

Thirty Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time

7th WORLD DAY of the POOR

(Initiated by Pope Francis in 2017 to urge the Church to 'go beyond' its walls to encounter poverty in the multiple ways it manifests itself in today's World)



We commend all who work in our community to alleviate poverty - we think especially of PATH and our local Society of St. Vincent de Paul. We can all be associated with their good work by supporting them.

St. Vincent de Paul will hold their annual Christmas Appeal with Church collections on the weekends of 10th and 17th December.

**Helping to give families
The Wonder of Christmas**

*"Do not turn your face
away from anyone
who is poor."
(Tobit 4:7)*



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No Pain No Gain



The third servant in today's parable was trying to bury a responsibility that he wished to avoid. The treasure he had been given was an opportunity for him to invest and please his master, but instead of putting

himself out, he buried the treasure where he could forget about it and go about his own affairs. Buried deep, the treasure was no longer an uncomfortable reminder of his master's expectations. Meanwhile, the other two servants, realising that there is no gain without pain, risked everything on their master's account. They invested and multiplied their gifts, and their master was pleased by their efforts.

Like the three servants in this story we too have been given talents and gifts, and with those talents comes a responsibility to use those talents as an opportunity to make the world a better place. Our talents are varied, some great some small but we are all gifted in some way. Some have high profile and very obvious talents ... there are those who are great musicians, surgeons, sports people and scientists. The rest of us might have less obvious talents. We might have a talent for caring, listening, speaking, growing things or solving practical problems. Whatever our particular gift we are urged to step out with it ... stick our neck on the line and invest our gifts in God's cause. God will not be so impressed if we are too afraid, embarrassed or lazy to use our talents. Ever heard the expression 'Use it or lose it.' If we ignore our gifts long enough, there will come a time when we can no longer rely upon them. This is what happened to the third servant.

One of the excuses that the third servant made for not investing his gift was that he was fearful of losing it. But the message today is not to be fearful. God never asks us to do something we are not capable of doing, and he is not judging us by our levels of productivity. The master in the story did not judge the third servant for producing nothing from his gift, but rather for being lazy and for his bitter indifference to his master's generosity. The master would not have judged him harshly, if he had tried his best but failed.

Today we are invited to look again at what gifts we have been given and how we are using them for the benefit of all. We are asked to examine what gifts we might be ignoring because we are too embarrassed or afraid, and we are asked to live a little dangerously and invest more of ourselves in God's cause.

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

Ellie Marum Greene, Marian Avenue

Samantha Brehonio, Rathevan Close

Who were baptised last weekend.

World Day of the Poor

Pope Francis' Message for
Seventh World Day of the Poor

Sunday 19 November 2023 is the seventh World Day of the Poor, with the theme of not turning away. Pope Francis takes his inspiration from the elderly Tobit, who says to his son, "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor" (Tobit 4:7).

Pope Francis tells us that, "Whenever we turn away from those who are poor, we turn away from Jesus himself, who is forever associated with the most vulnerable in society (Matthew 25: 31-46)". Pope Francis goes on to celebrate the next door neighbours, "Ordinary people who quietly make themselves poor among the poor. They do more than give alms: they listen, they engage, they try to understand and deal with difficult situations and their causes."

The focus of today is not fundraising, though fundraising is essential, but encounter, accompaniment and change. We can sometimes 'subcontract' our charity by giving money to an organisation in the knowledge that they will do good. They will no doubt do good, but that approach may leave our hearts untouched by the lived experience of poverty. We are called to go 'beyond fundraising' on a journey of accompaniment with people in poverty, being converted ourselves in the encounter.



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

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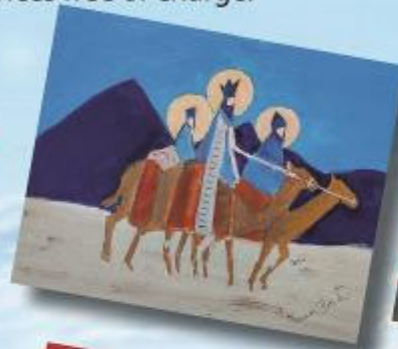
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Portlaoise Active Retirement meet every Wednesday in the Parish Centre for an afternoon of friendship, fun and activities at 3pm. New members always welcome.

