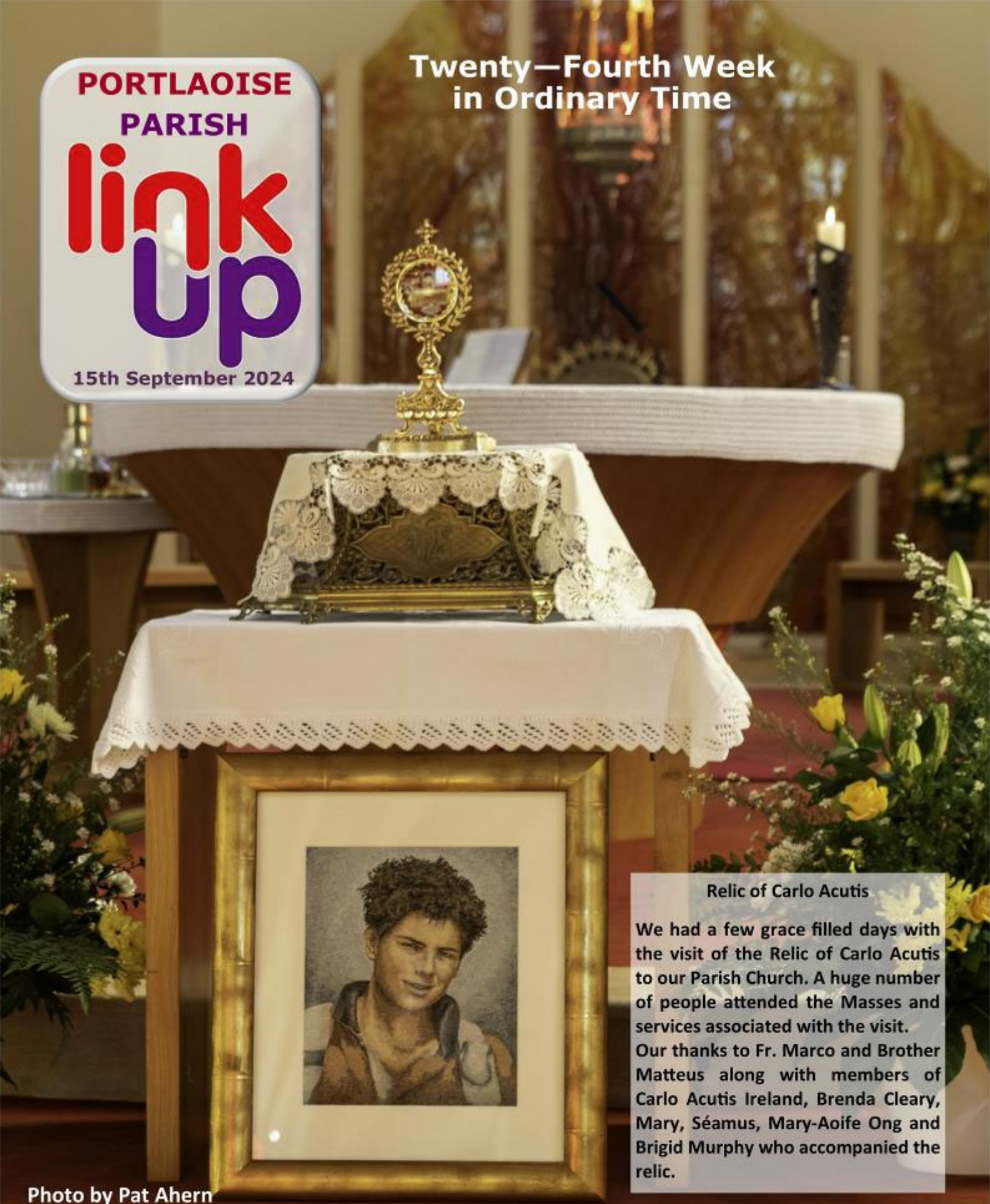


Twenty—Fourth Week in Ordinary Time



Relic of Carlo Acutis

We had a few grace filled days with the visit of the Relic of Carlo Acutis to our Parish Church. A huge number of people attended the Masses and services associated with the visit. Our thanks to Fr. Marco and Brother Matteus along with members of Carlo Acutis Ireland, Brenda Cleary, Mary, Séamus, Mary-Aoife Ong and Brigid Murphy who accompanied the relic.

Photo by Pat Ahern

The Parish Centre 057 8621142
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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie



Choosing Your Crosses

We like stories about Peter because he's a flawed character. He gets himself into trouble on numerous occasions by saying rash things. We like Peter because in a lot of ways he is just like each and every one of us.

Today Peter recognises Jesus as the Son of God, but he completely fails to grasp the implications. He certainly

doesn't understand the necessity for Jesus to die on the cross and he tells him so. Jesus puts Peter straight. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it."

