



Pentecost Sunday

Symbols of the Holy Spirit

When Jesus was baptised we are told the Holy Spirit descended on him in the form of a Dove. (Mt.3:16)

And in Luke's account of Pentecost we learn that a *tongue of fire* came to rest on the head of each of the disciples. (Acts 2:3-4)

Both of these symbols are over the Aumbry (where the holy oils are kept) in our Parish Church.



'Come Holy Spirit'



Photo courtesy of Fr. Erik

The Legion of Mary organised a Rosary Rally at Our Lady's Shrine at the Square on 11th May. During this month of May the Rosary is prayed at the Grotto at the Parish Church each evening at 8pm. All are welcome. The Legion of Mary also welcomes new members at any time.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142
E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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Over To Us

The disciples who for weeks had hidden away for fear of the Jews suddenly started behaving in an astonishing way. They came out of hiding and started teaching in many languages. What had got into them? Quite simply, the Holy Spirit had got into them as Jesus had promised. Those previously terrified people were suddenly filled with courage, energy, inspiration, purpose and conviction.

What is truly exciting about the Pentecost story is that we too have been given that very same Spirit in our baptism. So if we have received the same Spirit as was breathed into those first disciples, why can't we rush round doing amazing things too? One answer might be that we haven't really tried yet. One answer might be that to date we haven't really been tested? Another answer perhaps is that we can't quite place our faith in it. How sad though if the Pentecost story is simply a story contained by the past. How sad if we don't believe the men and women of our own time whose inspirational lives and huge courage point to the work of the Holy Spirit ... men and women who far from being super human were born just the same as the rest of us.

The Holy Spirit is given to all of us, and with it comes the power to transform the world ... the first disciples knew it ... now it's our turn.

Happy Birthday Church

The Feast of Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church? It's called that because Pentecost is when the apostles went out among the people and began spreading Jesus' message, thus establishing the beginning of the Church. On this day we are asked to pray for the Church and her continued growth.

Pentecost, Greek for 50th day, is celebrated by Christians fifty days after Easter. Originally it was a Jewish feast that concluded the fifty days of Passover.

In Britain, Pentecost is also called Whitsun, because on this day new Christians used to be baptised. Often they wore white, so Pentecost was known as White Sunday. White Sunday was then shortened to Whitsun.

To celebrate Pentecost, read the Acts of the Apostles. Find out what happened to the Church following the events of Pentecost.



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

Monday - Friday: 7.30am & 10am

Saturday: 10am

Sunday

Vigil 6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

Sunday: 9.30am

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

Sunday: 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.

St. Peter & Paul's Cemetery Mass Sunday 2nd June at 1pm

This Mass will replace the 12.30pm Mass in the Parish Church on that Sunday.

COLLECTION FOR OUR RETIRED PRIESTS NEXT WEEKEND 25th/26th MAY

We ask for your support for this collection which will be held next weekend.

There are a number of retired Priests in our Diocese, a number of them in Nursing Homes and others with need for extra assistance to remain in their own homes. With a reduced number of priests in Parishes it is now necessary to invite the assistance of the faithful in the Diocese to contribute to the Retired Priests Fund by way of this annual collection.

Envelopes are available in Development Boxes or you can pick up an envelope in the Church porches.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1-11

Psalm 103:1.24.29-31.34

Galatians 5:16-25

John 15:26-27; 16:12-15



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Who was baptised last weekend

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Thanks as always for your support

Kind Regards, all @ Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

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 Grainne Roche Duff **087-6075037**



Cllr. Caroline Dwane Stanley

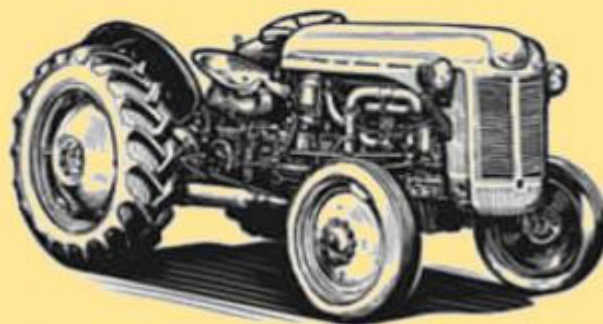
- Peace Commissioner
- Chair of Laois County Council Housing Committee

*I am available to meet Constituents by arrangement from the following areas:
Portlaoise, Abbeyleix, Ballyroan, Ballinakill, Spink and Raheen*

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„Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened.”

