Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARTIN GORMAN**

60th Anniversary, 3rd October, 2023



*A silent grief is in our hearts,
No human eye can trace,
For many a broke heart is hid,
Beneath a smiling face.*

Sadly missed by your loving family and extended family.

May Martin Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ANNE GRIFFEY**

32 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

25th Anniversary occurred 24th September 2023



*Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.*

Sadly missed by all her loving family & friends.

May Anne Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
Elizabeth (LIL) DOYLE**

Green Road, Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary occurs 4th October 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Saturday 30th September at 6.30pm.

*Will those who think of Lil today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.*

Sadly missed by her loving husband William, sons and extended family.

May Lil Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
BILL HOLLAND**

Borris Little, Portlaoise

25th Anniversary occurs on 30th September 2023



It's hard to forget someone who gave us so much to remember. The loss is immeasurable but so is the love left behind.

We honour and cherish your memory Dad, your spirit lives on forever in our hearts.

You are gone but not forgotten.

*Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Sunday 1st October at 12.30pm

*Will those who think of our Dad today
A little prayer to Jesus say*

Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family, relatives and friends.

Rest in Peace Dad

**In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM (Joe) FITZPATRICK**

The Hermitage, Borris Rd. Portlaoise.

8th Anniversary away from home - 2nd October 2023

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 1st October at 12.30pm.



*We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives
Until we meet again xxx*

Sadly missed so much by his wife Mary, sons Mark and William, daughter Julie, grandsons Colin and Craig, granddaughters Emma and Amy and daughters-in-law Elaine and Mary.

May Joe Rest in Peace

YOUR LIGHT WILL
SHINE LIKE THE DAWN

ISMMH 58.8



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
In Loving Memory of
JOHN BYRNE

St Martins, Ridge Road, Portlaoise
1st Anniversary occurs 6th October 2023



On the first anniversary of John's passing, we the family wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the kindness and support shown to us following our sudden and sad loss.

For the wonderful staff in Portlaoise hospital, we thank them for their professionalism, kindness and support.

Thank you to Fr David Vard, Monsignor Byrne and the Priests of Portlaoise Parish for a beautiful service and to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their help and professionalism.

Finally, to everyone who attended the funeral, sent Mass cards and messages of condolences we will never forget your support.

Sadly missed and always remembered by his loving wife Helen and children John, Sharon, Ivan, Ian and Martin, grandchildren and extended family.

*This day is remembered and quietly kept
 No words are needed, we shall never forget
 For those we love don't go away
 They walk beside us every day
 Unseen and unheard, but always near
 So loved, so missed, and so very dear.*

Johns' anniversary mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish church on Sunday 8th October at 11.15am.

Rest in Peace John

In Loving Memory of
KEVIN CULLETON

Brittas Lodge, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs 10th October 2023



Forever in our thoughts

Anniversary Mass for Kevin will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday 7th October at 6.30pm

Loved and missed by Gemma, daughters Ailbhe and Eve, sons Kevin and John, granddaughter Aoife, sons-in-law Gearóid and Keith, sisters Mary, Ber and Monica, brother Mike, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Kevin

In Loving Memory of
MARGARET GING *née Houlihan*

Borris Road, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurred 30th September 2023

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 1st October at 11.15am



Wonderful memories woven in gold,
 This is a picture we tenderly hold
 Deep in our hearts a memory is kept
 To love, to cherish, never to forget.

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by her husband Tommy, sons Damien and Dermot, granddaughter Leah and all her loving family and many friends.

Rest in Peace Margaret

In Loving Memory of
PAT DOWLING

Ballycarroll, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 4th October 2023



2nd Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, this Sunday 1st October at 9.30am

*In the hearts of those who loved you,
 You will always be there.*

Sadly missed and always remembered by your family, friends and neighbours.

