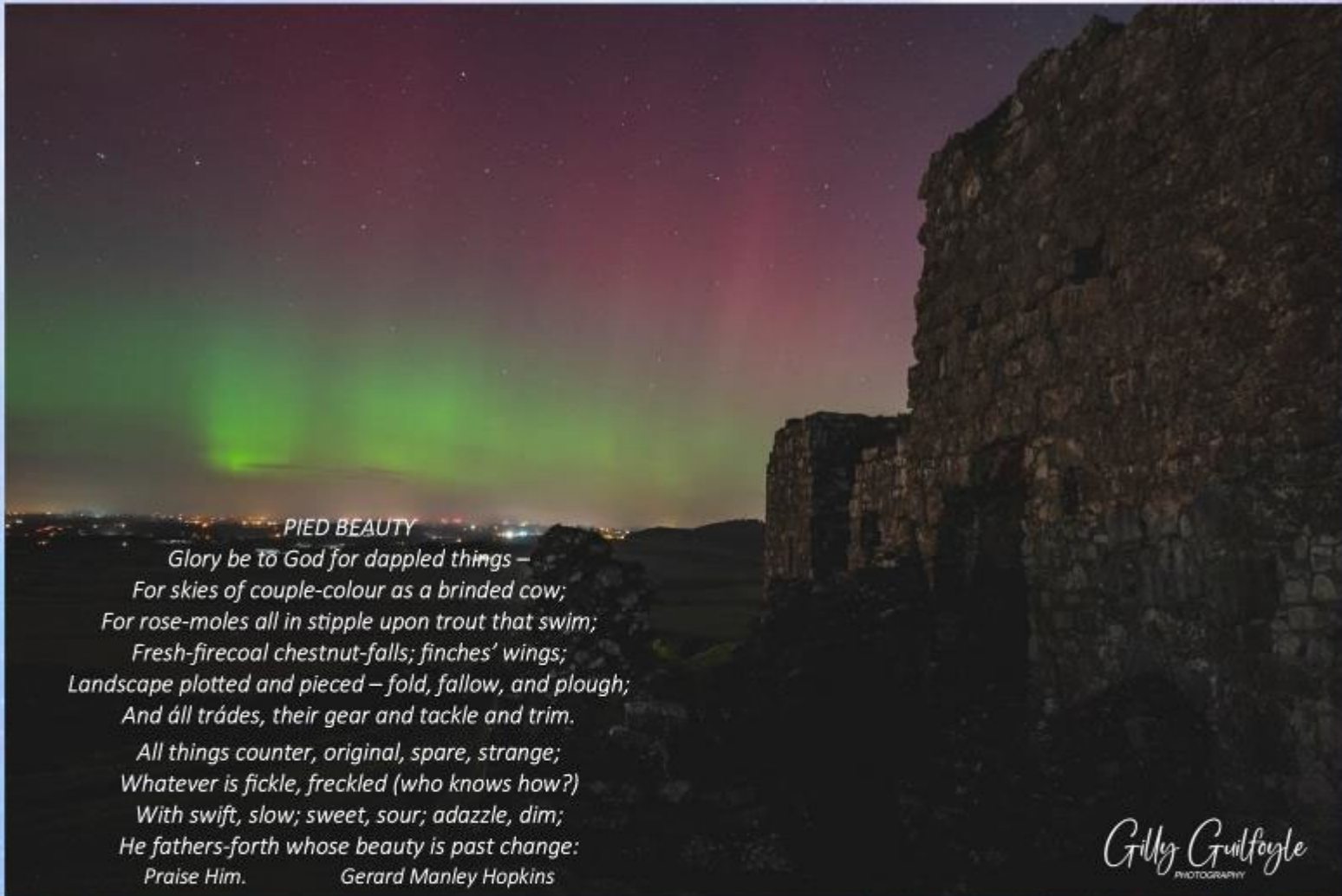


## Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) from the Rock of Dunamaise.

A very rare sight in the night sky in Laois was captured last Sunday by photographer, Gilly Guilfoyle, member of Portlaoise Camera Club.

'What a super night on the Rock, no need to go to Iceland for Aurora at all' he said.



### PIED BEAUTY

Glory be to God for dappled things –  
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;  
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;  
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;  
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;  
And áll trádes, their gear and tackle and trim.  
All things counter, original, spare, strange;  
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)  
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;  
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:  
Praise Him. Gerard Manley Hopkins

Gilly Guilfoyle  
PHOTOGRAPHY

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)



**Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow**

We 'know not the day nor the hour', and when death finally catches us out, we can all too often be filled with regrets and 'if-onlys'.

"If only," we say after the death of a loved one. If only we'd spared our ageing parents more time. If only we'd made up that old family rift. If only we'd told our children that we loved them. And what of the deceased themselves? Every day people die unexpectedly. Every day people die in road accidents, as the result of violent crime, sudden illness or as the result of natural disaster. Thousands of people wake up every morning not suspecting that this day might be their last. Death is the final curtain by which time we must be prepared to meet our maker. It's a message we've heard over and over .... so why don't we heed it?

Life is full of deadlines. We have deadlines by which we must finish essays, complete projects, submit job applications, apply for loans or make payments. Life is always demanding that we make preparations. We make preparations for work, for exams, for holidays, for visitors, for weddings, birthdays and a hundred and one other occasions. But for the greatest test of all, that of meeting our maker we are curiously unprepared. Deep down we all know that we could be better Christians. Deep down we know there are things that we should be getting round to, but somehow we never do. Those great deeds we are planning can always wait until tomorrow, after all, unexpected death is only something that happens to other people isn't it? Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow!

