

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

26th October 2025

**Thirtieth Week
in Ordinary Time**



**Sixth class pupils from Gaelscoil celebrating Mass
In Stradbally woods last week.**

Aifreann i measc na gcoillte le an tAthair Ciprian



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

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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie



Exam Result Mentality

Can you remember the thrill of a good exam result? The trouble with exam results is, that despite the knowledge that exams are about measuring our own potential, we still like to compare our marks against those of our classmates. Our success is made all the more meaningful by the fact that others

have done less well. If this mentality stopped at exams this wouldn't be so bad, but what happens when the same attitude spills over into the rest of our lives? Do we look down on others because they have more menial jobs, because they're on benefits, because they don't go to church or haven't given as much to charity as we have? Do we look down on those who have made mistakes in life, who drink too much, take drugs or end up in prison? Do we measure our own righteousness against the poor decisions of others? When this mentality afflicts us, we are in danger of becoming smug, unfeeling and self-righteous.

There's a big difference between being righteous and self-righteous. The Pharisee in today's parable is a good man, but his mistake is in thinking that he is a better person than the sinner who prays next to him. The Pharisee fails to see the sinner's worth and he completely fails to see his own shortcomings. It comes as no surprise that it's the sinner's humble prayer that God hears and not the Pharisee's proud boasts. Is God going to love us more because we are getting things right? Is God going to love the vagrant or the criminal less because they have made mistakes or enjoyed fewer privileges?

As we forge our individual relationships with God we are asked to do it not by comparing our progress with those around us, but by keeping one eye on our own failings.

Thought for Today!

Two men prayed: the Pharisee with proud self-congratulation, the tax collector with humble repentance. Jesus declared only the broken sinner 'went home justified'. True prayer begins when we stop comparing ourselves to others and simply come before God as we are – needy and dependent. The foundation of faith isn't our righteousness but God's mercy. Today, examine your prayers: Do they sound like a resume of achievements or a cry for grace? The door to God's heart opens lowest to those who kneel lowest. The more we see our need, the more we'll know His mercy.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

Monday (Bank Holiday): 10am

Tuesday—Thursday: 7.30am & 10am

Friday: 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm (Vigil for All Saints)

Saturday (All Saints): 8.30am and 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.

October Collection for the Priests of the Parish

Envelopes for the October Collection for the priests of the parish are in the Development Boxes or in the Church porches.

Thank You for your support.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Emily Ann Kirwan, Maple Avenue

Thomas Joseph Roche, Killone

Who were baptised last weekend.

Bereavement Mass - Parish Church Monday 3rd November at 7.30pm



Those who died in our Parish during the year and their families will be remembered at our Mass on 3rd November. A family member will be invited to light a candle in their memory. If we have a photo of the deceased it will accompany their name on the screen in the Parish Church.

Also there are parishioners who have lost loved ones, parent or siblings, and also natives of our Parish, whose funerals were celebrated elsewhere. If you would like them to be remembered by name at our Bereavement Mass please give the details to the Parish Centre by calling in or email

michelle@portlaoiseparish.ie

(A photograph may also be displayed if you wish to provide one). Please have this into the Parish office by Friday 31st October. Thank you.

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ON THE NIGHT

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ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR HALL AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF
OUR GRAVEYARD



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sinead.tynan@citinfo.ie

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- Be an active citizen
- Make a difference

Closing Date for Application is October 31st

South Leinster Citizens Information Service,
Kellyville Centre, Portlaoise, Co.Laois, R32 K6PY



Embroidery and Heritage Museum

Mountmellick Embroidery Bicentennial Celebration

Mountmellick Embroidery & Heritage Museum are holding a special event marking the 200th Anniversary of Mountmellick Embroidery. This beautiful white on white Embroidery, also known as Mountmellick Work, was introduced in 1825 by Johanna Carter, with original designs inspired by the local flora and fauna of the Owenass riverbanks.

Featuring a Programme of Fascinating Presentations

- History of Mountmellick Embroidery with Local Historian Roy Meredith.
- The National Collection: Care and exhibits from the National Museum of Ireland.
- Quaker Heritage of Needlework by Clodagh Grubb.
- The Future of the Craft with Master Craftsperson Dolores Dempsey.
- View contemporary pieces and a display of "Quaker Samplers" not usually on public exhibit!

When: Saturday, November 1st, 2025

Time: Programme begins at 10:00 AM

**Where: Mountmellick Embroidery & Heritage Museum,
MDA Building, Irishtown, Mountmellick, Co. Laois (R32 A0PK)**

Telephone: (057) 862 452

Email: info@mountmellickmuseum.ie

Admission is FREE, but booking is essential!

Tickets available on Eventbrite: <https://shorturl.at/HRoln>

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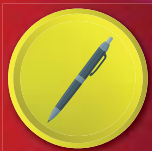
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LEARNING TOGETHER

PARENT NEWSLETTER



**Welcome to the inaugural Issue of Learning Together
Prepared, Polite, Productive - The Dunamase Way**

Dunamase College / Coláiste Dhún Másc Strengthens Home–School Links with New Teaching and Learning Newsletter

Building Bridges Between Home and School – Dunamase College/Coláiste Dhún Másc launches its new Parents' Teaching and Learning Newsletter – Learning Together Prepared, Polite, Productive

Dunamase College/Coláiste Dhún Másc is launching an exciting new Parents' Teaching and Learning Newsletter to strengthen the partnership between parents and teachers and to keep families closely connected to classroom life. Already well-known for The Dunamase Daily, the school magazine, as well as its Dunamase Diaries their award-winning podcasting team that celebrate the school's extra-curricular life and strong community spirit, Dunamase College/Coláiste Dhún Másc is now turning the spotlight on what happens inside the classroom — highlighting the innovative teaching, digital learning, and subject creativity that make the school unique.

