

## Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Praying that God grants  
peace to the souls of our  
dear faithful departed*



**Our Annual  
Bereavement Mass  
took place last Thursday.  
Throughout the month of  
November we remember all  
our loved ones who have gone  
before us.**

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142  
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# In November We Remember

During the month of November we pray for all our deceased family members and friends. We aim to remember how they helped and loved us whilst they were with us and we commit to keeping their memory alive by adopting the qualities we most admired in them. We also pray for those who have died that have fought for our way of life and our religious freedom, and we pray for those who have died alone who have no one to remember them.

**This week Masses for the Dead List will be celebrated on:**  
**Monday at 7.30am**  
**Wednesday at 7.30pm.**



## Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for November 2023

This month Pope Francis tells us, "Your prayer gives me strength and helps me to discern and to accompany the Church, listening to the Holy Spirit."

Knowing that popes are often "judged harshly" and will have to render "a serious account" of their ministry to God, Pope Francis asks his listeners "to judge benevolently" and "pray that the Pope, whoever he might be may receive the help of the Holy Spirit, that he may be docile to that help."

We are asked to join in prayer, **"...We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit."**

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.



**Fáilte**

**We welcome into our Parish Community**  
 Bendito Capela Nianga, The Springs, Kilminchy

Finn Peter Tuohey, Mountrath Road.

**Who was baptised last weekend.**

## St. Martin of Tours

**November 11<sup>th</sup>**

One winter's night, while Martin was serving with the army, he met a beggar, cold and half starved to death. Having already given away all his money and food rations, Martin had only what he stood up in! He took off his thick army cloak, cut it in two and gave half to the beggar.



That night in his dreams, Martin saw Jesus, surrounded by angels, wearing the half cloak he had given to the beggar, and he heard Jesus say, "See, this is the cloak which Martin has given me." In 371 the Christians of Tours, chose him as their new bishop and he remained there for twenty-six years, proving himself a champion of the under-dog and an unflagging and courageous missionary.



## Thirty First Week in Ordinary Time

Malachi 1:14-2:2.8-10

Responsorial Psalm: 130

1 Thessalonians 2:7-9.9.13

Matthew 23:1-12

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**Portlaoise Active Retirement** meets every Wednesday in the Parish Centre at 3pm for afternoon of fun activities and socialising with friends.

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.;** Bowls in St. Marys Sports Hall at 3pm, new members always welcome, tuition given.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov.;** An afternoon with Ann and Maureen, exercises with Ann and an educational talk with Maureen.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.;** Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm, new members always welcome, tuition given.

The bus to the Christmas dinner and Brendan Shine Show that will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> November is booked out and we already have two on the waiting list, if anyone else wants to put their name on the waiting list, please contact any of the committee members. For any further information please contact P.R.O., Sheila 087-6204617.

**Results of Whist Drive held in Parish Centre on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October;**

**Top Score:** Liam McCarthney | **1<sup>st</sup> Lady:** Veronica Kearns | **2<sup>nd</sup> Lady:** Kit Farrell

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Tom Jacob, Frank Keenan and P.J. Cahill | **2<sup>nd</sup> Gent:** Tom Kearns | **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Mary Downey

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Sadie Chester | **Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Frances Gleeson | 2<sup>nd</sup> Liam McCarthney | 3<sup>rd</sup> Veronica Kearns

4<sup>th</sup> Paula McEvoy | 5<sup>th</sup> Veronica Kearns | 6<sup>th</sup> Tom Kearns | 7<sup>th</sup> Angela Brennan | 8<sup>th</sup> Maureen Fitzpatrick.

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

**Anam Cara Midlands**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7:15pm in the Mullingar Park Hotel. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01-4045378.

**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)

**Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe, Abbeyleix;** Míle Buíochas - Many thanks to everyone who supported our 'Tractor, Truck and Vintage Day' fundraiser which took place on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October. A grand total of €5,577. was raised on the day, and as a school community we are extremely happy with this amount. The money raised will be used to purchase wellbeing and sports related resources for our pupils. Your support for our school is very much appreciated. Le gach dea-ghuí, the organising committee of the 'Tractor, Truck and Vintage Day' fundraiser in Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe, Abbeyleix.

**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](mailto:seanchistin@gmail.com). Fáilte roimh gach duine idir óg agus aosta.

