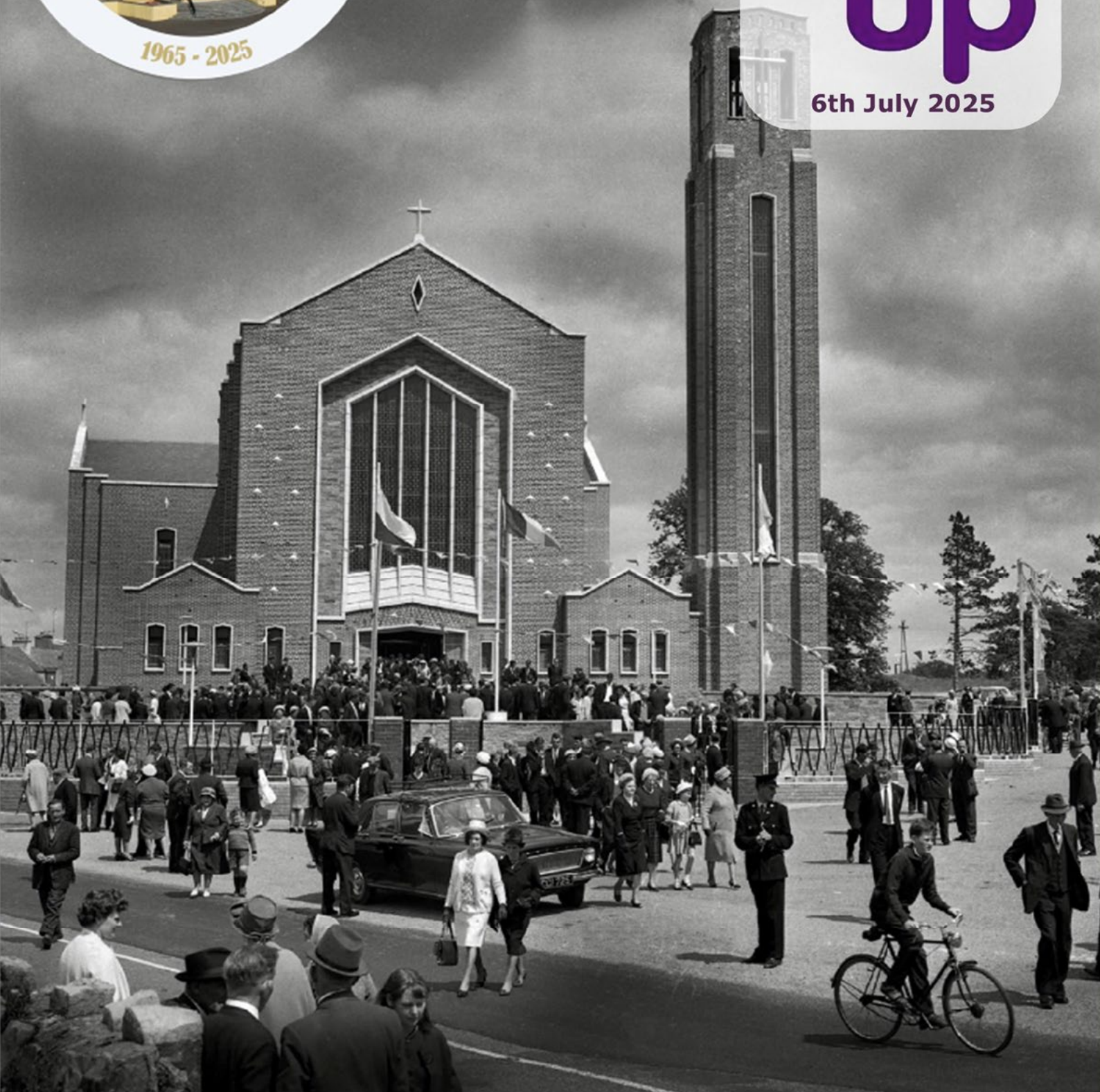




**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
up**

6th July 2025



The Parish Centre 057 8621142  
E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)

**Follow Us  
& Like Us**



@PortlaoiseParish

[fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois](https://fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois)  
[fb.com/portlaoiselinkup](https://fb.com/portlaoiselinkup)

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





### What a different world 1965 was.

No mobile phones, no internet, no James Fintan Lalor Avenue—and certainly no sign of a motorway! Every vehicle heading from the south or southwest of Ireland to Dublin had to pass through Portlaoise's Main Street. And from 1965, they encountered a striking new sight at its end: the Parish Church of St. Peter & Paul.

"We will build you a splendid and beautiful Church," the architects promised Fr. Tom Browne. That promise was shared by a dedicated parish community who had been fundraising and preparing for over two decades. The Church was designed to be more than impressive—it was to be expressive: a sacred space shaped by its site, structure, and materials. A true *teach an phobail*—a house of the people.

