





The Spiritual Diet

The uncanny thing about being out of shape is that none of us consciously allow ourselves to become that way; it's something that creeps up on us. The extra pounds that pile

on around our waistlines are the result of making wrong choices on a daily basis. Just as we can become physically unfit so we can become spiritually unfit. None of us make bad choices on purpose, but nonetheless if we make choices on a daily basis that are not based on God's values we can easily feel weighed down, dissatisfied and unhappy. The feeding of the five thousand is prophetic. Jesus is showing us that God's reign is about satisfying both human spiritual and physical need. The importance of the miracle is not so much about the multiplication of food, but the message that God can provide for all our needs.

On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we are reminded that in just the same way as we care for our physical diet, we need to make Jesus part of our spiritual diet both in communion and in our daily choices to live as Christians so that we might be spiritually whole. We are invited to feel alive and rejuvenated and ready to impact the world around us.

Jesus was all about sharing. He gave his time, his love and finally his body and blood. When we receive Holy Communion in Mass our action is twofold. The Eucharist is a banquet for the multitudes in which we remember Jesus' sacrificial self-giving. More than this, we remember the promise that anyone who eats his bread and drinks his blood will share eternal life.

Peter's Pence collection takes place next weekend. Envelopes in Development Boxes. Thank you for your continued support.



We welcome into our
Parish Community
Paul Peter Hyland, Borris Great
Barra Laurence Conroy, Colliers Lane
Who were baptised last weekend.

Mass times for the coming week ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH Monday—Friday: 7.30am & 10am

Monday—Friday: 7.30am & 10 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.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Give them something to eat yourselves.'

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The Eucharist is essentially and of its very nature a community action in which every person present is expected to be an active participant We are here, on the one hand, recalling what makes us Christians in the first place — our identification with the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus And that identification with Jesus is expressed not through a one-to-one relationship with him but in a community relationship with him present in all those who call themselves Christian We relate to him through his Risen Body, which is the whole community bearing his name There is no place in Christianity for individualism It is a horizontal faith: we go to God with and through those around us.

Every Lord's Day we come together as that Body, as a community, to say thanks to him and hence the name 'Eucharist' which means 'thanks' It is regrettable, then, if we are only in church to 'keep the Third Commandment' on a purely private, individual, devotional basis With that mentality, it will not be surprising if we think it does not matter if we are late or leave early Because, with that mentality, 'going to Mass' is a private affair for me and all the others who 'happen' to be there, too.

Some even resent that there is too much going on They wonder why they cannot be 'left in peace to say their prayers' It is true some Mass celebrations can be overactive or over-intrusive but, on the other hand, it is not a time for contemplative prayer. One can do that much better at home The whole point of being at Mass is to celebrate together with one's fellow-Christians as a community of the disciples of Jesus.

www.sacredspace.ie

MULHALL MEATS

Est. 1931



Weekly Special

Now Only €15.99/kg



Mulhall's Fresh Irish Silverside

Offer Available Monday 23rd June - Sun 6th July



Full Range Of Fresh \Longrightarrow F $ISH \Longrightarrow$ Available



Mulhall's Butcher Counter is located within Mulhall's SuperValu. Phone 057 86 21044

AUDIOLOGIST HEARING AID

Consultant

Patricia Kilmartin B.A.A.T., M.I.S.H.A.A.

(28+ years experience with Private & Public Sector)



- Comprehensive Hearing Assessment
- Full range of Digital Hearing Aids available incl. FREE PRSI HEARING AIDS TO VALUE OF €1000 TO ELIGIBLE CLIENTS
- Pre-employment tests/Occupational Screening Tests
- Ear moulds, Custom made Swim Plugs, Musicians Moulds, etc.
- Hearing Aid Batteries, Minor Repairs, etc. (incl. postal service)
- Ear Wax Removal Service

In Attendance

10 Lismard Court, Portlaoise Co. Laois.

(Entrance beside Macra Na Feirme Hall on Timahoe Road)

By Appointment Only

Tel: 057 8692289 Mobile: 085 8568808

E-mail: pkaudiology@gmail.com

Website: www.kilmartinaudiology.ie

STRICT SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE, IN LINE WITH ADVICE OF THE GOVERNMENT & HSE GUIDELINES



Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

live life physically well

The Coach House, 4 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise.

JOHN SUGRUE BSCMSCMISCP NICOLA CALDBECK BSCMISCPMAACP

CONOR BOLTON BSCMSCMISCP

Online booking: www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie
To book by phone: 087 666 4808.

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

A new block of Parkinson's-specific classes will begin on Wednesday, 5th February, at 11:20 AM. These classes are designed for individuals with early to moderate Parkinson's.

Please call the clinic to reserve your place.

Classes Available

Monday: Osteo class with John in Parish Centre 9:30am Tuesday: Senior exercise classes with Conor in clinic 11:00am.

> Wednesday: Osteo class in clinic 10:30am, Online Pilates 9:30am.