**HSE Staff:** Mass will be celebrated in Mountmellick hospital chapel on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm. All HSE retired staff welcome to attend. Refreshments served afterwards. Names to B. Cooley 086-8812228, M. Costigan 087-6219253 or C. Griffin 087-2068974.

**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;** Paying Respect to Our Fallen Legionaries - Our hearts and minds unite in honour and deepest condolences to the fallen Legionaries. We offer collective prayers for their loved ones, seeking comfort during this time. We extend our gratitude for their unwavering dedication and sacrifice, which has left an indelible mark on our Legion and our hearts. As we come together in unity, we pay tribute to their memory, honour their spirit and recognise the legacy they have left behind. Let us commemorate them with reverence, love, and sincere appreciation for their contribution to our Legion and the world. May their souls find eternal peace and rest, and may their memory live on.

**The Annual Mass for deceased members and family members of the Prison Service in Portlaoise,** will be celebrated on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

**Laois County Council notice to all staff, former staff, members and their families;** You are invited to attend the annual prayer service in memory of deceased staff and members of Laois County Council, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Portlaoise. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. Please note that people of all faiths are welcome to attend to remember our colleagues and friends. Looking forward to seeing you there - Social Club Committee.



Irish Countrywomen's Association

Portlaoise ICA meet on the first Wednesday of every month.

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Congratulations to Isabel Delaney and Shane Dowling, who were married in the Parish Church, Portlaoise, on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August. Celebrant; Fr. Paddy Byrne. Also pictured; Róisín Delaney, bridesmaid and Steven Rainsford, best man.

**Portlaoise Cemetery; Please note, from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November the gates will close at 4pm for Winter.**

**Christmas Craft Fair, Castle Arms Hotel, Durrrow;** 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 will begin on 9/11/23 from 3pm to 4pm in the Parish Centre and continue 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 including first Saturday Fatima devotions, led by Eddie Stones and team, **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 11am.** Talks, Adoration, Music, Rosary, Confessions, Healing Service and Mass.

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.

**Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto, Market Square;** This Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov. at 2.30pm. This month we will pray for peace in the world and November is the month of the Holy Souls, we will remember all our dearly departed family and friends. Booklets for Holy Souls release will be available on the day. All are welcome to join with us in prayer.

### A November Prayer before Bedtime

O my God,  
As the evening falls  
I come to you in prayer.  
I thank you for being with me  
in every moment of this day,  
guiding me and protecting me,  
keeping me from harm.

On this November night  
I bring before you in prayer  
all those dear to me who have died.  
(Name those for whom you wish to pray)  
Remember them God  
in your loving kindness.  
May they now rest in your eternal peace.

May all of us who still miss them and  
grieve for them  
find comfort in our belief  
that we will one day see them again  
in the kingdom of heaven.

I remember in my prayer this night  
all those who have died and who have no  
one to pray for them.

For these and for our loved ones I pray:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.

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**7<sup>th</sup> December**

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## CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE

This week we welcomed three lovely visitors to our Parish;  
Terence Murray, Colin McKeague and Jennifer McKeague (Murray) from New Jersey



## Don't be a Show Off

Do you know anyone at your school that everyone thinks is a show off? How does that person act? Do they act like a "know it all"? Do they act like they are better than everyone else? Do they want everyone to think they are cool? When they talk, is it all about "me, me, me"? Why do they act like that? Maybe they think it will make them popular, but it is usually just the opposite. Nobody likes a show off.

Does that mean you shouldn't try to do your very best? No, there is nothing wrong with working hard to be good at something and we all like to be recognised when we do something well. But, if you show off and act like you are better than everybody else, that may hurt their feelings, and when you hurt others, that is never a good thing.

Did Jesus have anything to say about being a show off? Yes, he did. He didn't use those exact words, but in the Gospel today, Jesus was speaking to his disciples and a large crowd of people and he spoke to them about a group of people called Pharisees. The Pharisees were a religious group in Jesus' day who tried to obey all of God's laws. Often, they acted like they were better than everyone else.

"Don't be like the Pharisees," Jesus warned. "Everything they do is done for other people to see. They love to sit in the place of honour at banquets and in the most important seats in the synagogue; they love to be called 'teacher' by others."