Many would-be-disciples misunderstand the concept of taking up crosses. We often hear people in general conversation sighing. "... Ah well... we all have our crosses to bear...." There are difficulties in all of our lives that cannot be avoided. To try and avoid problems would be foolish. Life is just one long series of problems and challenges, and each problem overcome makes us a stronger character. However, this is not the same thing as picking up our crosses and following Christ. Living with unavoidable problems isn't the same as choosing to tackle a problem that we could easily avoid. Jesus didn't need to choose the road to Jerusalem and crucifixion, but he did. In the same way, Christians need to be pro-active about choosing their crosses. Do we choose to care for an elderly parent, or do we leave it to one of our siblings. Do we tackle racism in our street, or do we leave it to the neighbours. Do we fundraise for local charities or do we leave it to those we deem cleverer, more articulate or more energetic.

There are an estimated 2.1 billion Christians on our planet. How different the world would be if each and every one of us chose to pick up our crosses.

They gave him a manger for a cradle, a carpenter's bench for a pulpit, thorns for a crown, and a cross for a throne. He took them and made them the very glory of his career.

W.E. Orchard.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Eira Máe Birney, Oakleaf Place
Anthony Michael Kirwan, Foxburrow
Doireann Byrne Smith, Rossvale
Valentjna Reyes, Esker Hills

Who were baptised last weekend.

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.



The National Ploughing Championships takes place in Ratheniska this week 17th—19th September.

A wonderful celebration of rural life, farming expertise, and community spirit. Best of luck to everyone taking part.

Don't forget to visit the Kildare & Leighlin, Diocesan Tent, **Row13. Stand 221**

A Ecumenical Service will take place today (Sunday) in Church of the Holy Cross, Ratheniska at 6pm. All are welcome.



St. Matthew

Saturday 21st September

One day, as Our Lord was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw, seated in his customs bureau, Levi the publican, whose business it was to collect the taxes from the people for their Roman masters. Jesus said to him: "Follow me," Leaving all behind, Matthew arose and did so, thereby giving us all an example of the way in which we should respond to grace. The humble Matthew, as he was thereafter called, tells us himself in his Gospel that he was Levi, one of those publicans abhorred by the Jews as enemies of their country, outcasts and notorious sinners, who enriched themselves by extortion and fraud. Other than this, we know little about St. Matthew as a person, but we know for certain that he was a worthy and faithful disciple, unquestionably a gifted writer and one of the better educated of the apostles.

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We are restarting Osteoporosis and Pilates classes on the 9th September in the Parish Centre.

Our weekly schedule is:

Osteoporosis Classes;

Monday morning, Parish Centre, 9.30am-10.30am

Wednesday Clinic, 10.30am-11.30am

Thursday Clinic, 4.00pm-5.00pm

Pilates Classes;

Monday evening, Parish Centre, Intermediate 6pm-7pm
and Beginners 7pm-8pm

Wednesday morning Online Class, 9.30am-10.30am

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6 week Kids Craft Workshop - Starts Thurs Sept 12th 5.30 - 6.30 10+

6 week Teen/Adult Crochet - Starts Mon Sept 9th 6 - 8.30pm

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Mondays

WALKING & EXERCISE PROGRAMME

10.30am-12.00 noon
Starting 9th Sept
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MINDFULNESS PROGRAMME

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medical card
application etc

Tuesdays

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

11am
Date to be confirmed
FULLY BOOKED
Funded by Laois Hospice

THRIVE & SURVIVE PROGRAMME

This is a self-management
programme for cancer
survivors with the aim of
improving their quality of
life to better manage daily
health.
(Developed by Stanford
University)

Starting 5th Sept
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10am-12 noon
NEXT PROGRAMME
Starting 15th Oct.
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10th September

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Wednesdays

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9.45am-10.45am
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Starting 2nd October

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Starting 2nd Oct.
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23rd OCTOBER
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2-4pm - Starting 9th October

Thursdays

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CLOSED GROUP
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diagnosis in the family.

CHAIR YOGA

11.45am-12.45am
CLOSED GROUP
Starting 3rd Oct.

MINDFULNESS FOR MEN

2.30pm-4.00pm
Starting 24th Sept.

CLIMB PROGRAMME

Helping Children
Understand Cancer.
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HYROX 7PM

WEDNESDAY

METCON 6:00am
METCON 9.30am
METCON 7:00pm

THURSDAY

S&C Core Blast
6:00pm

HYROX 7PM

FRIDAY

Timed Circuit 6am

HYROX 9.30AM

Cross Training 7pm

SATURDAY

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SUNDAY

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Ireland's Biggest Coffee Day Thursday 26th September 2024
Have a cuppa in aid of Laois Hospice Foundation

*This year Laois Hospice coffee morning takes place on Thursday 26th September (or you can host on any day that suits you). Ireland's Biggest Coffee Morning sponsored by **Bewley's** and marks the 32nd Anniversary of the campaign.*

Can you host a coffee day in your home or with colleagues in work to raise much needed funds for Laois Hospice to ensure we continue to provide vital support to individual patients and their families? If you would like to host a coffee morning please contact Mary Delaney on **086-8157280** or Irene Murray on **087-2897753** or Jennifer McKay on **087-2945420** for supply of coffee.

