

**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**

**18th May 2025**

## Fifth Sunday of Easter



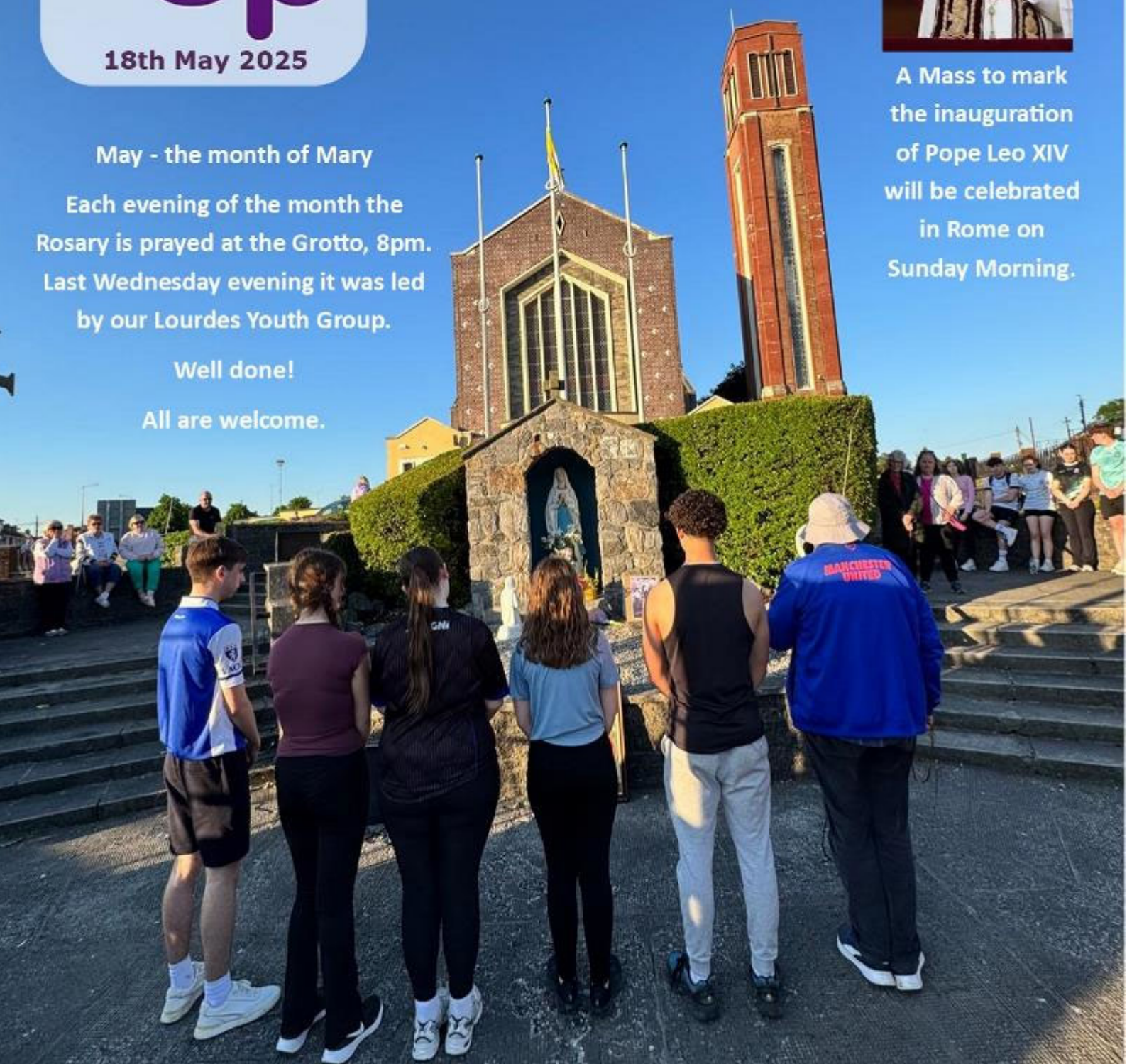
A Mass to mark  
the inauguration  
of Pope Leo XIV  
will be celebrated  
in Rome on  
Sunday Morning.