Principal Dymphna Kelly said the idea came from the school's belief that education is most effective when parents and teachers work hand in hand: "We're proud of how The Dunamase Daily keeps our community informed about student life, but this new newsletter will go a step further. It's about sharing how students learn, how we teach, and how parents can support learning at home."

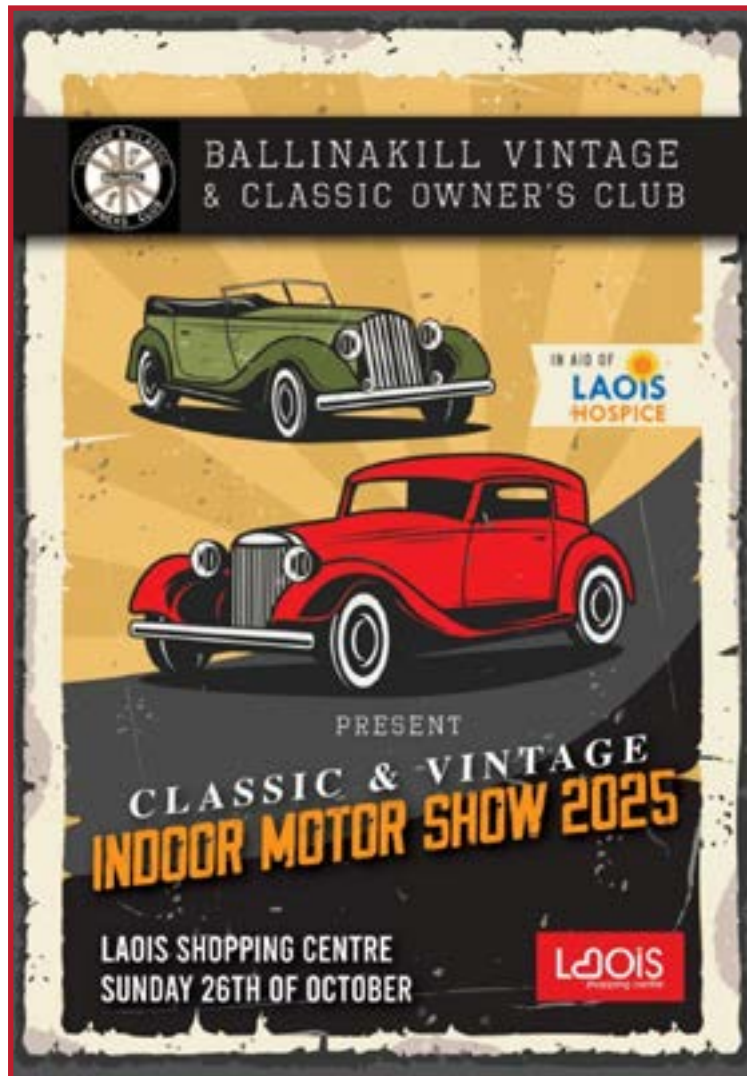
Each edition will offer parents practical learning tips, insights into classroom strategies, and updates on new developments in curriculum and wellbeing. It will also highlight the school's one-to-one iPad learning model, which continues to set Dunamase College/Coláiste Dhún Másc apart as a leader in digital education.

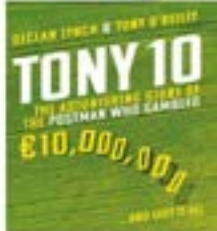
To complement the newsletter, the school will also host an Unlock Learning Parents' Seminar — a special evening dedicated to helping parents understand how to best support their children's study habits, digital learning, and overall wellbeing. The seminar will feature talks from teachers and guest speakers, focusing on practical strategies that families can use at home to boost learning confidence and independence.

Ms. Kelly added: "The way students learn has changed enormously in the past decade. By understanding how learning happens today, parents can better support, encourage, and guide their children with real confidence."

The initiative reflects Dunamase College's / Coláiste Dhún Másc ethos of Care, Community, Respect, Equality, and Excellence in Teaching and Learning — values that continue to make the school a thriving and forward-thinking place for every student.








Gambling

Workshop with Tony O'Reilly
Monday 10th Nov @
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R32C7DD

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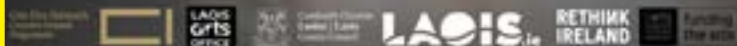
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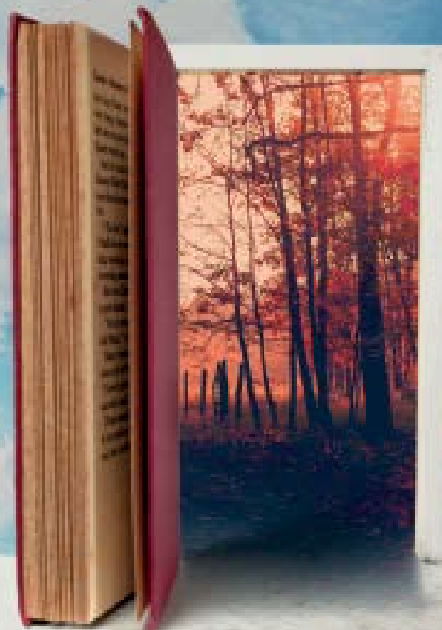
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The Pharisee & the Tax Collector



Have you ever known someone who thought they were much better than everyone else and deserved special treatment? Dr. Seuss wrote a story about a turtle who was like that. Perhaps you have read the story. The title of the story is "Yertle the Turtle."