(Mt, II, 28)

Corpus Christi Vigil

MASS

6:30pm

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7:30pm- 9pm

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01.06.2024

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Missa em Português

Santíssima Trindade, Unidade Trina em Maria

Horário: 19h30min

Dia: 25/05/2024 (Sábado)

Local: St. Peter & Paul's Roman Catholic Church

R32R684 - Portlaoise

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Catherine Fitzgerald

Working in the Community for the Community

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Laois County Library Service



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Saturday, 15th June

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Ages
6-12



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Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, May 14th:



Top score: Tom Kearns

1st Lady: Kit Farrell **2nd Lady:** Molly O'Brien **1st Gent:** Kieran Fitzpatrick

2nd Gent: Tom Gowing & Christy Fitzpatrick

1st Half: Bernie Cahill & Lena Kelly **2nd Half:** Bridie Kennedy

Raffle: 1st Theresa Mulhare, 2nd Agnes Holland, 3rd Norah Delaney, 4th Mary Kileen, 5th Mary Gowing, 6th Paddy Purcell, 7th Ann Marie Farrell.

Whist continues every Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

Whist Abbeyleix: Every Sunday night at 8pm in Abbeyleix Community Hospital. All are welcome.

Graiguecullen Bingo Tuesday 21st May in St. Fiacc's Hall at 8.30pm:

Jackpot on 41 numbers €830. Double number €1,160 and Lotto €1,250.

Fourth Wall Laois Theatre Group present "The Country Boy", a romantic comedy by John Murphy, in the Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise, Fri. 24th & Sat. 25th May at 8pm. Tickets at the Box Office, 057-8663355 or online.

Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, Vintage Steam Threshing and Working Day, Sunday 26th May, 10am-6pm in Ballyfin, County Laois, R32AD92: Pre-registration and approval for stalls required. Proceeds in support of local charities. For queries or information on the Ballyfin Vintage & Veteran Club, please message, text or call 086-3101822.

Tea Dance: All are welcome to the Parish Centre, Portlaoise next Monday 20th May at 11am for a tea dance. We are celebrating the culmination of several weeks of sequence dance lessons. A most enjoyable morning promised. Free tea and scones to conclude. Looking forward to a morning filled with music, dance, laughter, friendship and gentle exercise. Further details from Catriona Slattery at Laois Partnership or Maureen Culleton 087 - 6482038

RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

Rosary in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath: Daily 2pm (Monday-Saturday) and Sunday 3pm (Adoration).

Vocations Society of St. Joseph: Holy Hour, Adoration and Prayer for vocations, every Friday at 3pm in the Parish Church.

Padre Pio's Glove: St. Pio's Glove will be in Fitzpatrick's House, Kilberry, Athy, Co. Kildare on Saturday 1st June from 11am to 5pm. Items of St. Pio will be available on the day. For info. call Ann 085-1696189.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help continues this Monday 20th May at 7.30pm in St Clare's Church,

Graiguecullen: We invite people to place their petitions in the petition boxes in St. Clare's Church. During our Novena through the prayers of our Faith Community and the intercession of Our Lady we will ask Jesus to relieve whatever burdens we carry. Rosary recited at 7.10pm and Novena begins at 7.30pm. Guest Speaker; Derek McGrath, former centre-forward and previous manager of the Waterford senior Hurling team.



Lourdes Group enjoying the Rosary recited for the month of May at the Grotto at St. Peter & Pauls Church, Portlaoise at 8pm



Group of Parishioners enjoying the Rosary at the Grotto for the Month of May



Parishioners leaving the Church grounds to commence the procession to Our Lady through the town to the Top Square where the Rosary was recited in honour of Our Lady of Fatima



Photos courtesy of John Coughlan

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13th-20th June 2024

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The Power and Light

Do you know what day today is? Today is a very special day. This is Pentecost Sunday. It's the time when we remember that before Jesus returned to heaven, he promised that his Father would send a helper — the Holy Spirit — to live inside of those who follow him. He promised that the Holy Spirit would give them the power to do great and mighty things.