We are local and here for you

Private Occupational Therapy



Housing Assessments

- Housing Adaptation Grant assessments and reports.
- Stairlifts, adapted bathrooms, ramps, extensions, etc.

Paediatric Assessments



- Occupational Therapy assessments to help your child grow.
- Supporting children's development at home, in school, and during play.

Contact Us Today for an Appointment:



info@originaltherapies.ie (083 150 6755



www.originaltherapies.ie





Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will be my servant also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor John 12:26.





Inner Healing Retreat Abbeyleix

Faith Formation based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and Inner Healing Adoration

Led by: Fr. Prince Clarence S.J.

Tuesday, 24th June 2025 Date:

Time: 10am - 1pm

Holy Mass, followed by Teaching and Inner Healing Adoration

Confessions available if you have not had Confession in the previous week

Venue: Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Church Avenue,

Abbeyleix, Co. Laois. R32 KN53

Contact: Margaret: 086 3149610 Margaret: 087 2312066

Email us: ruachministry5@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ruachministry7

for updates on other venues

Ruach Catholic Ministry Portlaoise

LAOIS JET WASH SERVICES LTD



C.C.T.V. PIPE & DRAIN INSPECTION HIGH PRESSURE DRAIN CLEANING TEL/FAX 057-8681720 MOBILE 087-7749519 HAVE YOU A PROBLEM WITH YOUR DRAINS?



BREEN STEEL SHEDS

Drim, Mountrath, Co. Laois

Tel; 087-9444098 / 086-1732542 | E-mail; info@breensteelsheds.ie







- Maintenance free Steel Mobile Garden Sheds in a choice of colours.
- PVC coated with non drip sheeting to avoid condensation.
- Timber or Concrete floors fitted.
- Delivered and erected on site, can be transported in sections or fully assembled.
- All sizes manufactured; 7x5, 8x14, 10x8, 10x17, 10x20, 20x24
- Our range of Steel Sheds include two variations of buildings with many uses; garages for vehicle storage in residential areas, small workshops, office accommodation, store rooms, games rooms.









RTLAOISE, CO. LAOIS, R32 Y160









OUT DOOR

BOUNCY CASTLE | TUG OF WAR | ARMWRESLTING MULTICUSINE FOOD STALL | GAMES AND FUN **BOWLING | PENALITY SHOOT OUT** FAMILY FUN I FACE PANTING

ON STAGE

HONOURING THE GUEST & SPONSORS, MULTI CULTURAL PROGRAMMES I MUSICAL NIGHT THIRUVATHIRA COMPETITION, LIVE MUSIC BAND SHOW | LIVE DJ



General Enquiry: Reuben- 08925 40535 | Stall Booking: Sreeraj: 089 479 7716

PRIVACY POLICY | IF YOU HAVE CAR, WE HAVE PARKING... BOOK YOUR SPOT IN ADVANCE

Community Notices

Alanon Family Group for family, friends or anyone affected by someone struggling with alcoholism.

Portlaoise Active Retirement: meets every Wednesdays at 3pm in the Parish Centre—new members' welcome. Join us for bowls on Mon 23rd, 2–4pm in St. Mary's Hall, and a final social afternoon on Wed 25th before the summer break. Cards and chat (with tuition) on Thurs 26th at 3pm in the Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy. **Contact Maria at 087 918 7157.**

Sean Doyle Light Engineering, Ballacolla:

Call 087-2068972 | seandoylelightengineering Clothesline poles, rotary clotheslines, winders, pulleys, sawhorses, bicycle stands.

Parish Centre Whist Results: Tuesday, June 17: Top Score – Bernie Cahill; 1st Lady – Molly O'Brien; 2nd Lady – Sadie Chester & Peter Stevenson; 1st Gent – Terry Dunne & Tom Jacob; 1st Half – Paddy Purcell; 2nd Half – Catherine Brennan. Raffle winners: N. Delaney, P. Stevenson, M. Dunne, S. Duff. Thanks to all who supported. Whist continues every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre – new members welcome, lessons available.

Religious Notes

Divine Mercy Chaplet Every Sunday at 3 PM 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, and Prayer for Vocations Every Friday at 3PM 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

Radio Maria Ireland is an Irish-run Catholic talk radio station offering commercial-free prayer, catechesis, music, talks, and interviews. Listen anytime on Saorview Channel 210, our free app, online at radiomaria. ie, or on Facebook Live. Join us daily for spiritual nourishment, prayer, and uplifting programs.

The Feast of Corpus Christi: Sunday, 22nd June, is the Feast of Corpus Christi, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. To mark the occasion, there will be Adoration, followed by Benediction, the Night Rosary, and the Divine Mercy in St. Peter and Paul's Church, immediately after the Brazilian Mass at 7:30pm on Saturday, 21st June. The celebration will conclude at approximately 10pm.