Yertle was ruler of a little pond on the island of Sala-ma-Sond. All of the turtles at the pond had everything they needed and were quite happy. They were happy, that is, until Yertle decided that his kingdom was too small. "I am ruler of all that I see, but I don't see enough. My throne is too low down" complained Yertle.

So Yertle lifted his hand and gave a command. He ordered nine turtles in the pond to stand on each other's backs so that they could become his new and higher throne. He climbed up onto the backs of the turtles and he had a wonderful view. But Yertle still wasn't satisfied. "Turtles! More turtles!" he called from his lofty throne, Yertle swelled with pride and feelings of importance as turtles from all over the pond came to climb on the stack of turtles which made up Yertle's throne.

At the very bottom of the stack was a plain and ordinary turtle named Mack. He struggled under the weight of all the turtles until finally, he decided that he had taken enough. That plain little turtle named Mack did a very plain little thing. He burped! His burp shook the throne and Yertle fell right into the mud! And now the great Yertle is King of the MUD.

When you think too highly of yourself, you often wind up taking a big fall, don't you?

In our Gospel today, Jesus tells a story about a man who thought he was better than everyone else. In the story that Jesus told, two men went to the temple to pray. One of the men was a Pharisee, a religious group that was very strict in obeying the law of Moses. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: "I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. I don't cheat, I don't sin, and I'm certainly not like that tax collector over there! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of all my income."

The tax collector stood at a distance and would not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he bowed his head in sorrow, saying, "Oh God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner."

Now, which of these two prayers do you think was pleasing to God? You are right. The prayer of the tax collector. Jesus said, "The tax collector, not the Pharisee returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, but those who humble themselves will be exalted."

When we are tempted to brag about ourselves, we need to remember that other people are not impressed - and neither is God!

My Prayer

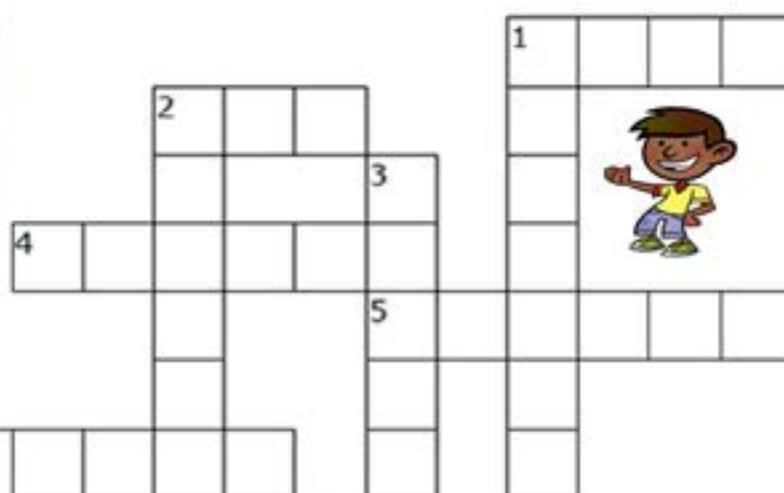
Dear Father, we pray that you would help us to remain humble so that we would not think more highly of ourselves than we ought.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



The Pharisee & The Tax Collector

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Luke 18:14



TEMPLE
HUMBLE
ROBBER
PARABLE
MERCY
TAX
SINNER
PRAY

ACROSS

1. To speak to God
2. Money paid to support the government
4. Modest, not proud
5. Someone who steals from someone
6. A person who breaks God's law

DOWN

1. A story told by Jesus to teach his followers.
2. A place of worship
3. Showing great kindness and forgiveness



C J U S T I F I E D E L D W F
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Time to Think...

Remembering loved ones gone before us...



This week we begin the new month of November. Traditionally this is the time of year, in the Christian liturgical calendar, when we remember the souls of the faithful departed. The season, begins with the Feast of All Saints, Women and Men over countless generations who inspired, engaged, and personified the Christian values, of faith, hope and love. This great feast is followed by All Souls day. A day, when we remember Our loved ones, who have gone before us. Many people on this special day, also visit their family plots, sacred places, where the mortal remains of loved ones lie buried. Death is a very difficult reality and yet is very part of all our human experiences.

Death points us to the ultimate mystery in relation to our meaning and purpose in life and to our final journey, of which Saint Paul consoles in his remark "Our true home is in heaven". It is always a deep privilege to celebrate with family and friends the passing of their loved one from this life. Funerals are those moments, when gathering together, we ritualize the life of someone we loved and whose memory we will cherish forever. We should take great pride in how we celebrate funerals in our local parishes. There is a tremendous sense of community solidarity and support which offers rich sympathy to those carrying the burden of loss and grief.

Halloween did not come from Hollywood but rather its origins are strongly connected to ancient Celtic roots.

In Celtic Ireland, about two millennia ago, Samhain was the point between the lighter (summer) and darker halves (winter) of the year. At Samhain, the gap between this and the other world was at its thinnest, allowing spirits to pass through. People's ancestors were honoured and invited home, while harmful spirits were warded off. People wore costumes and masks to disguise themselves as spirits to avoid harm. Bonfires and food played a large part in the festivities. The bones of slaughtered livestock were cast into a communal blaze; household fires were extinguished and started again from the bonfire. Food was prepared for the living and the dead and was ritually shared with the less well-off.

Christianity incorporated honouring of the dead into the Christian calendar with All Saints (All Hallows) on 1st November, followed by All Souls on the following day. The wearing of costumes and masks to ward off harmful spirits has survived as Halloween customs. The Irish emigrated to America in great numbers during the 19th century, especially around the time of famine in Ireland during the 1840s. The Irish carried their Halloween traditions to America, where it is now one of the major holidays of the year.

