

The Tabernacle in the Heath Church offers a striking way of contemplating today's feast of Christ the King. See page 2



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## Christ the King



The first and second readings give us an indication as to the sort of king that Jesus would turn out to be. In the passage from Samuel, God declares King David to be a shepherd as well as a leader of the people. And we see Paul telling the Colossians how the kingdom of Christ transcends time and space but also how Jesus will make the ultimate sacrifice for the world and for the human race.

Jesus would indeed be a good shepherd, caring for the guiding the whole flock but rejoicing especially in finding of one lost sheep. And he would make the ultimate sacrifice, out of love for the world and its people. A few short weeks before we will celebrate once again the birth of Christ we see in the gospel how he was king that was born to die, as indeed we all are. Many people, including those close to him, who have been expecting a great and powerful king who would vanquish the occupying force and place his followers in position of greatness. Jesus, through his in glorious death on the cross, having been tortured and mocked and surrounded by criminals and abandoned by his disciples, offers us liberation of a different sort: liberation from everything that prevents us from living life in all its richness and fullness. And just as he invites the criminal on the cross beside him, so does he invite all of us to a place in paradise.

Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe: how our world needs such a king at the current time.



**'My Kingdom is not of this World'**

*A kingdom of truth and life*

*A kingdom of holiness and grace*

*A kingdom of justice, love and peace*

*(From Sunday's preface)*

**This week Masses for the Dead List will be celebrated on**

Monday 7.30pm,

Tuesday 7.30am

and Thursday at 7.30am.

*In November we Remember*



Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

**Monday - Friday: 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm**

**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**

Ciara Grace McManus, Aghnaharna Drive

Dylan Patrick O'Meara, Kyle, Ridge Road

Halle James Maher, Clonbullogue

Shane Richie Doheny, Hillview Drive

Teidl Power-Lawless, Borris Road

**Who were baptised last weekend.**

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

In the Heath Church, the late Benedict Tutty's circular surround for the tabernacle offers a striking way of contemplating today's feast of Christ the King. His carved timber circle suggests the vast sweep of the cosmos — stars, planets, the ordered movement of creation. And right at the centre, resting quietly within that universe of form and texture, is the tabernacle.

It's a gentle but firm statement of faith: at the heart of all that exists stands Christ. Not enthroned in the way earthly rulers imagine power, but present in the Eucharist as servant, healer, and companion. Tutty's design captures that paradox beautifully. The universe "turns" around the One who bends low to wash feet. Majesty revealed in humility. Kingship exercised in love.

The artwork reminds us that the Lord who holds creation together also chooses to dwell with us in the simplest way possible — under the appearance of bread. And as we gather around that centre, we're invited to let Him hold our own lives together too. To let His kingdom of justice, love and peace — as the Preface puts it — shape our hearts.



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care

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November 27<sup>th</sup>  
11am



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For further information please contact  
Grainne Roche Duff 087-6075037  
[grainne.rocheduff@alzheimer.ie](mailto:grainne.rocheduff@alzheimer.ie)

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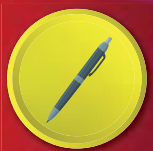
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Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec.

11am-4pm

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2pm-4:30pm

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## 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.

**PORTLAOISE GROUP PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** - accompanied by a Spiritual Director – 24th to 28th August 2026. €700 pp sharing. €200 deposit secures your place – paid before Dec. 31st 2025. Savings Club available to pay your balance. 4 nights in hotel Agena. All flights/transfers/meals included. Fully escorted pilgrimage. Contact: Mary 085-2829231 or John 087-1254841

**SPIORAIÐ NAOMH PRAYING COMMUNITY GROWTH** in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat. St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise Saturday 29th. November 2025 [ 10.00 am to 1.30 pm] Holy Mass @ 10.00 am - Confessions available Retreat continues in Ratheniska Room Parish Centre after Mass @ 10.45 am. (Exposition, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry) Contact: Michael Nerney 086 8157305 Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P. All welcome.