The five foolish virgins in today's gospel were caught wanting. When the bridegroom they were awaiting arrived unexcitedly in the middle of the night, they were caught unprepared. Their lamps were empty. In a panic they tried to borrow oil from the five wise virgins, but the five wise virgins were unable to help. The message here is that we cannot borrow our way into heaven; we can only enter the kingdom by our own merits. Today's gospel promotes urgency. We must not put off until tomorrow what we can do today. Do we make the most of opportunities to do good deeds as and when they arise? Do we make the right choices conscientiously on a daily basis? Do we live every day as though it were our last? If we are doing all of these things, we have no need to fear the unexpected.

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

**Monday to Friday: 7.30am, 10am & 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 6.30pm Mass.



**We welcome into our Parish Community**

Finn Paul Keyes, Carmody Way, Fairgreen

Benjamin Basilio Fitzpatrick, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Heather Colbert, Lake Drive, Kilminchy

Alisha Colbert, Lake Drive, Kilminchy

**Who were baptised last weekend.**

**This week Masses for the Dead List will be celebrated on:**

**Tuesday at 7.30am**

**Thursday at 7.30pm**

**Friday at 7.30am.**



Pray for peace in Israel and Gaza.  
Pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Gaza and Israel.



Remember especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies.

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To book by phone: 087 666 4808

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Wed: 9:30am - 5:30pm

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

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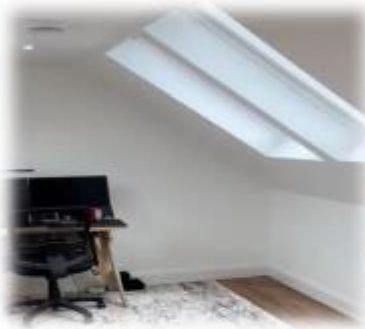
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4 weeks

### Venue:

Portlaoise Parish Centre - Stradbally Rd, Borris Little, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 FH67

Booking is required (and limited) for this class.

The cost is €50. (Payment in full on first night)

These classes are led by certified Tai Chi instructor, Loretta Hipwell.

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**FURTHER DETAILS AT THE PARISH CENTRE**

***You may also join the parish lotto online at***

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At The Parish Centre

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

057 862 1142

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

# Annual Bereavement Mass



## SUMMARY OF PARISH ACCOUNTS FOR 2022

The Parish and Parish Centre Accounts have been submitted to and examined by the Diocesan Accountant and audited by the Diocesan external Accountants. They form part of the Diocesan consolidated accounts which are submitted to the Charity Regulator in October each year. Our Parish Finance Committee: Justin Brown, John Dunne, Betty Brophy, Bridie O'Reilly, Imelda Monahan and Philip Moran have approved their publication.

### **RECURRING INCOME**

|                         | <b>2022</b>      | <b>2021</b>         |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
|                         | €                | €                   |
| Development Fund        | 43,641.00        | 34,833.00           |
| Basket Collection       | 162,644.00       | 221,356.00          |
| Shrines                 | 98,617.00        | 97,557.00           |
| Parish Lotto Income     | 65,057.00        | 98,711.00           |
| Charity Christmas Cards | 21,278.00        | 24,627.00           |
| Tax Refunds/Rebates     | 19,337.00        | -                   |
| Sundry Income           | 4,155.00         | 1,432.00            |
| Rental Income           | 138,237.00       | 122,605.00          |
|                         | <b>€ 552,966</b> | <b>€ 601,121.00</b> |

### **RECURRING EXPENDITURE**

|   |                    |                    |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Wages and salaries                                | 75,354.00          | 44,955.00          |
| K&L Retired Priest Fund                           | 4,000.00           | 4,000.00           |
| Insurance   | 17,443.00          | 20,704.00          |
| Light and heat                                    | 79,151.00          | 56,426.00          |
| Telephone, Broadband & Internet Related Expenses. | 8,628.00           | 7,964.00           |
| Computer Hardware/Software & Servicing Costs      | 4,565.00           | 3,692.00           |
| Repairs and maintenance                           | 27,477.00          | 30,939.00          |
| Postage, Stationery and Office exes               | 8,998.00           | 8,338.00           |
| Collection Envelopes & Missalettes                | 1,952.00           | 2,194.00           |
| Rates- Water, LPT, Waste Collection               | 3,564.00           | 7,136.00           |
| Altar Shrine Requisites                           | 37,182.00          | 31,587.00          |
| Pastoral Programme Expenses                       | 2,982.00           | 3,978.00           |
| Youth and Community Expenses                      | 903.00             | 375.00             |
| Diocesan Levy                                     | 48,000.00          | 29,890.00          |
| Legal & Professional Fees                         | 7,893.00           | 5,206.00           |
| Accountancy Fees                                  | 313.00             | 294.00             |
| Bank charges                                      | 2,617.00           | 1,899.00           |
| Sundry Expenses                                   | 3,307.00           | 2,521.00           |
|   | <b>€330,842.00</b> | <b>€262,098.00</b> |

### **Surplus on Ordinary Income v Expenditure**

**€222,124.00**

**€339,023.00**

The complete accounts for the Parish & Parish Centre may be inspected at the Parish Centre by arrangement.

We thank all who support the Parish in whatever way(s) you have chosen. Since the forced pandemic suspension of our traditional method of taking collections by passing the baskets or 'blue bags' many of you have found new ways to support the parish. We thank you very much for that support. It is greatly appreciated.

### **Seperate Brochure**

This edition of the *Link Up* includes a two page brochure which is also available separately as a stand alone publication. It outlines the various ways you can contribute to the parish in the absence of the traditional passing 'the baskets' at Masses for the Offertory and Development fund collections. Apart from the great benefit of not interrupting the Liturgy we feel this is a more adult way of dealing with each other in the matter of supporting the Parish. As St. Paul tells us *'each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver'* (2Cor.9:7). It respects everyone's support for the parish is his or her own decision. We are grateful to those who support us and encourage everyone to play their part. How the money is spent is outlined in our annual account for 2022 and in the brochure. The sharp rise in the cost of energy stands out.