It happened just as Jesus said it would. On the day which is called Pentecost, the disciples were all together in one place. The Gospel tells us that there was a sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind and it filled the place where the disciples were gathered. Then, there were flames of fire that appeared and rested upon each of them. When these things happened, the disciples were filled with power and began to preach and teach about Jesus. They were able to do things that they had never done before because of the power of the Holy Spirit in them.

If you imagine having a torch at home and using it, this will help us understand just how important the Holy Spirit is. A torch is not very large, but it sure puts out a bright light, doesn't it? If the electricity goes off and it is dark, a torch helps me find my way around the house. They provide an emergency lighting system.

What do you think gives a torch the power to light up a room? Of course, the torch has a battery inside that gives it power. Without that power inside, the torch just doesn't work. That reminds me of the way the Holy Spirit works in our life. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Our Scripture today tells us that on the day of Pentecost people were filled with the Holy Spirit so that they could do mighty things as the Spirit gave them the ability. It is the same power of the Holy Spirit that enables you and me to let our light shine in the world. Just as a torch must have batteries to give it power, the Holy Spirit is our source of power to live for Jesus.



Dear Father, we thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to comfort, guide us, and live within us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Y K J T N K H J G A M A Z E D
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 J O I O U E Z A E X G H T N O
 R E Q R L A D E W E E N U Y Y
 C H J P E Y G H I N T O H F H
 F A H T I M L E U Y S T R G B

The Day of Pentecost

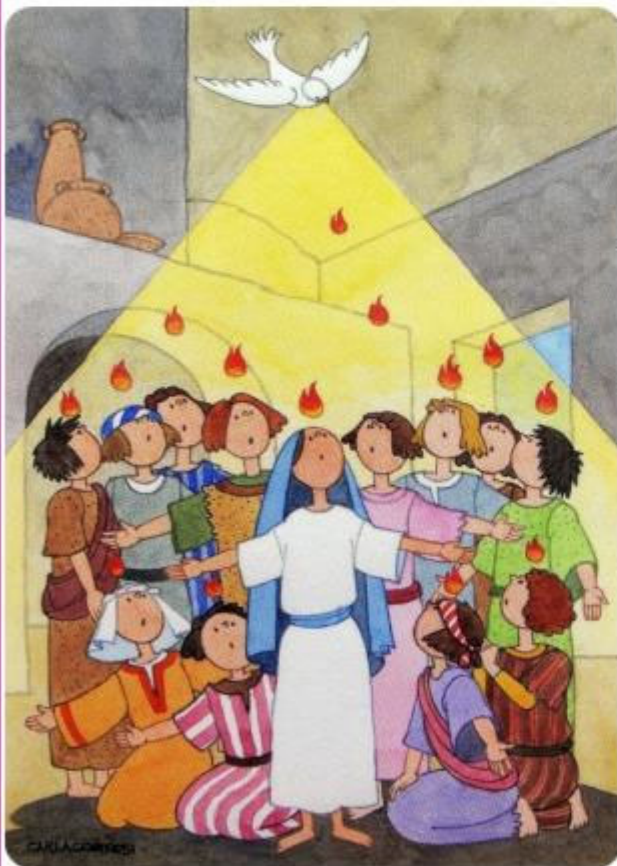
All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Acts 2:4



SPEAK	LANGUAGE
PENTECOST	HEAVEN
BLOWING	SOUND
OTHER	HOLY
SPIRIT	HEAR
FILLED	WIND
FIRE	TONGUES

I'm Praying for You



Today, many churches celebrate a special day called Pentecost. It was on the day of Pentecost that God sent his Holy Spirit to the church. The Bible tells us that the apostles were all gathered together in one place when suddenly there was a sound like a mighty, rushing wind. They saw what looked like tongues of fire that came to rest on each of them and all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.

God's Holy Spirit is somewhat like the wind. We can't see him, but we know that he is there because we can see the effects of his power in our lives. The Holy Spirit is very important to us. What are some of the ways that the Holy Spirit helps us?

- He comforts us when we are sad and alone. (John 15:26)
- He guides us in the way of truth. (John 16:13)
- He helps us when we don't know how to pray. (Romans 8:27)
- He lives inside us and gives us life. (Ezekiel 37:14)
- He shows us the good things God has for us. (1 Corinthians 2:9-11)

We are thankful for all of the ways that the wind helps us, but we are even more thankful for all of the ways the Holy Spirit helps us every day. You might say, "He is the wind in your socks!"