What did Jesus say then about how we should act? Listen to what he said. "The greatest among you will be your servant. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

If we expect others to look up to us, we must never look down on them.

**Father, help us to avoid the temptation of being a show off, but rather help us to be humble in your sight.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



### Task for today!

Go to the Church today and light a candle for those who have no one to pray for them.

## All the Saints of Ireland

Monday November 6th is the Feast Day of all the Saints of Ireland. This poem gives us an insight into the Saints we meet in our daily lives.

I know a lot of Saints, I do!  
So let me mention just a few:  
I know someone who runs a team  
And teaches kids to play and dream,  
Who stands in cold and wind and rain  
on days they play and nights they train;  
Someone who's there when we are sad,  
The best and gentlest friend we've had,  
Someone who says, 'Just do your best'  
When I am scared to take the test;  
A friend who takes the time to show  
how things are done when I don't know,  
A teacher who just always knows where  
that comma always goes;  
And others who are kind and good,  
who try to act as Jesus would,  
Who shows God's love in all they do.  
I know a lot of Saints, don't you?

Christy Kenneally.

## Eternal rest

grant to them,  
O Lord,  
and let  
perpetual  
light  
shine upon  
them.

May they  
rest in  
peace.  
Amen.



Dear Jesus,  
please look after people who live in  
countries where there is fighting.  
Help their leaders work for peace.  
Help us all to have peace in our hearts so that  
we can be called children of God. Amen.



## IN NOVEMBER, WE REMEMBER



### WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In November we remember all those who have died. If you have anyone belonging to you who has died, a grandparent, Aunt, Uncle or even a good friend. You can put the name of that person on the one of the Remembrance Trees in the Parish Church.

### Prayer for November

Honour the wisdom of those who went before you.

Bind it ever to your heart

Tie it around your neck.

When you walk, it will lead you,

When you lie down, it will watch over you,

When you wake it, it will talk to you!

(Proverbs 6:20-22)





# Time to Think!

## *The Gift of Prayer*

It's hard to believe that this time, three years ago, we were in the heart of a national lockdown. The second lockdown was harder than the first. Nature seemed so comforting throughout the first lockdown. Ireland enjoyed splendid weather and as we became more mindful and less hectic, most of us discovered mystery and beauty in the environs around us. The second lockdown was far more dramatic, because no doubt it was accompanied by the harsh reality, of winter darkness. As we move through the month of November I'm conscious, that for many, this is a time, when often winter darkness, can weigh heavily on our mood and energy. Ultimately we all respond to the light, we all need light, and its absence can affect our mood.

One of the benefits, if any regarding the pandemic times, was that people felt less pressurised, involuntarily we were all forced to take a deep breath to move and live in a different gear. Time is a sacred gift, time seemed to be more abundant and one could be present and aware of our sense of place, often fuelled with deep gratitude for things we may take for granted.

Gratitude is a great starting point when it comes to prayer. Prayer, by its very nature, is the language of the soul. Prayer engages us with a higher power, something beyond just the tangible and in that sacred space, we tap into a spiritual conversation whereby we can find strength, meaning and purpose in our lives. For many prayer is a challenging endeavour, so many other realities, can compete for our attention, yet by discipline and human desire to nourish our prayer life, we can grow and indeed become the best version of our unique selves. There are many formulas regarding traditional prayer, and all are helpful but often the most profound prayer can be in the silence and comfort of simply realising we are not alone, that God is very close to us, as Saint Paul prays, "In him we live and move and have our being".

### A Poem on Prayer, by Mary Oliver

The poem is written by Mary Oliver, who was an American poet who won the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. In 2007 The New York Times described her as "far and away, this country's best-selling poet."



I love this short simple poem and what it points to in prayer. I hope and pray it would be a blessing to you.

### Praying

It doesn't have to be the blue iris,  
It could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones;  
Just pay attention, then patch a few words together  
and don't try to make them elaborate,  
This isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks,  
and a silence in which another voice may speak.