Monday 20th November; Bowls in St. Mary's Sports hall at 3pm, new members always welcome.

Wednesday 22nd; Club day with Mary McEvoy flower arranging.

Thursday 23rd; Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm, new members always welcome, tuition given.

We are having a coffee morning on 8th December in the Parish Centre after 10am Mass in aid of Autism. We will have a raffle for hampers also on that morning and our choir will be singing Christmas carols. Please support this good cause.

For further information please contact P.R.O. Sheila at 087-6204617.

Results of Whist Drive held in Parish Centre on Tuesday, 14th November;

Top Score: Kit Farrell | **1st Lady:** Mary Gowing | **2nd Lady:** Sheila Duff | **1st Gent:** Liam McCarthney
2nd Gent: Tom Dunne | **1st Half:** Tom Gowing | **2nd Half:** Angela Brennan | **13 Tricks:** Ann-Marie Farrell and Sheila Duff, Kit Farrell & Frank Keenan, Sheila Duff & Liam McCarthney

Raffle: 1st Tom Dunne | 2nd Freda Gaynor | 3rd Mary J. Dunne (x2) | 4th Maureen Fitzpatrick | 5th P. Stevens
6th M. Downey | 7th Tom Kearns



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

Sean Nós Dancing Class every Thursday at 8pm in Seanchistin, Irey, Ballyfin, R32X5D6. For further information contact Maureen 087-6482038 or e-mail; seanchistin@gmail.com. Fáilte roimh gach duine idir óg agus aosta.

Cash4Clothes Fundraiser for Ballyfin NS; Drop off point Ballyfin GAA Clubhouse, Friday 24th Nov. 2pm-3.15pm and Saturday 25th 10am-11am. We accept all women's, mens and children's clothing, paired footwear, handbags, belts, soft toys (teddies), curtains, towels, bedlinen (duvet covers, sheets, pillowcases, blankets, throws). No pillows, duvets or carpets please. All Support is greatly appreciated.

Thank You; Irish Guide Dogs - Laois Branch would like to thank all those who helped out with their recent collection, especially those who gave their time to collect and all those who supported the collection so generously.

It is greatly appreciated.

Ballinakill/Knock Parish Fundraiser - Michael English Christmas Church Concert;

Sunday 3rd 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.



Maura O'Brien and the Fatima Invalid Committee are holding a coffee morning in Portlaoise Parish Centre, on Friday 1st 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.

There are 10 places remaining for our 2024 Pilgrimage to Fatima (13th June)

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.

Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat; Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise, Saturday 25th November 10am to 1.30pm. Holy Mass at 10am - Confessions available. Retreat continues in the Parish Centre from 10.45am to 1.30pm. (Exposition, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise and Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry). All are welcome. Contact Michael Nerney 086-8157305. Spiritual Director; Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P.



Prayer Afternoon for Peace in the Holy Land in St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe (R32AH90), Sunday 26th November, 2.45pm to 6pm;

Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Holy Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Music Ministry.

Fr. Paddy Byrne will conclude our evening of prayer with Benediction.

There will be a cup of tea afterwards in the adjoining community hall and all are most welcome.

An invitation to you to come and join us as we raise up these nations to God in prayer. As we gather, let us implore and cry out to God to bring comfort, and peace to our brothers and sisters in these troubled lands.



**CÉAD MÍLE
FÁILTE**

Joslyn and Landan Merriman from Arkansas, USA, who recently visited our Parish, pictured with Msgr. John and Fr. Ciprian.

We hope that they enjoyed their stay in Portlaoise.



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Sunday December 3rd 2023
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christmas shopping

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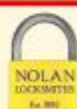


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Don't Bury Your Talents



This morning, the gospel is a familiar story that Jesus told. It is called the Parable of the Talents. In the Parable of the Talents, a very wealthy man was going to go on a trip. He called his three servants together and told them that he would be gone for a long time and that he was leaving them in charge of all of his wealth. He divided up his wealth and gave it to the three servants.

To the first servant, he gave five talents. Now, that might not sound like much to you, but in Jesus' day, that was a lot of money. To the second servant, he gave two talents. Not as much as the first servant received, but still a large sum of money. To the third servant, he gave one talent. Even one talent was worth quite a lot!