So please wherever you are, get brewing, invite friends /colleagues and renew friendships over a cuppa and donate to Laois Hospice. All monies collected in Laois are spent on hospice services in Laois.

Host a coffee morning for Hospice and if you can't host please donate; **www.hospicecoffeemorning.ie/donate**

Thanks you for your continued support to Laois Hospice and remember every cup counts

thank you 😊



Alanon Family Group for family, friends or anyone affected by someone struggling with Alcoholism. Alanon meeting every Thursday night at 8pm in Portlaoise. For further info. contact; 086-8706017.

Portlaoise Literature Studies Group: Do you enjoy reading and talking about good books? Join our group for stimulating discussions on a chosen text, from classics to modern fiction. We meet every Wednesday morning in the Parish Centre from 10.45am to 12.45pm. Our first meeting for this term will be held on 18th September. New members always welcome. For info. contact 086-4002171.

Learn music - the world's most famous and popular language! There is still time to join Comhaltas Portlaoise, catering for the full range of Traditional Irish musical instruments, classes take place at St. Francis School, Borris Rd., by kind permission of management and staff. Beginners most welcome, also opportunities for competent musicians to join Ceili Bands and orchestral groups according to age/ability. Email: tolearnmusic@gmail.com or text 087-2345010 for more details - don't delay registration closing this week.

Graiguecullen Bingo: Tuesday 17th September in St. Fiaccs Hall at 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €3,040. Double number €2,350 and Lotto €700.

A Walk in the Park for Parkinson's: Parkinson's Ireland are delighted to announce the launch of its new flagship fundraiser "A Walk in the Park for Parkinson's. Sponsored by Home Instead this annual event will take place in various locations around Ireland on Saturday September 21st at 11am. East Midlands Parkinson's which is the local branch of Parkinson's Ireland covering counties Laois and Kildare is running their local walk in Colt GAA grounds at 11am on that morning. Funds raised on the day will help provide weekly therapy classes which take place in Portlaoise and Newbridge Parish Centres. Join us for a positive day of awareness and fundraising for Parkinson's Disease and the essential services provided by Parkinson's Ireland and its branches around the country. This annual event promises to be a fun day out for our members, their loved ones and the general public. You can walk as much or as little as you feel comfortable with on the day. Come together to support one another! By participating you contribute to raising awareness about Parkinson's as a condition and promoting better care and support for those living with this disease and their families. All are welcome! **Don't forget; Sat. September 21st at 11am in Colt GAA Grounds, Raheen, Co. Laois.** Registration online at www.parkinsons.ie or by phoning 1800-359-359 or donate on the day. Cost €20 per person. Free T-Shirts available on the day. Refreshments will be served for all afterwards in Doogues Bar, Raheen, across the road from the GAA grounds (R32 V085). For further information contact John Sinnott 087-2712448.

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). Sunday 3pm (Adoration).

Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto every First Friday after evening Mass.

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

St. Pio's Feast Day Mass: Monday 23rd September at 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Edenderry and after Mass, St. Pio's glove will be available to anyone wishing to be blessed. All are welcome.



Slieve Bloom Association Annual Tour

Our Lady's Island, Co. Wexford
Saturday, 28th September

- Visit the historic Our Lady's Island
- Stop at Rosslare beach to enjoy the sea breeze (weather permitting)
- Enjoy food along the way

Price (Bus Only)
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Per Person to be paid in advance

Bus Departure

8:00 am:	Birr
8:20 am:	Kinnitty
8:26 am:	Cadamstown
8:37 am:	Clonaslee
8:44 am:	Rosenallis
8:53 am:	Mountmellick
9:10 am:	Portlaoise

All times are approximate.
Returning after 8:00 pm that night.

Queries to: 087 6726290 / 087 6683792

LAOIS ALZHEIMER



CAFÉ



THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise
Thursday 26th September, 11am-1pm

The Laois Alzheimer Café will provide a warm, welcoming space for people with dementia, their family and friends, social and health care professionals, to meet, exchange ideas and learnings. All are welcome.

For further information please contact

Grainne Roche Duff **087-6075037**

grainne.rocheduff@alzheimer.ie

LAOIS ALZHEIMER

Family Support
Group Meeting



THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise
Wed. 18th September, 6.30pm-8.30pm

This meeting is a support for carers and families who are living with someone with dementia in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

For further information contact Grainne Roche Duff

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- We provide help with struggling readers from age 6, tutors to help with English, Maths, Geography, Assisted Technology and study skills and exam prep.

If you would like to contact us to book your child in or ask about the subjects we cover, please call;

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Workshops after school and Saturday mornings.