May - the month of Mary

Each evening of the month the  
Rosary is prayed at the Grotto, 8pm.  
Last Wednesday evening it was led  
by our Lourdes Youth Group.

Well done!

All are welcome.



The Parish Centre 057 8621142  
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Parish and Diocesan Websites: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)





## Love Is Catching

Does it ever seem to you that Jesus can be a little unrealistic? Today Jesus tells us **"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."**

But how can we go round loving everyone we meet? Isn't love reserved to those closest to us ... our parents, children, and partners?

Harder still, how can we love as Jesus loved? Jesus loved us to the point of death. Surely following this kind of example is a very tall order!

The main thing to remember in following Jesus' teaching is that he wouldn't ask anything of us that we couldn't do. Secondly, we might not be ready to love each other to the point of death, but Jesus gives us plenty of other lessons in how to love. We're not talking some impossible ideal or some form of idealistic behaviour. We simply need to recognise, as Jesus recognised that love is a basic human need. Jesus had a talent for seeing everyone as an individual. We too need to see people as individuals rather than lump them together into categories. We too need to recognise need and respond accordingly. Loving someone is a decision we make rather than the harbouring of fluffy romantic sentiments found in greeting cards. Loving someone is about serving the need to be liked, appreciated, forgiven or helped. We follow Jesus' lessons in love every time we seek to alleviate someone else's suffering ... every time we reject violence and retaliation .... every time we make a stand against neglect or greed or apathy.

There are plenty of people who are already living their lives by Jesus' example. These people are shining examples of discipleship, not be what they say but by how they behave. Have you ever been filled with so much respect for someone that you wanted to imitate them? If you start to behave in the same way it won't be long before others are looking up to you as a role model. Watch out .... love is catching.

**'I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you.'**

Today's Gospel - John 13:34

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.

## Cemetery Mass

**St. Peter & Paul's, Portlaoise**  
**Sunday 1st June at 1pm.**



**We welcome into our  
Parish Community**

Maggie Tina Kelly, Loughteague  
Tadhg David Hitchcock Ballyfin Road  
Cormac John Malone, Beateogue

**Who were baptised last weekend.**



**Prayer for Pope Leo XIV**

**Faithful God,  
You guide us on the path of  
life and your goodness  
is our constant  
companion.**

**Be with our new  
Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV,  
in his service of the Church.  
Fill him with the power of your Spirit,  
the peace of your presence  
and the compassion of Christ.**

**May he walk with you,  
in wisdom and humility,  
and lead us, together with all God's people,  
to embody your love for the world.  
Amen.**



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**There are still some spots available in our beginners' Pilates class. Please email or call our clinic to join these classes.**

### Weekly Classes Schedule

**Parish Centre : Monday Morning: Osteo with John - 9:30 AM**  
**Evening: Physio-led Pilates with Laura**  
**6:00-7:00 PM (Intermediate)**  
**7:00-8:00 PM (Beginners)**

**Clinic : Tuesday Morning: Senior Exercise Class - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Wednesday Morning: Osteo Class - 10:30 AM**  
**Thursday Afternoon: Osteo Class - 4:00-5:00 PM**

**Online : Wednesday Morning: Pilates - 9:30-10:30 AM**

**All are welcome!**



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## COMMUNITY NOTICES

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**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**.

**National Guide Dog Day – Volunteers Needed** :National Guide Dog Day takes place on May 23rd. If you would like to volunteer for Guide Dogs, contact **Paul at 087-725264 or Jim at 087 4746519**, or leave a message on WhatsApp at Laois Guide Dogs. Guide Dogs are also seeking puppy walkers—please visit the Guide Dogs website to register. Thank you for your support.

**Portlaoise Pioneers Centenary Planning Meeting** :Portlaoise Pioneers Association will celebrate its centenary anniversary in 2025. A committee meeting to begin planning the celebration will take place on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025, at 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Centre. All pioneers, including those not currently on the committee, are very welcome to attend if interested in helping out.