Time to Think!

2024 Exam Time

In the last years of his life, the great cellist and conductor Pablo Casals suffered greatly from rheumatoid arthritis and emphysema. At 90, he was badly stooped, his head thrust forward, and his breathing laboured. He needed the help of his wife, Marta, to get dressed in the morning. Marta would then help him shuffle into his studio where he would, with great difficulty, arrange himself on the piano bench. Casals would then manage to raise his swollen, clenched fingers above the keyboard. A visitor describes what he saw next, one particular morning: "I was not prepared for the miracle that was about to happen. The fingers slowly unlocked and reached toward the keys like the buds of a plant toward the sunlight. His back straightened. He seemed to breathe more freely. Now his fingers settled on the keys. Then came the opening bars of Bach's Wohltemperierte Klavier [Well-tempered Clavier], played with great sensitivity and control. He hummed as he played, then said that Bach 'spoke to him here' – and he placed his hand over his heart. "Then he plunged into a Brahms concerto and his fingers, now agile and powerful, raced across the keyboard with dazzling speed. His entire body seemed fused with the music; it was no longer stiff and shrunken but supple and graceful and completely freed of its arthritic coils. "Having finished the piece, he stood up by himself, far straighter and taller than when he had come into the room. He walked to the breakfast table with no trace of a shuffle, ate heartily, talked animatedly, finished the meal, then went for a walk on the beach." (From *Anatomy of an Illness as Perceived by the Patient: Reflections on Healing and Regeneration* by Norman Cousins).

Like music that inspires and exhilarates, the Spirit of God is the melody that energizes the Church, uniting our many different voices into the song of the Love of God. God has formed us into a community, or Church, an instrument for bringing His life and love into our world. But what makes our Church more than just a gathering of good people is His "Breath" infusing the Church, His Mystical Body, with the music of His Divinity. Pentecost is an ongoing manifestation of the Lord's presence among us. That same Holy Spirit continues to "blow" through today's Church, giving life and direction to our mission and ministry to preach the Gospel to every nation, immersing all of humanity in the music of God's love, the symphony of the Resurrection.

Over the coming weeks, students will be engaging with state and college examinations. This is always a time when anxiety can be felt, not just in facing exams, but the consequences their future holds, regarding the grades attained. One of the positive contributions, our new Taoiseach, Simon Harris, engaged passionately whilst Minister for Third Level Education, was creating opportunities for students, to fulfil their ambitions not necessarily by the points they achieve, but making their career choices more accessible. I have repeatedly every year written, regarding the huge burden of anxiety placed on young lives, the relentless competition and pressure, that the point system has caused. In a more vocational model of education, gifts and talents, personality, warmth, empathy are much more important than just knowing the right answer. I suggest that no results, on a piece of paper, can ever determine or define the fantastic unique gifts and talents that every young person has in abundance. To measure kindness, compassion, optimism, energy, humour..... is far more important. Humbly I find young people fantastic and so very positive, despite the many challenges they embrace. St. Paul once said: "With God on our side who can be against us?" Essentially being open to the love of God in all our lives is surely a great gift. The life that this young generation now enter more fully is a vibrant one, full of energy and yet very challenging. I don't think it is easy to be a young person in the present culture we find ourselves in. All of these young students will now experience the competitive environment that is the point's race, finding the right college course and career path in a volatile global economy where so often only the fittest and leanest survive. The 'burden of youth'



at times can be tragic, manifesting in addiction, anxiety and mental health issues. However, the enthusiasm, resilience and sense of hopeful optimism that is so real for young people, will carry them through the difficult weeks ahead. I believe faith in the living God is a great source of strength and love for our young friends. Yes, there will always be difficulty and disappointment in life, but faith gives us a confidence and inner peace, that allows us all to live life to the full. God invites us to manifest our hopes and dreams into the realities of our day to day lives. Faith is grounded, in the knowledge that our God abundantly loves us for who we are, not for who we may like to present ourselves as. Faith allows us to hope even in the face of adversity and human struggle. Essentially faith informs us that we are not alone. Our God resides in depth of our human experience, even in the stress of getting ready for the Leaving Certificate or Third Level exams. Over the coming weeks pray for young people that the good Lord will bless them with strength, happiness and peace. A prayer I always prayed as I faced exam time and never let me down was,

'Holy Spirit, send your power, help me to remember all that I have learnt, inspire me with the gift of Knowledge'

Amen!