Sixty years on, the world has changed, but the Church still stands—strong in body, spirit, and community. It has been a place of prayer and celebration, of sacraments and solace. More than a building, it is a beacon of faith.

We remember with gratitude those who made it possible. Many have gone to their eternal reward—may they rest in peace. Others are still with us, still praying in the Church they helped to build in 1965 and renew in 2008. It was opened without debt—a remarkable achievement made possible by local generosity.

Week by week, thousands come through its doors—for Mass, for quiet prayer, to light a candle, or to join in Adoration. Many more connect via radio, webcam, or Shalom World TV. It remains a vibrant place of worship, faithful to its founding purpose.

As we celebrate this Diamond Jubilee, we offer heartfelt thanks for the support we receive in parish life. Over 500 parishioners are actively involved in ministry, service, and leadership—a true sign of a living Church. We are especially grateful to our staff, sacristans, and Parish Centre team for their daily dedication.

Through the prayers of Saints Peter and Paul, may our parish continue to grow in faith, love, and community.

Mass times for the coming week  
ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

**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.



**We welcome into our Parish Community**

Abi Jane Power, Rockview Grove

Eoin Paul Meaney, DunMasc

**Who was baptised last weekend.**

**Prayer for going on holiday**

Heavenly Father,

Please bless our holiday time.

Help our family to have patience  
and understanding.

Guide us to be mindful of this gift of time  
together.

Help us to make compromises  
when necessary and handle any chaos that  
comes our way with Your love and grace.  
Open our eyes to truly see the beauty of the  
memories we are creating.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Henri Amyl, a Swiss philosopher, wrote about the importance of simplicity: 'All of us are generally bound up with hindrances and duties that wind about us like a spider's web that restricts our movements. In order to simplify our duties and our lives we must know how to disengage what is essential from the detail in which it is entrapped. It is a lack of order that makes us slaves.' Pope John XXIII once said, 'I must strip my views of all useless foliage and concentrate on what is truth, justice and charity.'

*Blessingtonparish.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 FISH 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.**  
*(30 years experience with Private &  
Public Sector)*



- Comprehensive Hearing Assessment Adults & Paediatrics 5 years +
- 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
- Social Welfare Grant available to eligible clients

**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](mailto:pkaudiology@gmail.com)

Website: [www.kilmartinaudiology.ie](http://www.kilmartinaudiology.ie)



**Laois Physiotherapy  
Clinic**

*live life physically well*

**The Coach House, 4 Kellyville Park,  
Portlaoise**

**JOHN SUGRUE** BSc MSc MISC  
**NICOLA CALDBECK** BSc MISC MAACP  
**CONOR BOLTON** BSc MSc MISC

☎ **087 666 4808**  
🌐 [www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie](http://www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie)

**Pilates Classes - Limited Availability!**

*There's still some availability in our current block of  
Pilates classes (beginner and intermediate levels) before we  
take a break for August.*

*To book a spot, please call or email the clinic.*

**Weekly Class Schedule:**

*Monday: Osteo Class with John (Parish Centre, 9:30am)*

*Tuesday: Senior Exercise Class with Conor (Clinic,  
11:00am)*

*Wednesday: Online Pilates (9:30am)  
Osteo Class (Clinic, 10:30am)*

*Thursday: Osteo Class (Clinic, 5:00pm)*



# RAHEEN VINTAGE RALLY

**SUNDAY  
13TH JULY  
2025**  
Corbally,  
Abbeyleix,  
Co.Laois  
R32A257



Proceeds In Aid Of  
Teac Tom  
& Local Charities & Causes

**Music by  
Gavin Gribben &  
Aishling Rafferty With Band**

**€5 ADMISSION  
KIDS GO FREE!**

**SPECIAL GUESTS  
KATIE SHANAHAN & FARMER PHIL**



**DOG SHOW IN  
ASSOCIATION WITH**

**The Haven Rescue**



**Vintage Tractor & Car Display,**

**Trucks/Motorbikes/Stationary Engines, Autojumble,**

**Threshing, Country Market, Wheel of fortune,**

**Auction, Forge , Bake Sale, Childrens Entertainment**

**& Lots more!**



**@RAHEENVINTAGECLUB**

**For more information contact:**

**Chris 0877691972, Seamus 0861502150**

**Alanna 0857218823, Eddie 0857648090**

**Email: RaheenVintage@outlook.com**



**CELEBRATING 60 YEARS  
OF FORD 1000 SERIES**





# BREEN STEEL SHEDS

*Drim, Mountrath, Co. Laois*

**Tel; 087-9444098 / 086-1732542 | E-mail; [info@breensteelsheds.ie](mailto: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.