November is the time of the year when we remember the souls of loved ones who have gone before us. November is a difficult time of year. The beginning of winter brings long nights and cooler days. This can be a time of loneliness and anxiety, especially for those who live alone. In our Celtic tradition, we have a great sense of our own mortality and vulnerability during this month. The Celtic festival of Samhain was a time to remember all who had gone before. Death is difficult and painful. It strips us of the familiar and often leaves us naked and vulnerable with our bereavement and painful losses, which we all have experienced when a loved one dies. The death of a loved one often leaves many unanswered questions as we attempt to carry on without a husband or wife, sibling or friend.

Perhaps the two most powerful lines in the entire Gospel describe the human emotion felt by Jesus when his friend Lazarus died: "Jesus wept." Jesus knew the pain and hurt that comes when a loved one dies. And for

God to fully embrace the human condition, he also had to embrace death itself through his son. The humiliating and brutal manner of Christ's death united God with all types of suffering and persecution. The final words that came from our dying God was a prayer of welcome and wonderful invitation: "Today, you will be with me in paradise." We know from our experience that the leaves will blossom again, that spring will come. Christ's death was the ultimate demonstration of love by his father. As he was awoken to new life and resurrection, so, too, are all of us who believe in him. As we remember our loved ones who have died and pray for them, we do so with great hope in our hearts.

May all our loved ones enjoy the eternal promise of life and peace in the happiness and joy of God's presence. Jesus tells us: "I am going ahead of you to prepare a place for you, so that where I am, you, too, shall be." And despite the pain that comes when a loved one dies, in faith we are encouraged to hope in the reality that God's love is even brighter than death itself. Pádraig Pearse once told a beautiful story to demonstrate our Christian hope regarding death. In the month of September, the little boy asked his mother where do all the swallows go to? She replied: "To the land where it is always summer."

The dead are not distant or absent. They are alongside us. When we lose someone to death, we lose their physical image and presence, they slip out of visible form into invisible presence. This alteration of form is the reason we cannot see the dead. But because we cannot see them does not mean that they are not there. Transfigured into eternal form, the dead cannot reverse the journey and even for one second re-enter their old form to linger with us a while. Though they cannot reappear, they continue to be near us and part of the healing of grief is the refinement of our hearts whereby we come to sense their loving nearness. When we ourselves enter the eternal world and come to see our lives on earth in full view, we may be surprised at the immense assistance and support with which our departed loved ones have accompanied every moment of our lives. In their new, transfigured presence their compassion, understanding and love take on a divine depth, enabling them to become secret angels guiding and sheltering the unfolding of our destiny.

May all our loved ones gone before us rest in peace.

Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little, but not for long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that once we shared
Miss me but let me go.
For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the master plan
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at all the things we used to do
Miss me but let me go.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 21ST OCTOBER. Top score: Sadie Chester. 1st Lady: Betty Murphy. 2nd Lady: Terry Dunne. 1st Gent: Leslie Hunter. 2nd Gent: Damien Carter. 1st Half: Tom Jacob. 2nd Half: Mary Gowing. Raffle: 1st Terry Dunne, 2nd Tom Kearns, 3rd Mary Dunne, 4th Paula McEvoy, 5th Terry Dunne, 6th Betty Murphy. *Thanks to all for your support. Whist continues each Tuesday night at 7.30 in the Parish Centre, new members always welcome, lessons available if required.*

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS For family, friends or anyone affected by someone struggling with alcoholism. Al-anon meeting every Thursday night at 8pm in Portlaoise. For further information contact 086-8706017.

FRENCH SET DANCERS COME and join Maureen Culleton every day next week, 10a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Commencing Bank Holiday Monday, when she hosts and teaches a group of French Set Dancers. Seanchistin Ballyfin R32X5D6. Further details 0876482038.. seanchistin@gmail.com."once in a lifetime opportunity"

LAOIS COUNTY BRIDGE CLUB, PORTLAOISE. Morning bridge every Wednesday morning at 10.15am in Portlaoise Enterprise Centre. Beginners are welcome and lessons given to improve your skills. Contact William on 087-0929898.

SEAN DOYLE LIGHT ENGINEERING, BALLACOLLA: Call 087-2068972 | seandoylelightengineering. Clothesline poles, rotary clotheslines, winders, pulleys, sawhorses, bicycle stands.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT Monday 27th. No bowls. Bank Holiday. Wednesday 29th. LAOIS PARTNERSHIP TALK .SERVICES TO THE ELDERLY.FROM 3PM IN PARISH CENTRE THURSDAY 30th. In Sue Ryder Kilminchy. cards and chat from 3pm new members welcome. tuition given..for further information contact Maria.at 0879187157

LAOIS TRADITIONAL SINGERS' CIRCLE: First Thursday of every month. Next session 6 November 2025. 9pm Humes' Bar Portlaoise. Folk songs, sean nós, ballads, stories and recitations welcome. contact Niall 087231093.

CARING IN OFFALY CE SCHEME: Home Respite Care Worker, Vacancy No. 2415725, Portlaoise area, 19.5 hours per week. Please contact Alison Hackett for more information on 086-0213711 or ahackett@familycarers.ie

MEALS ON WHEELS CHURCH GATE COLLECTION on the weekend of 1st and 2nd of November.

LAOIS MACRA COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT. Featuring Colin Kenny and Alistair Fingleton Castle Arms Hotel, Durrow. Saturday 8th Nov. at 8.00 p.m. Admission €15 on the door or ph. 086 379 2158. Purchase your ticket before 1st Nov. to be in with a chance to win a prize (price of your ticket back!).

