

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

**25th January 2026**

## **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Catholic Schools Week comes to a close for this year. We pray a blessing on our ten Catholic schools — eight primary and two secondary — and on the 1000's of pupils who attend them. We thank our teachers and school management for their dedication and commitment.



Children at the First Holy Communion preparation ceremony last Saturday in the Parish Church.

We are very grateful to all involved in the preparation programme.

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

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



## What Are You Going To Do With Your One And Only Life?

What if Jesus had asked Peter, Andrew, James and John, **"How do you see yourself five years from now?"** Do you think they

might have replied, **"Still fishing for a living, in the same old fishing boats on the same old lake!"** Not likely!

The early disciples knew exactly where their priorities lay and they understood the urgency of Jesus' ministry. There was a whole world that needed to hear what Jesus had to say and not much time to complete the job.

What if Jesus levelled the same question at us? **"Where do you see yourself in five years time?"** Do you see yourself doing the same thing you are right now? Do you see yourself doing the same things day in and day out for the rest of your one and only life? Jesus has a better idea. Jesus asks each of us to be fishers of men. Do we jump to it with the same immediacy as the early disciples or do we hunt for an excuse? Many of us feel uncomfortable about evangelising. We associate evangelisation with the eccentric or the holier than thou. We associate evangelisation with the man laden with bill boards in the city precinct or the woman handing out leaflets through the crack in the front door. We have a **'live and let live'** ethos today that doesn't sit comfortably with trying to persuade others to adopt our own beliefs. Funnily, this wasn't really Jesus' style either.

Being a fisher of men doesn't have to be about notching up conversions. Being a **'fisher of men'** is more about making a real difference in the lives of others. Being a disciple of Jesus means attracting others to our lifestyle by our shining example. Being a disciple is most certainly not about being overly holy or wearing sackcloth. Discipleship could be about writing a song or a book, it might be about bringing our children up with a conscience or giving an elderly relative somewhere to live. Discipleship might be about starting a meaningful conversation in the local pub, or just being a good friend to someone lonely. Whatever mode of discipleship we choose, we only have one life left to do it in.

## Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

**Monday - Friday**

**7.30am & 10am**

**Saturday**

**10am**

**Sunday**

Vigil 6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

**Sunday: 9.30am**

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

**Sunday: 10am**

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.



We welcome into our Parish Community  
Michael Jay Joseph Nevin, Parnell Crescent  
Who was baptised last weekend.



## Saint Thomas Aquinas

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

Against strong family opposition, St. Thomas became a Dominican friar and in 1250, was ordained a priest. He was sent to teach at the Dominican school in Paris where he became increasingly famous for his teaching, preaching and writing. St. Thomas takes his place in history as one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time.

Saint Thomas is the patron saint of Roman Catholic schools, colleges, universities, and academies, scholars and students, apologists, philosophers, theologians, and booksellers.

## SS Timothy and Titus, bishops

Monday 26th January

Ss Timothy and Titus were close to St. Paul as followers and later in their work with him, Tradition makes Timothy the first bishop of Ephesus.



And from Paul's advice to him to take some wine for his stomach's sake, he has been invoked as a patron in case of stomach complaint. Titus was sent to organise the Church in Crete.

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- **087 666 4808**

**ALL CLASSES HAVE RESUMED FOR 2026**

*In Clinic:*

Senior exercise class Tues. at 11am  
Online Pilates every Wed. at 9.30am  
Osteoporosis class every Wed.  
10.30am

Osteoporosis class every Thurs. at 4pm  
Men's health and fitness every Thurs at 10am

*In Parish Centre*

Mon. morn. Osteoporosis class at 9.30am  
Intermediate Pilates class Monday evening at 6pm  
Beginners Pilates class Mon. evening at 7pm

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For further information please contact

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HANDING ON THE FAITH



## You Have a Message

Our mobile phones is so important to us in our day-to-day life. We use it to stay in touch with friends and loved ones; we use it to make appointments; we use it to order pizza. Today's phones are amazing! Most mobile phones will do much more than just make a phone call. Some will let you send text messages and email. Some will even let you take a picture and send it to a friend. One important feature of today's phones is that a friend can call and leave a message. When that happens, your phone lets us know by saying, **"You have a message."** One thing that really bugs me is to call a friend and leave a message and they never return my call! What kind of friend would do that?