**ORIGINAL  
THERAPIES**

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](mailto:info@originaltherapies.ie) [083 150 6755](tel:0831506755)

[www.originaltherapies.ie](http://www.originaltherapies.ie)



## TREO NUA Portlaoise Resource Centre

**Cafe available to rent**  
in the Heart of our Vibrant Centre.

Call or email for information

**057 8686145 | [manager@treonua.com](mailto:manager@treonua.com)**

We look forward to hearing from you



- **NEED HOME HEATING OIL?**
- **NEED TRACTOR DIESEL?**

**Call Sean Smyth 086-3561669**





## NOLAN LOCKSMITHS

24/7 Emergency Service  
Auto - Home - Commercial

**086 2624270 | 085 2833064**

**Shop: 057 8620135**

[www.jacknolan.ie](http://www.jacknolan.ie)

## LEARNER DRIVER SEEKS PRACTICE

Looking for a fully licensed driver (2+ yrs) to accompany me for practice using your car in Portlaoise. Flexible times weekly. Will pay for your time (plus a cuppa!). Contact Shevaun;

**087 790 0798**



## 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!**



**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

- Painting & Decorating
- Kitchen Fitting
- Furniture Assembly
- Flooring
- Carpentry
- Tiling
- Bathrooms
- General Maintenance

**CONTACT 087 489 6429**

## ACTIVE BUILDING SERVICES

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

**CONTACT FERGUS**

**089 454 1868**

## WINDOW & DOOR REPAIRS

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

**Fully Insured**



**083 315 3211**



**www.kukic-hms.ie**

## PAINTING & DECORATING

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

**Fully Insured**



**089 445 9958**



**www.kukic-hms.ie**

## NEW YEAR – FRESH START TIME TO DECLUTTER?

FREE COLLECTION OF ALL SCRAP METAL:  
WASHING MACHINES, COOKERS,  
LAWN MOWERS, 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 6th July**

**Feat. Pat Costello**

Admission: €10 | Time: 9:00pm – 11:30pm

**For more info, contact Joe:**

**087 231 5526**

## ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Couple with small dogs seeking rental accommodation in village or town in Laois, or nearby with access to public transport. Good reference available from current landlord. Open to short or long-term rental, available immediately. We'd love to hear from you—thank you!

**Tel: 085 780 8237**



## CHILDMINDER NEEDED

Childminder wanted for two children (aged 2 years and 6 months) three days per week, with care to take place either in our home or the childminder's home. Start date is flexible but ideally from September. If interested, please contact;

**085 702 4480**

## PHOENIX GARDENERS

22 years' experience maintaining Phoenix Park. Small to medium jobs done.

- Grass cutting & trimming
- Tree pruning
- Hedge trimming



**CONTACT 087 323 3336**



**Quick, Cost Effective Appliance Repairs Portlaoise**

**087-9080211**

## GARDENING

### Elite Landscaping & Garden Maintenance

- ✓ GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE
- ✓ GRASS & HEDGE CUTTING AS & WHEN REQUIRED
- ✓ HEDGE, SHRUB & TREE PRUNING
- ✓ DECKING, PERGOLAS & FENCING
- ✓ FENCE TREATMENT & OUTDOOR PAINTING
- ✓ WATER FEATURES & KOI PONDS
- ✓ OLD PATIOS & PATHS LIFTED & RE-LAID
- ✓ JET WASHING & GENERAL CLEANUPS
- ✓ AND MORE...



**FREE QUOTES** from a friendly and reliable local service. From plans to completion.

**Call : 085 7883188**

## GARDENER AVAILABLE

Also, small construction jobs. Portlaoise and surrounding areas covered.

**CONTACT JIM:  
087-6885017**

## CLEANER REQUIRED

1 day a week for two hours

**CONTACT  
089-2247583**

## 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](mailto:magicmoments78@gmail.com)  
FAO Nuala

## MISSING KITTEN

Grey and white, last seen in Chapel Street area of Ballyroan. Kitten's name is Oggy. Beloved family pet.



For any information, please contact;

**JOANNE 085-2040333  
OR CLAIRE 087-3429608**

## 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**

## PAINTING, DECORATION & TILING

Professional and high-quality work.

**CONTACT  
085 705 9678**

## HYPNOTHERAPY

David Ward B.Sc., D.H.P., Adv

- Addiction & Smoking Cessation
- Anxiety & Depression
- Weight Management
- Fears, Phobias & Pain Control
- Trained by Paul McKenna

**CONTACT**

**083 321 6406 / [www.davidward.info](http://www.davidward.info)**

## FATIMA CANDLE

The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church, Sunday 13th July in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners. Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm.

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

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



**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.



# Ready To *Hear* Better?

**Virtually Invisible.**

Small and practically invisible.