**Chime – National Charity for Deaf and Hearing Loss in Ireland** :Laois Outreach Clinic held in Portlaoise Parish Centre, **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May** (10.00am – 12.30 pm). Our free and confidential clinic provide one to one support , information and advice about deaf and hearing loss. For more information contact Chime **057-9351606 / text (086-1436476)**

**ADHD Ireland Supports**: ADHD Ireland hosts support groups in Portlaoise for parents and adults. Join us at Portlaoise Parish Centre on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am, or at Shamrock House (R32 AH51, beside the Garda Station) on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> — parents at 7pm, adults at 8pm. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat!

**Call 01 874 8349** for details.

**Portlaoise Active Retirement** : The Active Retirement Group meets every Wednesday at 3pm in the Parish Centre for friendship, fun, and activities. Upcoming events: Bowls on Mon 19<sup>th</sup> in St. Mary's Hall (2–4pm), an afternoon with Moez on Wed 21<sup>st</sup>, and cards and chat on Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3pm in the Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy. New members welcome—tuition provided. Contact Maria at 087 918 7157 for details.

**Annual Tea Dance – Dunamais Theatre** : Join us for a fun-filled Tea Dance on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. in the Dunamais Theatre, Portlaoise. Enjoy live music by Danny Webster with M.C. Maureen Culleton, plus dancing, refreshments, and free admission. No booking needed – just bring your friends! More info: Maureen 087 648 2038.

**Parish Centre Whist Drive Highlights – May 13<sup>th</sup> : Top Score** – Mary Delaney; **Ladies – 1st** Nary Gowing, **2nd** Molly O'Brien; **Gents – 1st** P.J. Cahill, **2nd** Breda Fitzpatrick; **Half Games – 1st** Paric Dowling, **2nd** (tie) Tom Gowing; **Raffle – 1st** Margaret Flanagan, **2nd** Catherine Galvin, **3rd** Christy Fitzpatrick, **4th** Mary Dunne; thanks to all for your support – whist continues every Tuesday at 7.30pm, new members always welcome.



## RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

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

**Rosary** will be recited in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church every evening at 7pm.

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

**Legion of Mary** invites you to join us every Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Parish Prayer Hall as we come together in prayer and service to Our Lady.

**Annual Mass on the Green – Lower Beladd**: The Annual Mass on the Green in Lower Beladd will be celebrated on Wednesday, 4th June at 7:00 p.m. All are warmly invited to join in this special evening of prayer, community, and reflection. Everyone is most welcome.

**ROSARY AT THE GROTTA**: Rosary will be recited at the Grotto **every evening 8.00pm** for the month of May. All are welcome.

**Portlaoise Parish Gift Shop**

**First Holy Communion**

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Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>  
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### Portlaoise Pilgrimage to Fatima

A Mass for all pilgrims travelling to Fatima on 12th June will be celebrated in the Parish Church on 27th May at 7:30pm.

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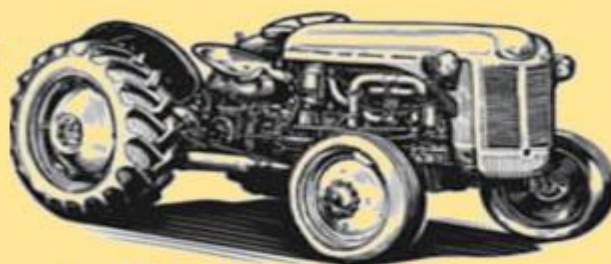
## **HELP NEEDED – CEMETERY CLEAN-UP**

**Volunteers are needed to help clean old graves at St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery. All assistance is greatly appreciated for this important community effort.**

**Contact: Tom Timmons**  
**– 085 193 2235**

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**Live Music by Rewind. Special Guest Appearance by the Brilliant Timahoe Male Voice Choir as seen at Electric Picnic 2024**

***Ballyroan Vintage Club; Keeping Irelands Heritage Alive.***





## Jesus Loves Us All

My favourite sweets are "Lollipops." "Lollipops" come in many different flavours. There are lemon, apple, strawberry, watermelon, and cherry to name just a few.