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LAOIS ARCH CLUB CHURCH GATE COLLECTION SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

Laois Arch Club is a friendship club for adults with intellectual disabilities, run on a completely voluntary basis. We would greatly appreciate your support.

Thank you

Sean Doyle Light Engineering, Ballacolla, 087-2068972

seandoylelightengineering

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

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

Monday 16th September; Bowls in St. Mary's Sports Hall at the new time of 2pm to 4pm, new members always welcome. **Wednesday 18th;** Quiz **Thursday 19th;** Cards in Sue Ryder Centre at 3pm, tuition given, new members always welcome. Now taking names for 20th November dinner and show in the Midlands Park Hotel and Dunamais Theatre. Also Thursday 28th November – The 65 Kitchen Choir Christmas Show.

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

Results of Whist Drive held in Parish Centre Tuesday, September 10th:

Top Score: Kathleen Kennedy | **1st Lady:** Paddy Purcell | **2nd Lady:** Paraic Dowling | **1st Gent:** Agnes Hilliard

2nd Gent: Ann-Marie Farrell | **1st Half:** Kit Farrell | **2nd Half:** Patty Murphy

Raffle: 1st Billy O'Keeffe, 2nd Theresa Mulhare, 3rd M.J. Dunne, 4th Theresa Mulhare, 5th Catherine Fitzpatrick, 6th Ann O'Dowd, 7th Liam McCartney.

Whist continues every Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm, new players welcome. Lessons available, please leave your name and number at Parish Centre reception.

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Take Up Your Cross

Every day we see crosses all around us. People wear them as jewellery, they hang them on the wall, and they use them as key chains. When you pass by a church, it is not unusual to see a cross on the steeple. We even see many people who wear the cross as a tattoo on their body. What comes to your mind when you see a cross? What does the cross mean to you? Is it just a piece of jewellery or a work of art?

One day, as Jesus and his disciples were walking along a road, Jesus asked them, "Who do people say that I am?"

The disciples answered, "Some say John the Baptist or one of the prophets."

"And you - who do you say that I am?" Jesus replied.

Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Messiah."

Peter had given the right answer. You would think that would be the end of Jesus' lesson, but it wasn't.

"Keep it quiet and don't breathe a word of it to anyone," Jesus said, "because it is necessary for me to suffer many terrible things. I will be arrested, tried, and killed, but after three days I will rise again."

Peter didn't like that! He took Jesus aside and told him to stop talking like that.

Jesus reprimanded Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are looking at things from a human point of view, not from God's."

Then Jesus called the crowd of people who had gathered around to come and join him and his disciples.

"If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it."

So, what does it mean to us? It means that we have a Saviour, Jesus Christ, who was willing to give up everything so that we could have everlasting life. It also means that those of us who want to be his followers must also be willing to take up our cross, give up everything, and follow him.

The cross - it is so much more than a piece of jewellery, a work of art, or a decoration on a steeple. It is a reminder of our Saviour's great love for us and our call to follow him!



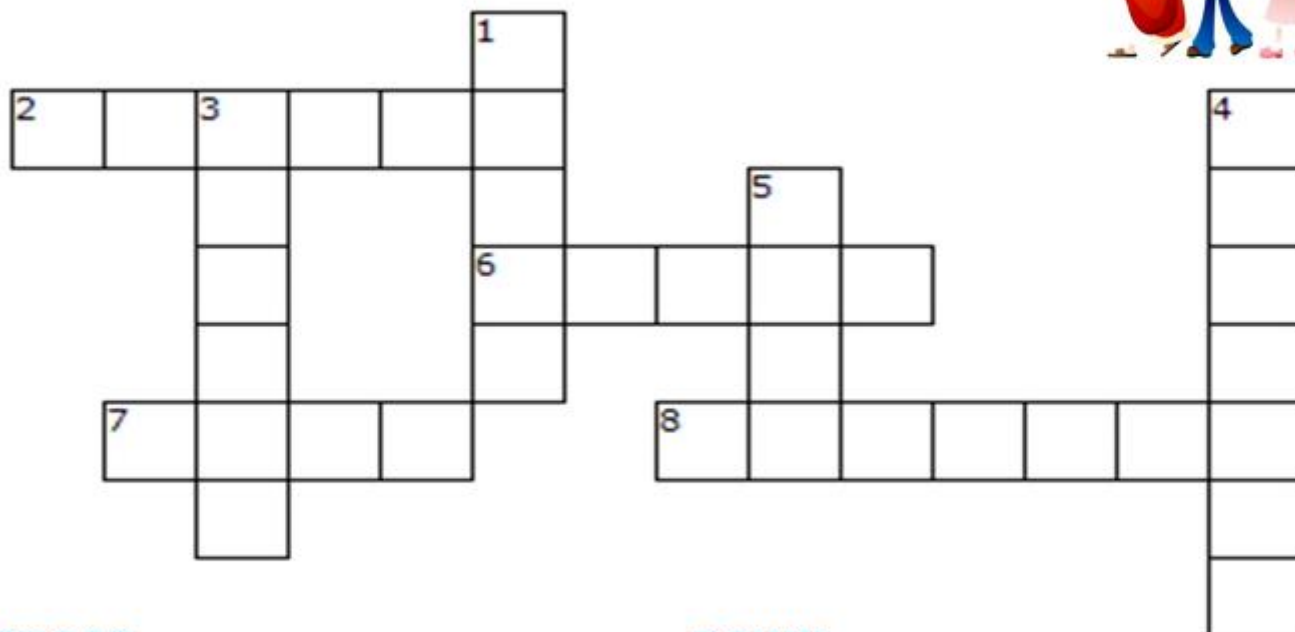
PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you that you loved us so much that you sent your Son to die on a cross. As his disciples, help us to take our cross and follow him. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Take Up Your Cross