The first servant took the five talents his master had given him and put it to work and earned five more talents. The second also invested his two talents wisely and earned two more talents. The third servant took his one talent and buried it in the ground for safe keeping.

When the master returned, he was very pleased when the first two servants told him that they had doubled his money. "Well done," he said. "Because you had been faithful with what I have given you, I will give you much more."

"How about you?" he asked the third servant. "What did you do with the money that I left with you?"

The third servant said to the master, "I knew that you were a hard man and I was afraid, so I went out and hid your treasure in the ground so that it would be safe. See, here it is."

The master was angry. "You are a wicked and lazy servant. You could have at least put my money in the bank where it would earn more." He then took the one talent from the lazy servant and gave it to the one who had ten talents.

In this Parable of the Talents, God is the Master and you and I are his servants. The talents that the master gave to his servants in this story was a form of money. But God has given us talents too, hasn't he? God created each of us with special gifts and he expects us to use those gifts for the purpose for which he gave them to us.

Sometimes you and I may look at the talents that God has given to others and think that God hasn't given us very much talent. We might even be tempted to hide our talent. But when we use our God-given talent to be all that God intended for us to be.

Everyone has great talents - Use them!



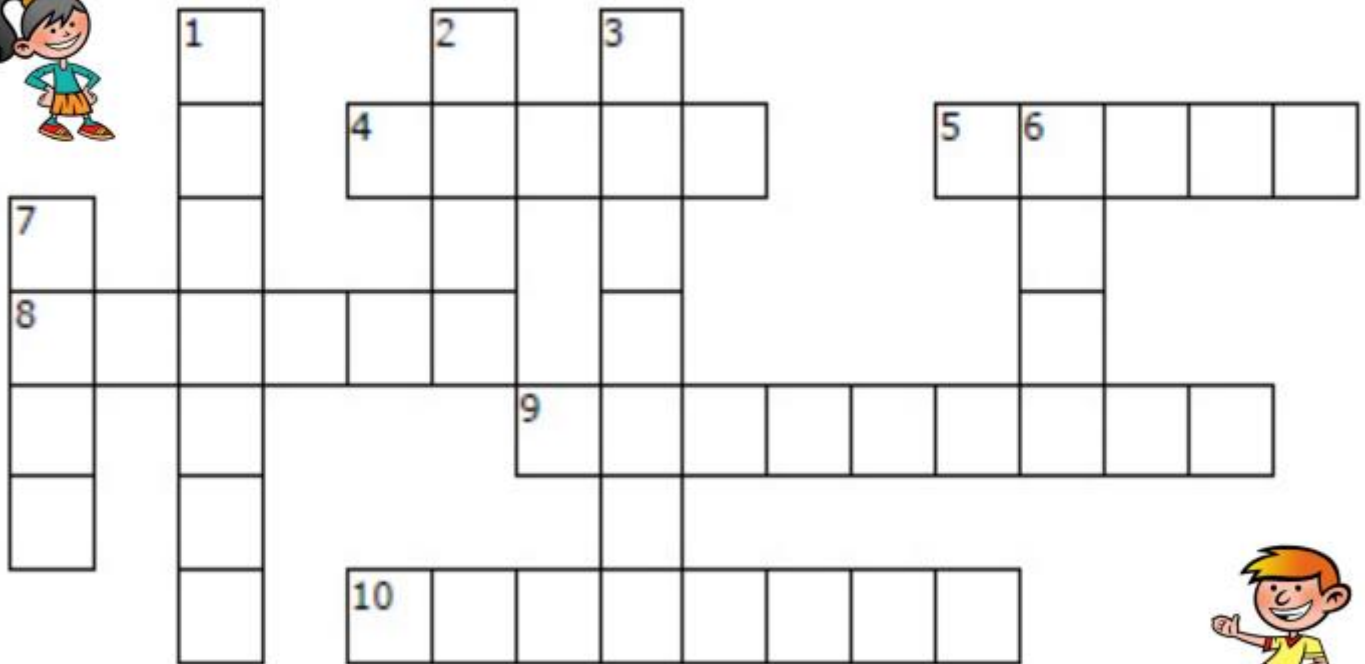
Dear Father, help us to use the talents that you have given us
to be what you intended for us to be.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



The Parable of the Talents

But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.