GRAIGUECULLEN HALLOWEEN MONSTER BINGO Sunday 26th October St. Fiaccs Hall @ 3pm Jackpot on 48 numbers €1740, Double number €1580, Lotto €750, Bonus Ball €600.

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.

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.

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 GUILD OF ST PHILIP Portlaoise, provides a befriending service for prisoners in Portlaoise and Midlands, who have no family visits. This experience greatly affects their ability to adjust to life 'outside' as law abiding citizens. The Guild is a positive force in the lives of prisoners visited. If you are interested in becoming a Guild member please contact 0860462405.

ABIDE IN HIS LOVE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE NOV 21-23. The Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran Co. Donegal. A beautiful event for women exploring the beauty & gift of their feminine identity in Christ. Guest Speakers include Sr. Mary Madeline Todd OP (USA), Megan Madden (USA/UK), Fr. Barry Braum, Fr. Mark Wharton (UK), Fr. Francesco Mary Gavazzi, CFR, the Nashville Dominican sisters, & Mass with Archbishop Eamon Martin. Check Eventbrite for tickets & more info.

EMMANUEL HOUSE CLONFERT, Co. Galway H53ESN6: Day of prayer – Sat. 1st November 11am. Fatima Devotions led by Eddie Stone & team. Music, Adoration, Confessions, Healing Service and Holy Mass. Please bring a packed lunch.

YOUNG ADULT [18-40] RETREAT-OCT. 31ST TO NOV. 2ND in Our Lady of Silence Abbey, Roscrea. Donation/full board/own room. Contact Sr. Úna 090-6481666 or Michael 086-2453123

ROSARY AT THE GROTTTO, First Sunday in November 2nd at the Grotto Top Square at 2.30pm.

*Our Prayers are asked for those
who recently died.*



Enda Dunne
Trumera, Mountrath/Portlaoise

Jamie Brennan
Colliers Lane, Kilminchy, Portlaoise



Bernard Moloney
Parnell Crescent, Portlaoise

Renata Grisiniene
Bridle Walk, Kilminchy, Portlaoise



Kathleen Evans
(née Murphy)
*Blackburn UK and formerly 7 Lake
Glen, Portlaoise*

Evelyn O'Rourke
Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise



*May They Rest In Peace
Our Sympathies Are With Their Families*



In Loving Memory of
ANGELA CLEARY

Late of 37 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs
29th October 2025.

A gentle smile,
A beautiful touch,
Of a dear friend I miss
And love so much.

*From your forever friend Geraldine x
Rest in Peace Angela*

In Loving Memory of
BIANCA RUMEU

Zimbabwe.

12th Anniversary occurs at this time.
Died 19th October 2013.

I hide my tears when I say your name,
but the pain in my heart is still the same.

Though I smile and seem carefree,

There is no one who misses you more than I do.
Your presence I miss, Your memory I treasure,
Loving you always, forgetting you not.

*Sadly missed by your mum Patricia
Murambinda, sister Sandra Murambinda,
cousins, uncles, nieces and nephews.*

*May your Dear Soul Rest in Eternal
Peace, Bianca*

In Loving Memory of
CHRISTY FINNEGAN

126 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

12th Anniversary occurs 28th October 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St.
Joseph's Church, Ballingar, **Sunday 26th
October at 10.30am.**

Silent thoughts of times together,
Hold memories which will last forever.

*Sadly missed by his wife Mary, daughters
Margaret and Anne, grandson Eoin and all his
loving family.*

*Also remembering you on your 97th birthday
on 1st November.*

May Christy Rest in Peace



The death has occurred of
KATHLEEN EVANS
(NÉE MURPHY)

Blackburn, England and formerly
7 Lake Glen, Portlaoise.

Who died peacefully
20th October 2025 in the UK.

*Deeply regretted by her loving husband &
family, brothers, sisters extended family.
Funeral Arrangements later.*

May Kathleen Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
MARY CARROLL

76 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
50th Anniversary occurs at this time.

Each of us in our way,
Have special thoughts of you today.

*Sadly missed and always
remebered by the Carroll family.*

Rest in Peace Mary



In Loving Memory of
ANGELA CLEARY
 (NÉE COLBERT)
 7 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.
 7th Anniversary away from home
 occurs 29th October 2025.

They say there is a reason,
 They say that time will heal,
 But neither time or reason,
 Will change the way we feel.
 For no one knows the heartache
 That lies beyond our smiles,
 No one knows how many times
 We've broken down and cried.
 We want to tell you something, so there won't be
 Any doubt, you're so wonderful to think of,
 But so hard to be without.
 We cannot bring the old days back,
 When we were all together,
 The family chain is broken now,
 But memories live forever.

*Sadly missed by your loving husband Tom, daughters
 Stephanie, Tracey and Paula, grandchildren Craig, Ben,
 Ryan, Roisin & Willow great-granddaughter Grace.*

Always in our hearts.

Rest in Peace Mam

Also remembering Angela's Mother & Twin Brother



**ELIZABETH
 CULBERT &
 NOEL COLBERT**
 Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise
 & Kilcormac, Offaly whose 13th
 Anniversary / 1st Anniversary also
 occur at this time.

Our lips cannot speak how much we love you,
 Our hearts cannot tell them what to say,
 Only God knows how much we miss you,
 Every hour of every day.

*Sadly missed by Tom, Stephanie, Tracey and Paula
 Craig, Ben, Ryan, Roisin, Willow and Grace.*

Always in our hearts.