### The Sacrament of Waiting

Slowly she celebrated the sacrament of letting go.  
First she surrendered her green, then the orange,  
yellow, and red, finally she let go of her brown.  
Shedding her last leaf she stood empty and silent,  
stripped bare.  
Leaning against the winter sky she began her vigil  
of trust.  
Shedding her last leaf she watched its journey to  
the ground.  
She stood in silence wearing the colour of  
emptiness, her branches wondering;  
How do you give shade with so much gone?  
And then, the sacrament of waiting began.  
The sunrise and sunset watched with tenderness.  
Clothing her with silhouettes they kept her hope  
alive.  
They helped her understand that her vulnerability,  
her dependence and need, her emptiness,  
her readiness to receive, were giving her a new kind  
of beauty.  
Every morning and every evening they stood in  
silence and celebrated together the sacrament of  
waiting.

*Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 31,000 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)*

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



**Mark Scully**  
Millbrook, Portlaoise



**Claire Mitchell**  
née Whelan  
Dunmore, Galway and  
formerly Portlaoise



**Nonie Wallace**  
née Gorman  
Chapel Street, Ballinakill

*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  
CECELIA MULHALL**

85 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023.



*As day dawns and starts anew,  
As each day ends we think of  
you,  
And in between, no matter  
where, deep in our hearts you  
will always be there.*

**Always remembered by your  
loving family x**

*May Cecelia Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
FR. GREGORY BROPHY**



19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

*"For this God is our God  
forever and ever;  
He will be our guide even  
to the end"*

*Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
TOMMY SKELLY**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
Remembering you on your 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary which  
occurs 12<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.

*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 today and always by your loving wife  
Laura, daughter Anita, sons Thomas and Jason,  
grandchildren, son-in-law Joe, daughter-in-law Helen.**

*Rest in Peace Tommy*

**Cherished Memories of  
Our Beloved Sister**

**BREDA WALSH (née Keogh)**

Late of Chelmsford Essex and Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 12:30pm.

*Beautiful memories are wonderful things,  
They last till the longest day,  
They never wear out or get lost,  
And can never be given away.  
To some, you may be forgotten,  
To others a part of the past,*

*But to us who loved and lost you, your memory will always last.*

**Always loved and sadly missed by your sisters, brothers  
and extended family.**

*Rest in Peace Breda*



**In Loving Memory of  
MARY TAAFFE**

*Late of Droimnin and Ballymanus.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



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

Remembered by  
Kathryn and family.

*Rest in Peace Mary*

**In Loving Memory of  
DANNY O' CONNELL**

*The Rock of Dunamais,  
12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



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

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

*Sadly missed by his loving wife Mary and all his  
family, extended family and friends.*

*May Danny Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
GERARD (Gerry) GORMAN**

*11 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2023*



*He put His arms around you,  
And lifted you to rest,  
God's garden must be beautiful,  
He always takes the best.*

Sadly missed by your loving family  
and extended family.

*May Gerard Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
JIM SEXTON**

*"Padua", Clonminam Road, Portlaoise.  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.*



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

*Always loved and remembered by Pat,  
Mary, Frank, his daughter-in-law Hilda,  
grandsons, great-granddaughters,  
extended family and friends.*

Anniversary Mass to remember Jim and his late wife  
Bridget, whose anniversary occurs 24<sup>th</sup> November, will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm.

*Rest in Peace Jim*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN PAUL KIRWAN**

*Anngrove, Kilbricken, Mountrath, Co. Laois.  
19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe,  
this **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November**  
at 12 noon.

*Quickly and quietly came the call,  
Without farewell you left us all,  
A sudden call from God on high,  
You had no chance to say goodbye,  
Without farewell you fell asleep,  
But memories of you we'll always  
keep.*

*Also remembering at this time  
John's daddy Martin (Murt) Kirwan.  
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, loved and always remembered by your  
loving family.

*Rest in Peace John Paul*

**In Loving Memory of  
KEVIN BOWE**

*Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023.*



Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter &  
Paul's Parish Church on  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. at 6:30pm.

*Quietly remembered everyday,  
No longer in our lives to  
share, but in our hearts  
you're always there.*

*Sadly missed by your wife Marie, children  
Suzanne, Kevin, Robert, Sandra, Paul and Kenneth,  
grandchildren, sisters Betty & Patty and brother  
Frank and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Kevin*

**In Loving Memory of  
NICOLA DOLLARD**

*née Kelly*

*Rathevan View and late of Hawthorn Drive.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



It's lonely here without you,  
We miss you more each  
day,  
For life is not the same to  
us, since you were called  
away.