If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34



ACROSS

2. To experience injury, pain, or death
6. The evil enemy of God; the leader of the fallen angels
7. The spiritual part of a person which exists after death
8. The expected saviour of the world

DOWN

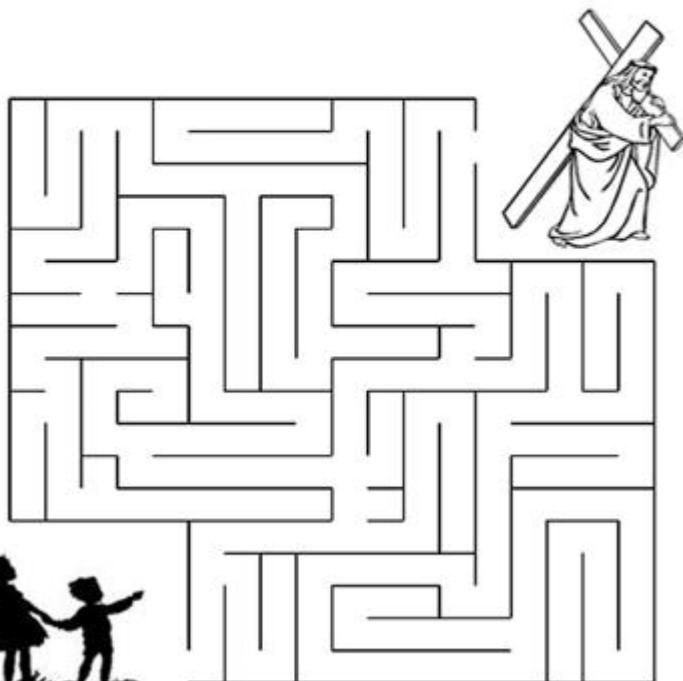
1. The object upon which Jesus was crucified
3. To make someone as our leader or model
4. A person who speaks for God
5. To keep something from harm or loss

**SUFFER
MESSIAH**

**SATAN
PROPHET**

**SOUL
FOLLOW**

**CROSS
SAVE**



You are invited to be part of the Children's Liturgy Group, which takes place each Sunday during 12.30pm Mass.



It is an opportunity for children from 4+ to celebrate and worship in an age appropriate way.

The children's liturgy group will begin back on Sunday the 22nd of September, 2024, during 12.30pm mass.

More details on our website

www.portlaoiseparish.ie

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34



Time to Think!

Random Tales of Wisdom.... Sleep When The Wind Blows

How do you handle adversity? What are you thinking when the sun goes down on those cold, windy nights, when you're trying to get to sleep, and the wind keeps swirling and howling through your bedroom windows?

Sleep Soundly When the Wind Blows

Years ago a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic. They dreaded the awful storms that raged across the Atlantic, wreaking havoc on the buildings and crops.

As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals. Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer.

"Are you a good farm hand?" the farmer asked him.

"Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man.

Although puzzled by this answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired him.

The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk, and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work. Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore.

Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters.

He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!"

The little man rolled over in bed and said firmly, "No sir. I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows."

Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot.

Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the coops, and the doors were barred. The shutters were tightly secured.

Everything was tied down. Nothing could blow away.

The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the wind blew.

Can you sleep when the wind blows? When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally, and physically, you have nothing to fear

A Cat Goes to Heaven

A cat dies and goes to Heaven. God meets him at the gate and says, 'you have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask.' The cat says, 'Well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, a fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, 6 mice are killed in a tragic accident



and they go to Heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that He made the cat. The mice said, 'All our lives we've had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn't have to run anymore.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates.

About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks, 'How are you doing? Are you happy here?' The cat yawns and stretches and says, 'Oh, I've never been happier in my life. And those Meals on Wheels you've been sending over are the best!

Prayer to let go of the past

Lord Jesus I pray that You would enable me to forget the things which are past and help me to press forward, knowing that my hope and my future is in You. Help me not to dwell on past hurts and painful memories and enable me to forget what is behind and to walk forward into each new day, holding Your hand.

Lord I release all of the painful memories I have to You and pray that You would help me to renew my mind day by day and to focus my thoughts on the Lord Jesus Christ. Help me also to forgive all those that have caused me pain so that by Your grace You would help me to fill my heart with new and joyful thoughts.