**Rechargeable.**

No more need for small batteries.

**Ai Technology.**

Ideal for hearing in background noise.



**FREE**  
HEARING  
TESTS

**15%**  
DISCOUNT ON  
HEARING AIDS

**WAX**  
REMOVAL VIA MICRO  
SUCTIONING

Appointments available within 48 hours

**057 863 8181**

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



**HEARMED**  
ACOUSTIC HEALTHCARE  
*hear when you need us*



**MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN**  
GET YOURSELF NOTICED

EU Business

Irish Enterprise  
Awards 2022

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

## THE PRINTER YOU NEED TO KNOW



GRAPHIC  
DESIGN



MERCHANDISE &  
PROMOTIONAL  
ITEMS



BOOK  
PUBLICATIONS



MAIL  
MARKETING



CORPORATE &  
RETAIL PRINT



WIDE FORMAT  
PRINTING



VEHICLE  
GRAPHICS



PROCUREMENT  
PICK & PACK

Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 EH11  
☎ 057 8634050

Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 TF83  
☎ 045 433569



**mochuaprint.ie**





# Community Notices

**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 information contact 086-8706017.

**ADORABLE KITTEN LOOKING FOR A LOVING HOME:**

Free to a kind and caring home. Affectionate and playful. Contact: 085 133 0159

**SEAN DOYLE LIGHT ENGINEERING, BALLACOLLA:**

Call 087-2068972 | seandoylelightengineering

Clothesline poles, rotary clotheslines, winders, pulleys, sawhorses, bicycle stands.

**WHIST DRIVE RESULTS PARISH CENTRE – JULY 1ST WINNERS:** Top Score (Tied) – M. Gowing & P. Purcell; Ladies – 1st F. Benn, 2nd P. Murphy; Gents – 1st L. McCarthney, 2nd S. Chester; Halves – 1st A. M. Farrell, 2nd T. Mulhare; Raffle Winners – 1st A. Pearson, 2nd P. McEvoy, 3rd B. Cahill, 4th T. Mulhare, 5th B. Jackson, 6th M. Gowing. Thanks for your support! Whist continues every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. New members always welcome – lessons available.

**GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO** Tuesday 8th July 2025 St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm Jackpot on 50 numbers €2260 Double number €460 Lotto €1400

## 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.

**PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE – 2025:** Tickets, information, and Mass bouquets for the Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025 will be distributed at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 15th July in the Parish Centre. A petition box will also be available in the church from 2nd July to 16th July.

**COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP:** Please join us in community prayers every Tuesday at 11:00am via WhatsApp. For further details, please contact Noreen on 085 2689767. All are welcome.





## Harvest Time

An old farmer sat on the steps of his small shack chewing on a piece of straw. He was approached by a passing stranger who was looking for a cool drink of water. Wishing to start a conversation with the farmer, the stranger asked,

"How is your cotton crop coming this year?"

"I ain't got none", replied the farmer.

"Didn't you plant any?" asked the stranger.

"Nope," said the farmer,

"I was afraid the boll weevils would get it."

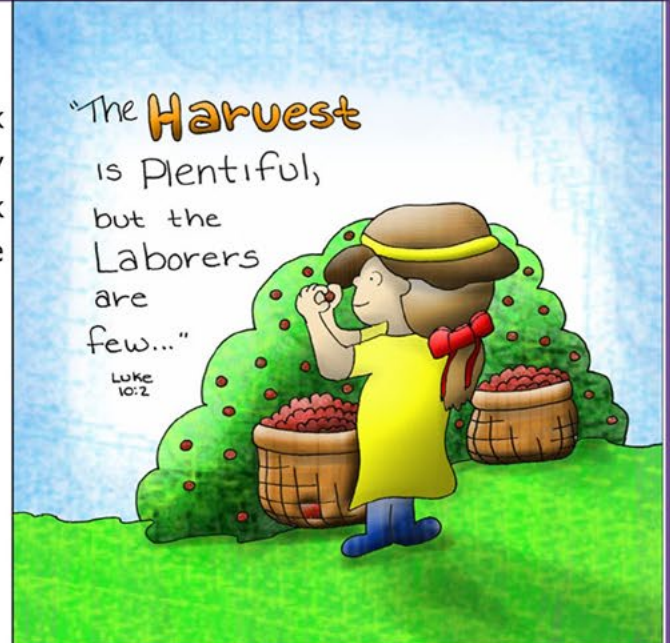
"Well," asked the stranger, "how is your corn?"

"Didn't plant any corn either," replied the man,

"I was afraid there wasn't going to be any rain."

"If you didn't plant any cotton or corn, what did you plant?" asked the man.

"Nothing," said the farmer. "I just played it safe!"