Your resting place we visit,

And flowers we place with care,  
But no one knows our heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.

Deeply loved, sadly missed and always  
remembered by her husband Damien,  
son Andrew, parents Gerard and Carmel,  
sister Michelle, brother John, nieces  
Chloe, Rebecca, Sophie and Grace,  
extended family and friends.

*Rest in Peace Nicola*

**In Loving Memory of  
TONY PHELAN**

*Santa Maria, New Rd., Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 12:30pm



*A Prayer for My Dad;  
Dear God, I gratefully thank  
you for giving me my dad,  
You must really love me, 'cause  
you gave the best you had,  
Watch over him and bless him  
Lord, and keep him in your care,  
And may he feel my love for him,  
In my humble heartfelt prayer.*

*Sadly missed by; Zelle, Ger, Ray, Bosco and Brigid,  
sons-in-law, daughters-in-law and your fourteen  
grandchildren. Lots of love xxx*

*May Tony Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK (Paddy) REDDIN**

*4 Dr. Murphy Place. 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 14<sup>th</sup> November.*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm  
*Your smile was made of sunshine,  
Your heart was made of gold,  
We thank you for the love you gave,  
And the memories that we hold.*

*No matter how we spend our days, no matter what we do,  
No morning dawns, no evening falls,  
Without a thought of you.*

*Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by all his loving family.*

*May Patrick Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
WILLIAM (Bill) O'REILLY**

*Marian House, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 11.15am.

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

*Thinking of you today and always.*

*Sadly missed by his loving wife Maura and family.*

*May Bill Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
CARMEL KEALEY**

*Sheffield, Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



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

*It was a sudden parting, too bitter to  
forget, those who love you dearly are  
the ones who cannot forget,  
The blow was hard, the shock severe,  
to part with one we loved so dear.*

*Sadly missed by your loving children Pauline,  
Carmel, Francis and Breda, grandchildren,  
extended family and friends.*

*Also remembering her dear husband Frankie recently  
deceased R.I.P.*

*May Carmel Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of **PADDY BRENNAN**

Pallas, Ballyfin.



We, Paddy's family, wish to express our deepest gratitude to all who supported us and sympathised with us, both online, and in person, at the time of his departure from this life, and all who stood out along the road, those at the cemetery and everyone who sent Mass cards and words of comfort.

A special word of thanks to the staff at Portlaoise Hospital, paramedics and ambulance service, the Cedar Clinic, Laois Pharmacy and especially to the carers, community nurses, and

palliative team, who looked after Paddy with kind and professional care.

Sincere thanks to Fr. Brophy and Fr. Fitzgerald for their visits to Paddy at home, in hospital and in his final hours. Many thanks to Keegan Funeral Directors for their support and professional service and our sincere thanks to the gravediggers at Ballyfin cemetery for preparing Paddy's final resting place.

We would also like to thank most sincerely his nephew, Fr. Brian Kavanagh for a beautiful funeral Mass and all who contributed to both the Mass and the removal, as well as the Priests of Portlaoise and Ballyfin Parishes who said prayers and officiated at the Mass.

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

Paddy - sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

*Rest in Peace Paddy*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### In Loving Memory of **DECLAN BERGIN**

Grenville, Portlaoise, formerly Cullohill.

Died 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023



The family of the late Declan Bergin would like to thank everybody who sympathised with them on the sudden death of Declan. The Ambulance crew, the fire brigade, the Gardai, the Priests, Keegan Funeral Directors, Declan's neighbours and friends, especially his co-workers at the Midlands Park Hotel. All who attended the funeral and sent

Mass cards and those who wrote kind letters to us.

Your kindness and generosity shown to us at that time will not be forgotten by John, Vincent, Aidan, Paschal, Ursula and Louise. A mass will be offered for all.

Thank you.

*Rest in Peace Declan*

## In Loving Memory of **GRETTA KELLY**

Kellbyrne House, Rathevan, Portlaoise.

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church, this **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.**

*If we could visit heaven, on this our saddest day, maybe for a moment our pain would go away.*

*We'd put our arms around you and whisper words so true, that living life without you is so very hard to do.*

*We cannot bring the old days back when we were all together, but loving thoughts and memories will stay with us forever.*

*Loved and remembered always by  
Christy, Adrian & Rebecca.*

*Rest in Peace Gretta*

## In Loving Memory of **SEAN HOLOHAN**

Formerly 40 Oakleaf Place & Newtown Stradbally.