Lord I believe that You came to heal the broken-hearted and set the captives free. Wash away all these hurtful memories that are causing me so much heartache I pray – and replace them with the joy of my salvation, which I have received in Christ Jesus my Saviour – for which I offer You thanks and praise. Lord may the words of my mouth and all the thoughts in my mind be filtered through You – and may I build up new memories that are sweetened by the beauty of Your Person, in Jesus name I pray, Amen

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Portlaoise Group Pilgrimage to Lourdes September 01 to 05, 2024

*Fr. Jim O'Reilly, John Egan
and Bishop Francis Duffy
(Tuam Diocese)*



See below the Winners of our Portlaoise Group Pilgrimage Lucky Pick Draw

Winner

Mary Lanham €100 Cash
Sheila Bourke €100 Voucher
John Molloy €220 Voucher
Mary Byrne €100 Voucher
John Molloy €300 Voucher
Sheila Bourke €100 Cash
Mary Bergin €300 Voucher
Lily Wall €100 Voucher
Kitty Timmons €100 Voucher

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SV & Park Hotel

The money raised was given to three charities in Lourdes;
Poor Claires, City of the Poor and Red Cross.

We would like to thank all who supported us with Mass cards,
Raffle tickets and all who sponsored the prizes, you were
remembered in our Masses.

All petitions were left at the Grotto on the last day and candles
were lit for your intentions.



*Pictured L/R; Marta Wolska, Fr. Jim O'Reilly
and Ryszard Pitara*

Our trip to the Polish Convent near Bartres
Lourdes. A proud moment for our two Polish
Pilgrims holding the relics of their fellow
country men, Pope John Paul II and Maxmillion
Colby. They prayed a decade of the Rosary in
Polish, a very moving moment.



Bookings are now being taken
for our Pilgrimage
August/September 2025.

BOOK NOW

Contact;

Mary Byrne 086-3653168
Derek Marum 085-8390157
John Egan 087-1254841

€200 deposit secures your seat
Pay in instalments if you wish

Visit of Relic of Carlo Acutis



Visit of Relic of Carlo Acutis



Photos by Pat Ahern

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



Msgr. Kevin Larkin
Pastor of St. Francis de Sales
Church, California, formerly
Portlaoise, who was interred
during the week.



Andrius Gedmintas
Address

*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

**In Loving Memory of
CHRISTINE COUGHLAN**

Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.

13th Anniversary occurs 14th September 2024

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, this Saturday 14th September at 10am.



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

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

Rest in Peace Christine

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND
MONTHS MIND REMEMBRANCE**

In Loving Memory of

KATHLEEN FOGARTY née Keogh
Ridge Road, Portlaoise.



We the family of Kathleen Fogarty,
would like to sincerely thank all
those near and far who sympathised
with us on our recent heartbreaking
loss. To all those who attended the
wake, Requiem Mass and burial,
sent Mass cards, sympathy cards
and floral tributes and for the many
kind messages that we received, we

are truly grateful.

Our thanks to Msgr. John Byrne for a beautiful Requiem
Mass which was enhanced by the music provided by
Aishling Rowan and James O' Connor at the Church,
also Gareth Keogh who sang a special song for
Kathleen.

Our heartfelt thanks to the nurses, caregivers,
Samantha Kelly and doctors who walked with us in
Kathleen's final weeks. To the palliative care team and
Olive and Dr. John Connaughton, we sincerely thank
you for your dedication, the tenderness of your care,
and the comfort you provided not only to her but to us.
We would like to express our collective gratitude to the
team that managed the traffic at Mam's wake and for
the guard of honor from An Post and the GAA.

Special thanks to Keegan's Funeral Directors, their
knowledge and professionalism made us feel 'held'
throughout the process of organising Kathleen's
funeral. It made such a difference at a difficult time.

Thanks to Aisling, you did such a wonderful job
helping out, it took a lot of pressure off us during this
heartbreaking time. Special thanks to Mossy Brown
and Coco Lawless for sending food and refreshments
to the house.

Thanks to Peter, Tim's son, thank you so very much for
all the care and help you gave to Mam...we know she is
looking down watching over you.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone
individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an
expression of our deepest gratitude and heartfelt
thanks to you all for your friendship and support.

Much loved and sadly missed every day by all her
loving family.

Kathleen's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, this
Sunday 15th September at 12.30pm.

Rest in Peace Kathleen

In Loving Memory of PATRICK (PAT) MILLS

Formerly St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurs 15th September 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 15th September at 12:30pm.

*To the world you were our father,
But to us you meant the world.*

*You are missed so much by your
loving family.*

Rest in Peace Dad

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE In Loving Memory of our Beautiful Mother

MARGARET HARDING née Conroy

36 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

3rd Birthday in Heaven - 11th September 2024



*Today is full of memories,
Happiness and tears,
Of birthday celebrations we've
shared throughout the years.
And though we will always miss
you, the endless joy you
brought, warms our hearts with
gratitude, and fills our every
thought.*

*Wherever you are resting,
We hope that you can see,*

How precious and uplifting your memory reminds to be.