Well, I guess if you don't plant anything, it makes the harvest a lot easier, doesn't it?

In the Gospel today, Jesus sent out people to bring in the harvest. The harvest Jesus was talking about was not cotton, fruit or vegetables. He was sending out workers to bring people into the kingdom of God. He said that there were many souls who were ready to be harvested, but there were not enough workers. One reason it was hard to find workers was that it was very difficult work. Jesus warned that the workers in his kingdom would often be treated very unkindly.

Jesus is still looking for people who will work for him and bring people into his kingdom. That is what the church is supposed to do. It won't always be easy. In fact, it will be hard. Many people in the church are like the farmer in our story -- they are "just playing it safe." I have heard that eight out of ten church members have never invited anyone to church and that nine out of ten church members have never won anyone to Christ.

How about you? Are you willing to work for Jesus and invite people to come to church? Will you go and tell people about Jesus' love and that he died on the cross so that they could have everlasting life? There are many souls who are need to be brought into God's kingdom, but there just aren't enough workers.

**Dear Father,**

**Father, we want to be faithful workers  
telling others about Jesus and his love.**

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







## Jesus Sends Out Workers

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every \_\_\_\_\_ and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, but the \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like \_\_\_\_\_ among \_\_\_\_\_. Do not take a \_\_\_\_\_ or bag or \_\_\_\_\_; and do not greet anyone on the road.



"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his \_\_\_\_\_. Do not move around from house to house.

**few**

**lambs**

**purse**

**town**

**wolves**

**harvest**

**plentiful**

**sandals**

**wages**

**workers**

### Prayer to Blessed Carlo Acutis

Blessed Carlo Acutis,  
you were a young witness  
to the love of Christ,  
placing the Eucharist at the heart  
of your life.  
You lived with joy and simplicity,  
using your talents to serve others  
and spread the Gospel.  
Help me to love Jesus  
as you did,  
to recognise His presence  
in the Eucharist,  
and to live my faith  
with courage and sincerity.  
Inspire me to use my gifts  
for good, to seek holiness  
in everyday life,  
and to stay close to God  
through prayer and charity.  
Blessed Carlo, pray for me,  
that I may follow your  
example and grow each day  
in love for Jesus.  
Amen.

## Diamond Jubilee and Carlo Acutis Shrine

This weekend we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of our Parish Church St. Peter & Paul's which was opened on 4th July 1965. We give thanks for the vision of Fr. Tom Browne, the generosity of parishioners and all who contributed to building this Church—most of whom have now gone to their eternal rewards. Their legacy surrounds us still.

As part of our Jubilee celebrations, we also initiate a shrine to Blessed Carlo Acutis, Carlo Acutis was a Catholic teenager from Italy known for his deep faith and love of the Eucharist. He used his computer skills to create a website documenting Eucharistic miracles around the world. He died of leukaemia in 2006 at age 15 and was beatified by the in 2020 and will be Canonised on the 7th September this year. He is often called the "Cyber Apostle of the Eucharist." Carlo Acutis pray for us.





# Time to Think...

## Enjoy Your Coffee...



It was disappointing to read that tourists visiting our beautiful island has greatly reduced in recent times. Ireland has benefited hugely from tourism, especially many of the service industries. Ireland is now deemed the second most expensive country to live in Europe. The cost of living no doubt is prohibiting people from visiting our country. These July days are an opportunity to take rest and enjoy despite the many challenges. The following story reminds me of hope!

A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups - porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite -- telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

When all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor said: "If you noticed, all the nice-looking expensive cups were taken up, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and, in some cases, even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups... And then you began eyeing each other's cups."

"Now consider this," he continued... "Life is the coffee. The jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life, and the type of cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of life we live. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us."

**God brews the coffee, not the cups... Enjoy your coffee!**

**"The happiest people don't have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything they have."  
Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply.  
Speak kindly... and leave the rest to God.**

George Carlin was a brilliant comedian and wordsmith. He was fully present as he observed the human condition. His commentary on life is both honest and deeply reflective. A spirituality that brings light and pragmatism to where experience has become stale and cynical. The flowing is part of an observation of contemporary culture that remains very appropriate for us all to reflect upon.

**A Message by George Carlin:**

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more

conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbour. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more but learn less. We plan more but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one-night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete...

Remember; spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart, and it doesn't cost a cent.

Remember, to say, "I love you" to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.

Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again. Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

**AND ALWAYS REMEMBER ...**

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.





**TURAS COLUMBANUS  
THE COLUMBAN WAY**

.....