15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm.



*If tears could build a stairway,  
And heartaches could make a lane  
We would walk to Heaven and  
bring you home again.*

Sadly missed by your wife Chris, children, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, sisters and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

*May Sean Rest in Peace*

## In Loving Memory of **VIOLET & PETER McNULTY**

Summerhill Lane, Portlaoise.

8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries occur at this time.



*Deep in our hearts you  
will always stay,  
Loved and  
remembered everyday.  
Their spirits live on.*



*Missed by all their family and friends.*

*May Violet & Peter Rest in Peace*

*You are the  
**Light**  
of the World*

*In Loving Memory of*  
**TOMMY & BRIDGET**  
**FRIEL**

*Late of 75 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.*

*Tommy's 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Bridget's 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occur at this time.*



*In our minds a constant thought, in our hearts a silent sorrow.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your daughter Marie & family.*



*May They Rest in Peace*

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David **087-2369887**

*In Loving Memory of*  
**DENIS KAVANAGH**

*Pallas Little, Portlaoise.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



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

*Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Denis*

**HENRY RANKIN**  
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*In Loving Memory of*  
**MARGARET NELSON**

*Late of Portlaoise and Bower View, Athlone.*

*Margaret died 9<sup>th</sup> November 1997  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time*

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

*From all her loving family, relatives  
and friends.*

*May Margaret Rest in Peace*



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## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

04

12

17

20

One €20,000 Jackpot Winner

Congratulations to Lisa & Cathal O'Neill Promoter: Cathal O'Neill

### WINNERS

Hilary Gray  
Ena Jordan  
Mags Langford  
The Clooney Family  
Mary Kennelly  
Linda Dunne  
Catherine Farrell  
Eileen & Moira  
Martin & Betty O'Neill  
Ger Lalor  
Michael Kerry  
Michael Conroy Snr  
Martin Therese Fitzpatrick  
Rachel Dunne  
Eileen Hayes  
Billy Doran  
Lisa & Cathal O'Neill  
Alice & Des O'Sullivan  
Bridie Stone  
Marie O'Sullivan  
Breda Connolly  
Molly Rose Fitzpatrick  
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Mick Marum  
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Lucy Kelly  
Martley's  
Peter Ryan  
Parish Centre  
Paul Dooley  
Paul Dooley  
Cathal O'Neill  
Paul Dooley  
Martleys  
Paul Dooley  
Peg Keenan  
Declan Fitzpatrick  
Vera  
Celine Cripps  
Rita Watkins  
David Tobin  
David Tobin  
Betty O'Rourke  
Ann Carroll  
Ann Carroll

Next Week's Jackpot is €13,000

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 viewed on our website and our Church Porches.  
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person  
Kathleen Sherry [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm  
Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722  
E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)  
Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley

Agnieszka Kaczmarek

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed  
[www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times  
057 8600119)



Secretary: Julie Conroy

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm

057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday

Subject to availability of space

E-mail: [linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully



# **DUNKEEN OIL**

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## **Oil tank replacement service**

Contact Marcus on 086 2904029  
or order online on [www.dunkeenoil.ie](http://www.dunkeenoil.ie)

### **Some useful tips for your oil tank:**

- ▶ Be sure to **dip your oil tank** and not let it run out to avoid air locks
- ▶ Get your oil boiler **serviced yearly**
- ▶ Always check your oil tank of signs of **cracks, swelling or rust damage** on metal tanks
- ▶ Watch out for cracks on top of oil tank to **prevent water** from getting into your oil
- ▶ 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
- ▶ If you're concerned about any of the above, we offer a **free tank inspection**, and where necessary we can suck out your oil and repace your tank to avoid loosing any oil or causing any oil contamination. **Don't take chances and replace damaged tanks!**
- ▶ Secure your oil tank with a **lock** (we can arrange locks for all tank lids)

**Emergency contact number 7 days a week 057 86 62777**

**Dunkeen Oil, Mountmellick Rd., Portlaoise**

Our depot offers kerosene and tractor diesel at discounted prices