**EMMANUEL HOUSE CLONFERT,** Day of Prayer including the Five First Saturday Fatima Devotions led by Eddie Stone & Team – Sat. 6th Dec. 11am. Talks, music, confessions, Mass and healing service. Bring a packed lunch.



# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER

Top score: T Gowing. 1st Lady: Tied; F Dunne & P McEvoy. 1st Gent: A Kavanagh. 2nd Gent: Ties; M Delaney. 1st Half: S Duff. 2nd Half: K Farrell. Raffle: 1st T Dunne, 2nd A O'Dowd, 3rd F Dunne, 4th S Chester, 5th K Farrell. *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.

**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.

**ACTIVE RETIREMENT** Monday 24th Nov. Bowls in St Mary's Hall 2-4pm. Wed 26th sing along with Caroline from 3pm in Parish Centre. Thursday 27th in Sue Ryder Kilminchy cards and chat from 3pm new members welcome - tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 087-9187157

**LINE DANCING** FREE, FESTIVE, FUN continues each Monday 11a.m. St. Mary's Bingo Hall, Dublin Rd. Portlaoise. All welcome. Maureen Culleton 0876482038 or Catriona @Laois Sports Partnership.

**LAOIS TRADITIONAL SINGERS' CIRCLE** First Thursday of every month. Next session 4 December 2025 . 9pm Humes' Bar Portlaoise. Folk songs, sean nós, ballads, stories and recitations welcome. contact Niall 0872313093

**NIGHT VIGIL TO KNOCK** – Sunday 7th December leaving Lester Square at 7.30pm. All seats - 25 euro - must be paid for at time of booking and will be non-refundable. Contact Maura 087-1210263 or Helena Corbett 087-9611331.

**MISSING DOG** Pixie missing from the Marian Avenue / Abbeyleix Road area in Portlaoise on 31st October. Ph. 087-9121942

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

**GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO** Tuesday 25th November 2025. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €2,390. Double number €320. Lotto €1000. Bonus Ball €850.

**BOOK OF REFLECTIONS & SONGS** By JAMES YORK. For sale in the Parish Centre & Shop.

**ANNUAL STREET COLLECTION & FAST FOR CONCERN** – Friday 28th November at the usual venues in Portlaoise. Your support would be greatly appreciated supporting Concern Projects overseas including GAZA.

**A FUN FUNDRAISING TABLE QUIZ** in aid of Portlaoise Pantomime will take place in Delaney's Bar, Main Street, Portlaoise on Friday 28th November at 8.00pm (Registration at 7.30pm). €40 Table for Four. The 41st annual production will be "Goldilocks and the Three Beours", to be staged in Dunamais Theatre, Portlaoise at the end of January 2026.

**CHESS GAMES FOR ADULTS** in Portlaoise in Kavanagh bar every two weeks. More information about our chess club: <https://www.meetup.com/social-chess-club-in-portlaoise/>

**LAOIS EPILESPY:** Church gate collection 29th & 30th November. Thank you for your support through the years and we look forward to your continued support with this collection.

**CARLOW APA CHARITY SHOP** (CHY 15814) Pop-Up Event. Join us at the Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow for three days of treasure hunting! 24th–26th Nov. 10am–9pm daily. All proceeds empower and support workers in Tanzania and Ethiopia through education and fair working opportunities. Enquiries to 014064316

**BOWLS IN ST MARY'S HALL** 2-4pm. Monday 24th Nov. Wed 26th sing along with Caroline from 3pm in Parish Centre. Thursday 27th in Sue Ryder Kilminchy cards and chat from 3pm new members welcome - tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 087-9187157

**THE IRISH GUIDE DOGS** car raffle tickets are now available for €5 you can win a brand new Ford Puma by purchasing a ticket on line or call to Downey Auto stop to test drive the Puma and be in for a free ticket for the Ford Puma at DOWNEYS.