**XXVI Columbanus Day**

**11-13 July 2025**

# WALKING TOGETHER IN HOPE

## FRIDAY 11TH JULY

---

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| 1:45PM | Opening Address & Words of Welcome by Bishop Denis Nulty, Carlow County Museum   |
| 2:00PM | Launch of Exhibition "Ireland and the Birth of Europe" with Prof. Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, Carlow County Museum   |
| 3:00PM | Symposium - "If You Want to Know the Creator, Understand Creation", facilitated by Cynthia Ní Mhurchú MEP, Carlow College, St Patrick's  |
| 5:00PM | Ceremony of welcome and reception, Carlow College, St Patrick's  |
| 8:00PM | Ecumenical Evening Prayer with Columbanus Relics, Adelaide Memorial Church, Myshall followed by procession with the Columbanus relics to the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Myshall |

## SATURDAY 12TH JULY

---

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10:00AM | Assemble for Walk from Nine Stones to Myshall on the Columban Way (2.5 hours)   |
| 1:00PM  | Buffet Lunch in Myshall Hall following walk   |
| 2:30PM  | Talk: "Columbanus, the Man from Myshall" – Former President Mary McAleese – Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Myshall |
| 5:00PM  | Reception for Pilgrims and Guests hosted by Carlow County Council in Carlow College, St Patrick's                               |
| 8:00PM  | Concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow followed by an Irish Music Night in Carlow Town                              |

## SUNDAY 13TH JULY

---

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10:30AM | XXVI Columbanus Day Mass in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow |
| 12:30PM | Pilgrims' Lunch in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Carlow                |

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

✉ [info@carlowtourism.com](mailto:info@carlowtourism.com)

☎ 059 913 0411

🌐 [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)





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



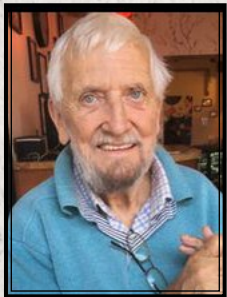
***Ann Deegan***

*(née Kerry)*

***Formerly of John  
Square, Portlaoise.***

***Fintan  
Fitzpatrick***

***Ballymacken, Portlaoise***



***John Phelan***  
***Pallas Big, Portlaoise***

***Pauline Ryan***

*(née Hayes)*

***Limerick & formerly of  
St. John's Square,  
Portlaoise.***



***MAY THEY REST IN PEACE  
OUR SYMPATHIES ARE WITH  
THEIR FAMILIES***



***In Loving Memory of  
NIALL  
(CORNELIUS)  
DUNNE***

***Beechfield, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.***

***Died 14th July 2024***

Niall's first anniversary mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Saturday July 12th at 6:30pm.

The Family of Niall Dunne wish to express our sincere  
and heartfelt thanks to all who supported us in our great  
loss.

We are deeply grateful to those who called to our home,  
attended the wake, funeral Mass, and burial and those  
who travelled long distance to be with us. Thank you to  
everyone who brought food, sent mass cards, flowers,  
letters, online messages, and kind words of condolences  
your thoughtfulness brought great comfort.

We want to thank The Governor, the serving and  
retired members of the Irish Prison Service for their  
participation in the Guard of Honour at his funeral.  
It was much appreciated.

Our appreciation extends to Fr. Ciprian Matei for  
celebrating Niall's mass saying the prayers at the grave.  
Sincere thanks to Paul & Timmy of Rankins undertakers  
along with Raymond Good for their professionalism  
and compassion in guiding us. The gravediggers who  
prepared his final resting place and Sarah Troy and Aidan  
McFall for their musical input.

We are also thankful to Matthew Keegan for providing  
the funeral home and to Michelle in the parish centre for  
her aid in preparing mass.

Thank you to all the team of St. James Hospital and  
The Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise who cared  
for Niall during his short illness.

Thank you to the staff of Hughes Pharmacy and The  
Cedar Clinic for their years of kindness.

We deeply appreciate the support and kindness shown by  
our family, friends, neighbours, and Niall's close friends  
during his illness and in the days since his passing.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually,  
please accept this note as an expression of our gratitude.  
Always remembered and forever loved.

***Rest in peace Niall.***





*In Loving Memory of*  
**TOM &  
 MARGARET  
 (PEG) McEVOY**

*3 Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise.*



*& ANNIE (NAN) MCDONALD*



*Ridge Road, Portlaoise.*

*In God's care you rest above,  
 In our hearts you rest in love,  
 Never more than a thought away,  
 Loved and remembered every day.  
 Sadly missed by their loving family.*

*Also remembering deceased members of the  
 McDonald and McEvoy families.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

*In Loving Memory of*  
**JOHANNA SCULLY**

*5 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.*

*16th Anniversary occurs 10th July 2025.*



*Loving memories of one so dear,  
 Treasured still with a love sincere,  
 In our hearts she is living yet,  
 We loved her too dearly to forget.*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts.  
 Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday  
 6th July at 12:30pm.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered  
 by all her loving family.*