ACROSS

4. The coins and bills that are used to buy things.
5. To divide or use something with others.
8. To be filled with fear
9. A feeling of pleasure, satisfaction, or joy
10. To be trusted or loyal

DOWN

1. A trip, especially one over a great distance
2. The opposite of bad
3. A person who is employed to do work for another person
6. Put something in a place where it cannot be found
7. Not willing to work

AFRAID
GOOD

HAPPINESS
HIDE

LAZY
SHARE

JOURNEY
MONEY

FAITHFUL
SERVANT

Universal Children's Day Monday 20th November

Universal Children's Day was established by the United Nations in 1954 to encourage understanding between children and promote children's welfare around the world. Countries around the world celebrate the day in different ways - in some countries children receive presents, in others they take part in events and activities or are allowed a holiday from school. Think about supporting a children's charity on this



Picture: Sofia Gómez, María Ramos-Molina y Azara Vila, Spain

World
Children's
Day

20 NOVEMBER



day, or teaching your own children about supporting children in less well off countries.



Time to Think!

God is Love

It's so easy to feel resentful that others are not as we would want them to be. We want them to change but can be so blind to where change is needed in us. The Buddha advised one time 'to never seek a perfect person or a perfect world. Instead seek to perfect your love'. We will never have a perfect relationship or live in a perfect community, but we can work on ourselves. This often means dropping our judgements, and learning to accept people as they are, and reality just as it is. Most of us are familiar with the Prayer of AA. "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. Courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference". Why not pray this version? God, grant me the serenity to accept the people and situations I cannot change. Courage, to change the one that I can. And, the wisdom to know that it's ME.

There's a story about a farmer who grew award-winning wheat. Each year he entered his crop in a competition where it won a blue ribbon. On one such occasion, a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his wheat seed with his neighbours. He asked, 'Why do you share your best seed with your neighbours each year when you are in competition with them?' The farmer said, 'The wind picks up pollen from the ripening wheat, and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbours grow low-grade wheat, cross pollination will degrade the quality of mine. If I'm to grow good wheat, I must help my neighbours do the same'.

Clearly, the farmer was aware of the connectedness of life. He knew that his wheat couldn't improve unless his neighbours' did also. Everything is connected to everything else; nothing and nobody exists in isolation. In short, we all need each other, not just human beings, but everything else as well. Life can be a win-win situation for all.

Jesus on one occasion summarised his moral teaching as love of God and love of neighbour. The two commandments were one, he said, like two sides of a coin. Love isn't selective; it embraces all.



To close our heart to one person is, in a true sense, to close it to all. That is why a willingness to forgive is a necessary condition for love.

Love is an invitation, not a command. It is a call to be human. The only authentically human way to live is in self-giving affection. There is only one thing which can create unity in our lives and action, and that is love. It heals the divided self, and calms the civil wars that rage within us. To allow ourselves to be loved is the first step to personhood, because love is the fundamental calling of every human being. It leads a person from isolation and loneliness to community.

Love is one of God's practical jokes. God says, in effect, 'Forget about yourself; think of the other person. If you do, the first person to benefit will be yourself. By forgetting about yourself, you won't be the loser; you'll be the winner'. That turns logic upside down, but the experience of life shows it to be true. There is only one way of getting love, and that is to give it. If you want to have a friend, be a friend. Where there is no love, pour love in, and we will draw love out.

For those in a hurry; from Toyohiko Kagawa, Japanese Christian trade unionist, 1888-1960:

'Love is God's Holy of Holies.
Love alone is salvation.
Only in the Temple of Love do we worship God.
Love alone introduces God to us.

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 31,100 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

Accounts 2022 Raheen Parish

INCOME:

Basket Collection:	€ 13,619	
Envelope Collection:	€ 23,835	
Shrine Income:	€ 7,043	
Rental Income:	€ 2,830	
Fundraising:	€ 4,210	
Donations:	€ 1,556	
Weddings:	€ 350	
Tax Refunds:	€ 10,816	
Office:	€ 111	
Lotto :	<u>€ 20,742</u>	€85,112

EXPENDITURE:

Pastoral Programme Expenses:	€ 450	
Insurance:	€ 17,077	
Security:	€ 266	
Lotto Expenses and prizes:	€ 11,732	
Cleaning:	€ 57	
Light & Heat:	€ 5,362	
Water & Waste Collection:	€ 268	
Repairs & Maintenance:	€ 3,746	
Diocesan Levy:	€ 3,637	
Diocesan Retirement Fund:	€ 1,000	
Stationery, Printing:	€ 1,673	
Computer, hardware and servicing costs:	€ 517	
Altar Shrine Requisites:	€ 5,277	
Telephone/Broadband:	€ 805	
Hire of Equipment:	€ 340	
Accountancy Fees:	€ 367	
Bank Charges:	€ 338	
Donation:	<u>€ 1,000</u>	<u>€ 53,912</u>

Surplus on Ordinary Income V Expenditure

€31,200

Thank you to all who contribute to the Parish in whatever way they can.
Your support is greatly appreciated by the Parish Team.

*No act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted.
May God bless and reward you.*

VIGIL FOR PEACE

2nd to 3rd of December 2023
in St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise

Please join us as we start the Advent,
2nd of December after the 6.30pm Mass
for a whole night of Eucharistic Adoration for Peace.
For safety reasons please use only the Stradbally Road door.



For details
-Una-
086 239 2997

Organised
by the
Legion of Mary





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.



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



Rubiya Majam
Ballard Lodge Nursing Home,
Portlaoise and formerly
Kilminchy



Betty McCarthy
née Keogh
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise



Caroline (Carrie) Higgins
née Flynn
Rossleighan, Portlaoise

*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

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

**In Loving Memory of
PETER LALOR**

32 The Green, Kilminchy.

3rd Birthday away from home occurs 18th November.



*Missing you my dearest husband
Today is truly filled with memories of
happiness and tears and of birthday
celebrations that we have shared
throughout the years.*

Happy birthday in Heaven my love.

**In my heart always and forever
Your loving wife Jean xx**

Rest in Peace Peter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**In Loving Memory of
CATHERINE QUIGLEY**
Rockdale, Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.



As we approach the first anniversary of Catherine's sad passing, we the Quigley family, wish to express our gratitude to everyone who sympathised and supported us as we mourn Catherine's loss. We are very grateful for the ongoing support and kindness of the people of Portlaoise since Catherine's death and are so humbled by the respect and love for Catherine that people have expressed for her since her passing. A heartfelt thank you to the extended Quigley and Whelan families for your support to our family during this difficult time. To Catherine's close friends and our dear neighbours in Rockdale, we appreciate the comfort, compassion, and support you offered Catherine during her illness and in her final days, and your continued support to us as we grieve her loss. Your kindness will never be forgotten. Thank you to the current and former members of the Girls Church Choir for reaching out to us to share your memories of Catherine with us. We have been comforted to hear of all the ways Catherine touched the lives of so many.

We would like to thank Doctor Deirdre Honan and her team in the surgery who looked after Catherine for many years. We would also like to thank the Doctors, Nurses, and Admin staff of the Maryborough Family Practice for their care and attention over the years. We would like to thank the Doctors, Nurses, and staff of Portlaoise General Hospital for their care of Catherine over the years. A most heartfelt thanks to the doctors and nurses in the palliative care unit in Tullamore hospital who took such gentle and loving care of Catherine in her final days. Thanks to Ms. Deirdre Holland and staff of Laois pharmacy for their kind attention to Catherine over the years.

Thank you all of those who attended Catherine's funeral, sent Mass cards and Mass bouquets and touching letters. Thank you to Msgr. John Byrne for celebrating Catherine's requiem Mass and for his thoughtful tribute to Catherine. Thank you also to Fr. Francis Mitchell for his touching homily, his moral support during Catherine's last days and for officiating at Catherine's committal.

Thank you to the staff of the Parish Centre for their support during Catherine's funeral and their support during the many years Catherine led the church choir.

Thank you to Matthew Keegan, funeral director, for his professionalism and caring attention to Catherine. Thanks to Brendan and Adrian, the gravediggers. Thank you to Catherine's sister Franzita, to Sarah Troy and the former choir members who provided such beautiful music and song at the funeral. We know Catherine would have been so proud of every one of you, even if she'd never have said it. Thank you to the former members of the choir who performed the guard of honour as Catherine left the church on her final journey.

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

Catherine's 1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Friday 24th November at 10am.