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# CateKIDS

Portlaoise Parish

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

HANDING ON  
THE FAITH



## CROWN HIM KING!



The crown is a symbol of power and authority. Who wears a crown? That's right! A king or queen wears a crown.

Being a king is different from being the president of a country. A president is elected by the people, but a king is not elected, he is born to be king.

Have you seen the movie "Lion King?" As a lion, Simba was born to be the "King of the Beasts." In one scene from the movie Simba sings, "I Just Can't Wait to Be King." If you have seen the movie, you

will remember that one reason why Simba was so anxious to become king was that he didn't want anyone telling him what to do. He didn't want to hear anyone saying, "do this" or "stop that." He wanted to be free to run around all day doing everything his way.

It wasn't just that Simba didn't want anyone to tell him what to do, he was also looking forward to telling everyone else what to do. Just listen to what he says! "I'm gonna be a mighty king so enemies beware! I'm gonna be the mane event like no king was before. I'm brushing up on looking down. I'm working on my ROAR! Oh, I just can't wait to be king!"

I think that Simba had a very poor idea of what it means to be a king. You see, the real role of a king is to look after the needs of his people. A good king is more concerned with caring for his people than he is in being served.

During his last days on earth, Jesus was arrested and put on trial. When asked if he was a king, Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world." Yes, Jesus was a king, but he wasn't interested in running around free and doing things his way. He was only interested in doing the will of his Father. He was born to be king, but his kingdom is not on this earth - it is in heaven. He only came to earth to make a way for us to live with him in heaven.

Jesus "Just can't wait to be your king." He has invited you to enjoy eternal life in his heavenly kingdom. If you haven't already accepted his invitation, I hope you will crown him as your King today.

## Our

Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending your Son to be our Lord and King. Help us today, and every day, to honour him, obey him, and follow his will for our life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



## Portlaoise Parish Schools

The final date for Confirmation and First Holy Communion enrolments will be next Sunday 30th November. If you haven't yet enrolled your child, please do so on our website