*Also remembering her husband Patrick at this time.*

*Rest in Peace Johanna*

*Acknowledgement and Month's Mind*

*In Loving Memory of*  
**PATRICIA FARRELL**

*Riverview, formerly of 39 St John's Square*

*Patricia's Month's Mind Mass will take  
 place today, Sunday, July 6th at 12.30pm.*

*We the Farrell family would like to express our  
 heartfelt thanks to all who sympathised with  
 us, attended Patricia's wake and funeral Mass,  
 and supported us during our time of loss. We are especially grateful to  
 those who cared for Patricia during her illness.*

*A special word of thanks to her fiancé, Joe, for the love and devotion  
 he showed to our sister. We also sincerely thank her sisters-in-law,  
 Ann and Catherine, for their kindness and support.*

*A Mass will be offered in appreciation of all your prayers and kindness.*

*Forever loved and missed by her brothers Noel, Paddy, David,  
 and her sisters Catherine and Geraldine.*

*Rest in peace, Patricia.*



*In Loving Memory of*

**EILEEN LOUGHNANE**

*Rathnamanagh and Scoil Chriost Ri*

*1st Anniversary occurs on July 9th.*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on  
 Sunday July 13th in St. Peter and Paul's  
 Church 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 her husband Gerard and family.*



*May Eileen Rest in Peace*

*In Loving Memory of*

**JOHN EGAN**

*6 New Terrace, Dublin Road,  
 Portlaoise. 3rd Anniversary occurs  
 6th July 2025.*

*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
 in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
 on Saturday 5th July at 6.30pm.*

*There's always a place for you in our  
 hearts, that way we'll never really be apart.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his loving wife Anne, son  
 Adrian, daughter Karen, daughter-in-law Janice, grandsons Adam &  
 Caleb, granddaughter Chloe and sister Kathleen and Hilda.*



*Rest in Peace John*

*In Loving Memory of*

**EMILY DUNNE**

*Pembroke Terrace, Abbeyleix who died on the 9th of  
 July 2023 (2nd anniversary)*

*Emily's second anniversary mass will take place in the  
 Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix on Saturday  
 12th July 2025 at 5.00pm.*

*Much beloved daughter, sister, teacher and friend to many.*

*Do not stand at my grave and weep,*

*I am not there; I do not sleep.*

*I am in a thousand winds that blow,*

*I am the softly falling snow.*

*I am the gentle showers of rain,*

*I am the fields of ripening grain.*

*I am in the morning hush,*

*I am in the graceful rush  
 of beautiful birds in circling flight,*

*I am the starshine of the night.*

*I am in the flowers that bloom,*

*I am in a quiet room.*

*I am in the birds that sing,*

*I am in each lovely thing.*

*Do not stand at my grave bereft*

*I am not there. I have not left.*

*Sadly missed, loved and forever remembered  
 by your loving family.  
 Rest In Peace Emily*







*In Loving Memory of*  
**GERARD (GERRY)  
BRENNAN**

*Late of 41 St. Brigid's Place and  
Scotland. 4th Anniversary occurs  
Tuesday 8th July 2025.*

Just a prayer from the family that loved you,

Just a memory fond and true,

in our hearts you will live forever,

because we thought the world of you.

Deep in our hearts your memory is kept,

To love and cherish and never forget.

To hear your voice,

To see your smile,

To sit and talk to you awhile,

To be together in the same old way,

Would be our dearest wish today.

*Loved, missed and remembered always by  
Mam Mena, brother Paul and family,  
sisters Angela, Marie and their families,  
extended relatives and friends  
and all your loving family in Scotland.*

*Rest in Peace Gerry*

*In Loving Memory of*  
**JIM QUIGLEY**

*Dublin Road, Portlaoise.*

*2nd Anniversary occurs 13th July 2025.*



*Your life was one of kindly deeds,  
A helping hand for other's needs,  
Sincere and true in heart and mind,  
Beautiful memories left behind*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts.  
Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Sunday  
13th July at 12.30pm.

*Loved and sadly missed by his loving wife Maude,  
daughters Michelle and Anne, son-in-law Seamus  
and grandchildren Emma and David.*

*Rest in Peace Jim*

*In Loving Memory of*

**LEONA CUDDY**

*Meelick, Portlaoise.*

*7th Anniversary occurred 2nd July 2025.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 5th July at 6.30pm

*Deep in our hearts you will always stay,  
Loved and remembered every day.*



*Loved and sadly missed by all your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Leona*

**KEEGAN'S  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

**50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.**



**Contact Matthew**

**087-2549195**

**David 087-2369887**

**HENRY RANKIN**

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

*Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise*

**087-2562137**



**MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN**  
MEMORIAL CARD SPECIALIST

**A SPECIAL MEMORY  
OF YOUR LOVED ONE**

📍 Clonminam Business Park  
Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
R32 EH11