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION TO STUDY

Lord, I know you are with me and love me.
Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.
Help me to focus on my books and notes,
keep me from all distractions so that I will make the best use of this time that is available to me.
Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying ,
and help me to remember it when the time comes.
Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study
and for the many gifts and talents you have given me.
Help me always to use them in such a way
that they honour you and do justice to myself. Amen

PRAYER BEFORE AN EXAMINATION

Dear Lord, as I take this exam, I thank you that my value is not based on my performance, but on your great love for me. Come into my heart so that we can walk through this time together
Help me, not only with this test, but the many tests of life that are sure to come my way.
As I take this exam, bring back to my mind everything I studied and be gracious with what I have overlooked.
Help me to remain focussed and calm, confident in the facts and in my ability,
and firm in the knowledge that no matter what happens today you are there with me. Amen

Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 32,350 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles



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PATSY FENNELL

**GRAIGECULLEN
PORTARLINGTON**
LOCAL ELECTION 2024

👤 VOTE #1

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Common sense
Real change**



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IMPOSSIBLE.
THE WORD
ITSELF SAYS
'I'M POSSIBLE!'"
- AUDREY HEPBURN



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



Patrick (Pat) Walsh

*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

I am still here

Just because you cannot see me
Does not mean I am not there
Just because I am in heaven
Does not mean I do not care

I often see you crying
You often call my name
I want to hold you tight
I want to ease your pain

Its easy for me
For I know heaven is real
If you knew the truth
How much better would you feel

One day we will meet again
But only when the time is right
When you step out of the darkness
I will be standing in the light

**In Loving Memory of
SEAN FARRELL**

Broomville, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurs 23rd May 2024



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

*Missed in the morning of every day,
Missed in the evening as light fades
away,*

*Missed in a thousand and one little ways,
Around every corner, a memory stays.*

*No one knows the pain we bear, when we all meet
and you're not there, we talk, we laugh, we play
our part, but behind it all lies a broken heart.
You gave us years of happiness, then sorrow
came with tears, you left us lovely memories,
we will treasure through the years.*

*Sadly missed by Betty, John, Billy, Catherine,
Mark, grandchildren and all your loving family.*

Rest in Peace Sean

37TH BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
**In Loving Memory of
IAN LAWLOR-AMARAL**

Bennekerry and Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise.

3rd Birthday away from Home occurs 20th May.



*A Loving Son, Brother, Uncle,
Nephew and Friend*

*Today would have been such a
special day, but now it brings
sadness and sorrow.*

*If we could share just one more
birthday, if there was one more
tomorrow.*

*But birthdays are a time to reflect and look over the time
that has passed, and we can't believe it's been three
years, the time just goes so fast.*

*But memories of more happier times in our hearts will
stay, we will treasure each and every one,
until we meet again some day.*

*So we'll say "goodbye" for now and blow kisses to
Heaven above, to wish you a Happy Birthday and to
send you all our love.*

*Deeply loved and missed by his mother Annette,
brothers Owen, Paul and Wayne, sister Gemma and
brother-in-law Fahad, niece Sara, nephew Sameer,
extended family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Ian

**In Loving Memory of Dad
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
33rd Anniversary occurs 18th May 2024



*Will those who think of Dad
today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.
Sadly missed by his daughter
Margaret, Brendan and family.
Rest in Peace Dad*

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
33rd Anniversary occurs 18th May 2024



*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, loved and remembered by his son
Michael, daughter-in-law Phil, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren.*

Rest in Peace Michael

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
33rd Anniversary occurs 18th May 2024



*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 and always
remembered by your daughter Ann,
son-in-law Paddy and grandchildren
Brian & Patrick*

Rest in Peace Michael

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
33rd Anniversary occurs 18th May 2024



*We lost a father with a heart of
gold, how much we miss him can
never be told,
He shared our troubles and helped
us along, if we follow his footsteps
we can never go wrong.*

*Sadly missed by your loving son Thomas and
daughter-in-law Teresa.*

Rest in Peace Michael

**In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM DELANEY**

Roskelton, Mountrath,
1st Anniversary occurs 27th May 2024



*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
on Saturday 25th May at 7pm
in St. Fintan's Church Raheen
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.*

Deeply regretted by his loving children; Fintan,
Martin and Bridie, daughters-in-law Carmel and
Miriam and son-in-law Brendan, grandchildren
Eanna, Orlaith, Shauna, Brian, Liam, Aine
and Eoghan, relatives, neighbours and friends.