### **Payments to priests:**

Collections for the support of the priests are separate from payments made to Parish Funds. There are 4 collections for the support of the Priests taken up during the year. Christmas, Lent, Easter, and October. They are lodged to the Parish Clergy Fund from which the priests are paid an agreed salary. If there is a surplus in the Clergy Fund at the end of the year (which invariably there is) it goes to the Diocesan Retired Priest Fund. The priests thank you for your continued generous support.

### **Parish Centre:**

The pandemic and its aftermath hit the Parish Centre hard. It is only now in the later stages of 2023 that it has begun to recover with a good demand for meeting rooms, coffee shop, Link Up advertising etc returning to something like pre-pandemic times. There is no doubt that the Centre is at the heart of the Parish and its services are vital to a vibrant parish. While running at a deficit for the past 3 years we hope it will return to paying for itself in the current and subsequent years.

### **Parish Lotto:**

The Parish Lotto, our regular weekly fund raiser, continues to be a very important contributor to the financial wellbeing of the Parish. Our thanks to all who support it and a special 'thank you' to our promoters. It has a very attractive prize fund. Yearly and half yearly membership gift cards are available at the Parish Centre. An ideal gift for Christmas, birthdays etc. You may also participate on-line via our website.

### **Parish Development:**

With the completion of the present work to Holy Cross Church, Ratheniska which hopefully will be in time to celebrate Christmas, our three Churches will have undergone major renovation in recent times. Other major development like the Parish Centre are possible only because of our supportive and generous parishioners.

**THANK YOU**

# PORTLAOISE PARISH

The Parish Centre 057 862 1142

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

Registered Charity Number 20015848



We are very grateful for the generous support we receive as a Parish from so many—thank you.

The past few years with the interruption of the pandemic has had an effect on our income but, thank God, not as drastic as we feared in March 2020 when our Churches were closed and so many adversely affected financially. The exception to closure was the celebration of Funeral Masses which were all too frequent and celebrated with severe restriction placed on families. We remember those who died during that period and the extra burden of grief suffered by their families. We were also in the middle of major renovations to the Church of the Assumption, the Heath. Thank God we are in a better place now.

Since Covid-19 our method of taking collections has changed radically. We no longer pass 'the baskets' or the 'blue bags' as was the tradition for many years. We certainly appreciate the fact that our Masses are no longer interrupted by taking up these collections. This has had an adverse effect on our income but it is our hope and intention that we continue in this manner. Thankfully, many of you have found a new way of making your parish contribution. Your ongoing generosity has enabled us to continue to fund a vibrant Parish and to carry out much-needed work and development across our community.

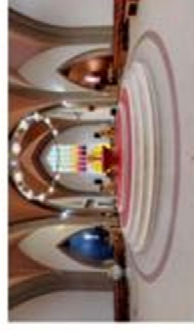
## Parish Developments in Recent Years

Parish Development over the past number of years is in excess of €10million in money terms, thanks to your generosity. We ask you to continue your support so that the Parish can face the challenges of today and realise our plans for the future.

2005: Parish Centre Build



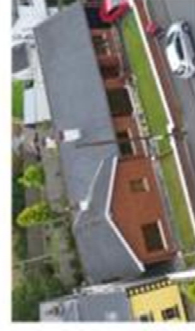
2008: Parish Church Renovation



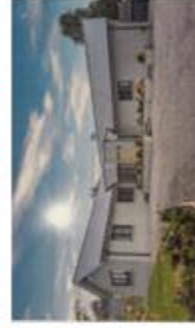
2014: Holy Family Schools (site purchase €1.25m)



2016: Curate's House, Stradbally Rd. (house purchase)



2019: Parochial House (purchase and renovation)



2020: Church of the Assumption, the Heath (major renovation)



2023: Major works at Holy Cross, Ratheniska. Hopefully this renovation will be completed in time to celebrate Christmas there.





## Be prepared

Once there was a big wedding. The wedding was so big that there were 10 bridesmaids. The bridesmaids all helped the bride get ready for the wedding. Weddings back then started at night. Everyone knew that sometimes during the night the groom would come to the bride's house and call out for her. The bridesmaids would hold up their oil lamps so that the bride and groom could see each other. The groom would be so happy to see his beautiful bride!

Everyone would keep holding up their lamps so that everyone could walk down the streets all the way to the groom's house. Then there would be dancing and eating and lots of fun celebration of the wedding.

In Jesus' parable he told what happened when the 10 bridesmaids helped the bride get ready for the wedding. Five of the bridesmaids were wise. They knew that sometimes the groom would wait a long time before he came to get the bride. So the wise bridesmaids brought extra oil for their lamps. They wanted to be ready even if the groom came very late in the night.

The five other bridesmaids were foolish. They did not think about bringing extra oil.

After the bridesmaids got the bride ready they waited and waited for the groom to come. They kept their lamps lit so they would be ready when he came. As time went by the bride and all of the bridesmaids got sleepy and fell asleep.

Then someone shouted "Here's the bridegroom, come outside and meet him!"

The bride and all of the bridesmaids woke up. They fixed their lamps to make them nice and bright. The five foolish girls noticed that their lamps had run out of oil and had burned out. They asked the wise girls for oil but there was not enough for them to have some too.

The foolish girls had to go and try to find more oil for the lamps. They did not get to go out with the bride to meet the bridegroom. They did not get to walk down the streets to the wedding feast with all of their friends. They were too busy trying to find oil.

When the wise bridesmaids and everyone else arrived at the groom's house they went inside and began the celebrations. The groom shut the door and locked it so no strangers could get inside. When the foolish bridesmaids came to the door they were not allowed in. The groom didn't even know who they were!

This parable explains how it will be when Jesus comes again. We do not know the day or the time when Jesus will come back. We should always love God and obey him so we will be ready whenever he comes. We want to be ready to go with Jesus to heaven. Are you ready?