☎ 057 86 34050

✉ info@mochuaprint.ie

🌐 www.mochuaprint.ie







# Portlaoise Stone Centre

## 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](http://www.portlaoisestone.ie)



# Rest in Peace



**SANA ROHO**

## 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!**



### More info:

[www.cherryhillchi.com](http://www.cherryhillchi.com)  
089 4354778  
[info@cherryhillchi.com](mailto:info@cherryhillchi.com)  
FB: Sana Roho  
IG: @sana\_roho

## 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?**



**DECORATIVE STONE  
SAND AND GRAVEL  
TOPSOIL COMPOST  
BARK MULCH**

**KYLE 085  
PORTLAOISE 7020537  
R32 T2V9**

**DELIVERY AVAILABLE**

PRESENTED  
BY

**P.A.T.H**

## CHARITY CYCLE FOR THE HOMELESS

Gear up for a meaningful ride and make a difference in the lives of the homeless community! Join us for a charity cycle event aimed at raising awareness and funds to support those in need. Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or a casual rider, everyone is welcome to participate in this heartwarming cause.



**Portlaoise Action  
To Homelessness**



**Saturday, July 26th**

**PORTLAOISE  
PLAZA  
JUNCTION 17**

CHECK IN FROM 8AM  
100KM STARTS AT 9:15AM  
53KM STARTS AT 9:30AM

### SUPPORTED BY:

NEWBRIDGE CC, POST 27 IRISH U N VETS ASSOCIATION AND  
PORTLAOISE PLAZA JUNCTION 17 TOUGHER PORTLAOISE

### EVENT:

REGISTERED TO CYCLE IRELAND



### REGISTRATION VIA CYCLING IRELAND

LEISURE  
CALENDAR  
OPEN

NON-CYCLE  
IRELAND  
MEMBERS  
NEEDS TO  
PURCHASE  
INSURANCE

**100 KM**

**& 53 KM**

ENTRY FEE €30  
FOR EITHER  
EVENT



*Raffle on 26-07-2025*

**HELMETS MUST BE WORN FOR ALL EVENTS!**

**All participants will receive a T-shirt + gift bag valued at €30 on the day!**

**FOOD STOP & REFRESHMENTS ON ROUTE & SUPPORT VEHICLES FOR BOTH EVENTS**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO P.A.T.H FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE HOMELESS!!**



# WATER SAFETY CLASSES WITH GAMES & PADDLE BOARDING

Want to try Water Safety Classes and progress toward your Lifeguarding Qualifications?

Water Safety Ireland Certification  
**Up to Rescue 2 Award**  
with Water Safety Ireland Laois

**Age Group: 12-18 years old**

Must be able to swim 1 length of pool

**Cost: €35 per child**

Mon 21st July - Fri 25th July

10.30am - 1pm Daily

**BALLINAKILL OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL**



Places are limited. Pre-booking is required.  
Please email [sports@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:sports@laoiscoco.ie) or  
call 057 866 4058 / 087 618 4404



Promoting  
Water Safety in Ireland



**SERVING UP A  
SUMMER OF FUN!**



**Parks Tennis Summer Camps**  
**All Equipment Provided! FANTASTIC VALUE!**

**July 14th - 18th** Holy Family Senior School, Portlaoise.  
**Ages 6-10: 3PM-4.30PM & Ages 11-16: 5PM-7PM**

**€40 Per  
Child.**

**Please Register  
Through  
Eventbrite.**



If your child has a special requirement, please let us know as we aim to deliver an inclusive programme.



Comhairle Chontae  
Laoise | Laois  
County Council



Healthy  
Laois



SPÓRT ÉIREANN  
SPORT IRELAND



TENNIS  
IRELAND

Irish Daily Mail



## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025



**No €18,000 Jackpot Winner**

### WINNERS

Bronwyn Kelly  
Annemarie Candon  
Marion, Nicole & Gemma Mooney  
Lil White  
Tommy & Rita O'Connor  
John Lynch  
Margaret Grady  
Catriona & Catherine Byrne  
Jack Phelan

**MATCH 3s €1,000**

9  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€112  
each

### PROMOTER

John Loughlin  
Online Lotto  
Lotto Gift  
Lotto Gift  
Paddy O'Connor  
Paddy O'Connor  
Greg Keenan  
Catherine Byrne  
Betty Phelan

Play PARISH



[www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)

Follow Us @PortlaoiseParish



portlaoiseparishlaois

**Next Week's Jackpot is €19,000**

## 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](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

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

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish 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

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:10-14

Responsorial Psalm 65:1-7, 16, 20

Galatians 6:14-18

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

## 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





60 YEARS AGO