An Spioraid Naoimh Pentecost Retreat – Growth in the Holy Spirit will take place at the Parish Centre, St. Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise on Friday, June 27 (6:30–9:30pm) with guest Fr. David Vard, and Saturday, June 28 (10:00am–3:45pm) with guest Fr. John Mockler. Spiritual Director: Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill, PP St. Conleth's, Newbridge. Full programme at www.spioraidnaoimh.com. Contact Michael Nerney on 086 815 7305. All are welcome.

Graiguecullen-Killeshin Parish Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help continues every Monday night in St. Clare's Church until June 23. Rosary at 7:10pm, Mass at 7:30pm. Petitions can be placed in the church boxes or emailed to gkparish@gmail.com. All are welcome. ring commercial-free prayer, catechesis, music, talks, and interviews. Listen anytime on Saorview Channel 210, our free app, online at radiomaria.ie, or on Facebook Live. Join us daily for spiritual nourishment, prayer, and uplifting programs.



24/7 Emergency Service Auto - Home - Commercial

086 2624270 | 085 2833064 Shop: 057 8620135

www.jacknolan.ie

KPS CLEANING

- · SCHOOL CLEANING,
- GENERAL HOUSE CLEANING,
- DEEP CLEANING,
- . END OF TENANCY CLEANING,
- OFFICES, SCHOOLS, SHOPS, SALONS & MORE
 CONTACT US FOR ALL
 YOUR CLEANING NEEDS

087 973 7073

GREG THE HANDYMAN

CALL 089 956 7135

- Home improvements and repairs
- Flooring, tiling, carpets
- Fence maintenance and repair
- Painting inside/outside and decorating
- Repairs of toilet, faucet and shower units
- Furniture assembly and installation

PAT LALOR TARMACADAM

CHURCH AVENUE, STRADBALLY

- TARMACADAM
- KERBING
- DRAINAGE

FREE QUOTATIONS | VAT REGISTERED

TEL: 083 021 1577

EMAIL: PATLALOR37@GMAIL.COM

PROFESSIONAL PAINTER & DECORATOR

- 20+ YEARS' EXPERIENCE
- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR | RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
- HAND-PAINTED KITCHENS & BESPOKE FURNITURE

CONTACT GARY KELLY 086 071 7172

PLUMBER AVAILABLE

- All Domestic Plumbing
- Solid Fuel & Oil Servicing
- Water Softener Installation
- Full Bathroom Renovations

CONTACT ALAN 085 114 1395

DS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & GROUNDWORKS



Patios, driveways, stump removal, lawns,kerbing, hedging, fencing, drainage.

Call now for a competitive quote!

2 085 775 9975 ✓ dsgroundworks22@gmail.com

TV SERVICES

Repairs to TVs and home entertainment equipment. Supply, fit, and repair; Saorview, aerial, and satellite systems.

CONTACT

057 873 2998 087 363 6497 083 374 2600

BLESSING'S TREE SURGERY

Expert in all aspects of dangerous tree removal. Qualified, experienced, fully licensed & insured arborist.

CONTACT TOM 087 363 6966

S&R SERVICES

Tiling

Bathrooms

Maintenance

General

- Painting & Decorating
- Kitchen Fitting
- Furniture Assembly
- Flooring
- Carpentry Domestic Plumbing &

Oil-Fired Central Heating
Plumber on call for
Portlaoise & surrounding areas

ACTIVE BUILDING SERVICES

CONTACT FERGUS 089 454 1868

WINDOW & DOOR REPAIRS

- Hinges & Handles
- Letterboxes
- Sliding Patio Door Rollers
- Window & Door Draught Proofing

Fully Insured

083 315 3211www.kukic-hms.ie

CONTACT 087 489 6429

PAINTING & DECORATING

- Interior & Exterior
- Power Washing
- 15 Years' Experience

Fully Insured

089 445 9958www.kukic-hms.ie

NEW YEAR – FRESH START TIME TO DECLUTTER?

FREE COLLECTION OF ALL SCRAP METAL:
WASHING MACHINES, COOKERS,
LAWNMOWERS, ETC.
GARDEN SHEDS CLEARED, FENCES AND
SEWER ISSUES RESOLVED.
MINI-DIGGER AND SMALL TIPPER TRUCK
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE.

CONTACT RICHARD 085 252 9893

HANDYMAN SERVICES

Reliable, affordable help with:

- Gutter Cleaning
- Power Washing
- Grass Cutting
- Window Cleaning
- Interior & Exterior Painting

No job too big or small!

Professional service at great rates.

CONTACT MICK 085 215 1277

SOCIAL DANCING

Every Sunday Night at The Rock Inn, R32 EY73 Where Only the Best Bands Play

Sunday 22nd June, Feat. Glen Flynn

Admission: €10 | Time: 9:00pm - 11:30pm For more info, contact Joe: 087 231 5526

PODIATRIST MAY COLLINS

BSc (Hons) Podiatry, MCHSI 2 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise Tel: 086 378 5327

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY VHI, Aviva & Laya approved.