Sadly missed by Kevin, Selene, Siobhán, Ronán & Noreen.

Rest in Peace Catherine

**In Loving Memory of
CATHERINE QUIGLEY**

Rockdale, Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary away from Home occurs 24th November.



*I'm closer than I ever was,
I'm there inside your heart,
I'm with you when you greet
each day,
And while the sun shines bright,
I'm there to share the sunsets too,
I'm with you every night.*

*Sadly missed, loved and dearly remembered by her
loving husband Kevin, daughters Selene and Siobhán,
son Ronán and Noreen.*

Rest in Peace Catherine

**In Loving Memory of
CATHERINE QUIGLEY**

Rockdale, Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 24th November 2023.



*Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same,
We have to hide our heartache,
When someone speaks your
name.*

*Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent are the tears that fall,
Living without you is the hardest
part of all.*

*You did so many things for us,
Your heart was so kind and true,
And when we needed someone,
We could always count on you,
The special years will not return,
When we are all together.*

*To our beautiful sister, thinking of you everyday.
Love always, your brothers, sisters, nieces and
nephews.*

Rest in Peace Catherine

**In Loving Memory of
GEORGE BUGGY**

9 Green Rd., Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary occurs 19th November 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 19th November at 10am.

Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
We will always remember you.

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May George Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
GEORGE KEYES**

139 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 27th November 2023.



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on Sunday
26th November at 12.30pm.

*If we could have a lifetime wish
and one dream that could come
true, we would pray to God with
all our hearts just to see and
speak to you.*

*A thousand words won't bring you back,
We know because we've tried,
And neither will a million tears,
We know because we've cried.
You've left behind our broken hearts,
And precious memories too,
But we've never wanted memories,
We only wanted you.*

**Loved and missed by his wife Christine,
daughters, son and grandkids.**

Rest in Peace George

**In Loving Memory of
MARY KATE SHEEHAN**

68 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.

5th Birthday away from Home.



*If I could have a lifetime wish,
A dream that would come true,
I'd pray to God with all my heart,
For yesterday and for you.
A thousand words can't bring you
back, I know because I have tried,
And neither will a million tears,
I know because I've cried.*

*You left my heart broken and happy memories
too, but I never wanted memories,
I only wanted you.*

*Sadly missed by your daughter Philomena
and family.*

Rest in Peace Mary Kate

In Loving Memory of
KATHLEEN (Kitty)
CAMPBELL

86 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise. Died 19/11/2008.
15th Anniversary occurs 19th November 2023.



Each time we look at your picture,
You seem to smile and say,
Don't be sad but courage take,
And love each other for my sake.

*Loved and remembered by all her
loving family.*

Rest in Peace Kathleen

In Loving Memory of
NANCY BORAN

The Downs and formerly 74 Main Street, Portlaoise.
Died 18th November 2020



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

Always in our Hearts

Rest in Peace Mam

In Loving Memory of
NANCY DUNNE

Rockview Drive, Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise
Died 21st November 2013 - 10th Anniversary occurs.



*Mam, your physical presence is dearly
missed in our lives, but your spiritual
presence and guidance is with us
always.*

*Loved and missed by all your loving
family and friends.*

May Nancy Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
FINT GORMAN

84 Cherrygrove, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurred 16th November 2023.



*May the winds of Heaven blow
softly and whisper in your ear,
How much we love and miss
you, and wish that you were
here.*

*Loved and missed always by
your loving wife Ann and family.*

Rest in Peace Fint

In Loving Memory of
ANGELA HYLAND

Mountmellick - Portlaoise
9th Anniversary occurs 21st November 2023



*Your needs in life were simple,
Your love for your family true,
As long as we were happy,
you were happy too.*

*Loved and missed by Mary, Jimmy
and family, nieces, nephews and
her many friends.*

Also remember;

Granny Hyland whose anniversary occurred
26th September.

Mary Santry whose anniversary occurs
29th November.

Nancy Campbell whose anniversary occurs
30th December.

Brian Santry whose anniversary occurred
21st May.

Eileen Callaghan whose anniversary occurred
20th November.

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
JOHN (JACK) &
MAURA TARLETON

Rossleighan, Portlaoise.
32nd & 30th Anniversary Mass
will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
Sunday 19th November, 11.15am.



*Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

Loved and missed always by your loving family.

May John and Maura Rest in Peace

**We are currently accepting Christmas
Remembrances for our Christmas edition.**

**The final deadline for receipt of
Christmas Remembrances will be
12 noon Friday 15th December.**

**Owing to print deadlines we will be unable
to accept notices after this deadline.**

In Loving Memory of
BRIGID CONROY

Ballymacken, Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary occurred 14th November 2023



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

Sadly missed by your loving family.

Rest in Peace Brigid

In Loving Memory of
My Mother
ANGELA HUGHES

Newpark, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 22nd November 2023.



*Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on Wednesday
22nd November at 10am.*

*Also remembering My father
John whose 29th Anniversary
occurs at this time.*

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

Sadly missed by David and family.

Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH (Lil) BARTLEY

91 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 22nd November 2023



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

In Memory of Mum

*You carried me as a child and held onto
my hand,*

*You loved and treasured me every day
and taught me how to stand,*

*Of all the scary things in life that I could ever fear,
Nothing is so frightening as you not being here.*

*But you taught me to be strong and you taught me
how to stand, even when you aren't here to hold onto
my hand,*

*I am grateful for what you taught me, and I'm grateful
for your love, and I know that you watch over me from
the Heavens up above.*

*Sadly missed, loved and forever remembered by her
daughter Monalisa, son-in-law Donal and
grandchildren Darryl and Stefan.*

Someone Special

You are too precious to be forgotten,

And too priceless to ever replace,

I wish I could share another moment with you,

And see that smiling face.

Someone so special as you is truly rare to find,

Someone with a heart so pure, so caring and so kind.

I'll cherish the memories we made,

All the times we spent together,

*And I'll hold them dearly in my heart from now until
forever.*

*Loved and missed by her sons John, Oliver, Shay and
Darren, daughters-in-law, grandchildren,
great-grandchildren and the Conroy family.*

Rest in Peace Elizabeth

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Loving Memory of
DONAL KIRWAN

Clonard, Mountrath, Co. Laois.

Months Mind occurs 25th November 2023



*We, Donal's family, wish to express
our deepest gratitude to all who
supported and sympathised with us,
both online, and in person at the time
of Donal passing.*

*A special word of thanks to all the
staff at Portlaoise Regional Hospital,
Paramedics, Fire Brigade, Garda*

*Síochána, Dr. Phelan and all the staff in Mountrath
Health Centre and Conroy's Pharmacy Mountrath.*

*Our thanks also to Ann-Marie O'Shea and the outreach
nurses for their kind and professional care.*

*With heartfelt gratitude we thank all who helped out in
any way around the house, our family, neighbours
and friends who provided refreshments, helped with
parking, guard of honour, and who helped out in the
kitchen, it was very much appreciated.*

*To Eddie Phelan and staff thank you for providing the
refreshments after the funeral.*

*Thank you to Br. Martin, the De La Salle brothers,
Fr. Joe Brophy, Fr. P.J. Fitzgerald, Fr. Brian Griffin and
Fr. Willie Hennessy for their support over the time of
Donal's sickness. Thanks to Burkes funeral directors
for their support and professional service and Martin
Delaney for the lovely music and the grave diggers at
Mountrath Cemetery for preparing Donal's resting
place. As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an
expression of our deepest gratitude.*

*Donal's Month Mind Mass will be celebrated on
Saturday 25th November at 7pm in St. Fintan's Church
Mountrath.*

Donal will be missed by all who knew him.

Rest in Peace Donal

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HENRY RANKIN
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

Contact;
057-8620567
PAUL; 087-2562137
NIALL;
086-2770095



**In Loving Memory of
JOHN (Seannie) FLYNN**

Lakeglen, Portlaoise. 9th Anniversary occurs at this time.



9th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
this Sunday 19th November at 12.30pm.

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

Sadly missed and remembered by Ann, Jimmy, Mark,
Lorraine and all his loving family.

May John Rest in Peace



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November, A Month for Remembrance

In Loving Memory - Lest we Forget

'In loving memory of' and similar phrases are used across the world to introduce or announce that someone very close has departed this life, and that their memory is very special to those closest to them, who are left behind to grieve.