Rest in Peace William

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.
33rd Anniversary occurs 18th May 2024



*For as long as we live we will
always be glad for the wonderful
grandpa we were so blessed
to have.*

*Always remembered by Mark,
William and Julie*

Rest in Peace Michael

You are the

Light

Of the World



**In Loving Memory of
FRANCES CRIPPS**

*New Road, Portlaoise and Droimnín Nursing Home,
Stradbally. Months Mind occurred 14th May 2024*



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
this **Sunday 19th May at 12.30pm.**

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

Rest in Peace Frances

**In Loving Memory of
JOSEPHINE (JOSIE) TAYLOR**

Hillview Drive, Portlaoise



*Months Mind Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church this
Saturday 18th May at 6.30pm*

*Sincere and true in heart and mind
A memory sweet you left behind*

Sadly missed by all her loving family

May Josephine Rest in Peace

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Cherished Memories of
DICKIE BYRNE**

Rathleague, Portlaoise



Dickie's family wish to thank
you for your kind expressions of
sympathy. A special word of
thanks to all those who sent
Mass and sympathy cards, text
messages, floral tributes, and
uploaded messages of sympathy
on RIP.ie.

A special word of thanks to Rev.
Alex Purser & Rev Janet Finlay for all their
support, prayer at the home and at both Church
services.

Thank you to our kind neighbours and friends
who helped so much. We remember the carers
who looked after Dickie at home, also the staff
of Droimnin Nursing Home who cared for him in
his final weeks.

We thank everyone who came to our home and
people who travelled long distances. It was a
great comfort to us

*Please accept this acknowledgement as a token
of our grateful appreciation.*

Rest in Peace Dickie

**Cherished Memories of
DAVE LALOR**

*Hawthorn Drive, Portlaoise.
25th Anniversary occurs 19th May 2024*



Dad;

*A daily thought, a silent tear,
A constant wish that you were
here.*

**Love and miss you always
Daddy, Gerard x**

Daddy/Grandad

*Everyday in some small way,
Thoughts of you come our way.
Thinking of you always.*

**Love and miss you always Daddy
Marie, Christy, Kyle and Finn xxxx**

Dad/Grandad

Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.

**Sadly missed everyday, Daithí, Marguerite,
Shauna, Oisín & Cillian xxxxx**

**Also remembering
MARY (Molly) HEALY
Cullohill**

**25th Anniversary occurred
11th May 2024**



*Will those who think of Molly
today, a little prayer to Jesus say.*

**Missed everyday by her loving daughters,
sons-in-law and grandchildren.**

Anniversary Mass for Dave & Molly will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
this Saturday 18th May at 6.30pm

May Dave & Molly Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
PATRICK CONROY (Snr)**

Ballymacken, Portlaoise

27th Anniversary occurred 15th May 2024



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

**Remembered always by
his loving family**

Rest in Peace Patrick

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & MONTHS MIND

In Loving Memory of

MARY FITZPATRICK née Timmons

The Hermitage, Portlaoise.



Mary's children, grandchildren and extended family wish to thank all who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss.

We would particularly like to thank all those who attended the wake in our home, Requiem Mass (either in person or via the Parish Webcam) and burial; sent Mass cards, letters, phone calls or uploaded messages of condolence on RIP.ie. We especially thank all those

who brought refreshments to our home and helped out in any way, your kindness will not be forgotten.

We were grateful for the support of Msgr. John Byrne, the Priests of Portlaoise Parish and the sister sacristans who ensured the celebration of Mary's Requiem Mass was as she would have wished.

Our sincere gratitude to Sarah Troy for providing such beautiful and uplifting music during the ceremony and to Michelle in the Parish Centre for her assistance when finalising the funeral arrangements.

Heartfelt thanks also to Matthew Keegan and David Goode of Keegan's Funeral Directors for their understanding and professionalism in making the funeral arrangements. We also acknowledge the work of the gravediggers in preparing Mary's final resting place with such care.