Helping Local Brands
Make a Big Impact Advertise with Link Up
today! Contact:
057 8692154

CLEANER AVAILABLE

Experienced, reliable woman available for house cleaning.

Own transport provided.

CONTACT 087 660 8389

IDLANDS APPLIANCE REPAIRS DOMESTIC LTD.

Quick, Cost Effective
Appliance Repairs
Portlaoise

087-9080211

GARDENER AVAILABLE

Also, small construction jobs.

Portlaoise and surrounding areas covered.

CONTACT JIM: 087-6885017

POSITION AVAILABLE

Magic Moments, Portlaoise

seeks enthusiastic childcare professional for maternity cover (Sept–June). Level 6+ in Early Childhood Ed, ECCE & SAC experience, Aistear/Siolta knowledge required. Team player with strong communication skills.

Email:magicmoments78@gmail.com FAO Nuala

GARDENER AVAILABLE

Also, small construction jobs.

Portlaoise and surrounding areas

CONTACT JIM: 087-6885017

DE LA SALLE BROTHERS CASTLETOWN, CO LAOIS CEMETERY DAY, SATURDAY, 5TH JULY, MASS AT2PM

Since the arrival of the De La Salle Brothers in Castletown, Co Laois, in the 1880s, many young men from Co Laois, have joined the congregation and have served the cause of Christian education both at home and abroad. There are now almost 500 Brothers resting in the community cemetery in Castletown and hundreds of others who are interred abroad are listed in the memorial garden. Family members and relatives of these men who led eventful - even heroic - lives will have an opportunity to remember and share stories on Saturday, 5th July in Castletown, (Eircode R32 FK02) with Mass beginning in the parish church at 2pm.

"When we have joy we crave to share; we remember them.
When we have achievements that are based on theirs; we remember them.
For as long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of us,
as, we remember them."

DUR SVP WEDDING SHOP WILL BE OPENING ON

THURSDAY THE 19TH

From 12 o clock until 7.

ST MARY'S PARISH IRISHTOWN, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY Eircode: E91 FD28

RETREAT & MINISTRY OF HEALING

Saturday 28th June- Sunday 29th June 2025

LED BY FR ROZO PALIĆ



PROGRAMME

Saturday 28th June 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Holy Mass
Prayer for Inner Healing
Individual Blessing Laying of Hands
Lunch Break
Eucharistic adoration
Individual Blessing Laying of Hands



Sunday 29th June 3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Prayer for Inner Healing Catechesis

5:15 p.m. Holy Mass

Individual Blessing – Laying of Hands

Priests will be at your disposal for the sacrament of Holy Confession The Retreat will be animated by WORSHIP TEAM

For accommodation

Hillcourt, B&B, 052 6121029 Ben & Nuala, B&B, 052 6122158 Lily B&T, B&B, 052 6121313 Olive, Ravensdale B&B, 087 9533474 B&B Agnes Mc Donnell, 0879506810 Benfani's Townhouse, 052 6177893 Raheen House, Hotel, 052 6122140 Talbot Hotel, 052 6188700 Hotel Minella, 052 6122388 Mulcahys B&B, 0526125054

All info: Patricia +353 89 9466193, Imelda +353 89 9558283

Next Retreat: 26th - 27th JULY





Please pop in for a browse.

We have a selection of wedding dresses, mother of the bride, shoes and handbags.



- NEED HOME HEATING OIL?
- NEED TRACTOR DIESEL?

Call Sean Smyth 086-3561669





The Feast of Corpus Christi: Food for the Journey What We Are Celebrating

On the Sunday after Trinity Sunday, the Church celebrates The Feast of Corpus Christi, also known as The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This Feast commemorates the immense gift of the Eucharist in our lives and in the Church.

In Latin, Corpus *Christi* means *Body of Christ*. On Holy Thursday, we remember the institution of the priesthood and the Eucharist, the Last Supper, the Agony in the Garden, the betrayal of Judas and the beginning of the Passion of Christ. It is easy to become lost in so many beautiful things to remember. Corpus Christi Sunday allows us to focus solely on celebrating the real presence of Christ – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – in the bread and wine.

A Feast Begins

The origins of the Feast of Corpus Christi date back to the Middle Ages!

During the thirteenth century, a Belgian nun named Sister Juliana, had a great devotion to the Eucharist. Through visions, Our Lord told her to establish a Feast dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament. Through the influence of Sister Juliana, the importance of spreading devotion to

the Blessed Sacrament reached the future Pope Urban IV. Sister Juliana died in 1258 and is now recognised as a Saint.