You and I have a friend who has left us a message. He has invited us to go fishing with him. Oh boy! I love to go fishing, don't you? I wonder if you can guess who that friend is? That's right! Our friend, Jesus, left us a message that he wants us to go fishing with him. This fishing trip will be quite different. Instead of catching fish, Jesus has invited us to go fishing for people! Jesus didn't leave his message on the phone, he left his message in the Gospel.

One day as Jesus walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers - Simon Peter and Andrew - throwing a net into the water because they fished for a living. Jesus called to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" The Gospel tells us that they immediately dropped what they were doing and followed Jesus.

As Jesus, Peter, and Andrew walked along the shore, they saw two other brothers - James and John - sitting in their boat mending nets. They called and invited them to come along too. They dropped their nets, left their boat behind, and followed Jesus.

If you have ever been fishing, you know what a thrill it is to land a big one. Can you imagine what a thrill it is to go fishing for people and to help someone else come to know Jesus and become one of his followers? Even though this story in the Gospel is about Jesus calling the first disciples, it is for us too. It is a message from Jesus that he wants us to go and make disciples. Will we return his call? What will our answer be?

## FISHING FOR PEOPLE

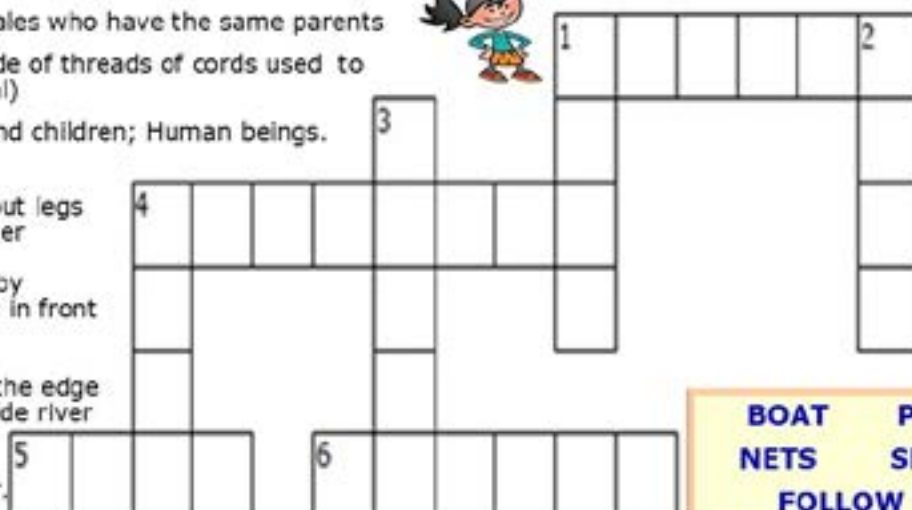


### ACROSS

- To move along behind someone
- Two or more males who have the same parents
- Open fabric made of threads of cords used to catch fish (Plural)
- Men, women, and children; Human beings.

### DOWN

- An animal without legs that lives in water
- To move along by putting one foot in front of the other
- The land along the edge of the sea, lake or wide river
- A small vehicle for travelling on water.



Jesus called out to them, "Come, be my disciples, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

Matthew 4:19

**BOAT    PEOPLE    FISH**  
**NETS    SHORE    WALK**  
**FOLLOW    BROTHERS**

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 20TH JANUARY

Top score: Mary Delaney, 1st Lady: Ann Haely, 2nd Lady: Paula McEvoy, 1st Gent: Frank Keenan, 2nd Gent: Tom Gowing, 1st Half: Paraic Dowling, 2nd Half: Ann O'Dowd, Raffle: 1st Terry Dunne, 2nd Sean Bennett, 3rd Molly O'Brien, 4th Liz Cooper. *Thanks to all for your support. Whist continues each Tuesday night at 7.30 in the Parish Centre, new players always welcome, lessons available if required. Contact 086 8812228*

**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.

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

**ACTIVE RETIREMENT** Monday 26th Bowls in St Mary's Hall from 2-4pm new members welcome tuition given Wednesday 28th AGM at 3pm in Parish Centre full attendance of members important Thursday 29th cards and chat in Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy from 3pm. Further information contact Maria at 0879187157.

