

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**

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1st March 2026

Second Sunday of Lent

Abbeyleix Road this week

**"Spring shows what God can
do with a world that seems
dead."
— Virgil A. Kraft**

**Creator,
As the earth awakens, fill our hearts with hope and joy.
Let new life and blooming flowers remind us of Your love.
Bless this season of growth and renewal.
Amen.**

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

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Mountain High Valley Low



When you hit a low do you feel sorry for yourself and complain bitterly, or do you seek to pull yourself back up and learn from it. When you are on a high do you make the most of the moment, working hard and feeling grateful, or do you sit back and become complacent? How you answer these questions is an important indicator of how you are likely to shape your future. Obviously a more positive attitude is going to shape a more fruitful future.

Today we find Peter James and John in low spirits. Discipleship is proving to be more difficult than they had imagined and understandably they were losing the enthusiasm and drive that had shown previously. Jesus recognises that it is time to treat his disciples to a motivational vision, the vision that we now refer to as the 'Transfiguration'. The glimpse of heaven's glory must surely have stayed with Peter James and John for the rest of their days. But how does that help us? There's no doubt that some people are treated to spiritually motivating moments, but for most of us life seems to be just one long round of paying the bills. Is it any wonder we lose the bright-eyed vision of our youth. Or could it be that God is sending us little words of encouragement all the time and we simply don't remember them?

Peter lends a little human perspective to the story of the Transfiguration. He proposes erecting three tents in which to keep hold of the vision. It might sound trite, but keeping hold of a vision is key to staying motivated. Some people keep letters of encouragement and cards of thanks and congratulations to remind themselves of a time when they were doing a particularly good job. Other people adorn their desks at work with photographs of their children to remind themselves of why they are working, or cover their walls with certificates to keep in mind their original ambition. Others simply keep imagining how things will be once they have achieved their goals.

Jesus teaches us that we can't always control what's happening around us, but we can change our thinking. If we adopt a 'can do' attitude we will make much better choices for shaping the future.

Trócaire Boxes are available in the Church porches or you can pick up a box in the Parish Centre.

Thank You!

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday - Thursday

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.

Friday (First 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.



Stations of the Cross

Friday evenings during Lent
after 7.30pm Mass in Parish Church.

Too Late for Lent?

So you haven't got round to doing anything for Lent and wonder if it's too late? Are you thinking that you might as well forget about it now and try it next year instead? The answer is that it's never too late to do anything for God, including Lent. Even if there is only one day left to do something, God will be delighted at the effort because, after all, an effort made even if it is small and late, it is still an effort God will see. It's not too late to do something for Lent and one of the places we might start is to say we are sorry, whether to God or to another person.



We welcome into our Parish Community
Jake Flaherty O'Mahoney, Parnell Crescent
Páidí Oisín Dunne, Clonyquin
Who were baptised recently.

Friday (First Friday)

The priests of the parish will attend their communion rounds during the week.

LENTEN STATIONS

For the support of our Priests

Envelopes are available in Church porches for those who haven't got Development Boxes and wish to contribute to the Priests Collection. You can drop this envelope in one of the collection boxes provided in our Churches or returning to the Parish Centre during Lent.

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ALL CLASSES HAVE RESUMED FOR 2026

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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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MINISTER VISITS SITE OF DUNAMASE COLLEGE / COLÁISTE DHÚN MÁSC AS PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED FOR NEW SCHOOL



Hildegard Naughton, Minister for Education, recently visited the site of the new school building for Dunamase College/Coláiste Dhún Másc during a trip to the area. During her visit, she met with a number of students and viewed the location of the planned development. The visit marked an important acknowledgement for the project and was an important moment for the school community as the long anticipated for building continues to progress.



The school is a co-educational, non-denominational secondary school offering a wide range of subjects at both Junior and Senior Cycle. Since opening, it has built a strong reputation for its modern approach to education, with technology playing a central role in everyday learning. With a one-to-one device programme in place, students use digital tools to support and enhance their classroom experience. Although still a young school – with just three Leaving Certificate groups having graduated so far – enrolment has grown to over 500 students. It also offers education trí mheán na Gaeilge in Coláiste Dhún Másc.

Its growth is a reflection of the confidence of the schools forward looking, student centred approach to teaching and learning.

Planning permission has now been formally approved for the state-of-the-art new school building, representing a major milestone in the schools development. This decision clears the way for the project to move into its next phase and brings the construction of a modern, purpose-built school significantly closer.

The new development will deliver high-quality, contemporary learning spaces tailored to the needs of a growing student population. With approval secured, focus now shifts to progressing the project through its upcoming stages as the school community looks ahead to seeing the vision realised.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Top score: Sean Bennett. 1st Lady: Frances Benn. 2nd Lady: Sheila Duff. 1st Gent: Tom Jacob. 2nd Gent: Frank Keenan. 1st Half: Margaret Flanagan. 2nd Half: P J Cahill. 13 Tricks: Sean Bennett & Frances Benn. Raffle: 1st Margaret Flanagan, 2nd Mary Gowing, 3rd Catherine Fitzpatrick, 4th Bernie Cahill, 5th Terry Dunne. *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 2nd March Bowls in St Mary's Hall 2-4pm. Wednesday 4th. March. Talk from AIB John Haren in Parish Centre from 3pm. Thursday 5th March in Sue Ryder Kilminchy cards and chat from 3pm. New members welcome tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 0879187157.