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

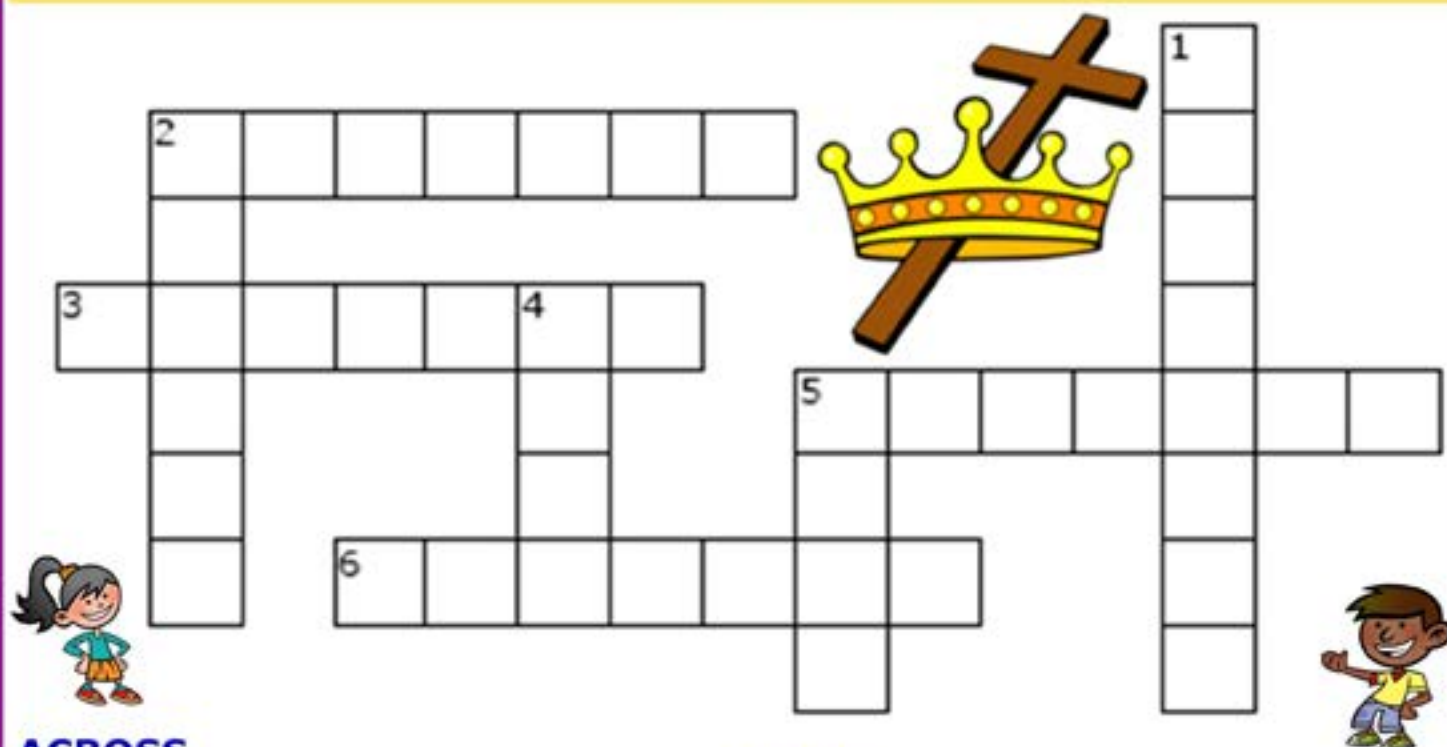






## Christ the King

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." *John 18:37*



### ACROSS

2. Things such as dresses and trousers that you wear
3. To kill someone by tying or nailing them to a cross
5. A person who is in an army and wears a uniform
6. To stop blaming, or not punish someone for something they have done.

### DOWN

1. Someone who commits a crime
2. The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament
4. The emotion you feel when you are frightened or worried
5. To keep someone from being killed or injured; to rescue

**FORGIVE**

**SAVE**

**FEAR**

**CRIMINAL**

**SOLDIER**

**CLOTHES**

**CRUCIFY**

**CHRIST**

### Night Prayer

God our Father I come to say,  
thank you for your love today,  
thank you for my family,  
and all the friends you give to me,  
guard me in the dark of night,  
and in the morning send your light.

**Amen.**





# Time to Think...

## An important survey from the Department of Education



The Department of Education and Youth has launched a survey to assess demand for different types of primary schools. Its aim is to expand parental choice in education. Parents, principals and school staff, along with Boards of Management, have been asked to participate in the survey. It can be accessed and completed online. The Department claims it is the biggest survey of its kind and it will give “a comprehensive, nationwide picture of parental preferences.... the findings will inform future school planning and support more diverse school provision that reflects the values and needs of modern Ireland”.

The survey involves the following questions: Would you prefer your primary school to be a co-educational school or a single-sex school? Would you prefer your primary school to operate under a denominational (religious) patron or to operate under a multi-denominational (non-religious) patron? And would you prefer your primary school to provide education primarily through the English language or through the Irish language? I fully support this survey of stakeholders in the primary school system. I encourage all those eligible to participate in the survey. Hopefully, the results of the survey will convince the Department that there is support for the denominational educational system. But results also should empower the Department to engage in a process of divestment in consultation with patrons to accommodate parents who do not want to identify with religious patronage and the ethos it promotes.

The Department highlighted the fact that 90 per cent of primary schools are denominational under the patronage of the Catholic Church with a Catholic ethos. The Catholic hierarchy has repeatedly stated that they are prepared to divest Catholic schools, thus offering a wider range of educational opportunities to children and parents who are non-religious. The Catholic Church does not wish to have a monopoly on education. However, the divestment process has proved to be challenging as the majority of parents in most areas has not been supportive of change. The urgent need for divestment is frequently highlighted. In a somewhat similar vein, General Secretary of the Education and Training Board in Ireland, Paddy Lavelle, argues for a switch to a multi-denominational primary education model. He claims that this would not erase the impact of faith on students of religious families. “For families who are Catholic, there is still the option for children to make their First Holy Communion or their Confirmation – the only difference is that preparation for the sacraments happens outside of the regular school day.”