Dear Jesus,  
we know one day we'll get to meet you face to face.  
Help us get ready for that wonderful day.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.







# TEN BRIDESMAIDS



MATTHEW 25:1-13

Are the statements below **TRUE** or **FALSE**?

All 10 bridesmaids were prepared to meet the bridegroom.

TRUE FALSE

The bridesmaids fell asleep waiting for the bridegroom.

Five bridesmaids went to find more oil for their lamps.

Five bridesmaids shared their extra oil with the bridesmaids who ran out.

The bridegroom let in the unprepared bridesmaids.

Pray  
for  
Peace



We pray for peace in our world,  
and an end to war.  
Instead of hatred,  
let there be love.  
Shelter your children  
and protect us.  
Guide us  
and keep us from harm.  
Amen



'Stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour',  
Jesus said to his disciples.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| G | O | M | Q | I | N | A | N | H | E | A | V | E | N | S |
| C | A | Q | L | Q | T | I | I | E | D | I | J | K | B | L |
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**BANQUET**  
**KINGDOM**  
**COME**  
**WOKE**  
**VIRGINS**  
**RANG**  
**WATCH**  
**OIL**  
**DROWSY**  
**TRIMMED**  
**WISE**  
**HEAVEN**  
**MEET**  
**WEDDING**  
**LAMPS**  
**ASLEEP**  
**FOOLISH**  
**MIDNIGHT**  
**BRIDEGROOM**



# Time to Think!

## *The Gift of Kindness*

There is a story in the Gospel about a leper coming to Jesus on his knees and pleading with him, saying, 'If you want to, you can cure me'. It was a pitiful statement, suggesting despair. The leper had reason to, in the tradition of the time, leprosy was seen as a punishment by God for sin, and led to social and religious rejection. Maybe the man had lost hope and didn't expect much. But he was desperate, so he came on his knees; desperate people are not worried about losing their decorum. Or it could be that he simply didn't have feet he could walk with; leprosy destroys toes and you can't walk without them.

The first thing Jesus did was to look at the man; he didn't turn away in disgust. Then he listened to him; he didn't lecture him. He felt sorry for him; he didn't feel scorn for him. Then he touched him; he did not keep him at arm's length, or out of smelling range; he touched the untouchable. Jesus seemed stung by the man's 'If you want to', and replied, 'Of course I want to!' And he healed him. Jesus looked, listened, felt sorry, touched and healed. That was how he treated the leper, the outcast. An outcast is anyone I close myself off against, anyone I give a cold shoulder to, anyone the mention of whose name gives me a jolt. Those are my outcasts, my lepers. Isn't there a lesson there for us towards anyone who is an outcast to us?

I love this story from Katharine Hepburn's childhood; it's beautiful, in her own words....

"Once when I was a teenager, my father and I were standing in line to buy tickets for the circus. Finally, there was only one other family between us and the ticket counter. This family made a big impression on me. There were eight children, all probably under the age of 12. The way they were dressed, you could tell they didn't have a lot of money, but their clothes were neat and clean. The children were well-behaved all of them standing in line, two-by-two behind their parents, holding hands. They were excitedly jabbering about the clowns, animals, and all the acts they would be seeing that night. By their excitement you could sense they had never been to the circus before. It would be a highlight of their lives. The father and mother were at the head of the pack standing proud as could be. The mother was holding her husband's hand, looking up at him as if to say, "You're my knight in shining armour." He was smiling and enjoying seeing his family happy. The ticket lady asked the man how many tickets he wanted. He proudly responded, "I'd like to buy eight children's tickets and two adult tickets, so I can take my family to the circus." The ticket lady stated the price.



The man's wife let go of his hand, her head dropped, the man's lip began to quiver. Then he leaned a little closer and asked, "How much did you say?" The ticket lady again stated the price. The man didn't have enough money. How was he supposed to turn and tell his eight kids that he didn't have enough money to take them to the circus? Seeing what was going on, my dad reached into his pocket, pulled out a €20 note, and then dropped it on the ground. (We were not wealthy in any sense of the word!) My father bent down, picked up the €20 note, tapped the man on the shoulder and said, "Excuse me, sir, this fell out of your pocket."

The man understood what was going on. He wasn't begging for a handout but certainly appreciated the help in a desperate, heart-breaking, embarrassing situation. He looked straight into my dad's eyes, took my dad's hand in both of his, squeezed tightly onto the €20 note, and with his lip quivering and a tear streaming down his cheek, he replied; "Thank you, thank you, sir. This really means a lot to me and my family." My father and I went back to our car and drove home. The €20 that my dad gave away is what we were going to buy our own tickets with. Although we didn't get to see the circus that night, we both felt a joy inside us that was far greater than seeing the circus could ever provide. That day I learnt the value to Give.

The Giver is bigger than the Receiver. If you want to be large, larger than life, learn to give. Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get - only with what you are expecting to give - which is everything. The importance of giving, blessing others can never be over emphasised because there's always joy in giving. Learn to make someone happy by acts of giving." ~ Katharine Hepburn



Portlaoise  
PARISH

## Christmas Carol Service

2023



Wednesday  
20th December  
8pm

Calling all singers, whether you are in a choir or not, you are most welcome to come along and sing at the Parish Carol Service

\*  
Rehearsals begin at 8pm on Wednesday 22nd November in St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church and thereafter on the 29th November, 6th and 13th December.

Attendance at the rehearsals is mandatory.



**Sean Doyle Light Engineering, Ballacolla; 087-2068972 | [seandoylelightengineering](https://www.facebook.com/seandoylelightengineering)**

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

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

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**; Bowls in St. Mary's Sports hall 3pm. **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**; Club activities and fun with Moez at 3pm in the Parish Centre. **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**; Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm, new members welcome, tuition given. For further information please contact P.R.O. Sheila at 087-6204617.