Rest in Peace Pat

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of
ANNIE O' BRIEN

6 Marian Place, Portlaoise - 27th September
Mammy,



*This heartfelt message is for you
 Each word is meant sincerely
 Losing someone irreplaceable
 causes pain that's hard to bear
 My heart feels truly broken
 Knowing you're no longer here*

Love on your Birthday
Conor & Lisa

Granny

*I will never ever be able to truly comprehend the fact
 that you are no longer here*

Love you and miss you always Granny
Happy Birthday. Love Conor

Rest in Peace Annie

**In Loving Memory of
DAMIEN CONNOLLY**

Springfield, Ballyfin, Co. Laois.
12th Anniversary occurs 4th October 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin this
Sunday 1st October at 10am
If I could have a wish come true,
A dream that's come to pass,
I'd ask to spend a day with you,
And pray that it would last.
I'd run to you and hold you close,
We'd laugh and smile again,
I'd listen so intently, as you told me
how you've been.

When time was up I'd hold you close, not wanting to let
go,

You'd smile and tell me, "see you soon", and somehow I
would know, that while it's very hard to wait,
One day the time will come.

I'll join you there forevermore, when I too am called
home.

My wish may go ungranted, but it will always be true,
I'd trade many tomorrows, for one yesterday with you.

*Miss you so much, your wife Jacinta, your children
Jack, Katie & Paul and your grandchild Ruairi*

Rest in Peace Damien

**In Loving Memory of
PADDY BYRNE**

113 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
33rd Anniversary occurs 30th September 2023.



*Your presence we miss
Your memory we treasure
Loving you always
Forgetting you never*

Loved and missed always
Your loving wife Mary & Family

Rest in Peace Paddy

**In Loving Memory of
KEVIN MULHALL**

85 Marian Place, Portlaoise.
Died 28th September 1985
38th Anniversary occurs at this time.



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

Sadly missed and remembered by all his loving family.

Rest in Peace Kevin

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
In Loving Memory of
PAT REGAN**

Tea Lane, Portlaoise. Died 28-02-2023



Pat's wife Bernie, his son Bryan and his
partner Samantha and Pat's much
loved grandsons Charlie and Arthur
wish to acknowledge the many
expressions of sympathy and gestures
of kindness shown to them following
the sad loss of Pat. We offer our
heartfelt thanks to all who attended
Pat's wake, funeral Mass and burial, to
all who sent Mass cards, text messages and to all who
phoned, thank you. And a special thanks to all who
travelled to be with us.

Our deepest gratitude to Fr. David Vard for all his visits to
Pat throughout his illness and for the beautiful Requiem
Mass.

A special word of thanks to Pat's cousin Sadie and her
husband Noel for enriching Pat's Mass with their beautiful
music.

To Michelle Bartley and the staff of the Parish Centre
thank you all so much for all your help and kindness.
We will be eternally grateful to Dr. Gerard White for his
care and attention to Pat and for all the home visits.
Thanks also to Breslin's Pharmacy for all Pat's medical
needs. We are grateful to Professor John Crown and staff
of St. Vincent's Private Hospital for all their great care of
Pat. A big thank you to Laois/Offaly Palliative care and the
home care providers for making Pat's last few days at
home more comfortable.

Thank you to Matthew Keegan and David Goode for their
great services. To Bosco for all the wonderful food
provided in the Parish Centre thank you. A special word of
thanks to John Delaney for his spiritual guidance and
recital of the rosary at the wake and for the final prayers
as Pat was removed from the house. To all Pat's cousins
your help and kindness will never be forgotten.

A heartfelt thank you to all of Pat's colleagues in IDS who
supported him in his illness, your visits brightened up his
days.

To Alf and Joan and all Bernie's colleagues in Certa
(Jones Oil) thank you for all your overwhelming kindness
and generosity to us at a very hard time in our lives, we
will be forever grateful.

Thank you to the gravediggers for preparing Pat's final
resting place and thank you to Paul and Robert for filling
in the grave after Pat's burial.

A special thank you to Damien and Mary Molloy for their
practical and emotional support, it was very much
appreciated.

A big thank you to Bernie's nieces and nephews
especially Marie and Olive and their families who offered
such wonderful support when we needed it most.