I sometimes give "Lollipops" to the children who come to the Parish Centre. One thing I have noticed is that when I allow the children to choose the flavour they want, some children are very picky about which flavour they choose. The favourite flavour seems to be blue raspberry. I don't think it is because kids like the taste, I think it is because they like the way it turns their mouth blue! Whenever I let the children choose, I always wind up with all of the cherry ones left when all of the other flavours are gone. For some reason, children seldom ever choose the cherry lollipops.

I don't know why the children don't like cherry. I guess cherry is a little bit different. Maybe it isn't quite as sour as lemon or cherry, or some of the other flavours, or maybe they just don't like the colour of them. Do you know what I do with the leftover cherry lollipops? I eat them myself, because I love all the flavours!

These "Lollipops" remind me of children. Have you ever noticed that when children play games, some children are always the last to be chosen? Maybe they are just a little bit different or maybe their skin is a different colour. For some reason, the other children just won't choose them.

We all need to remember that Jesus loves ALL the children and he said that you and I should do the same. Jesus said, "As I have loved you, so must you love one another." Have you ever been the one who was left out? It isn't a very good feeling, but if you are ever the one that feels left out, you can know that Jesus loves you just as much as He loves the other children.



Dear Lord,  
help us to remember that you have told us to love one another  
just as you have loved us.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Everyone will know you follow me if you show love to each other.

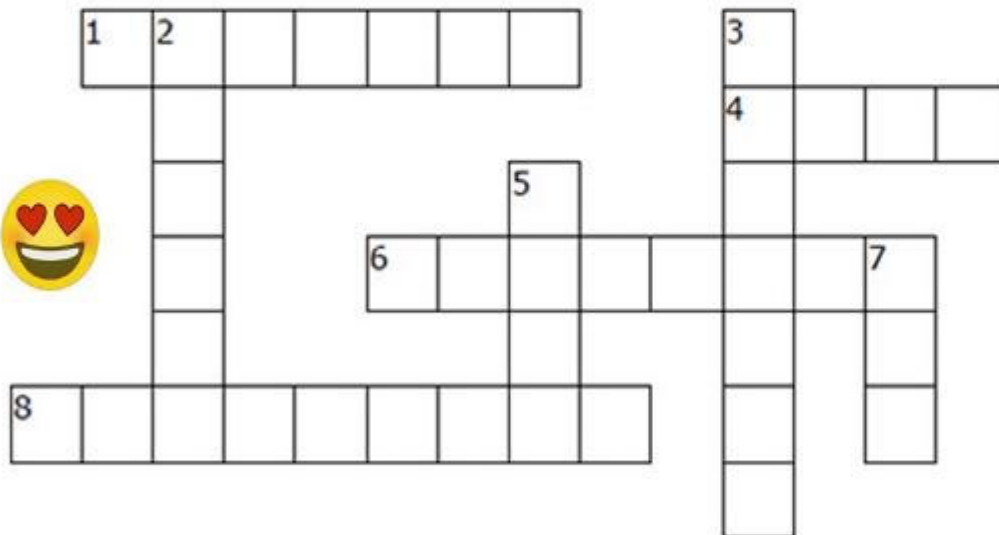
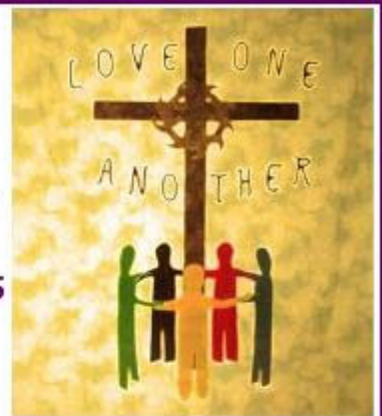




# Jesus Loves Us All

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:31-35



**GLORIFY  
COMMAND  
TIME  
OTHERS  
NEW  
DISCIPLES  
CHILDREN  
LOVE**

## ACROSS

1. An order or a rule given with authority
4. To have feelings of compassion and concern for another person
6. Boys and girls between birth and puberty
8. Those who follow the teachings of Jesus.
9. To turn away from sin.