**Results of Whist Drive held in Parish Centre on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November:**

**Top Score:** Frank Keenan | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Mary Gowing | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** Margaret Flanagan and Breda Gaynor

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Ann-Marie Farrell and Mary Delaney | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Molly O'Brien

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Mary Downey | **Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Dunne | 2<sup>nd</sup> Molly O'Brien | 3<sup>rd</sup> Margaret Flanagan

4<sup>th</sup> Maureen Fitzpatrick | 5<sup>th</sup> Betty Murphy | 6<sup>th</sup> Mary Delaney | 7<sup>th</sup> Mary Dunne

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

**Emo Art and Craft Fair:** Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November in Emo Community Centre from 11.30am to 5pm. Beautiful gifts for all occasions. Proceeds of the raffle will go to the new Autism Unit in Emo National School. Drop in and see us.

**Laois Guide Dogs Annual Church gate collection** will be held at all Masses this weekend in Portlaoise and Co. Laois. Your support will be greatly appreciated for this worthy charity.

**Free Science Week Event Exploring Climate Change with Met Eireann and others:** Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise, register on [www.midlandscience.ie](http://www.midlandscience.ie)

**Sean N6s Dancing Class** every Thursday at 8pm in Seanchistin, Ire, Ballyfin, R32X5D6. For further information contact Maureen 087-6482038 or e-mail; [seanchistin@gmail.com](mailto:seanchistin@gmail.com). F6ilte roimh gach duine idir 6g agus aosta.

**Ballinakill/Knock Parish Fundraiser - Michael English Christmas Church Concert:**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in St. Brigid's Church, Ballinakill. Doors open 7pm. Tickets €25. Raffle on the night.

Tickets can be purchased from Claire in the Parish Shop, Portlaoise Parish Centre, Abbeyleix Parish Office, McGraths and Brennan's Ballinakill or by contacting us on Ballinakill & Knock Parish Facebook page.



### RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

**Rosary in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath:** Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm on the first Friday of every month and for the month of November for the Holy Souls, daily, Monday to Saturday 2pm and Sunday 3pm. All are welcome to join with us in prayer.

**Legion of Mary - Frank Duff:** November 7<sup>th</sup> is a day to remember Frank Duff, the founder of the Legion of Mary, a global Catholic lay organisation focused on prayer and service. Duff's devotion to the Virgin Mary and his commitment to serving the needy inspired the Legion's creation in 1921. Until his passing in 1980, he dedicated himself to expanding the Legion worldwide and believed in the potential of every individual to become an instrument of God's love. His legacy continues through millions of Legion of Mary members who carry forward his vision of a world empowered by faith, prayer, and compassion.

*Sc6il Chr6ast R6*

## SPORTS FUNDRAISER

Many More Amazing Prizes to be Won  
<https://idonate.ie/raffle/SCRSportsFundraiser>

Tickets: €5  
Closing Date: 10th of December

**MONSTER BINGO**

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm in  
Mountmellick Arts Centre  
€5,000 in prize money.  
Single book €10. Double book €15.

*"An Evening of Music and Song"*  
in  
St. Paul's Church,  
Mountmellick

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm (sharp)  
Doors open at 7.30pm

**Special Guests:**  
Mountmellick Comhaltas Ceolt6iri  
Portlaoise I.C.A. Choir  
*led by Antoinette Dickinson-Kaur*  
Mountmellick Men's Shed Choir  
Harpists - Lily and Emily Breslin  
Soloist - Thebna Harris  
Irish Mezzo-Soprano - Sarah Luttrell

**Tickets: €15**  
*available from*  
Janet Stewart 086-2737146 | Noeleen Pratt 086-3644005  
Door Prizes - Christmas Hampers

In aid of Mountmellick & Coolbanagher Church Funds

**Portlaoise Cemetery; Please note, gates now close at 4pm daily for Winter.**

**Christmas Craft Fair, Castle Arms Hotel, Durrow;** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 11am to 5.30pm. Crafts people from far and wide will present their unique Christmas gifts at affordable prices. Admission is free. Come browse and buy. For more info. contact Mary 087-2200199 or e-mail durrowcraftfairs@gmail.com

**Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Pilgrimage Important Notice;** The above Pilgrimage will take place from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Booking forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and they need to be completed and accompanied with a €100 non-refundable deposit to secure your seat. This can be done directly with Marian Pilgrimages or you can contact the Lourdes Savings Club which began on 9/11/23 from 3pm to 4pm in the Parish Centre and continues weekly. To begin the savings club, booking form plus deposit is essential. The savings club will run from 9/11/2023 to 30/5/2024 with the exception of Christmas and Easter holidays. There are 100 seats available for the Pilgrimage and they will be sold on a first come first served basis.

**Emmanuel House, Clonfert;** Day of Prayer for the Holy Souls in Purgatory led by Eddie Stones and team, **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November**, 11am to 5pm. Please bring a packed lunch.



Maura O'Brien and the Fatima Invalid Committee are holding a coffee morning in Portlaoise Parish Centre, on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December after 10am Mass, all are welcome. We would be very grateful to anyone who would volunteer to bake cakes or scones for us. Please contact Maura at 087-1210263.

**Fundraising for the Cuisle Centre;** The Cuisle Centre is a support environment for people affected by Cancer and their families. It is completely voluntarily run and relies on voluntary contributions to keep it's doors open. A meeting will be held in Doogues Bar in Raheen on Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm. The aim of the meeting is to come up with fundraising ideas for the Cuisle Centre in order to raise some much needed funds. Everyone is welcome to attend, no idea is too small, every little adds and contributes to the end target. We look forward to seeing you there.



**Congratulations**

To

Lisa and Cathal O'Neill, winners of last week's €20,000 lotto jackpot.