Rest in Peace Granny & Noel



In Loving Memory of
MARTIN RAFTER

34 The Hermitage,
 Borris Road, Portlaoise.
 5th Anniversary occurs
 25th October 2025.

Martin

Memory lane is a lonely place
 Where thoughts are fond and true.
 We travel down that road each day
 And we always think of you.

Loved and sadly missed by your loving wife Betty xxx

Daddy

Precious people are very few,
 That's why there was only one of you.
 Nothing on earth can ever replace
 The sound of your voice
 And the smile on your face.
 No verse, no flowers, no tears can say
 How much you're loved and missed each day.

-Love John, Martina & Craig xxx

Grandad

A little tribute, small and tender,
 Just to say we will always remember.
*Forever missed, love Stefan, Amy, Jennifer
 and great-grandsons Daithí and Tomás xxx*

Dad

At the blueness of skies and in the warmth of summer
 We remember you.
 What we once enjoyed and deeply loved
 We can never lose
 For all that we love deeply becomes part of us.
 It doesn't matter who my father was
 It matters who I remember he was.

-Jimmy, Claire and family.

Rest in Peace Martin

In Loving Memory of

BRIAN LARKIN JNR.

Bianconi Way, Portlaoise.
 7th Anniversary away from home
 29th October.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
 Sts. Peter & Pauls Church **Saturday 1st
 November at 6.30pm.**

You're in our hearts, you're in our soul.
 Now apart no hands to hold.
 We won't forget the love you gave,
 We can still feel it to this day.

We stand without you by our sides,
 But know you're watching from way up high,
 We will meet again for sure,
 Because our love will last and endure.

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Fiona, sons Ethan,
 Damon, Oisín and grandson Odhrán. x*

Rest in Peace Brian



In Loving Memory of
JOSIE MCGILL

Clonboyne, Portlaoise.
1st Anniversary occurs
on the 26th October 2025.

Josie's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on **Sunday**
26th October at 10am.

Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for others needs.
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.

*Loved and sadly missed by her loving husband Barry,
daughter Mary and son Dermot, daughter in law Brid
and grandchildren Frankie & Jodie.*

Rest in Peace Josie



In Loving Memory of
**SHEILA AND
RICHARD (SONNY)
BROWN & THEIR
SON STEPHEN**

2 Dublin Road Portlaoise.
Richard's 33rd Anniversary occurred
12th September 2025.

Sheila's 16th Anniversary occurs
27th October 2025.

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

*Sadly missed by all their loving family,
extended family and friends and the
Wright family.*

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
SÉAN PHELAN

Fisherstown. 2nd Anniversary Occurs 5th November.

Anniversary mass will be held in St. John's Catholic Church,
Killenard on **Sunday 2nd November at 10.30am.**

Our Family Chain Is Broken,
And Nothing Seems the Same,
But As God Calls Us One by One,
The Chain Will Link Again.

*Sadly missed by your heartbroken sons Denis &
Trevor, their mother Marie, daughter-in-laws
Danielle & Avril, grandkids Senan, Jordan &
Mia, sisters Margaret & Mary, his aunt Stella
& their families & his friends.*

Rest in Peace Séan



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of
AARON JORDAN KELLY GORMAN

7th Birthday away from home occurred 21st October.

Happy 25th Birthday.

If I could have one wish in life, that wish would have to be,
that God would take away my pain and send you back to me.
Your birthday's here today my son, and I just wanted you to know,
how much I deeply love you and that I miss you so.
On days like this we should celebrate, but for me that proves hard, f
or unlike other Mothers, I cannot send a birthday card.
No kisses can I give you, or birthday gifts to buy, only flowers I now can give
you, which I place down where you lie.
Two other things I send you, are my thoughts and all
my love, So, hold them close and keep them safe,
in Heaven up above.
And please wait for me, my darling,
until my days are through,
And then I'll come and spend all time
in Heaven just with you..

*Loved and eternally missed by Mummy, Mudasar,
brothers Brandon, Noah and Junaid and sister Aisha*

xxx

Rest in Peace Aaron



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

New Road, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurs
2nd November 2025.

9th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, next
Sunday 2nd November at 10am.

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be, so He put
His arms around you, and whispered; "Come to me".

With tearful eyes we watched you, and saw you pass away,
And although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.

Sadly missed by the Egan family and all his friends.

Rest in Peace Tommy



In Loving Memory of our Mother
ELIZABETH CULBERT

Late of Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary on 25th October.
Also remembering her daughter & our sister

**ANGELA CLEARY
(NÉE CULBERT)**

Late of 37 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs 29th October.
May the winds of love blow softly,

For only you to hear,
We still love and miss you,
As it dawns another year.

*Also remembering our brother Noel (Angela's
Twin) whose 1st Anniversary occurs at this time.
Sadly missed and always remembered by all your
loving family.*



May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
PADDY BEERE

Ballydavis, Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary occurs 27th October 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the
Church of the Assumption, The Heath on
Sunday 26th October at 9.30am.

Never more than a thought away,
Deep in our hearts you will always stay,
Loved and remebered every day.

*Sadly missed by his loving lwife Madge,
sons and daughters and extended family.*

May Paddy Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**MARY (MALEY)
CONNELL**

57 Marian Place, Portlaoise. 21st Anniversary
occurs 25th October 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts.
Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Saturday
25th October at 6.30pm.**

May you always walk in sunshine and God's love around you flow,
For the love and happiness you gave us, no one will ever know,
Forever in our hearts.

Sadly missed and loved by your loving family, also thinking of our Dad at this time.

Rest in Peace Mary



90TH BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

CHRISTY CAHILL

65 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

2nd Birthday away from home - 26th October 2025.

Sending a dove to Heaven
With a parcel on its wings
Be careful when you open it,
It's full of beautiful things.
May the angels sing to you

The most joyous chorus of "Happy Birthday".