## DOWN

2. People aside from oneself
3. To give praise and honour to God or a person
5. A period of seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years etc.
7. The opposite of old.



## Meet Our New Pope – Pope Leo!

Guess what? We have a new Pope, and his name is Pope Leo! A Pope is the leader of the Catholic Church, kind of like a big helper for God who guides people all around the world.

Pope Leo loves God very much and wants to help everyone be kind, loving, and peaceful. He teaches people about Jesus, helps the poor, and prays for all of us.

The name "Leo" means "lion," and just like a lion, Pope Leo is brave and strong in his heart. But he's also gentle, like a loving granddad who wants to make the world a better place.

He lives in a big place called the Vatican in a city called Rome, where he meets with lots of people and makes important decisions for the Church.

Let's say a little prayer for Pope Leo, that he stays healthy, happy, and wise as he helps lead the Church!



Dear God, Thank You for our new Pope Leo. Please bless him with love and joy.  
Help him to be strong and kind, And guide him as he leads Your Church.  
Keep him safe and happy every day. Amen.





# Time to Think!

## There is something about Leo!



There has been huge focus on the Catholic Church over the past number of weeks. As Pope Francis health declined, media commentary intensified following his death and subsequent conclave which has elected our new Pope Leo XIV. I believe that such focus has been largely positive. World leaders acknowledged that Pope Francis in his Christian witness gave tremendous moral leadership to billions of people. His message of kindness and compassion deeply resonated with a generation often divided and starved of spiritual hope. His final visit on Easter Sunday, to embrace the people of God physically, gave witness to the tremendous value of human life, from the cradle to the grave, from the womb to the tomb.

The church never fails to surprise. I never personally heard the name Robert Prevost. Yet, the College of Cardinals, in record time, selected this man because of his wisdom, compassion and gifted sense of leadership. There is something about Leo! he comes across as calm, capable at peace with himself. I sense his interior life is rich and that manifests with warmth and serenity. The fundamental task of the new Pope is to preach the Risen Christ. Our world longs for hope. These beautiful May days fills us with deep joy. Christ risen from the dead tells us not to be afraid but to trust all will be well.

There is a palpable sense of goodwill towards our new Pope Leo XIV. Following Pope Francis, whose words and example reached out to a global audience rooted in the compassion and love of Jesus Christ. I have no doubt, Pope Leo, is fuelled by a similar deep spirit, of conviction in the Risen Christ. The church, in selecting a "New Peter" has discerned the voice of the spirit and in doing so, I pray, Pope Leo, will have many years of health and peace.

Pope Leo XIV, Robert Francis Prevost was born on September 14, 1955, in Chicago, Illinois, is the 267th pope of the Catholic Church and sovereign of Vatican City State, elected on May 8, 2025. He is the first U.S.-born pope, the first from the Order of Saint Augustine, and a dual citizen of the United States and Peru, where he served extensively as a missionary. Raised in a devout Catholic family of French, Italian, and Spanish descent, Prevost joined the Augustinians in 1977, was ordained a priest in 1982, and spent significant periods in Peru, including as Bishop of Chiclayo (2015–2023). He became a cardinal in 2023 and was prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops before his election. His episcopal motto is "In illo uno unum"—words pronounced by Saint Augustine in a sermon on Psalm 127 to explain that "although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one."

Choosing the name Leo XIV, inspired by Pope Leo XIII, who championed social justice, he signals a focus on Catholic social teaching, unity, and addressing modern challenges like artificial intelligence. His first address emphasized peace, inclusivity, and continuing

Francis's legacy, advocating for a "church that builds bridges." Known for his calm demeanour, multilingual skills (English, Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese), and pastoral experience, Leo XIV is seen as a centrist with progressive leanings on issues like poverty and migration but more moderate on doctrinal matters. His inauguration Mass is set for May 18, 2025, in St. Peter's Square.