We feel that you are with us, in everything we do,

*So we will celebrate your birthday,
while also missing you.*

*Dearly loved and missed beyond compare by your
children David, Paul, Ray, Jennie, Tracy and
families xxxxx*

Rest in Peace Margaret

In Loving Memory of JEMEEL WALSH

Ashley Gardens, Portlaoise.

8th Anniversary occurs 17th September 2024

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church this **Sunday 15th September at 12.30pm.**



*Softly the leaves of memory fall,
Gently I gather and treasure them all,
Unseen, unheard, you are always near,
So missed, so loved, so very dear.*

*Loved and remembered by her husband
Gerry, children Matthew, Alex and Sarah
and extended family.*

Rest in Peace Jemeel

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE

MAUREEN REYNOLDS

Beladd Upper, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 23rd September 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 22nd September at 12.30pm.

*There are some who bring a light so great
to the world that even after they have
gone the light remains.*

*Your presence we miss, your memory we
treasure, loving you forever.*

Sadly missed by her husband Bob x

*Although you cannot hear her voice or see her smile no
more, your mother walks beside you still just as she did
before. She listens to your stories and she wipes away your
tears; she wraps her arms around you and she
understands your fears.*

*It's just she isn't visible to see with human eye but talk to
her in silence and her spirit will reply. You'll feel the love
she has for you - you'll hear her in your heart; she's left her
human body but your souls will never part.*

*To be your daughter and son it was a blessing, we are
grateful for and treasure our memories with you, you
are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.*

Love and friendship always Mam,

Sophia and Shane ♥♥xx

On the first anniversary of Maureen's passing, her family would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and express our gratitude to all those who shared in our sad loss. Our sincere thanks to Fr. David Vard for a beautiful Requiem Mass, to Bishop Adrian Wilkinson and Archdeacon Alec Purser for their wonderful prayer service in Sts. Peter's Portlaoise, to Persse's Funeral Directors for their kindness and support shown to our family and professionalism in carrying out all of the funeral arrangements and to Nuala Kelly who sang so wonderfully at the Requiem Mass and to Dr. Michael Cushen and the Palliative Care Team in the Midland's Regional Hospital in Tullamore who attended Maureen in her final days.

Thank you to all who sent messages, condolences, Mass cards and to those who attended the wake, rosary and Requiem Mass. Our heartfelt and special thanks to our extended family, friends, neighbours and Maureen's work colleagues at Mulhall's SuperValu for your kindness, expressions of sympathy, refreshments and ongoing support over the past year. You have provided us with immense comfort during a very difficult time and it will be forever appreciated.

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

Rest in Peace Maureen

**In Loving Memory of
THOMAS (TOMMY) DARGAN**

3 Abbeylax Rd., Portlaoise.
16th Anniversary occurred 11th September 2024.



Gone are the days we used to share,
But in our hearts you are always there,
The gates of memory will never close,
We miss you more than anyone knows,
With tender love and deep regret,
We, who loved you will never forget.

Loved and always remembered by Mary, Eugene, Sean
and Ronan.

May Thomas Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ANNE HUGHES**

Oaklawn, Ballyfin Rd., Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 19th September 2024



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

Our thoughts are ever with you,
Though you have passed away,
And those who have loved you dearly,
Are thinking of you today.

Rest in Peace Anne

**In Loving Memory of
PETER CULLEN**

6 Oaklawn, Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs at this time.



13th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise,
Sunday 22nd September at 11.15am.

Your hand we cannot touch, still we have so
many memories of the one we loved so much,
Your memory is our keepsake, with which
we'll never part, God has you in His keeping,
we have you in our hearts.

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Peter Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
PATRICIA (Thrush) O'BRIEN**

13 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.
15th Anniversary occurred 8th September 2024.



Loving memories never die,
As years roll on and days pass by,
In our hearts a memory is kept,
Of one we loved and will never forget.

Never Forgotten. Tony
Rest in Peace Patricia

**In Loving Memory of
TIMMY SCULLY**

3 New Road, Portlaoise.
10th Anniversary occurs 17th September 2024



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 21st September at 6.30pm.

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

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

Also remembering his loving wife Bernadette at this time.

May Timmy Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
BETTY (Elizabeth) McNALLY**

née McEvoy
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs 23rd September 2024



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 22nd September at 12.30pm.

Mum, the light of your love will shine
brightly forever in our hearts,
until we meet again.

Dearly missed by all her loving family
and friends.

Rest in Peace Betty

**In Loving Memory of
ALAN (Tom) RYAN**

Kilminchy & late of Beladd, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs Thursday 19th September 2024

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on Saturday 21st September at 6.30pm.



Alan, 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.