You too could be as lucky - 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://fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois)

**CÉAD MÍLE  
FÁILTE**

This week we were blessed with a visit from Fr. Tom O'Connor, pictured right with Fr. Ciprian, Msgr. John and Michelle Bartley.

Fr. Tom continues to keep all parishioners in his prayers and asks that you continue to pray for him too.



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Oil Cookers & Gas Boilers  
Plus Power Flushing of Heating Systems  
Removing all the old sludge and water that has built up in your radiators and boilers over the years with clean water and Inhibitors to reduce fuel bills and save money.

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Trailer loads delivered.

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All Scrap Metal; Washing machines, Cookers, Lawnmowers etc. collected free. Also Mini-Digger and small Tipping Trailer for hire. Garden sheds cleaned out, old sheds, fences or sewer problems solved. Contact;  
**Richard 085-2529893**

## **NIGHT VIGIL TO KNOCK** **7<sup>th</sup> December**

Leaving Lyster Sq. carpark at 7.30pm. Seats must be booked with €10 deposit to

**Helena 087-9611331**

**Maura 087-1210263**

The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church, **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** 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.



## DeReach Recruitment

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Contact Fintan 087-7645855

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Living room furniture;  
TV Cabinet with storage,  
footstool, hall/living room  
table, fireplace mirror,  
ornament/bookshelf (4 shelves)  
Contact;

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Two people can share, ready to rent from December.

Quiet location, only 5km from Portlaoise, very close to the town, schools, shops, hospital and prison, right next to N7.

Non-smokers please  
May suit professionals  
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**087-6204610**

Call anytime for more info.

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131 Audi A1, Black, 5 door,  
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Serviced regularly. Contact

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One and only Laois All-Ireland  
1915 Hurling Championship  
prints

Tel. Donald 083-0197761

### CAR FOR SALE

**2010 Ford Fiesta**

Low mileage  
NCT 02/25, only  
68,000 miles, Irish car,  
1.2 ltr. Petrol. Tel. Mel;

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**Ladies Bicycle**

In good condition for mother  
of four, required to get to  
work. Contact;

**Sean 087-1495028**

Portlaoise area

### ART TEACHER REQUIRED

To give classes to seniors  
Tuesdays/Thursdays day  
time. Contact Ann;

**086-0678828**

### One-Day Collection

**24<sup>th</sup> November** in aid of



If you are interested in helping  
with the collection, contact

**Helen Corbett 087-2299070**



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Christmas gift for a loved one? Let us take  
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find the perfect gift for that special  
someone.



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



**Mark Scully**  
Millbrook, Portlaoise



**Raisa Ernestson**  
Ballyfin Rd. Portlaoise

**Rubiya Majam**

Ballard Lodge Nursing Home, Portlaoise  
and formerly Kilminchy

*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  
EILEEN RYAN**

12 Ridge Road, Portlaoise.  
12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.**

*Though your smile is gone forever,  
And your hand we cannot touch,  
We have so many memories,  
Of you, who we loved so much.  
Your memory is our keepsake,  
With which we'll never part,*

*God has you in His keeping, we hold you in our hearts.*

*Loved and missed always Mam  
May Eileen Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARTIN LALOR**

No. 1 Borris Little, Portlaoise.  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> November '23.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 12.30pm.**

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

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered  
by his loving family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Martin*

**In Loving Memory of  
EILISH HEARNS**

Colt, Ballyroan. 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 17<sup>th</sup> November '23.



Anniversary Mass for Eilish, her son-in-law  
John, and the deceased members of the  
Hearn and Delaney families will be  
celebrated in St. Fintan's Church Raheen, on  
**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.**

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

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by all her loving family  
and friends.

*Rest in Peace Eilish*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN DELANEY**

**ROBERT DELANEY**  
**KATHLEEN DELANEY**  
Green View, Ridge Road, Portlaoise.



**John's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Robert's 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
& Kathleen's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occur at this time.**

*Although you can't be here with me, we're truly not  
apart, until the final breath I take, you'll be living in  
my heart.*

**Sadly missed by their loving family;**  
Joe, Rena, Sheila, Madeline, John, extended family,  
relatives and friends.

*May They Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN CAMPION**

*Ballycarnan, Portlaoise.*

*9th Anniversary - Died 13th November 2014*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish  
Church, at 10am,  
**Monday 13th November.**

*Rest in Peace John*

**In Loving Memory of  
ANN PAISLEY**

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

*30th Anniversary occurs 13th November 2023.*



*Silent thoughts of times together,  
Hold memories that will last  
forever.*

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

*May Ann Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK FENNELLY**

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

*3rd Anniversary occurs 15th November 2023*



No matter how life changes,  
No matter what we do,  
A special place within our hearts is  
always kept for you.

*Always remembered by  
Bee and family.*

*Rest in Peace Patrick*

**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK FENNELLY**

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

*3rd Anniversary occurs 15th November 2023*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
Wednesday 15th November at 10am.

*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 you are always there.*

*Sadly missed and loved always by Mary, Eugene,  
Sean and Ronan.*

*Rest in Peace Patrick*

**In Loving Memory of  
CATHERINE TYNAN**

*8th Anniversary occurs 12th November 2023.*



**Any Woman  
by Katharine Tynan Hinkson**

*I am the pillars of the house;  
The keystone of the arch am I.  
Take me away, and roof and wall  
Would fall to ruin me utterly.*

*I am the fire upon the hearth,  
I am the light of the good sun,  
I am the heat that warms the earth,  
Which else were colder than a stone.*

*At me the children warm their hands;  
I am their light of love alive.  
Without me cold the hearthstone stands,  
Nor could the precious children thrive.*

*I am the twist that holds together  
The children in its sacred ring,  
Their knot of love, from whose close tether  
No lost child goes a-wandering.*

*I am the house from floor to roof,  
I deck the walls, the board I spread;  
I spin the curtains, warp and woof,  
And shake the down to be their bed.*

*I am their wall against all danger,  
Their door against the wind and snow,  
Thou Whom a woman laid in a manger,  
Take me not till the children grow!*

*Deeply missed, loved and forever remembered by her  
loving husband, five children, grandchildren, family  
and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Catherine*

**In Loving Memory of  
BERNADETTE SCULLY**

*3 New Road, Portlaoise.*

*5th Anniversary occurs 15th November 2023*



**5th Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on Saturday  
18th November at 6.30pm.**

We miss you from your fireside  
chair,  
Your loving smile and gentle air,  
Your vacant place no one can fill,  
We miss you mother and  
always will.