Our thanks to the doctors, nurses and staff of Portlaoise hospital for the amazing care Mary received and for their kindness and support to us her family.

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

*Silent thoughts of times together,
Hold memories which will last forever.
We love and miss you so much Mummy,
please watch over us all xxx*

Mary's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, on Saturday 25th May at 6.30pm.

Rest in Peace Mary

In Loving Memory of

MARIE WHELAN née Redmond

Late of O' Moore Place, Portlaoise and Arklow.

8th Anniversary occurs 20th May 2024



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

Always missed by your husband Peter

Rest in Peace Marie

In Loving Memory of ÁINE HETHERINGTON

4th Anniversary occurred 12th May 2024.



Anniversary Mass was celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Sunday 12th May and in the Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Rathdowney, on Saturday 11th May.

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one

I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways.

Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun;

Of happy memories that I leave when life is done

Forever in our Hearts

Love Mam, Dad, your sisters Fiona and Sharon, your brother Patrick, brother-in-law Ger, sister-in-law Catherine, all your family and friends.

Rest in Peace Áine

In Loving Memory of SEAN McCORMACK

Late of 16 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

19th Anniversary occurs 27th May 2024.



*May the winds of love blow softly and whisper in your ear,
And tell you how much we love you and miss you more each year.*

Loved and missed always by your daughter, son, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Sunday 26th May at 10am.

May Sean Rest in Peace

*Jesus,
remember me
when you come
into your kingdom*

Luke 22:32

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & FIRST ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of
ANNE FENNELL

1st Anniversary occurs 26th May 2024



As we approach Nanny's first anniversary, we the family wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all those who sympathised with us on our very sad loss.

Many thanks to everyone for your mass cards, messages of condolences, letters, phone calls, messages of support, and those who attended mass in person or watched via the Parish Webcam. We send our sincere thanks to

those who called to the house, brought food, helped with catering and with general planning.

Sincere thanks to Msgr. Byrne and the Priests of the Parish for their support and comfort. To Matthew Keegan and David Goode of Keegan's Funeral Directors for their support and professionalism. To Ashling for her lovely music.

Thank you to the staff in Portlaoise Hospital for the compassionate attention and great care shown to mam. To Joanne, the public health nurse and all in the palliative care team who could not do enough for mam and us at vital times.

A special thanks to the amazing carers, Marie, Susan, and Marie who helped us look after mam so well at home when she became unwell. To everybody in the day care centres on the New Road and in Mountrath who always made mam feel so welcome.

Finally, to mam's extended family and amazing friends, who called to visit and who she always loved to see in Grattan St.

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

Anne's 1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, on Sunday, 26th May at 11.15am.

She is irreplaceable, the void will never be filled.

Rest in Peace Anne

In Loving Memory of **GERARD McCORMACK**

26 The Downs, Portlaoise.

7th Anniversary occurred 13th May 2024.



In God's care you rest above,
In our hearts you rest in love,
Never more than a thought away,
Loved and remembered everyday.

Sadly missed by his wife Philomena, sons Patrick, Ciaran and Declan, daughters Alice and Brenda, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

May Gerard Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of **WILLIAM (Bill) CLOONEY**

11th May 1980 - 44th Anniversary

MAUREEN CLOONEY

22nd May 2019 - 5th Anniversary



Anniversary Mass for both Maureen and Bill, will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on **Sunday 26th May at 11:15am.**



The Mass will be streamed on Portlaoise Parish webcam - SS Peter and Paul's Church
Those special memories of you will always bring a smile, if only we could have you back, for just a little while.

Then we could sit and talk again, just like we used to do, the fact that you're no longer here, will always cause us pain, but you are forever in our hearts, until we meet again.

Lovingly remembered and dearly missed by their son William, daughters Carmel, Pauline and Valerie, daughter-in-law Mary, sons-in-law Richard, Dave and Noel, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family.

May They Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of Our Mother **MARY (Mai) DOYLE** And Our Brother **JIM DOYLE**

Late of 37 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

23rd and 10th Anniversaries occur at this time.



There is a path of beautiful memories from here to Heaven above, that keeps us very close to you, It's called the path of love. Your shadow walks beside us ever since you both died,



Oh angels take this message to our Mam and Brother up above, tell them that we love them and give them all our love.