As a Chaplain to several schools, it is a daily privilege and rich experience to witness the life, energy, enthusiasm and rich diversity that is the wonderful story of all our school communities. Catholic schools, enjoy a rich tradition and continue, with an inclusive and holistic vision, to reach out to diverse educational needs of our time. Catholic schools, by their very nature, are not exclusive clubs. In this regard, many different, cultures, creeds and non-creeds coexist in a very progressive, inclusive and dynamic model. Part of the living Ethos of Catholic schools includes a faith programme, which permeates into every aspect of school curricular, not just the designated time allotted to more

formal Religious Education. A positive sense of self, coupled with an image of God as a loving a compassionate friend, empowers young people, to grow in self-confidence and with a sense of justice and morality that will contribute to society greatly in their adult lives.

However, I believe that there must be a diversity of patronage in the primary school system. Article 42 of Bunreacht na hEireann guarantees the right of parents to be the primary educators of their children. This right is also recognised in international human rights law. It guarantees parents the right to choose the education system for their children, schools that align with their values. Therefore, it is equally sectarian to claim, as Paddy Lavelle has done, that there should only be multid denominational schools where the ethos is fundamentally secular or atheist. In effect, this is denying Christian parents the right to a pedagogy for their children based on Christian values.

I believe that a faith-based education can be highly valuable for young people.

Pope Leo recently issued an Apostolic Letter (Drawing New Maps of Hope), in which he articulated his views on Catholic education. Leo promotes a holistic vision of education which fully embraces the child, spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically. Forming the whole person means avoiding compartmentalisation. He adds that when faith is true, it is not an added subject but “a breath that oxygenates every other subject”. Viewed positively, this implies that the Catholic vision opposes what the pope calls a purely mercantilist approach that measures education in terms of practical utility... in other words teaching skills needed for the work force in later life. Education must also be “an apprenticeship in virtue”. The Christian pedagogy, he teaches, must also foster the interior life through silence, listening and prayer. Such a pedagogy challenges the teacher to engage with pupils in a human way using joy, love and empathy to guide them.

The ultimate goal of Catholic education is to help pupils discover meaning in life, to realise their dignity, and their responsibility towards others. The Catholic school is fundamentally committed to inclusivity but also to respecting the diversity of faith and culture in the school community. Realising this in practice is one of the greatest challenges today. Let's hope there is a high level of engagement with the survey and that an educational system reflective of the rapid cultural change in Ireland will evolve.







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*Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died*



*Edward (Neddy) Moran*  
London, and formerly  
O'Moore Place, Portlaoise



*Liam Kelly*  
Esker Hills, Portlaoise



*Frank Conway*  
(née Owen)  
Colliers Lane, Portlaoise



*Elizabeth (Betty) Harvey*  
(née Carter)  
Tullyroe, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois



*Margaret McDonald*  
(née Nash)  
Moate, Ballinakill



*Diane Barry*  
(née Dempsey)  
Chapel St., Ballinakill

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



## *Christmas Memorials*

The Link Up office is currently taking bookings for Christmas Memorials

### **N.B. PLEASE NOTE:**

As the Link Up is now collated externally

**ALL MEMORIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY**

**5PM THURSDAY DECEMBER 11TH**

for inclusion in the Christmas edition of the Link Up  
(December 21st), this will be the last Link Up of 2025.

The First Link Up of 2026 will be Sunday January 11th.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

In Loving Memory of

## *ELIZABETH (LIL) BARTLEY*

91 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
4th Anniversary – 22nd November  
2025.