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

*Also remembering her loving husband Timmy at this time.*

*May Bernadette Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET HARDING**

*St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



*A beautiful smile, a heart of gold,  
One of the best, this world could  
hold.*

*Lovingly remembered and  
missed by Mary.*

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET HARDING**

*née Conroy  
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



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

*Loved and sadly missed by  
your Mother and all your  
loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET HARDING**

*née Conroy  
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



*Always in our hearts  
Lovingly remembered by your  
Aunties Gretty and Lily x*

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**Do not grieve about those  
who have died**

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*



**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET HARDING**

*née Conroy  
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
And her Partner*

**GER YOUNG**

*St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 12<sup>th</sup> November and whose  
70<sup>th</sup> Birthday occurred 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



*From sunrise to sunset,  
Every moment would have been more wonderful,  
If you were here with us.  
Your memories will never be forgotten.  
A Mothers love lives on forever,  
In the memories that's she created,  
And in the hearts that she touched.*

*Deeply missed everyday and always in our  
hearts. Love always David, Paul, Ray, Jennie,  
Tracy and families xxxxx*

*Anniversary Mass for both Margaret and Ger will  
be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
this Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
GER YOUNG**

*31 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Remembrance  
occur at this time.*



*Ger's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
this Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30pm.*

*We who love you, sadly miss you,  
As it dawns another year,  
In our lonely hours of thinking,  
Thoughts of you are ever near.  
Our thoughts are ever with you,  
Though you have passed away,*

*And those who have loved you dearly are thinking of you today.*

*Always remembered by Anne, Dawn, Derek, Gemma and  
partners and grandchildren.*

*May Ger Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**

*Our Mother*

**KATIE GING**

*And her daughters*

**KATHLEEN O' REILLY & MARY NOLAN**

*Also remembering*

**MARGARET GING**

*On her 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from Home.*



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

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by their  
loving families.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Grandson**

**SHANE FINAN**

*10 New Row, Green Rd. Portlaoise and also  
Canices Terrace, Borris in Ossory*

**Shane's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 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 by your Nana Mary and Brian,  
Louise, Jake, Steven, Shirley, John & Conor.*

*May Shane Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**

**MARY NOLAN**

**26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Died 14/11/1997**



*"She has gone no further from  
us than to God and  
God is very near"*

*Sadly missed by her husband  
Michael and family.*

*May Mary Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**KATHLEEN O' REILLY**

**26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Died 12/11/1997**



*A sudden call from God on High,  
We had no chance to say goodbye,  
Without farewell, you fell asleep,  
But memories of you we will always keep.*

*Sadly missed by your loving husband  
James, son James, daughters Catriona, Anita and Louise,  
daughters-in-law, sons-in-law and grandchildren.*

*May Kathleen Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**ANNIE LA CUMBER**

*Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.*

**32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 11:15am.**



*Sadly missed along life's way,  
Quietly remembered everyday,  
No longer in our lives to share,  
But in our hearts you're always there.*

*Always remembered by Bridie and  
grandchildren.*

*May Annie Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**ANNE SWEENEY**

*Late of 26 Coote St. Portlaoise.*

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**



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

*Sadly missed by her daughter Olive and  
sons-in-law Frank and Paddy.*

*Lord have mercy on her soul.*

*May Anne Rest in Peace*

*In Loving Memory of*  
**THERESA O'CONNELL**  
*née Scully*

*Kilminchy, Portlaoise.*  
**1st Anniversary occurs 14th November 2023.**

*As day dawns and starts anew,  
As each day ends I think of you,  
And in between, no matter where,  
Deep in my heart, you are always there.*



*A smile for all and a heart of gold,  
One of the best this world could hold,  
Never selfish, always kind,  
Beautiful memories left behind.*

*Missed dearly by your loving sister Agnes*  
*Mass offered*

*Rest in Peace Theresa*

*In Loving Memory of*  
**THERESA O'CONNELL**  
*née Scully*

*Kilminchy, Portlaoise.*  
**1st Anniversary occurs 14th November 2023.**



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday **12th November at 12.30pm.**

A sincere thanks to all those who supported Theresa during her illness. Mass will be offered for your intentions. In lieu of Memorial cards the family will make a donation to Portlaoise Parish.

*Sadly missed by all your loving family,  
relatives and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Theresa*



November – Month of Remembering

THEY HAVE GONE NO FURTHER FROM US  
THAN TO GOD, AND GOD IS VERY NEAR

*In Loving Memory of*  
**PATRICK WHELAN**

*3 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.*  
**26th Anniversary occurs Friday 10th November 2023**



26th Anniversary Mass was celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Friday 10th November at 10am.**

*We miss your smile, your joking ways,  
We miss the things you used to say,  
And when old times we do recall,  
It's then we miss you most of all.  
You were always there when we needed  
you, no task too great or small,  
With a loving heart and willing hands, for us you did it all.*

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

*Sadly missed by his loving wife Esther (Babs) and  
all his family & friends.*

*May Patrick Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT and  
First Anniversary  
In Loving Memory of  
FERGUS BEERE**

**1st Anniversary occurs 19th November 2023**



Fergus' wife Ailish and his extended family wish to thank most sincerely the many relatives, neighbours and friends who sympathised with us; those who attended the funeral and cremation; those who visited, phoned, travelled to be with us and expressed their sincere condolences online, sent Mass cards or helped out in anyway. Please

know that your support and comfort was very much appreciated.