A huge thanks to all Bryan's great friends who gave great
support and practical help to him.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually
please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of
our deepest gratitude. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will
be offered for your intentions.

May Pat Rest In Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL GAYNOR**

Whose 49th Anniversary occurs 4th October 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Wednesday 4th October at 10am

*You are with us dad when the morning
breaks and as the day departs,
For God has left a special gift of footprints
in our hearts.*

Lovingly remembered Dad today and forever, by all your loving family xxx

May Michael Rest in Heavenly Peace

**In Loving Memory of
A Dear Father & Mother
SEAN & TERESA CONROY**

Ballydavis, Portlaoise.

Sean's 19th Anniversary occurred on 24th May 2023

Teresa's 3rd Anniversary occurred on 26th September 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 and always remembered by their son
Brendan, daughter Mary, daughter-in-law Anne, son-in-law
Joe, grandchildren David, Benny, Mark and Chloe*



Sean & Teresa's Anniversary Mas will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church on Sunday 1st October at 11.15am

*Also remembering their Son John, whose
51st Anniversary occurs 31st December.*

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL KEENAN**

4 New Row, Green Road, Portlaoise.
12th Anniversary occurs 2nd October 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Monday 2nd October at 10am.

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

Remembered always by his loving family

Rest in Peace Michael

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN MURPHY**

The Hermitage, Portlaoise. Died 4th Sept 2023



The family of the late John Murphy
wish to express our gratitude to our
extended families, friends and
neighbours for their support and
kindness.

Thanks to all who visited our home
and attended the funeral Mass
A special thanks to Fr. Simon for a
beautiful Requiem Mass.

Thanks to the doctors and staff at I.C.U. Portlaoise
Hospital, also St. Vincent's Hospital, St. Paul's,
Mountmellick all the staff a big thank you.

Thanks to Henry Rankin, funeral directors, Paul was so
helpful and kind.

Months Mind Mass for John will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Sunday 8th
October at 11.15am.

Sadly missed by his loving wife Sadie and son John
and Esme and granddaughters Emma and Amy and
friends.

*"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"*

Rest in Peace John

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**In Loving Memory of
HENRY TOBIN**
Elm Lawn, Portlaoise



We, the family of Henry Tobin
would like to express our
deepest appreciation for
everyone's sympathy as we
mourned his loss. The shared
memories from all of you as you
visited our home and attended
his funeral, along with the many
phone calls, flowers, cards, food and refreshments,
and indeed all of your words of condolence really
meant a great deal to us all.

We would especially like to thank the local
palliative team for the care, help and compassion
shown to our Dad and to all of us both during and
after Dad's battle with his illness. Thank you.

To the local Parish Centre and the Clergy for their
home visits and assistance with Dad's funeral,
thank you.

To Matthew Keegan Funeral Services for the
professional and caring guidance offered during
our days of mourning, thank you.

Finally, to everyone of our extended family and
friends who reached out to us during this difficult
time, we are grateful for your continued support
and love during our time of need. Dad will be
missed dearly by all who knew him.

Rest In Peace Henry

In Loving Memory of
MARGARET (Pearl) WALSH
née Dempsey

Ridge Rd. Portlaoise. 10th Anniversary occurs 5th October 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 7th October at 6.30pm.

*Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always, forgetting you never.*

*Sadly missed by her loving husband Jim
and all her loving family.*

May Margaret (Pearl) Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
MAY DUNNE

Clonad, Meelick, Portlaoise.

Died 2nd October 1993

30th Anniversary occurs on 2nd October 2023

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter &
Paul's Parish Church this Sunday 1st October at 10am



*We hold you close within
our hearts
And there you shall remain
To walk beside us throughout
our lives*

*Until we meet again
So rest in peace dear loved one
And thanks for all you've done*

*We pray that God has given you
The crown you've truly won*

*Deeply missed by Sean, Denis, Pat, Mary,
Bridget, Tom, Terry, sons-in-law,
daughters-in-law and all your grandchildren,
family and friends.*

Rest in Peace May

HENRY RANKIN
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

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PAUL; 087-2562137
NIALI;
086-2770095

In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM MARUM

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 3rd October 2023.