We see it printed on memory cards and Mass cards and carved on headstones in churchyards and cemeteries all over the country. And yet it is understandably only when we read it in the context of our own loved ones that it resonates its heartfelt meaning.

To remember with love is a most powerful emotion and is the primary reason we have many and personal ways of doing just that in our lives for our dearest departed friends and family.

November has, even long before Christianity here in this part of the world, been a month of the otherworld, and a time in particular to honour our loved ones who have passed on before us. At this time of year, we take time to reflect, recall and remember the souls of our faithful departed, their spirit lives on.

From dolmens, standing stones, burial chambers, high crosses and single-standing headstones to the memorials that we see in cemeteries and church grounds today; from locketts of hair to the framed photographs, memory cards and countless other tributes, we use these physical things to help with our loving remembrance.

In more recent times we can see a strong revival in the visiting of cemeteries on **All Souls Day**, November 2nd.

Here in these sacred final resting places, we come from all walks of life with common purpose to grieve, but also to reflect and remember with love.

Lest we forget

November has also become a month of deep respect for the memory of all those who have died in the First and Second World Wars. The dedicated day being **Remembrance Day**, November 11th when we solemnly reflect on those who have fallen.

Whether on the green fields of France or Flanders the enormity of the tragedy of war resonates across the vast landscape, crosses marking graves, the grief of loss still echoing across the decades. From these vast landscapes of headstones, we inevitably turn to the human stories and personal loss as we see the ages and lives cut short of the men and women, boys and girls who were also the children, husbands, wives, siblings, partners and friends of people who suffered and bore their loss most personally and remember them with love.

James McKeon

For a caring personal countrywide service contact McKeon Memorials at www.mckeonmemorials.ie



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You may also join the parish lotto online at www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Seoil Chríast Rí

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Many More Amazing Prizes to be Won

<https://idonate.ie/raffle/SCRSportsFundraiser>

Tickets: €5

Closing Date: 10th of December



LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
LAOIS TASTE
PRESENTS:

**Christmas
PLAZA MARKET
& FUN FAIR**

AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO ENJOY!

DECEMBER 14TH - 23RD

SUN: 12AM - 6PM

MON - THURS: 12AM - 7PM

FRI - SAT: 10AM - 8PM*

LOCATED AT THE PLAZA, JAMES
FINTAN LALOR AVENUE, R32
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MARKET INCLUDES

- LIVE MUSIC
- FUN FAIR
- FOOD & DRINKS
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- SANTAS GROTTO
- CAKE DECORATING
- STORYTELLING

*The Christmas market will close at 5pm Saturday 23rd



**MONSTER
BINGO**

Sunday 26th November at 8pm
In Mountmellick Arts Centre

€5,000 in prize money. Single book €10. Double book €15.

VISIT LAOIS.IE OR LAOISTASTE.IE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Portlaoise Parish



Results for
16th November 2023

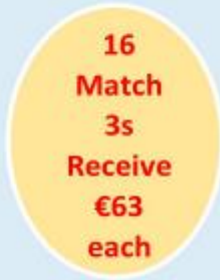


No €14,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Moyra Fitzpatrick
Kelly MacMahon
Marie Croke
Mary Dunne
Mary Finnegan
Dragons Den
Chris Holohan
Tim Keane
Michael Phelan
Maureen Thompson
Pat McEvoy
Nick Sixsmith
Chris Russell
Jessica Farrell
Bernie Tynan
Noel Tobin

MATCH 3s €1,000



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Lily Whelan
Kathleen Baldwin
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Peter Ryan
Peter Ryan
Breda Conroy
Jerry Dooley
Jerry Dooley
Bernie Tynan
Rita Watkins

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Next Week's Jackpot is €15,000

Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

To contact the Priest on Duty:
Parish Centre during office hours
Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours
in emergency only
Tel: 057 8621364

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can 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
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

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

Monday 7.30am | Wednesday 7.30am | Thursday 7.30pm

Support for the Parish

We have traditionally depended on the passing of collection baskets at Sunday Masses for support. *Thank you* to the many who have found new ways of continuing to support the Parish. The generosity of so many means we **continue** to be well supported. Please find your way to contribute.

- * Making your offering in the boxes at the entrances
- * Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre
 - * Direct payment by cheque or cash
 - * Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church
 - * Donation facility on our website
- * Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre
 - * Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account: IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU



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