Love always from your wife Kate,
son Tommy, daughter Lucy,
parents Angela & Tommy, sisters
Sharon, Linda and Tracey,
brother Mark extended family
and friends.

May Alan Rest in Peace

You are the
Light
of the World

In Loving Memory of **KATHLEEN LYNCH**

Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.



30th Anniversary occurs
18th September 2024

Thinking of you today
and always.

From all your loving family.

Rest in Peace Mam

In Loving Memory of **JOHN BURKE**

Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.

9th Anniversary occurs 13th September 2024.



We who love you, sadly miss you,
As it dawns another year,
In our lonely hours of thinking,
Thoughts of you are always near.

Always loved and remembered by
Mary, Conor, Kate, Maeve and
Ruairí xxx

Rest in Peace John

In Loving Memory of **THOMAS CARROLL**

72 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

14th Anniversary occurred 12th September 2024



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Saturday 14th September at 6.30pm.

The thoughts we held most dearly,
are the times we spent with you,
The laughs, the jokes and silly things,
are memories fond and true.

Forever in our thoughts.

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

Rest in Peace Thomas

In Loving Memory of **Our Dad**

JOHN (BARNEY) BRENNAN
(39th Anniversary)

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

Died 18th September 1985.



You are at peace, your soul at rest,
But that won't stop the tears,
As we remember the special times,
We shared over the years.

You taught us oh so many things, and you showed us
the way, you helped us overcome hard times,
To be the people we are today.

Though we're no longer children, and you're no longer
here, we'll never let go of the memories, we'll always
hold them dear.

And our Brother

OLIVER PATRICK BRENNAN

Died 25th September 1963.

Gone too soon, but not forgotten,
forever you will remain, our guiding light,
our shining star, until we meet again.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter &
Paul's Parish Church for John on **Wed. 18th September**
at 7.30am and 10am. Mass for Oliver will be celebrated
on **Wednesday 25th September** at 7.30am and 10am.

Sadly missed by all their loving family and
extended family.

May Barney & Oliver Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of **TOM AND MARY O'BRIEN**

Knocknabrahier, Stradbally.

2nd and 12th Anniversaries occur at this time.



As long as we live,
They too will live;

For they are now a part of us;
As we remember them."

Always remembered and sadly
missed by their loving family;
Cora, Esther, Dolores, John, Tom
and Karen.

May Tom & Mary Rest in Eternal Peace

In Loving Memory of **PETER O'BRIEN**

Ridge Road, Portlaoise, who died 12th September 1980.

44th Anniversary occurs at this time.



God saw the road was getting rough,
The hill too hard to climb,
He gently closed your weary eyes,
And whispered 'Peace Be Thine'.

Sadly missed and always remembered
by your loving family.

Rest in Peace Peter

Take up your cross

Mark 8:34





In Loving Memory of CHRISTINE FARRELL

39 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.
17th Anniversary occurs 16th September 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the
Parish Church, Sunday 15th Sept. at 12:30pm.

*You left behind some aching hearts that
loved you most sincere, we never shall and
never will forget you, Mother dear.*

Loved and sadly missed by her sons, daughters,
daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, grandchildren and
great-grandchildren.

May Christine Rest in Peace

FÁTIMA



FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

Led by Spiritual Director **Fr. Adriano de Oliveira**
Accompanied by Fr. Pat Hennessy. Group Organiser: Maura O'Brien

12TH JUNE 2025

7 nights

€899 per person sharing

(€70 off per person if paid in full by 18th October 2024)

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NOW**

For information and bookings, please contact:

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Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**

HENRY RANKIN

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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087-2562137



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
12th September 2024



No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Ericka McCarthy
Yvonne Loughlin
Mary Murphy
Breda Keenan
Ita Taylor
Lil
Billy
Susan Lalor
Teresa Dunphy
John Conroy
Rachel Houlihan
Helen Cullen
Brendan Dowling
Barry McGill
Mary Carroll
Margaret Langford
Paul Maher
Ray Dowling
Mark & Marie Dollard
Rose Cunningham
Lorraine Glynn
R O'Brien
Helena Considine

MATCH 3s €1,000



Play PARISH
LOTTO
ONLINE
www.portlaoiseparish.ie

PROMOTER

Ericka McCarthy
John Loughlin
Eileen Preston
Online Lotto
Parish Centre
Mona Lisa Crabb
Margaret O'Connell
Kathleen Dunne
John Loughlin
John Loughlin
James Houlihan
Frank Cullen
Barbara Dowling
Ann Brennan
John O'Reilly
Margaret Langford
Paul Dooley
Paul Dooley
Betty Phelan
Frances Byrne
Bernie Phelan
M Farrell
Catherine Burke

Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

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



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
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: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretaries Michelle Bartley
Lana Lebedieva

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
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 50:5-9 | Psalm 114:1-6, 8-9
James 2:14-18 | Mark 8:27-35

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

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per 15mins

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Mon - Sun
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