Anniversary Mass celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, **Saturday 22nd  
November at 6.30pm.**

### *In Memory of Mum*

You carried me as a child and held onto my hand,  
You loved and treasured me every day  
And taught me how to stand,  
Of all the scary things in life that I could ever fear,  
Nothing is so frightening as you not being here.  
But you taught me to be strong, and you taught me how to stand,  
Even when you aren't here to hold onto my hand,  
I am grateful for what you taught me, and I'm grateful  
For your love, and I know that you watch over me from the  
Heavens up above.

*Sadly missed, loved and forever remembered by her daughter  
Monalisa, son-in-law Donal and grandchildren Darryl  
and Stefan.*

### *Someone Special*

You are too precious to be forgotten,  
And too priceless to ever replace,  
I wish I could share another moment with you,  
And see that smiling face.  
Someone so special as you is truly rare to find,  
Someone with a heart so pure, so caring and so kind.  
I'll cherish the memories we made,  
All the times we spent together,  
And I'll hold them dearly in my heart from now until forever.

*Loved and missed by her sons John, Oliver, Shay and  
Darren, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great-  
grandchildren and the Conroy family.*

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*

In Loving Memory of

## *THERESA O'CONNELL (NÉE SCULLY)*

Kilminchy, Portlaoise.  
3rd Anniversary – 14th November 2025.



Will those who think of Theresa today,  
A little prayer to Jesus say.

*Sadly missed by your loving Husband,  
family, relatives and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Theresa*





In Loving Memory of  
**NOEL SCULLY**

Pallas Big, Portlaoise.  
Whose 1st anniversary occurs 2nd  
December 2025.

Anniversary Mass in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Church, Portlaoise on **Sunday 30th**  
**November at 11.15am.**

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 always by Bridie, Padraig,  
Catriona, Peter. Granddaughter Niamh,  
Sons in law Seán & Alan.*

*Rest in Peace Noel*



In Loving Memory of  
**BRIDGET STYLES**

5 New Road, Portlaoise.

13th Anniversary – 23rd November 2025.  
Anniversary Mass in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Church **Sunday 23rd November at**  
**8.30 am.**

Our lives go on without you, but nothing is the same  
We have to hide our heartaches when someone speaks your name  
Sad are the hearts that love you, silent the tears that fall  
Living our lives without you is the hardest part of all.  
You did so many things for us, your heart was kind and true  
And when we needed someone, we could always count on you.  
The special years will not return, when we were all together  
But with the love within our hearts, you will walk with us forever.

*Sadly, missed by your daughters Helena & Ann Marie,  
sons in law Ger & Mickey. Grandchildren Anna,  
Patricia, Martin & Katelyn xxx*

*Rest in Peace Bridget*



In Loving Memory of  
**CATHERINE  
QUIGLEY**

Rockdale, Mountrath Rd. Portlaoise.  
3rd Anniversary away from Home  
24th November.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
**Sunday 30th November at 10am.**

I'm closer than I ever was,  
I'm there inside your heart,  
I'm with you when you greet each day,  
And while the sun shines bright,  
I'm there to share the sunsets too,  
I'm with you every night.

*Sadly missed, loved and dearly remembered by her loving husband  
Kevin, daughters Selene and Siobhán, son Ronán and Noreen.*

*Rest in Peace Catherine*



In Loving Memory of  
**ANGELA HYLAND**

Mountmellick - Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary 21st November 2025.

Your needs in life were simple,  
Your love for your family true,  
As long as we were happy,  
you were happy too.

*Loved and missed by Mary and family,  
nieces, nephews and her many friends.*

*Also remembering the following  
whose anniversaries occur:*

*Granny Hyland*

*Brian Santry*

*26th September*

*21st May*

*Mary Santry*

*Eileen Callaghan*

*29th November*

*20th November*

*Nancy Campbell*

*Chris Farrell*

*30th December*

*16th September*

*May They Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of  
**TOM (T.A.) SCULLY**

Ballyfin Road. Portlaoise.  
2nd Anniversary – 26th November 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in St. Peter & Pauls Parish Church  
on **Sunday 23rd Nov. at 11:15am.**

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

*Always remembered by your loving wife Brenda & Family Brian,  
Kathryn, Philip, Tommy. Son in law John, daughters in law  
Jackie, Gemma & Niamh. Grandchildren Ryan, Charlie, Faye,  
Ruby, Sadie, and Harry, extended family & friends.*

*Rest in Peace Tom*



# Remembering **JEAN FITZPATRICK**

The Hermitage, Portlaoise.  
On this her First Anniversary –  
28th November 2025.