God bless Pope Leo XIV and give him the wisdom and courage he needs for his new mission as Vicar of Christ. The fact that the election was completed as quickly as it was tells me that there was significant unity among the Cardinals about what the Church needs. Quoting Saint Augustine, Pope Leo said: "with you I am a Christian and for you I am a bishop". In that way he seems to signal his commitment to a synodal Church in which we walk together, listen to one another, and listen to the Word of God, but also a Church is which recognises the particular pastoral and teaching mission of the Bishop of Rome.

Pope Leo's focus on peace and on dialogue gives me great hope. His choice of the name Leo is significant, because the previous Pope Leo (Leo XIII) is the Pope who, in very troubled times, initiated the Social Teaching of the Church, which focuses on the dignity of human work, on rights and responsibilities associated with property, justice and peace, integral development and care of the earth. Habemus Papam! I pray that Pope Leo XIV be strengthened in his ministry. May he continue building bridges that connect us to one another. May he be an example of faith, hope and love. I pray that the Risen Christ fills him with joy in his work and a renewed in the Gospel message.



### Pope Leo XIV



**Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 33,800 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**



**LUKE MORRISSEY**  
Kilminchy, Portlaoise



**ANNE MC AULIFFE**  
(née Rogers)  
Newpark, Portlaoise,  
Laois / Abbeyleix



**JOHN WALL**  
formerly of Dr. Murphy  
Place, Portlaoise



**Helen Melia**  
(nee Maher)  
formerly Summerhill

**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)

**MONTHS MIND**  
**In Loving Memory of**  
**PHYLLIS MARUM** (née McEvoy)  
171 St Brigid's Place Portlaoise.



Phyllis's Month's Mind Mass will be  
celebrated at **6.30pm on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**May in Sts. Peter and Paul Church.**

*May the winds of love blow softly,  
And whisper so you hear:  
We will always love and miss you,  
And wish that you were here.*

**Much loved & sadly missed every  
day by your heartbroken family.**

*May Phyllis Rest in Peace*

*Know that I am with you always;  
yes, to the end of time*

*Matthew 28:20*

**In loving memory of**  
**ÁINE HETHERINGTON**  
(Hegarty)

**Clonkeen, Portlaoise.**  
**5th year anniversary 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 RIP.**



*We little knew the day that  
God was going to call your name.  
In life we loved you dearly,  
In death we do the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you didn't go alone.  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.*

*You left us peaceful memories.  
Your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you  
You are always at our side.*

*Our family chain is broken  
and nothing seems the same,  
but as God calls us one by one  
the chain will link again..*

**The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church  
of the Most Holy Trinity, Rathdowney on Saturday,  
17<sup>th</sup> May at 6:00 p.m., and in St. Peter and Paul's  
Church, Portlaoise on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May  
at 12:30 p.m.**

**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*

**Remembering with love**  
**WILL SHERLOCK**

**Eyne, Portlaoise.**

**A loving Husband, Dad, Son, Brother and Uncle whose  
2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary occurs on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.**



**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated at the Church of the  
Assumption, The Heath, at 9:30  
a.m. on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.**

*It's hard to face tomorrow  
When the one we love is gone  
It's harder still to realise,  
That life must still go on*

*The sadness and the heartache  
May not always show  
People say it lessens,  
How little do they know*

*They say we have our memories  
But they do not understand  
We cannot touch a memory face  
Or hold a memory hand*

*So through this vale of sorrow  
We sadly walk today*

*Our thoughts are always with you Will  
As life goes on its way.*

**You are always in our thoughts and forever in our  
hearts. Love Helen, Ella, Billy & Leah.**

*Rest in Peace Will*



**In Loving Memory of Dad  
MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025



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.  
34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025



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  
THERESA HARNEY**

82 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025



Mam, I often sit in my Garden  
And think of you for a while,  
Remembering Wonderful Memories  
My Sadness becomes a Smile.  
For Sitting in my Gardan  
Is my Favourite Place to be,  
For I know in my Heart  
You'll be Sitting Next to Me

From your daughter Bridget,  
son-in-law Michael, grandson Michael and his  
wife Michelle, great-granddaughters Michaela  
and Alannah, and your sons Liam, John, Niall, and  
their families.