In 1263, a German priest by the name of Father Peter, stopped to celebrate Mass in Bolsena, Italy while he was on his way to Rome for a pilgrimage. Father Peter was having doubts at the time as to whether the Eucharist was truly the Body and Blood of Christ. However, as he celebrated Mass, when he prayed the prayer of Consecration, blood emerged from the consecrated host, spilling onto the altar. Father Peter reported the miracle to Pope Urban IV, who sent delegates to investigate the



miracle. Today, the Cathedral of Orvieto, Italy, is the resting place of the relics from this Eucharistic miracle. The message of Sister Juliana and the Eucharistic Miracle in Bolsena, greatly affected Pope Urban IV. In 1264, through a papal bull called *Transiturus de hoc mundo*, Pope Urban IV instituted the Solemnity of Corpus Christi after Pentecost. Under Pope Clement V, Corpus Christi became a universal Feast. However, under Pope John XXII, devotion to the Holy Eucharist spread widely.

Jesus said to his disciples:
Give them something to eat yourselves.

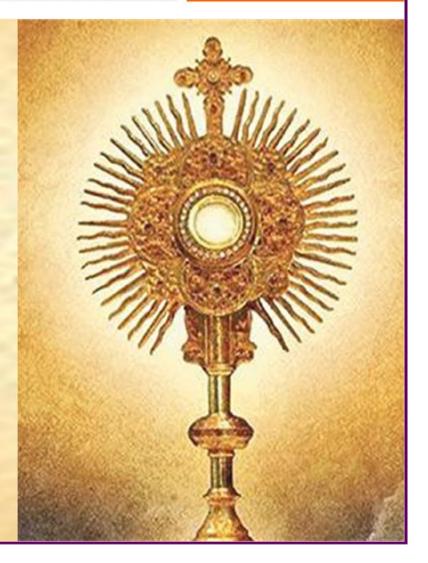
Today we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi otherwise known as The Body and Blood of Christ

Fill in our word search

Н	I	C	R	M	Α	S	S	L	Z	T	C	L	C	N
0	T	Q	A	K	G	V	Q	T	N	Н	F	F	Y	X
L	X	Z	T	M	Z	T	J	Е	U	Y	В	K	W	В
Y	Y	J	L	U	J	Е	M	R	M	W	X	Q	I	F
N	T	В	A	R	G	A	C	R	J	C	A	V	C	U
Е	Y	T	S	D	R	Н	S	Н	T	Н	L	R	W	V
T	U	L	X	C	A	P	U	K	Е	A	Н	M	J	W
S	N	C	A	Z	O	Z	L	G	T	L	J	P	I	Z
Е	U	S	Н	C	О	M	M	U	N	I	О	N	M	G
Е	I	S	F	A	D	W	I	F	S	C	E	W	Y	X
G	S	В	Е	O	R	Н	E	U	R	E	Н	T	A	F
K	L	J	О	J	L	I	V	M	W	Q	R	A	F	V
0	В	L	В	D	L	I	S	Y	A	Z	Q	О	X	J
S	В	Z	С	Q	Y	M	D	T	S	О	Н	K	V	Z
V	W	A	V	C	A	Z	A	P	J	M	D	N	A	L

Jesus
Altar
Mass
Body
Blood
Sacrament
Communion
Holy
Eucharist
Wine
Host
Chalice
Church
Father

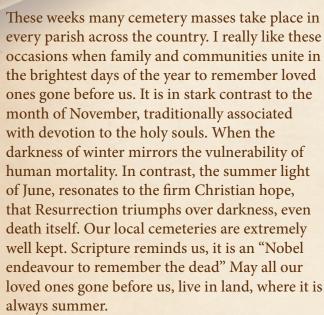
Prayer for Corpus Christi Sunday Jesus, Body and Blood, we are grateful for the gift of your life and the way it strengthens us to live ours. Teach us to draw on the gift of your Body and Blood for energy, renewal, strength and grace. May we never take the gift of your presence for granted. Amen.



Follow Fr. Paddy on X@frpaddybyrne or @AbbeyleixP
Follow Fr. Paddy on his blog on the Parish Website www.portlaoiseparish.ie
or leave a comment on his blog on the Parish Website www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Time to Think...

A Summer Solstice Prayer



This week happens to be the brightest days of the year. The summer solstice, occurring around June 21st, has been celebrated for millennia across various cultures, often with rituals centred on the sun's peak power. In pre-Christian Europe, Slavic, Germanic, and Celtic tribes marked the occasion with bonfires, believing they would enhance the sun's energy for a good harvest and ward off evil spirits. These celebrations were deeply tied to agricultural cycles, ensuring survival through bountiful harvests.

With the rise of Christianity, particularly during the Christianization of Europe, the Church often integrated existing pagan festivals into its calendar to ease conversion and maintain cultural continuity. The summer solstice, a significant pagan event, was associated with the feast of St. John the Baptist, celebrated on June 24th. This date was strategically chosen, as the Gospel of Luke (Luke 1:26–37, 56–57) states John was born six months before Jesus, whose birth is celebrated on December 24th. Pentecost Sunday, commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit, often falls about two weeks before the summer solstice, creating a symbolic link between the "light" of Pentecost and the increasing daylight

and Christianity is primarily through the feast of St. John the Baptist, strategically placed near the solstice to blend pagan and Christian traditions. While not a formal Christian holiday, the solstice's timing offers symbolic opportunities for reflection on creation and light, with practices varying by community and individual belief. This historical and cultural synthesis highlights the Church's adaptive approach to integrating pre-existing festivals into its liturgical framework.