Though we are apart on your birthday,
Your spirit dances through our lives like a gentle breeze.

*Sadly Missed by his wife Lily, Sons, Daughters,
Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren & extended family.*

Happy Heavenly 90th Birthday Christy

In Loving Memory of

ELLEN BYRNE

Forest Park, Portlaoise and Dublin.

5th Anniversary occurred 23rd October 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church, **Sunday 26th October at 12:30pm.**

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 and always remembered
by your family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Ellen



In Loving Memory of

ELSIE BOWE

42 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

16th Anniversary occurs 29th October 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 and always remembered by
Sean, Patricia and family.*

Rest in Peace Elsie



In Loving Memory of

ELSIE BOWE

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

16th Anniversary occurs 29th October 2025.

Anniversary Mass in St. Peter & Paul's
Church on **Wednesday 29th October at
10am.**

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day,
Each of us in our own way,
Have special thoughts of you today.

*Always remembered by
Paula, Donal and family.*

Rest in Peace Elsie

*Also remembering her daughter Mary Slattery
whose Months Mind occurs at this time.*





In Loving Memory of

JOSEPHINE WATSON

Main St. Portarlinton and
Dublin Rd, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurred 22nd
October 2025.

10th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church **Saturday 25th Oct. at 6.30pm.**

No special day is needed for us to think of you

For you were very special

We thought the world of you.

It's been ten years since you slipped away

That day seems just like yesterday

Today, we tell you softly

You are still so wonderful to think of

And so hard to be without.

Your presence we miss, your memory we treasure

Loving you always, forgetting you never

In Heaven you rest, no worries, no pain

In God's own time, we will meet again.

Will those who think of Josephine today

A little prayer to Jesus say.

Sadly missed by all your loving family.

May Josephine Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of

CHRISTY PAISLEY

27 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs 30th October
2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts.
Peter & Paul's Parish Church, **on Thursday**
30th October at 10:00am.

The years we spent together, we keep within our hearts,

They hold precious memories that will never let us part,

Unspoken thoughts, no outward show,

But deep inside we miss you so.

Each one thought the world of you,

For us you did your best,

And now we pray the Lord will grant your soul eternal rest.

*Sadly missed, always loved and remembered by your wife Rose,
daughter Noelle, sons-in-law Rob and Jeff and sister Marie.*

Grandad, those special memories of you

Will always make us 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.

We miss you more than words can say,

And love you more each and every day.

Love always and forever Sam, Carla and Rachel.

Also Remembering your daughter Catherine at this time.

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

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of

ROCH (ROCKY) SCULLY

Late of 174 St. Brigid's Place,
Portlaoise.

21st Anniversary occurred 23rd
October 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 25th October at 6.30pm.

Daddy,

You'll never be forgotten,

That simply cannot be,

Because something will remind us,

We never know just when it might be,

Something someone says, and it all comes back again,

The time we spent together, the happiness, the fun,

Once again we feel the pain of life without you Daddy.

Loving you always, forgetting you never.

*From John, Patrick, Peter, Roch, Teresa, Jacinta, Margaret
and Kathleen, sons & daughters-in-law and grandchildren.*

May Rocky Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

Remembering A Special Son and Brother

JOSEPH O'SHEA

Missing you on your 5th birthday away from home.

As we visit your resting place, upon this special day,

Once more we feel the sadness that will never go away.

For ever since you've gone, life has never been the same,

yet it comforts us to know that one day we'll meet again.

Until that day arrives, we will relive every memory of the

happy times we shared together – us and you. For we miss

you so very much and words never could convey the extent

of the joy that you brought to every day life.

*Love and missing you always, Mam, Caroline & Boys,
children, grandchildren, nieces & nephews.*

Rest in Peace Joseph



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Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026

29th June 2026 – 3rd July 2026

(4 nights / 5 days)

Full board €700p.p. sharing in Hotel Sainte Rose.

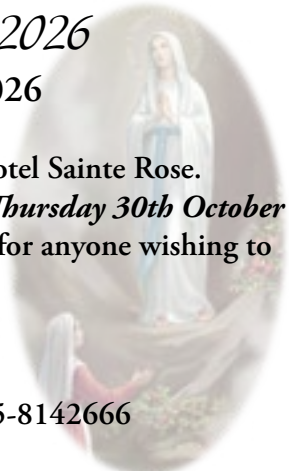
Savings Club will commence on **Thursday 30th October** from 3-4pm in the Parish Centre for anyone wishing to avail of it.

BOOKINGS OPEN NOW

PLEASE CONTACT

Seán 086-3633785 or Frances 085-8142666

for further information.



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HONOURING YOUR PET'S MEMORY

A Peaceful Farewell with Dignity and Care

INDIVIDUAL CREMATION

Only your pet's ashes—privately and respectfully handled.

MEMORIALS & KEEPSAKES

Paw prints, urns, and scatter tubes to honour their memory.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE

Home or vet collection and return—simple and stress-free.



VISIT US

Rainbow Bridge



057 86 61352



info@rainbow-bridge.ie



www.rainbow-bridge.ie



Clonminam Ind Est,
Portlaoise, R32 Y6ST

12TH-14TH DECEMBER 2025

Fitz Of Inch Christmas Festival

Santa Visit
Experience

Food &
Craft Fair

Christmas
Concerts

Tickets on
Sale NOW!