1 earth, 7 seas, 7 continents, 196 countries,  
7 billion people and I was lucky enough to find you.  
Two souls don't find each other simply by accident.  
My soul chose yours; it saw you and it kind of went "oh there you are,  
I've been looking for you".  
Imagine finding both love and friendship in one person.  
You were my right and my left, my reason and my way,  
my morning and my night.  
When you smiled, the stars sparkled,  
the moon glowed, and the sun shone.  
The universe knew how rare you were. You were pure love.  
Some people are just born, walking the earth  
shining their love on everything they touch.  
All the love you created is still here.  
All the memories are still here.  
You live on in the hearts of everybody  
you have touched and nurtured while you were here.  
Being loved by you was one of the most special things  
about me and the thing I am most proud of.  
But the end came too fast. You had so much life left to live.  
So many sunrises to wake up to, so many memories to make,  
so much more love to give.  
It will forever break our hearts that you didn't get that time.  
And we needed more time too, more time to memorise every inch  
of your face and more time listening to the sound of your laugh.  
We needed a thousand more tomorrow's  
and a thousand more I love you's.  
And we are not done loving you, we will carry you in our hearts  
until there are no more days left to us.  
We were blessed to have someone who made saying goodbye so hard.  
If there is something after this, know that I will meet you there  
because no distance can separate what is bound by eternity,  
no time can fade what is written in the stars.  
Some souls are meant to find each other, over and over again.  
You will forever be my always.  
And even though you didn't make it to the end of our story,  
I will always have the corner folded down on your page  
because it was my favourite.

As we mark the First Anniversary  
of our beloved Jean's passing home,  
our family would like to invite you to our home on Friday 28th  
November at 7pm (*EIRCODE R32XC5P*) to share memories and  
stories of the faith and love she left with us. Your presence will be a  
comfort and blessing to us as we remember her with love.

*"In the presence of the Lord,  
carried in our hearts with grace and love"*  
*Billy, Carol, Kenneth, Gerard & James*

*Also at this time we remember our much loved*  
*Aunty Dhyllis*



# In Loving Memory of **GERALDINE O' SHEA** (NÉE MARUM)

Glenbarrow, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise.  
6th Anniversary – 25th November 2025.

Our thoughts are ever with you,  
Though you have passed away,  
And those who have loved you dearly,  
Are thinking of you today.  
*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by  
all her loving family and friends.*  
*May Geraldine Rest in Peace*



# In Loving Memory of **MARY RAMSBOTTOM**

Timogue, Stradbally.  
9th Anniversary – 29th November 2025.  
Mass will be celebrated **Sat. 29th November at**  
**5.30pm** in Stradbally Parish Church.

You always had a smile to share,  
A laugh, a joke and time to care,  
A good life came to an end,  
You died as you lived, everyone's friend.  
*Always remembered, never forgotten by her family.*  
*May Mary Rest in Peace*



# BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE **THOMAS CLEAR**

17 Liogard, Portlaoise, whose birthday  
occurred 21st November.

Time slips by and life goes on,  
But in our hearts you are always there.  
*From his loving wife Mary, sons, daughters, sons-in-law,  
daughters-in-law and grandchildren.*  
*May Tommy Rest in Peace*



# In Loving Memory of **JOHN (JACK) & MAURA TARLETON**



Rossleighan, Portlaoise.  
34th & 32nd Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church **Sunday 23rd November, 11.15am.**

Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.  
*Loved and missed always by your loving family.*  
*May John and Maura Rest in Peace*





In Loving Memory of  
**AARON CRIPPS**

43 Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise  
Whose 1st Anniversary occurs 24th  
November 2025.