My sincere thanks to Fr. David Vard for calling to visit Fergus at his home, for celebrating his Requiem Mass and for praying over Fergus' ashes at his parents grave in Raheen. Thanks also to the Priests of the Parish and to Sarah Troy for the beautiful music.

Sincere thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode, funeral directors, for their kindness and support in organising Fergus' funeral.

My deepest thanks to the Palliative Care team led by Phyllis Howlin, who took good care of Fergus at his home and to Deirdre and staff of Laois Pharmacy. Thank you to Dr. Gerard White and staff of the medical centre.

A special thanks to the doctors and all the staff at James' hospital, Dublin and Portlaoise hospital.

As it would be impossible to thank individually, all those whose kindness has brought such comfort to me, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of gratitude to you all. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Fergus' 1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Sunday 19th November at 12.30pm.

*Rest in Peace Fergus*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of **THERESA WHELAN**

23 Coote Street, Portlaoise.  
Died 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023



Paddy would like to thank the Whelan and Sweeney families who sympathised with him on his sad loss.

A special thank you to everyone who visited the house, attended Theresa's wake, funeral Mass and burial. Thank you to everyone who sent Mass cards, condolences and messages of sympathy.

A special thanks to Home Instead; Bluebird Care; the doctors, nurses and staff of the Cedar Clinic; The Alzheimers Society; Theresa's wonderful carers, too many to mention; Portlaoise and Tullamore hospitals and Portlaoise Health Centre.

Sincere thanks to Msgr. John Byrne, Fr. Ciprian Matei and the Priests of the Parish.

Thanks also to Deirdre Conroy and staff of Laois Pharmacy; Judy Carroll, Ann Monelly; occupational therapists; Joe Ridney Funeral Directors; gravediggers; Nuala Kelly soloist; M&M Catering; Declan, Michelle, Sean and staff of the Parish Centre; Elaine Rogers, Richard Barrett and Sonia Brennan of the Palliative Care team; Leinster Council Offices and Teagasc for the use of the car park.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of my sincere appreciation and deepest gratitude to you all. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

*Rest in Peace Theresa*

## In Loving Memory of

### **LOUGHLIN "Lockey" DELANEY**

New Park, Portlaoise.

4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church,  
this **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 12.30pm.**

*Just a prayer from the family who  
loved you,*

*Just a memory fond and true,  
In our hearts you will live forever,  
Because we thought the world of you.*

Sorely missed by his loving family; his son Derry, daughters Frances and Emily and their mother Mary, siblings Joe and John, Madeleine, Sheila and Rena, by his large extended family and his many friends. Loved by his grandchildren Eve and Jonah and son-in-law John.

*Rest in Peace Lockey*

## 25<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

### In Loving Memory of **WESLEY O' BRIEN**

47 Heather Lane, Esker Hills, Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> birthday away from home - 8<sup>th</sup> November.



*A picture of you I carry in my heart,  
I close my eyes to see it when the  
world gets dark.*

*A memory of you I carry in my soul,  
I wrap it close around me, when  
the nights get cold.*

*If you ask how I am, I'd say just fine  
but the truth is if you could read  
my mind,*

*Not a day goes by that I don't think of you Wesley.*

**Sadly missed by Mam, Dad, brother Lorcan,  
son John and extended family and friends.**

*Rest in Peace Wesley*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of **ELIZABETH LEAHY**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise and Tipperary.



The family of the late Elizabeth Leahy would like to thank everyone who sympathised with them on the recent sad loss of our Mother.

We would like to thank everyone who contacted the family, attended the wake, funeral Mass in person or via the Parish webcam and the burial and to our relatives and friends who travelled long distances to be with us.

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

We wish to thank Msgr. John Byrne for the lovely funeral Mass, Fr. Ciprian who called to visit Elizabeth and also Heather for her beautiful music.

Our thanks to the Parish Centre and also Bosco's Catering. We wish to extend our thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode, funeral directors for their help, support and professionalism in carrying out the funeral arrangements. Thanks also to the grace diggers for preparing Elizabeth's final resting place with such care.

Heartfelt thanks to the staff of the Midland's Regional Hospital, the doctors in the Cedar Clinic, Laois Pharmacy and the nurses and carers who looked after Elizabeth throughout her illness. A special thank you to Elizabeth's niece Mary for her many visits and for looking after Mam.

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

Elizabeth's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 12.30pm.

Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by all her family and friends.

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*



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## In Remembrance

No person is ever truly alone.  
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echo still within our thoughts, our words, our hearts.  
And what they did and who they were  
becomes part of what we are forever.



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## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
9<sup>th</sup> November 2023

04

17

18

30

No €13,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Ann O'Connell  
Kathleen Dunne  
Frank Cullen  
Margaret Murphy  
Kevin Davis  
Agnes Kiely  
Adrienne Doheny  
Grace Fitzpatrick

MATCH 3s €1,000

8  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€125  
each

### PROMOTER

Mary O'Connell  
Geraldine O'Neill  
Frank Cullen  
Chris Holohan  
Carmel Whelan  
Margaret McGrath  
Rita Watkins  
Rita Watkins

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Throughout the Month of November Masses will be celebrated for those whose names are inscribed on our 'Dead List'. If you wish to have your loved ones included envelopes are available in the Development boxes, in the Church porches and at the Parish Centre. You are also invited to place the names of your own dear faithful departed on the memorial trees in the Sanctuary of the Parish Church.

## 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: @portlaoiseparish

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley

Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

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- ▶ Look out for oil tank **foundations sinking** or any movement of the base your oil tank which may cause damage to your tank
- ▶ Cut back **ivy, trees or heavy shrubs** to prevent damage to tank and allowing you to see signs of weakness
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