*Rest in Peace Mam*

**In Loving Memory of  
SEAN FARRELL**

Broomville, Portlaoise.  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025



Anniversary Mass will be cele-  
brated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church this **Saturday**  
**24<sup>th</sup> 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*

**Treasured Memories of  
PATRICK DWANE**

41 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
PATRICK CONROY (Snr)**

Ballymacken, Portlaoise  
28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025



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*

**IF ANYONE LOVES ME HE WILL KEEP MY WORD  
JOHN 14:23**



**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN HYLAND**

*Sluggies, Portlaoise,  
whose 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred on 16<sup>th</sup> May.*



John's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in the Church of the Assumption, the  
Heath on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 9:30am.

*Tenderly we treasure the past,  
Memories that will always last,  
When we cease to think of you will be  
when God has called us too.*

*Always remembered by your loving wife and family.*

*May John Rest in Peace*

**Cherished Memories of  
DAVE LALOR**

*Hawthorn Drive, Portlaoise.  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025*



**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**

*26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2025*

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

**Missed everyday by her loving Family.**

*Anniversary Mass for Dave & Molly will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church  
this Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm*

*May Dave & Molly Rest in Peace*

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

*11<sup>th</sup> May 1980 - 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
MAUREEN CLOONEY  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 - 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



Anniversary Mass  
for both Maureen  
and Bill, will be  
celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 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 are 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,  
Valerie, daughter in law Mary, sons in law  
Richard, Dave, Noel, grandchildren,  
great grandchildren & extended family.**

*May They Rest in Peace*

**38<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

**In Loving Memory of  
IAN LAWLOR-AMARAL**

*Bennekerry and Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Birthday away from Home occurs 20<sup>th</sup> 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*



**ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE**  
**JIMMIE HEFFERNAN**

Derrygarran, and late of Shamrock Stores, Portlaoise.  
 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary occurred on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025



*I close my eyes, then I drift away,  
 Into the magic night, I softly say  
 A silent prayer, like dreamers do  
 Then I fall asleep to dream my dreams of you.*

*In dreams, I walk with you,  
 In dreams, I talk to you,  
 In dreams, you're mine, all of the time  
 We're together in dreams, in dreams.*

Loved, missed, and remembered by his wife Anne;  
 children Elaine, Jane, Kate, and Mike; grandchildren Ada,  
 Mary, Est, and Theo; sons-in-law Steven and Michael;  
 sisters Bridie, Ann, Eileen, and the late Marie;  
 brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews,  
 relatives, and friends.

*Rest in Peace Jimmie*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**  
**In Loving Memory of**  
**ANNE (Nancy) CONROY**  
**(née Byrne)**

Iona Dublin Road, Portlaoise



Nancy's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated on  
 Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in  
 the Church of the Assumption, The Heath.

We, the Conroy family, would like to express our  
 heartfelt thanks to all who offered sympathy and support  
 following our recent loss.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who took part in Nancy's  
 Requiem Mass and to those who attended the funeral home.

A special word of thanks to Monsignor John Byrne, who  
 celebrated the Funeral Mass, and to John Delaney,  
 who led the rosary recital.

Sincere thanks also to Eamonn Kelly Undertakers for their  
 help and professionalism displayed during this difficult time.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Nancy's dear friends Mary,  
 Betty, and Margaret for their constant help and support.

We are also similarly indebted to the staff of St. James's  
 Hospital, the Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore, and the  
 Cedar Clinic for the care and dedication shown to Nancy  
 during her recent illness.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for all  
 your intentions.