**SOCIAL DANCING** Come join us for 6 weeks of Social Sequence Dancing at Seanchistin, Ballyfin, R32X5D6 commencing Monday Jan.12th at 11a.m. Waltz, quickstep, foxtrot, jive, tango etc. supported by Laois Sports Partnership...total cost 20 euro...contact Maureen 0876482038 or [cslattery@laoissports.ie](mailto:cslattery@laoissports.ie). All are welcome.

**SOCIAL AND SEQUENCE DANCING** continues each Monday 11a.m. Seanchistin, Ballyfin, R32X5D6. Come and dance waltz, quickstep, foxtrot, jive, tango etc. with a difference. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Contact Catriona Slattery at Laois Sports Partnership. Timetable at Seanchistin. Monday as above. Tuesday 11a.m. line dancing Wednesday 8p.m. Set Dancing Thursday 11a.m. music and movement for persons living with Parkinsons Thursday 8p.m. Line Dancing. Further details Maureen 0876482038.

**BRIDGE LESSONS** Contact Catherine 087-4121913.

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

**DAFFODIL DAY** is Ireland's largest flagship fundraising day - requires the support of volunteers across the country to coordinate the sale of Daffodil Day merchandise in their local community. If you are available to support us on Friday 20th March 2026 and would like to become a Daffodil Day Community Organiser, please contact Monica at [volunteer@irishcancer.ie](mailto:volunteer@irishcancer.ie).

**GETTING TO KNOW YOU** Are you interested in meeting new people over a cup of tea or coffee? No membership or committees. Simply chatting with people of any age in a relaxing environment. Initial meeting place in Portlaoise Parish Centre Tuesday 27th January from 2.30-4.30.

## 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](http://radiomaria.ie), or on Facebook Live. Join us daily for spiritual nourishment, prayer, and uplifting programs.

**SPIORAID NAOIMH PRAYING COMMUNITY:** Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat 10 am to 1.20pm St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise - Saturday's 31st January, 21st February, 21st March, and 18th April. Holy Mass @ 10.00 am - Confessions available after Mass – 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. [www.spioraidnaoimh.com](http://www.spioraidnaoimh.com)

**EMMANUEL HOUSE** Clonfert, Co. Galway: Day of Reflection led by Fr Eddie Stone including First Saturday Fatima Devotions, Sat. 7th Feb 11am. Talks, Adoration, Confessions, Healing Service, Holy Mass. Please bring a packed lunch. Ph. 057-9151552.

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## WE ARE HIRING TÚS SUPERVISOR

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# Time to Think...

## St. Brigid, a woman of hope



I'm very conscious since Christmas I have celebrated too many funerals, thoughts and prayers for so many families at this time living through the reality of loss and bereavement. I'm sure we all agree that the early signs of brighter evenings and early mornings gives us an opportunity to hope in the promise of a new spring. The site of snowdrops and emerging daffodils tells us that very soon much brighter days are ahead. February is a time of growth and invitation for us all. The light of spring slowly triumphs over winter darkness. The story and celebration of Saint Brigid remains deeply relevant in a turbulent world. Her tolerance, compassion, kindness and inclusive spirit challenges attitudes that polarize and alienates. Brigid is an iconic female who personifies beauty and creativity. The traditional St. Brigid's cross woven in the color green again is a symbol of deep Christian hope. God's life brings hope and freshness especially in the early steps of spring.

This week we reach the midpoint of winter, marked by the cross-quarter day of Imbolc. Traditionally, Imbolc begins at sundown on February 1st & continues through February 2nd.