Like the growing harvest our bodies and minds need to indulge in the light and hope of these summer days. Many take a summer break to rejuvenate and find rest. As schools begin summer holiday time wisdom reminds us "To rest in summer is to weather well the winter storms"

A prayer for the summer solstice -

Great Spirit of the sun, On this dawning of a new day we turn our faces toward your radiance, looking for your grace to shine upon us. Creator of Light, may your fire burn within us, igniting passion, fuelling growth, extending warmth to all with whom we connect this day. On this longest day of the year we celebrate life, abundance, fertility, growth, fruitfulness, ripening, colour, strength, vitality, and richness. We also celebrate this day with the indigenous peoples who have called this place home long before settlers arrived. We pray that we might be good neighbours, good listeners, and good allies as we pray together for reconciliation, for justice, and for the earth we all call home. Let us rejoice in this longest day of light!

The relationship between the summer solstice

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED



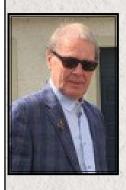
Elizabeth (Lily)

Keenan

(née Kilbride)

Marian Place,

Portlaoise, Co. Laois



Michael Killeen Meelick, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



Anne Lawlor
(née Sheil)

Ballytarsna, Abbeyleix,
Laois / Offaly

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE OUR SYMPATHIES ARE WITH THEIR FAMILIES

In Loving Memory of BRENDAN O'BRIEN

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurred 20th June 2025

No words can tell, no tears express,
The love, the loss, the emptiness,
You are not just a memory
or part of the past.
You are ours to remember
as long as life lasts.

Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Brendan

Acknowledgement In Loving Memory Of

PATRICIA LYNCH

18 Borris Road, Portlaoise. Died 2nd March 2025



Claire and Tom would like to thank all those who sympathized them on the recent death of Patricia. We would like to thank those that attended the funeral. sent mass cards and left condolences. We would like to thank Patricia's close friends and neighbours who were so good to her during her illness and final days. We would like to thank those who offered help in so many ways including offers of lifts and kept Patricia and us in their prayers.

We would like to thank the staff of Kilminchy Lodge Nursing Home, Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise and the Oncology Unit, Tullamore. We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Palliative Care Team and nurses.

A sincere thanks to Fr Simon who accompanied Patricia on her final journey and celebrated her requiem Mass as well as John Delaney whose visits she enjoyed in the Nursing Home. We would also like to thank the Priests of the Parish, Michelle Bartley in the Parish Centre as well as our sister Sacristans. Thank you also to Sarah Troy for the beautiful music at Patricia's funeral Mass.

We would also like to acknowledge the professionalism and help of Matthew Keegan, David Goode as well as Brendan and Adrian Dunne, Gravediggers.

Sincere thanks also to the Maryborough Family Practice and the staff of Chemco Pharmacy as well as Patricia's former colleagues in the Library and Laois County Council.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere appreciation and gratitude.

Mass will be Offered in Knock for your intentions.

In Loving Memory of

MARGARET RYAN

33 Newpark, Portlaoise 11th Anniversary occurred 18th June 2025

11th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,

Sunday 22nd June at 12.30pm



Just a prayer from the family who loved you, just a memory fond and true. In our hearts you will live forever, because we thought the world of you.

Sadly missed by all her loving family.

May Margaret Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
Our Dearest Mam and Grandmother
IANE McEVOY



22 Rossvale, Portlaoise Anniversary: 21st June Birthday Remembrance: 28th June

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 will always keep. Always loved by Mam and Dad, Never forgotten by your loving family.

Rest in Peace, Jane.

In Loving Memory of MARY (MAISIE) DOLLARD

32 St. John's Square, Portlaoise 15th Anniversary occurred 20th June 2025 Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Saturday, 21st June at 6:30 pm Life is a beautiful memory,



Death is a silent grief.
You sleep now in God's Garden,
In sunshine and perfect peace.
We miss you oh so very much,
But trust that God knew best.
He let us have you for many years,
Then gently let you rest.
Always in our hearts and never forgotten
By your loving family.

Rest in Peace, Maisie.

Acknowledgement and Months Mind

PHYLLIS GRAHAM (NÉE FLYNN)

Ballydavis, Portlaoise, Laois



Mam's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated on June 28th 2025 at 6.30pm in Sts. Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise. The family of the late Phyllis Graham would like to express our sincere gratitude to all who supported us during our sad loss. Our sincere thanks to all who visited Mam in her final days and those who

travelled long distances to attend the rosary, mass and burial. We greatly appreciate the mass cards, flowers and messages.