Anniversary Mass in St. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, **Monday 24th at 10am.**

*The Day You Went Away*

They say that times a healer  
But as the time goes on,  
I seem to find it just as hard  
To face the fact you've gone.  
And today it's the Anniversary  
Of the day that you went away,  
And I'm standing here at your graveside  
And believe me when I say.  
You'll never be forgotten  
And every year I'll shed a tear,  
But it's only because I love you.  
And wish you were still here.

*Forever loved and missed by Mam, Dad,  
brothers and daughter.*



In Loving Memory of  
**MARY TOBIN**

Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.  
1st Anniversary away from home occurs on  
23rd November 2025.

Anniversary Mass in St. Peter & Paul's  
Church, **Sunday 23rd at 12.30pm.**

*In memory of our Mam*

You carried us as children, and held onto our hand,  
You loved and treasured us every day,  
And taught us how to stand.  
Of all the scary things in life,  
That we could ever fear,  
Nothing is so frightening  
As you not being here.  
But you taught us how to be strong  
And you taught us how to stand,  
Even when you aren't here,  
To catch us by the hand.  
We are grateful for what you taught us,  
And we are grateful for your love,  
We know you are watching over us  
From the heavens up above.

*So sadly missed Mammy, every second of every day.*

*From Susan, Catherine, Tracey, Nicola, Ciera, Rachel, Henry and  
Aideen. Also missed by your grandchildren, great-grandchildren  
and extended family.*



In Loving Memory of my Mother  
**ANGELA HUGHES**  
Newpark, Portlaoise.  
5th Anniversary occurs  
22nd November 2025.



Also remembering my Father,  
John, whose 31st anniversary  
occurs at this time.

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

*Sadly missed by David and family.*

*Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of  
**PETER AND KATIE  
MOLLOY**

2 Upper Grattan  
Street, Portlaoise.



Whose 35th and 12th Anniversaries  
occur at this time.

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

*Sadly missed and remembered by your loving family.*

*May Peter & Katie Rest in Peace*



*Rest in Peace*





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Friday 28th November 2025

Parish Centre Portlaoise



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Concern Portlaoise voluntary group is encouraging local residents to show their support on the day and help make a real difference this Christmas.

Thank you for caring when it matters most.



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Mass  
Bouquets  
Now  
Available  
at the  
Parish Centre**  
**€3 Donation**

## Christmas Memorials

The Link Up office is currently taking bookings for Christmas Memorials

### **N.B. PLEASE NOTE:**

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## Portlaoise Parish

## Results for

20<sup>th</sup> November 2025



9

19

22

27

No €11,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Billy Kelly  
Joe Swayne  
Mary & Gerry Campbell  
TJ Maher  
Ian Fitzpatrick  
Michelle McEvoy  
Maeve Holligan  
Jason McEvoy  
Martha Carroll

MATCH 3s €1,000

9  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€112

### PROMOTER

Lucy Kelly  
John Loughlin  
Gerry Campbell  
Parish Centre  
Tony Fitzpatrick  
Greg Keenan  
Paul Dooley  
Parish Centre  
Betty O'Rourke

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## Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin  
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira  
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes  
Tel: 057 8621142

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

## Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person  
Ailish Higgins [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

One of the criminals crucified said: 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' said Jesus, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

THE SUNDAY

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Samuel 5:1-3

Responsorial Psalm 121:1-5

2 Colossians 1:12-20

Luke 23:35-43

## 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

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

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

Twitter: @portlaoiseparish

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



LINK UP

Monday to Thursday

9am to 5pm

Contact: Mary Schwer

057-8692154

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

Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully



# Patient Coffee Morning

Join us for coffee & conversation  
on Thursday 27th November  
10.30am – 12noon

**We look forward to  
seeing you!**



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