Imbolc is an ancient Celtic holiday celebrating the very first stirrings of new life—the earliest breaths of spring. We are beginning to feel the very earliest hints of spring rising in our spirits. After months of turning inward, of hibernation & of rest, life is beginning to stir again. Spiritually, this is a time of new life coming into manifestation. We may only be seeing the tiniest hints of life above the surface but things are really beginning to stir in the darkness.

We are about to begin a new season of promised hope and light. February is a most hopeful month. This week we celebrate St. Brigid's Day. A Day which brings great hope. St. Brigid brings with her a story of compassion, generosity, healing and renewal. These early February days mark the beginning of Spring. Yes, it may still feel cold but already brighter evenings, emerging green shoots and snowdrops, announce a time for new beginnings. I'm glad the darkness of winter once again is being transformed by the light of our new spring. Spring is a season of Hope and renewal. We are in the true sense of Scripture called out of darkness into God's wonderful light.

Children in primary schools, learn the hopeful melody, Saint Brigid brings the spring. I pray that this new season of hope, when green things reemerge, will be a time of rejuvenation for us all.

Brigid was whole-hearted in the ministry of helping people in need, convinced of the principle that "the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Born in at Faughart, near Dundalk, County Louth, in the middle of the 5th century, probably in the latter years of Saint Patrick's ministry in Ireland, Brigid refused several offers of marriage, in order to become a nun in the service of Christ and his church. With seven other young women she settled for a time at the foot of Croghan Hill, but moved then to the plains of the Liffey Valley, where under a large oak tree she erected her famous convent of Cill-Dara, that is, "the church of the oak" (now Kildare). She died there half a century later, on the first of February, 525.

The most ancient life of St Brigid is by Broccan, (d. 650). Then the "Second Life" was composed in the 8th century by Cogitosus, a monk of Kildare. An interesting feature of this work is his description of the Cathedral of Kildare, whose Round Tower may

date back to the sixth or seventh century.

Brigid's strong personality and example ensured that her community served their neighbours, through various acts of mercy. Soon her small oratory at Cill-Dara (the chapel-at-the-oak) became a centre of religion and learning, and later developed into a small city. She founded two monastic institutions, one for men, and the other for women, and apparently held jurisdiction over both of them. According to her biographer, she chose St Conleth "to govern the church along with herself."

For centuries, Kildare was ruled by a double line of abbot-bishops and abbesses, the abbess of Kildare being the leader of all the convents in Ireland.

During the raids by the Norsemen in the 9th century, Brigid's relics were taken for safety to Downpatrick, where they were interred in the tomb of St Patrick and St Columcille, and since 1190 they rest in Downpatrick Cathedral. The three, Patrick, Brigid and Columcille, have for centuries been regarded as the three main patron saints of Ireland.

Even after 1500 years, the iconic Brigid, known as Mary of the Gael, is very dear to Irish hearts, and Brigid, Breege or "Bridie" preponderates as a female Christian name. Hundreds of place-names in her honour are to be found all over the country, e.g. Kilbride, Brideswell, Tubberbride, Templebride, etc. While her main monument is in Kildare town, she is also keenly remembered in her birthplace at Faughart, in County Louth. The old St Brigid's well adjoining the ruined church there dates from antiquity and still attracts pilgrims today.

St. Brigid's Day in ancient times became the reference point for all the seasons that followed. It dictated the ploughing, the sowing, the turning of the sod. The feast was seen as a celebration of the incarnation of Christ into the all of life: "in the milking of cows and the tending of the hearth, In threading the loom and gathering the peat, The breath of prayer blessing each movement, A naming of Creator upon each mindful deed".

May we ensure the creator is at the heart of all we do and say in the name of Brigid.

### Brigid

You were a woman of peace.

You brought harmony where there was conflict.

You brought light to the darkness. You brought hope to the downcast.

May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world. Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.

Amen.



*Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died*



**Thomas Francis  
(Frank) Harding**  
Vesey Close, Abbeyleix



**Dan Murphy**  
Abbey Crescent,  
Abbeyleix



**Patrick Carton**  
Chantiere Gate,  
Portlaoise



**Francis Tyndall**  
Cois nab Abbainn,  
Portlaoise



**John O'Shea**  
Birchgrove, Portlaoise



**John Fitzpatrick**  
The Heath, Portlaoise



**Dawn Clear**  
Mill Court, Portlaoise

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



In Loving Memory of  
**KATHLEEN BRENNAN**

Rathleague, Portlaoise.  
16th Anniversary occurs 26th January 2026.

Think of her as living in the hearts  
Of those she touched,  
For nothing loved is ever lost,  
And she was loved so very much.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by her  
loving children, grandchildren, family and friends.*

*May Kathleen Rest in Peace*



Month's Mind  
In Loving Memory of  
**META COOKE**

Mosse Lane, Portlaoise.  
Whose month's mind occurs  
28th January 2026.

Months mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's  
Church on **Sunday 25th January at 12.30pm.**

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

*Sadly missed, always loved by her family.*



In Loving Memory of  
**COLETTE CROSSAN**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
22nd Anniversary occurs

29th January 2026.  
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
**Sunday 25th January at 11:15am.**

Always in our thoughts  
Forever in our hearts.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by Michael,  
Padraig, Kieran and families.*



In Loving Memory of  
**FR. JOHN CUMMINS**

**P.P.**

Abbeyleix Parish.  
7th Anniversary

**Saturday 31st January 2026.**

Mass will be celebrated in his memory  
at 5.00pm on **Saturday 31st January**  
Abbeyleix Parish Church.

"A Blessed Life Well Lived"

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.*



In Loving Memory of  
**DAN HEFFERNAN**

New Line Road, Mountrath.  
Whose 15th Anniversary  
occurs at this time.

Now you are in a better place,  
Your soul is laid to rest,  
Safe with all the angels,

They only take the best.

You are in our thoughts throughout the year,  
But most of all we wish you could be here.

*Always remembered by your loving family xxx*

*Rest in Peace Dan*



Birthday Remembrance  
In Loving Memory of  
**MICK McDONALD**

St. Jude's, Dublin Road, Portlaoise.  
2nd Birthday away from home - 24th January.

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by  
your loving wife Mary, sons Stephen, David & family.*

*May Mick Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of  
**JOHN DOWLING**

Newpark, Portlaoise.  
2nd Anniversary occurs 26th January 2026.  
John's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Sunday**  
**25th at 10am.**

Loved with a love beyond all feeling,  
Missed with a grief beyond all tears.

*Sadly missed and remembered by his loving wife Marcella,  
son Paul, daughter Helen, grandchildren,  
great-grandchildren & extended family.*

*Rest in Peace John*

In Loving Memory of

**ANNE GING**

70 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
19th Anniversary occurs 25th  
January 2026.

Missing you is a heartache  
That will never go away.  
You are always in our thoughts  
And live forever in our hearts.

*Loved and remembered today and every day, by your  
loving son Liam, daughter Helena and families.*

*May Anne Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of

**RICHARD (DICK) SIDES**

6 Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.  
Died 19th January 2023.

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by  
Ann, Noel, Aoife, Damien, Aine  
& William.*

*Rest in Peace Dick*



In Loving Memory of  
**GIOVANNI (NINO)  
CIAMBERLANO**

1 Glenregan, Portlaoise.  
1st Anniversary away from us on  
28th January 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Church on  
**Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 10am.**

As a new chapter begins, a year that's new,  
We'll carry you with us in all that we do.  
We'll look out for rainbows, make wishes on stars,  
And hope that they float, to wherever you are.  
Another year to miss you, another year apart,  
But there's a place where we keep you, forever in our hearts.  
And with each passing year you feel further away,  
But it gives us a little comfort, knowing that we're closer to the day,  
That we find you in heaven and call out your name,  
Reunited at last and back together again.