We would also like to sincerely thank the many neighbours, family, and friends who helped in any way during Mam's final days and over the funeral period. Thanks to the consultants, nurses and staff of Portlaoise General Hospital, the staff of Cedar Clinic Portlaoise especially Dr Sinéad Burke for her care and kindness to Mam. Thanks to the staff of Kilminchy Lodge Nursing Home and the Platinum Home Care Team.

A special thanks to the Laois Palliative Team whose compassion and grace went above and beyond all expectation. Thank you to Rankins Funeral Directors for their care and professionalism, to Aisling Nolan for the lovely music and singing.

Thanks also to Ramsbottom's Stradbally and M&M Catering for their kind services.

A special thanks to Monsignor Byrne for officiating the Mass celebrating Mam's life.

We hope everyone accepts this acknowledgement as a token of our gratitude.

Rest in peace Mam.

In Loving Memory of MARIAN MAHER

78 Newpark, Portlaoise Died 23rd June 2005 20th Anniversary occurs at this time



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Sunday, 22nd June at 10 am
Your life was a blessing,
Your memory a treasure,
You will always be with us,
In our hearts forever.
It broke our hearts to lose you, but
you did not go alone,

For part of us went with you, the day God called you home. Sadly missed by your loving husband, family, and friends.

May Marian Rest in Peace.

In Loving Memory of

PAT SCULLY



Cherry Hill, Ballyhyland, Portlaoise 1st Anniversary occurs 24th June 2025
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church on Saturday 28th June at 6.30pm. Sadly missed loved and forever remembered by his wife Kathleen, son Donald, daughter Lisa, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren, brothers and extended family.

Rest in Peace Pat

In Loving Memory of My Beautiful Daughter SAMANTHA MOORE

2 Triogue Manor, Portlaoise. 10th Anniversary occurred 21st June 2025.



Although you can't be here with me,
We are never truly apart.
Until the final breath I take,
You are living in my heart.
Miss you every minute of every day my
precious daughter.
Your Heartbroken Mam xxxx

Rest in Peace Samantha

In Loving Memory of Our Dearest Mam & Grandmother JANE McEVOY



22 Rossvale, Portlaoise (21st Anniversary) Also our Dad, whose Anniversary occurred in 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 love you Mam and Dad, Never forgotten by all your loving family.

Rest in Peace Mam and Dad



MICHAEL (MICK) GING

Green Road, Portlaoise, Laois 2nd anniversary on 28t^h of June 2025

Mick,

The moment that you died, my heart was torn in two, One side filled with heartache, the other died with you.

I often lie awake at night, when the world is fast asleep, and, Take a walk down memory lane, with tears upon my cheeks.

Remembering you is easy, I do it every day, but missing you is heartache that never goes away.

I hold you tightly within my heart and there you will remain. Until the joyous day arrives, that we will meet again.

Love Breda

Dad,

We're missing you a little more
Each time we hear your name,
We've cried so many tears
Yet our hearts broken just the same.
We miss our times together
Things in common we could share.

But nothing fills the emptiness,
Now you're no longer there.
We've so many precious memories
To last our whole life through
Each one of them reminders
Of how much we're missing you.

Love from Yvonne, Padraig, John and Antoinette

Grandad,

It's been the hardest thing to lose you,
You meant so much to me
But you are in my heart Grandad,
And that's where you'll always be
I know that heaven called you,
But I wish you could have stayed
At least the memories I have of you, they will never fade.

I did not want to lose you, but you did not go alone
Because a part of me went with you
When heaven called you home
So just remember one thing we are not apart
You're with me in my memories and in my broken heart.

Love you forever Grandad, from, Jack, Aaron, Jeremy, Michael, Patrick, Sean, Owen, Alex, Cian, Oscar and Hannah.



In Loving Memory of

KATHLEEN

DELANEY



JOHN BOSCO DELANEY

Green View, Ridge Road, Portlaoise
Kathleen's 25th and John's 1st anniversary
occur at this time.

Although you can't be here with me, we're truly not apart,
Until my final breath, you'll live within my heart.
Sadly missed by their loving family:
Edel, Robert, Katie, Joe, Rena, Sheila, Madeleine,
extended family, relatives and friends.

May They Rest in Peace.







† KEEGAN'S **†** FUNERAL DIRECTORS

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew **087-2549195**David **087-2369887**



Five Generations in Stone Cutting

Established in 1991 by Terry Swayne manufacturing superior quality headstones.

All work undertaken by Portlaoise Stone Centre is guaranteed and carried out to the highest standard by certified & qualified craftsmen.

Unique Headstones can also be designed and created to your own special requirements.

Visit our Showroom

to discuss your requirements and view our range of headstones and grave accessories.

Unit 3B Clonminam Business Park Portlaoise, Co. Laois. R32 DW71

Tel: 057 8660258 Moblie: 087 2538930

www.portlaoisestone.ie







The Parish Shop



At Parish Centre

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

*Stockists of a large selection of Wedding & Baptismal Candles, Cards & Gifts

(Candles & cards can be personalised)

*Personalised Cards for all occasions e.g. birthdays, exam results, wedding

anniversaries, new home.