Sadly missed, always loved, never forgotten by your loving daughters, son, brother and sisters, Joe, Ellen, Guggie, Mary and families xx

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
PADDY FITZPATRICK**

Station Road, Portlaoise

2nd anniversary occurs on 24th May 2024.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St Peter and Paul's Church on Sunday 26th May at 12.30pm



Time unfolds another year,
Memories keep you very dear,
Simple words but very true,
We will always love and
remember you

Sadly missed, loved and
forever remembered by
Imelda, Brian, David, Kevin
and Laura. extended family
and friends.

Rest in Peace Paddy

**Treasured Memories of
PATRICK DWANE**

41 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise. 43rd Anniversary occurs 20th May.



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.

Always remembered by your loving
wife and family.

Rest in Peace Patrick

**In Loving Memory of
MARGARET WHELAN**

Morette, Emo. 2nd Anniversary occurred 16th May 2024

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
the Church of the Assumption, the Heath,
this Sunday 19th May at 9.30am



Silent thoughts of times together
Hold memories which will last forever

Sadly missed and always remembered.
from Margaret, Helen, Pauline,
Siobhan, Bart & John

Rest in Peace Margaret

He who comes to me
shall not hunger

John 6:35

**In Loving Memory of
PAT BYRNES**

29 Beechfield, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurs 29th May 2024



Husband:

Wonderful memories of one so dear,
Treasured still with a love sincere,
In our hearts he is living yet,
We loved him too dearly to forget.

Sadly missed by your loving wife
Margaret, never forgotten.

Dad & Grandad:

We hold you close within our hearts and there you shall
remain, to walk with us throughout our lives until we
meet again.

Sadly missed by your loving children; Mark, Anna, Joanne,
Marguerite & Daniel, your 16 grandchildren and your
1st great grandchild, Jaxson Harding.

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

May Pat Rest in Peace

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of a precious
Son, Brother, Father and Granddad



P.J. SWAYNE

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
53rd Birthday occurred 15th May.

Your birthday brings back
memories, of laughter and of tears,
Of all the celebrations held
throughout your precious years.

As you're watching over me, I hope that you can see,
How much those memories we made,
Will always mean to me.

I'll always cherish times we had, and smile just at the
thought, I hope you know just how much joy your life
on earth here brought.

On holidays and birthdays it's so hard to be apart,
Like every day that falls between,
Your memory fills my heart.

You're with me now where e're I go,
You're part of all I do, I'll celebrate your special day
and the gift of knowing you.

Happy Heavenly Birthday P.J.

Sadly missed, loved and forever remembered by Mammy,
Daddy, sister Denise and family, brother Adrian and
family, his children, grandchildren and extended family.

Rest in Peace P.J.

In Loving Memory of **MARK WALSH**

Hawthorn Way, Esker Hills, Portlaoise



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
Sts Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise
this Sunday 19th May at 11.15am

Those we love we never lose

For always they will be

Loved, remembered, treasured

Always in our memory

*Sadly missed by his wife Claire, daughter
Fiadh, son Daniel and extended family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Mark



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May the Month of Mary



Traditionally May is dedicated to Mary,
the Mother of God. As we honour Mary,
join us each evening at 8pm for
Rosary at the Grotto. Our Lady - Pray for Us.

KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**

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

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



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
16th May 2024



No €13,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Paula Lynch
Michael Comerford
Mary Phelan
Linda & Mack Irvine
Billy Delaney
Maher Family

MATCH 3s €1,000



PROMOTER

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Parish Centre
Peter Ryan
Bernie Phelan
David Tobin
M Farrell

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Next Week's Jackpot is €14,000

Supporting our Parish

Each one must give as he or she has decided in their heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver' 2 Corinthians 9:7

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Please choose a way to make your contribution

- * Making your offering in the boxes at the Church entrances
- * Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre
 - * Direct payment by cheque or cash
 - * Cashless tap facility at 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

Scan this QR Code to take you directly to our Donate facility



Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

To contact the Priest on Duty:
Parish Centre during office hours
9am - 5pm Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours
in emergency only Tel: 0852134285

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and our Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins 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

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



Secretary: Julie Conroy
Monday to Thursday
11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm
057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

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