*Sadly missed and forever loved by his heartbroken wife Stella,  
his daughters and their partners, grandchildren,  
extended family and friends x*

*Sempre nei nostri cuori, mai lontano dai nostri pensieri  
dagli fratelli, le sorelle e tutta la famiglia all'estero x*

*Riposa in Pace Nino*



In Loving Memory of  
**BARBARA ANNE  
DELANEY**

Formerly of Middlesbrough, UK.  
Greenmill Lane / St. Brigid's and late of  
Esker, Ballyfin.

Whose 1st Anniversary occurred 23rd January  
and 81st birthday occurred 21st January.  
Anniversary Mass in St. Peter & Paul's Church,  
**Sunday 25th January at 11.15am.**

*Smile for Them*

I know it's the hardest thing in the world and it's impossible to explain  
For when you lose someone you love so much  
Life will never be the same.  
But please don't let their death become the death of you,  
Let their memory be your strength.  
The light that pulls you through  
For they would want you to keep enjoying life.  
They would want to see you shine,  
To remember that the most important thing is how we spend our time.  
They would want to see you smiling,  
They would want to hear your laugh,  
As hard as it is to walk without them, as you continue your path.  
So on the days that feel impossible,  
When you feel you can't go on,  
Just remember as they're engraved upon your heart  
You're forever entwined as one.

*Loved and missed always from your daughter Kelley,  
sister June and granddaughters Chloe & Skye.*

*Rest in Peace Barbara Anne*





In Loving Memory of  
**GIOVANNI (NINO)  
CIAMBERLANO**

1 Glenregan, Mountmellick Rd. Portlaoise.  
Passed away 28th January 2025.

God looked around his garden  
And found an empty place  
He then looked down upon the earth  
And saw your tired face  
He put his arms around you  
And lifted you to rest  
God's garden must be beautiful  
He always takes the best  
He knew that you were suffering  
He knew you were in pain  
He knew that you would never  
Get well on earth again  
He saw the road was getting rough  
And the hills were hard to climb  
So he closed your weary eyelids  
And whispered "peace be thine"  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you didn't go alone  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home

*Missed and forever loved John, Silvia, Lana & Daragh.*



In Loving Memory of  
**BRÍDÍN MULHALL**

Ballyroan, Laois and  
Rathmines, Dublin.

10th Anniversary occurs  
28th January 2026.

Dearly loved daughter and sister – you are greatly missed and lovingly remembered today and every day by Seamus, Ursula, John, James and Gerard.  
The much-loved niece of Sr. Gerard (RIP), Sr. Kay and Sr. Patricia, Frances (RIP) and Michael, Evelyn (God Mother) and Eamon, Sean (RIP) and Elizabeth.

*Sadly missed by all her cousins and extended family and forever in the minds and hearts of her many friends.*

*'The just will live in the company of the lord'  
Psalm 37*

*Bridin's family would like to thank the community for their continued support over the years.*

*Rest in Peace Brídín*

In Loving Memory of

**MARY (MAY) CONNELL**

31 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

21st Anniversary occurs 28th January 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
**Saturday 24th January, 6.30pm.**



January comes with sad regret,  
The day, the month, we'll never forget,  
In our hearts you will always stay,  
Loved and remembered forever each day.  
*Sadly missed by Liz, Liam, Noreen, John,  
Mary, Domo and Freda.*

*Rest in Peace Mary*

In Loving Memory of

**ELIZABETH (LILL) FARRELL**

Green Mill Lane, Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary occurs 27th January  
2026.



Lill's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
**Sunday 25th January at 12.30pm.**

Deep in our hearts your memory is kept,  
To love and to cherish and never forget.

We love and miss you, from your loving husband William, children Gemma, William and Eoin, son-in-law Kevin, daughters-in-law Lisa & Jessica and grandchildren Dylan, Zak, Liadh, Grace, Sophia, Alex and Lily xxx

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*

In Loving Memory of

**CHRISTY FORAN**

New Road, Portlaoise.

Who died on January 3rd 2026.



Christy's Months Mind will take place  
on **Saturday, January 31 at 6.30pm** in  
St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.