Step into Christmas magic
Meet Santa, browse festive crafts &
be serenaded by carols at
The Fitz Christmas Festival 2025

For more information visit
www.FitzOfInch.com

MONAFERRICK, STRADBALLY,
CO. LAOIS, R32 P382

Portlaoise Parish

Results for
23rd October 2025



No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Brendan O'Brien
Gerard Loughnane
Derek Lewis
D, W & Wayne McEvoy
Thomas O Connor
Sheila Stack
Mick Phelan
Therese Collins
Dermot Chester
Anne Fagan

MATCH 3s €1,000



PROMOTER

Online Lotto
Parish Centre
Maura Buggy
Catherine McEvoy
Paddy O'Connor
Peter Ryan
Peter Ryan
Chris Lacey
Greg Keenan
Phillip Fagan



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Follow Us @PortlaoiseParish

& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

Bltesize

If thou desire the love of God and man, be humble, for the proud heart, as it loves none but itself, is beloved of none but itself. Humility enforces where neither virtue, nor strength, nor reason can prevail.

Francis Quarles

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19
Psalm 32:2-3, 17-19, 23
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14



Supporting our Parish

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

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Please choose a way to make your contribution

- * Making your offering in the boxes at the Church entrances
- * Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre
 - * Direct payment by cheque or cash
 - * Cashless tap facility at Parish Church
 - * Donation facility on our website
- * Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre
- * Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account: IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

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



Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Clergy of the Parish



Msgr. John Byrne P.P.V.G.
Tel: 057 8621142



Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C.
Tel: 057 8600122



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @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 Thursday
9am to 5pm

Contact: Mary Schwer
057-8692154

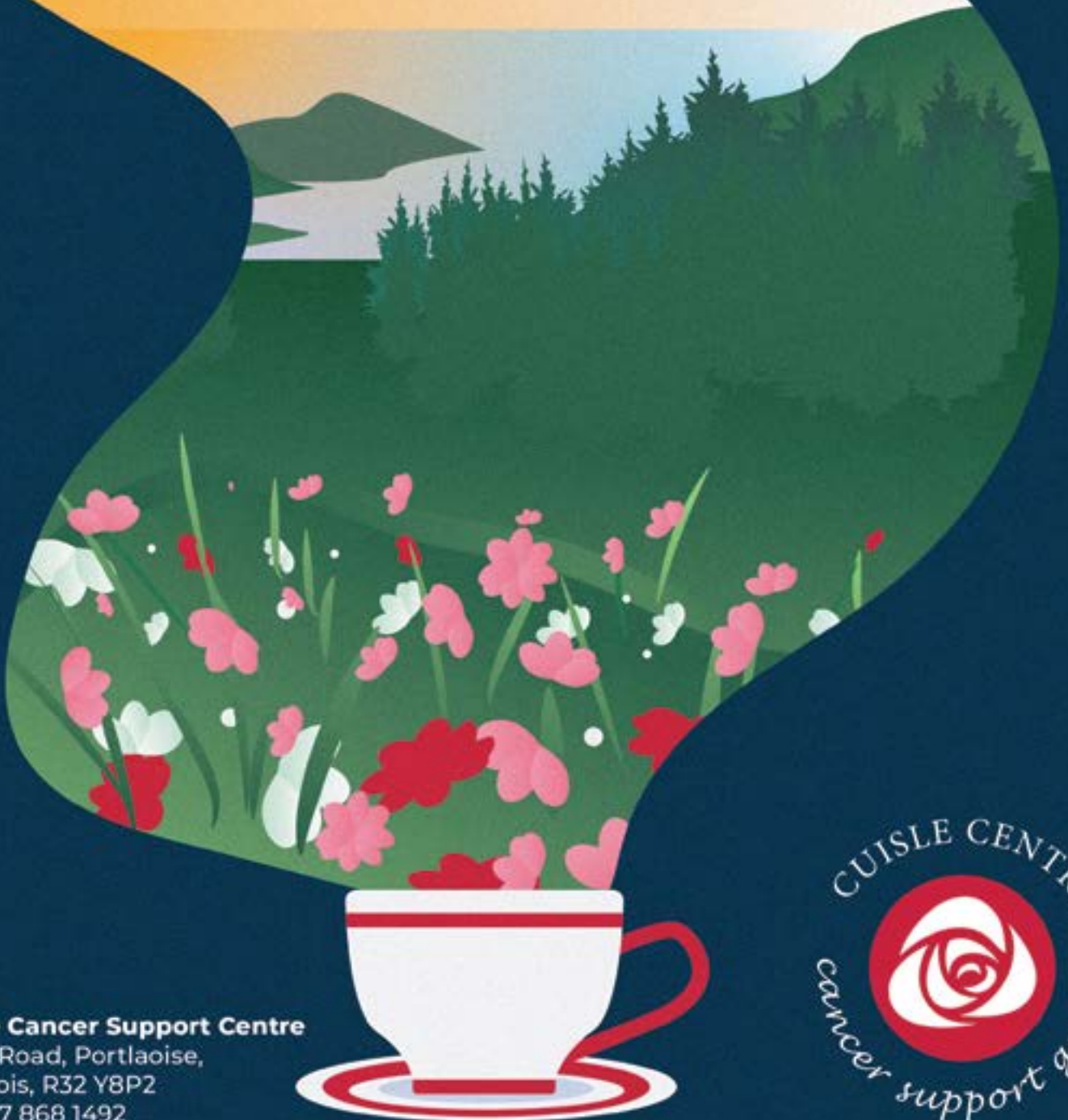
E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie
Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm

PARISH SHOP
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Patient Coffee Morning

Join us for coffee & conversation
on Thursday 30th October
10.30am – 12noon

**We look forward to
seeing you!**



Cuisle Cancer Support Centre
Block Road, Portlaoise,
Co. Laois, R32 Y8P2
Tel: 057 868 1492