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

*Look around your garden
Lord, and when he turns and
smiles,*

*Put your arms around him,
and hold him for a while.*

*We cannot bring the old days back, when we were
all together,*

*The family chain is broken now,
But memories live forever.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your
wife Phyllis, daughters Susan, Samantha,
Sawnya, Sabrina, son William and extended
family, relatives and friends.*

Rest in Peace William



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Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**

Legion of Mary Portlaoise, Successful Pilgrimage to Knock Basilica on September 24th 2023

The Legion of Mary Portlaoise is delighted to share the news of the successful pilgrimage to Knock Basilica that took place on September 24th 2023. This day was marked by profound reflection, heartfelt prayers and rosaries, and a deep sense of communion among all who participated. The day began with a Eucharistic blessing, followed by a solemn benediction ceremony. Due to unfavourable weather conditions, the planned Rosary Procession to the Shrine was regrettably cancelled. The Blessing of religious objects added a special touch to the event. Anointing of the Sick, a deeply spiritual and comforting ceremony, was offered to those in need. The pilgrimage concluded with a Concelebrated Mass in the awe-inspiring Knock Basilica. Rev. Father Richard Gibbons P.P. addressed the gathering, sharing inspiring words. Most Rev. Archbishop Francis Duffy presided over the Mass, guiding us in our spiritual journey. The event was skilfully organized by Catherine Murphy, ensuring a memorable and meaningful pilgrimage for all. The pilgrimage was a testament to our unwavering faith and devotion to Mother Mary. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who joined us on this spiritual journey. We would like to extend special thanks to our dedicated driver, whose skill and commitment ensured our safe and timely transportation to and from Knock Basilica, those individuals who offered invaluable assistance and support during the pilgrimage, contributing to the successful completion of our sacred journey.



For any post-pilgrimage inquiries or to share your own experiences, and if you'd like

to be a part of the Legion, please feel free to contact Una McCormack at 086-2392997. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you into our community and for spiritual growth and unity as we continue our journey with the Legion of Mary.

Thank you for being a part of this blessed pilgrimage, despite the weather challenges.



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
28th September 2023

16

19

20

27

No €18,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Fiona Dwane

Elizabeth Moore

MATCH 3s €1,000

2

Match

3s

Receive

€500

each

PROMOTER

Anne Ging

Philip Fagan

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Next Week's Jackpot is €19,000

October Collection for the Priests of the Parish

Envelopes for the October Collection for the priests of the parish are in the Development Boxes or in the Church porches. Thank you for your support.

Thank You for your support.

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

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley

Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed
www.portlaoiseparish.ie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times
057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm

057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

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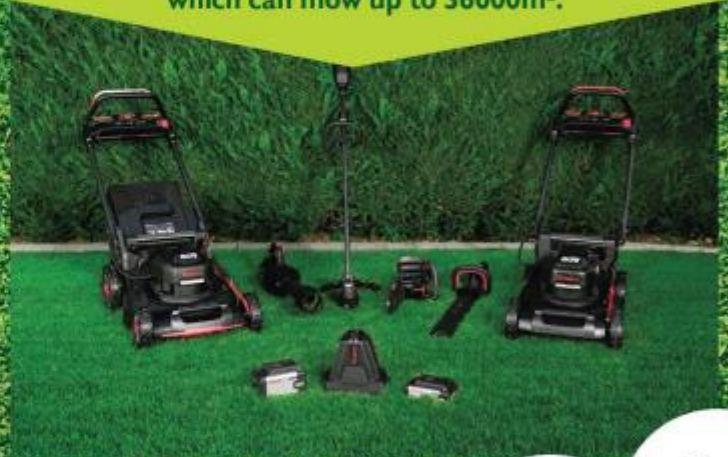
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