*Sadly missed by his Family and Friends  
Ellie and the Foran Family would like to thank  
everyone who helped and supported them in recent weeks.*

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

*Rest in Peace Christy*



In Loving Memory of  
**ESTHER**  
**HEFFERNAN**  
 (NÉE TYNAN)  
 Esker Hills, Portlaoise.  
 Whose 2nd Anniversary  
 occurs 28th January.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter and Paul's  
 Church on **Sunday 25th January at 11:15am.**

Silently we grieve and brush away our tears  
 But the beautiful memories you left behind Esther,  
 Will last throughout the years.

You will never be forgotten.

*Sadly missed and forever remembered by her Dad John Joe,  
 brothers Stephen, Eddie, Glen, John Joe and sister Sylvia.*

*Also remembering her Mam Una at this time.*

*May Esther Rest in Peace*

A Cherished Father, Husband,  
 Grandfather and Great Grandfather.



In Loving Memory of  
**STEPHEN**  
**O'SULLIVAN**  
 St Brigids Place, Portlaoise.  
 2nd Anniversary occurs  
 3rd February 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's  
 Parish Church **Sunday 1st February 2026 at 12.30pm.**

He left us so quietly, his thoughts unknown,  
 But left us a memory, we are proud to own,  
 So treasure him Lord, in your garden of rest,  
 For when on earth, he was one of the best.

*Loved and missed by his wife Sheila and family.*

*Rest in Peace Stephen*

For Thee, O Lord, I have left everything



*In loving memory of*  
**V. Rev. Patrick Kehoe P.E.**  
 Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.

Who died on 6th February, 2015

Aged 84 years

Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

**ANTHONY**  
**(THE BO) REDDIN**

Portlaoise.

Whose 2nd anniversary occurred  
 21st January.



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

*Sadly missed, never forgotten from your  
 dear friend Geraldine and family & all in the Fellowship.*

In Loving Memory of  
**EAMON KELLY**  
 Ballymackan, Portlaoise.

Whose 2nd Anniversary occurs on 28th January 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
 Parish Church on **Saturday 31st January at 6:30pm.**



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.

*Sadly missed by all his loving family  
 and friends.*

*Also remembering his Mam Annie whose  
 16th Anniversary occurs at this time.*

*Rest in Peace Eamon*



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## Portlaoise Parish

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Winner Alright  
Mary Moone  
Annette Moss  
Eileen Thackaberry  
Annemarie & boys  
Ericka & Edwina  
M & A  
Linda Murphy  
Maura Mansfield  
Zeta O'Reilly  
Johnny Moylan  
The Swayne's  
Pat Bannon  
Margaret Devaney  
Raymond Byrne  
Joe Keane  
Deirdre Delaney  
Annemarie Toolan  
Claire Scully  
Joe Conlon  
Dina Maguire  
Martin Dunne  
Derek McGinn  
Claire Scully  
Claire Scully  
Claire Scully  
Mark Forrestal  
Helen Fenlon  
Stephen Kelly  
Marie Fenlon Connolly  
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Lucy Kelly  
Deirdre Delaney  
Deirdre Delaney  
Anne Brennan  
Parish Shop  
Kathleen Brown  
M Maguire  
Mary J Dunne  
Derek McGinn  
Parish Shop  
Parish Shop  
Parish Shop  
Martleys  
Paul Dooley  
Martleys  
Paul Dooley  
Susan Hartford  
Rita Watkins  
Mary Burke  
Teresa Morrin  
Margaret Doheny  
Margaret Keenan  
Catherine Kearns  
Pam Killeen

## 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 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



## St. John Bosco- Saturday 31st January

St. John Bosco (1815–1888), known as Don Bosco,  
was an Italian priest who devoted his life to  
caring for poor and abandoned young people.  
He founded the Salesians and is remembered as a  
loving father and teacher of youth.

## 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  
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**Cuisle Cancer Support Centre**  
**Block Road, Portlaoise,**  
**Co. Laois, R32 Y8P2**