- *Essential Oils/Incense
 - * Willow Tree Gifts
- * Happy Day Soy Candles made locally
- *Inspirational books & gifts
 - *Sacred Art Items for your Home
 - * Grave Ornaments
- * Bibles & Spiritual books for adults & children





Holistic Healing for Mind, Body and Soul.

Reflexology • Reiki • Indian Head Massage • Hopi Ear Candling (All ages catered for) RGN, Paediatric Nurse Prescriber, GP Nurse with 20+ years' experience

Minor procedures: BP checks, smears, dressings, suture removal, ear syringing

Fully insured • Health insurance reimbursable • Claim via Med1
(with GP referral)

Laois & One4All Gift Cards accepted Wheelchair accessible • Therapy pets welcome Open weekdays, evenings & 1 weekend/month

Elaine Anne McDonald - I look forward to welcoming you!







www.cherryhillchi.com 089 4354778 info@cherryhillchi.com FB: Sana Roho IG: @sana_roho





@ The Office Box, Kealew Business Park Portlaoise

Friday 7.30am & 9.30am

Saturday 8am & 10am

Maureen 087 650 0918

real food, real support, real results



FISHERSTOWN TRACTOR & TRUCK RUN

Medical Equipment for Oncology Clinics St. James's Hospital

> All Tractors & Lorries welcome From Vintage to Present Day



Sunday 6th July 2025 at 11am

Run Leaving at 2pm

The Final Furlong, Ballybrittas

Food + Music all day - Bouncing Castle & Kids Fun Area Midlands 103 Roadcaster Live Music on the night by Garth Brooks Tribute Band





Contact Peter 086 2853243 (Lorries) Facebook Dave 087 2729446 (Tractors)

<u>Suaimhneas Community Childcare</u>

Suaimhneas Community Childcare is

seeking a qualified, experienced Childcare Practitioner to join their dynamic team.

Requirements:

- Minimum Level 5 in Childcare
- Experience in a childcare setting
- Passionate, creative, and enthusiastic
- Strong communication and teamwork skills
- •Familiarity with Aistear, Siolta, and childcare policies
- Ability to work independently and engage with parents

To Apply: Send your CV & cover letter to dsmith@portlaoisefrc.ie



Every Thursday and Friday Night in St. Mary's Hall

Starts 8pm

Buses collecting from their usual pick-up points in the Portlaoise area at 7:30pm.

Portlaoise Parish



Results for

19th June 2025







18

One €20,000 Jackpot Winner

Congratulations to Susan Gleeson, Promoter Lil Gleeson

WINNERS

Gerry Hogan
Joan Lalor
James Smith
Donal Crabb
Christina Lalor
Pauline Gorman
Kieran Osborne
John Baltazar
Paula Moran

Kitty Gowing Monica Smith Michael & Mary Lalor Kay Doocey Lynda Mitchell Bernie Brennan Ber McEvoy

Sam
Caroline Dwane
Emma & Rachel
Sonya Burns
Winner Alright

Winner Alright
The Brown Girls
Family Ties
Kathleen Ryan
Kit Phelan

Esther McCormack Mick Larkin Paddy Dunne

Patsy Sydes
Paul Doheny
Breda Tobin
Breda Russell

Caoimhe Fitzpatrick

MATCH 3s €1,000

33 Match 3s Receive €31 each

Play PARISH



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

PROMOTER

John Hogan **Browns Shop Greg Keenan** Stefan Crabb **Richard Phelan Online Lotto Online Lotto Online Lotto Parish Centre Parish Centre Parish Centre** Michael Lalor **Lotto Gift** Frank Cullen **Elizabeth Dowling Elizabeth Dowling Anne Ging Anne Ging Anne Ging** Rocky Kehoe Rocky Kehoe **Kathleen Brown** Thelma Brown **Parish Centre Paul Dooley Paul Dooley**

Paul Dooley Parish Centre

Margaret Doheny

M Farrell

S McDowell

Bernie Phelan Parish Office

Supporting our Parish

Next Week's Jackpot is €17,000

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





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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie



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

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

PARISH SHOP 057 8621142 - Claire Scully Ready To Hear Better?

Virtualy Invisible.

Small and practically invisible.

Rechargeable.

No more need for small batteries.

Ai Technology.

Ideal for hearing in background noise.



15% **HEARING AIDS** WAX SUCTIONING

Appointments available within 48 hours

057 863 8181

Unit 4, Bridge Street Centre, Portlaoise, Co.Laois



EUBusiness.

Irish Enterprise.

Awards 2022

- BEST PRINTING & GRAPHIC DESIGN AGENCY - MIDLANDS 2022
- ★ ECO-CONSCIOUS EXCELLENCE AWARD 2022

THE PRINTER YOU NEED TO KNOW

















Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 EH11

**** 057 8634050

Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 TF83

433569