*May Nancy rest in peace.*



**In Loving Memory of Our Parents**  
**ANNE & THOMAS HILLIARD**

23 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary



*Deep in our hearts you  
 both will stay, missing you  
 both is a heartache that  
 never goes away.*

*Sadly missed by all their loving  
 family.*

*May Anne and Thomas Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**MICHAEL TIMMONS**

53 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025



*They say there is a reason,  
 They say that time will heal,  
 But neither time nor reason  
 Will change the way we feel.*

*Always remembered by your son  
 Thomas and daughter-in-law  
 Teresa.*

*Rest in Peace Michael*

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

26 The Downs, Portlaoise.  
 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025.



*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,  
 extended family and friends.*

*May Gerard  
 Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**MARIE WHELAN**

Late of O' Moore Place, Portlaoise and Arklow.  
 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025



*God didn't want to  
 see you suffer any more,  
 so he called you home*

*Always missed by your husband Peter*

*Rest in Peace Marie*



*In Loving Memory of  
A Wonderful Husband, Father, Grandfather  
and Great-Grandfather*

**JOHN (Johnnie) PRESTON**

*Late of 28 St. John's Sq. Portlaoise.  
31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurs 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025.*

*Just close your eyes and you will see  
All the memories that you have of me.  
Just sit and relax and you will find  
I'm really still there inside your mind.*

*Don't cry for me now I'm gone,  
For I am in the land of songs.  
There is no pain, there is no fear,  
So dry away that silent tear.*

*Don't think of me in the dark and cold,  
For here I am no longer old.  
I'm in the place called home  
That's filled with love,  
Known to all as up above.*



**Sadly missed and fondly remembered by your  
loving wife, Eileen xxx.**

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 11.15am.*

**DAD;**

*It matters not how many years,  
There's still a heartache, still a tear.  
Sadness and sorrow are not just for a day—  
They've been with us since you went away.  
We'll always remember your kindness and love;  
Upon your family, look down from above.*

**Loved always and never forgotten by your loving  
sons, daughters, son-in-law, and daughters-in-law  
xxx**

**GRANDAD;**

*We will never forget you,  
We won't ever try.  
We just miss you more  
As time goes by.*

**Loved and sadly missed by your grandchildren  
and great-grandchildren xxx.**

*May John Rest in Peace*



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15th May 2025



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16

30

32

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John Gorman  
Billy Boyhan

MATCH 3s €1,000

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## 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](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: @portlaoiseparish

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

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



LINK UP

Monday to Friday

9am to 5pm

057-8692154

Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm or  
12 noon Wednesday (Subject to availability of space)

Subject to availability of space

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

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 13:14, 43-52

Psalms 99:1-3, 5

Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17

## 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



# Laois Biodiversity Week

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

Dusk Chorus  
Abbeyleix Bog  
8pm

**Wednesday 21st May**

Nature and Bees Workshop  
Durrow Library  
10am

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

The Longest Malin to Mizen  
Dunamais Arts Centre  
5.30pm

**Thursday 22nd May**

Biodiversity and Business  
Glamping under the stars, Cullenagh  
7pm

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Bat Walk, Portlaoise  
Laois Partnership  
9pm

**Thursday 22nd May**

Water Quality Sampling - Nore Vision  
Bob's bar, Durrow  
7pm

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

Nature Photography  
Rossa Bracken  
9am to 11am

**Friday 23rd May**

Moth Trapping and farm walk  
Ballykilcavan, Stradbally  
8.30am

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

Dawn Chorus  
Ballyfin Hides  
5.30am to 6.30am

**Saturday 24th May**

Bat Walk  
Dunmore Woods, Durrow  
8.30pm

**Sunday 25th May**

Nature and Heritage Farm Walk  
Bunlacken Brew Carpark, Cullohill  
2.30pm



Funded by  
**An Chomhairle Oidhreach**  
**The Heritage Council**



Comhairle Chontae  
Laoise | Laois  
County Council