DAFFODIL DAY the national collection day for Irish Cancer, will be held on Friday, 20th March. If you are available to help with the street collection in Portlaoise, please contact Cathy via text or WhatsApp on (086)879-7907. Please support the fight against cancer.

EPILEPSY - In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26th March.

ESCORTED TOUR TO WESTPORT, KNOCK & CO MAYO 8th March 2026. €699.00 pps. Price includes return transport, 5 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. Contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890 236 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

SEAN DOYLE LIGHT ENGINEERING, BALLACOLLA: Call 087-2068972 | [seandoylelightengineering](http://seandoylelightengineering.com). Clothesline poles, rotary clotheslines, winders, pulleys, sawhorses, bicycle stands.

BRIGIDINE PAST PUPILS REUNION are you a Brigidine Past Pupil? You are cordially invited to attend our Annual Reunion: 12th April 2026, The Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge for lunch at 12.45 (sharp). Sub. €40. RSVP on/before March 31st to Maeve at 087-6569975.

CÉILÍ MÓR FREE events at Parish Centre Portlaoise, Mon. March 9th, Céilí practice 2p.m.-3.30p.m. Monday March 16th Céilí Mór 2p.m.-3.30p.m. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Fáilte roimh gach duine. Maureen. 0876482038, Catriona @Laois Sports Partnership.

GRAIGUECULLEN MONSTER BINGO Tuesday 4th March 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €4,080. Double number €880. Lotto €1,700. Bonus Ball €1000.

RAHEEN PARISH SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY will be held on Sunday 29th March at 1pm in the Manor Hotel Abbeyleix. Invitations will be sent out in the coming weeks. If you have not previously attended and would like to join us please contact Teresa 0872712766 or Sharon 086 8982224

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.

M. NERNEY MEDJUGORJE GROUP PILGRIMAGE 2026. Pilgrimage Date: October 14 - 21 2026. Depart Dublin to Dubrovnik, Cost €875 for 7 Days. Discount of €50 if Deposit of €200 paid by Jan 30th. Single Room Supplement €170. Insurance Optional. Spiritual Director Fr. Sean Hyland. Contact M Nerney 086 8157305 for Details.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA – 1st Saturday Devotion – 7th February 2026 in the Old Vestry in St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise at 8.30am & 3.45pm in Holy Rosary Church Abbeyleix.

PROLIFE thanks to all who contributed to the recent collections over the weekend of 15th & 16th February totalling €1,140 in Portlaoise and €314 in Ballyroan. Thanks to all the many volunteers that helped out on that day.

ROSARY AT THE GROTTA 1st Sunday of the Month 1st March Rosary at the Shrine @ 2.30pm. 1st Friday 6th March at 8pm Grotto at the Church.



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FREE

Céilí Dancing with Maureen

Join us for a wonderful afternoon of traditional Irish dancing at our upcoming Céilí events in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise.

Free Céilí Practice Session

Monday, March 9th

2:00 - 3:30pm



Free Céilí Mór

Monday, March 16th

2:00 - 3:30pm



Siege of Ennis

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Faith for the Journey

When we do something for the very first time it can be a little bit scary. Do you remember your very first day at school? Your mother probably went in with you to help you find your room and meet your teacher. When you got on a bicycle for the first time, someone probably walked along beside you and helped hold you up at the very beginning. That gave you confidence and soon you were riding on your own. When you went swimming for the first time, you didn't just go out and jump in the pool, did you? No, there was someone with you to hold you up until you could swim on your own. It really helps if we have someone we trust to be with us when we are about to do something we have never done before.

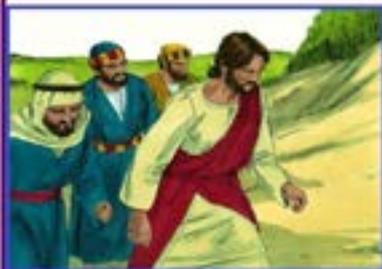


In the first reading today, Abram was a bit scared, when God told him to leave everything behind and to move to a new country. He didn't even tell him where this country was. He just said, "Go to the land that I will show you." They didn't know where they were going or what they would find when they got there. They trusted God - like we trust our parents to help us do new things. So, even though they were a bit scared, they left everything and set out on the journey to the place that God showed them. It took many years, but God was with them and he led them to their new home.



My Prayer

Father, sometimes we are afraid to go where we have not gone before. Help us to remember that you are with us wherever we go.
Amen.



The Transfiguration This Sunday's Gospel Matthew 17:1-3

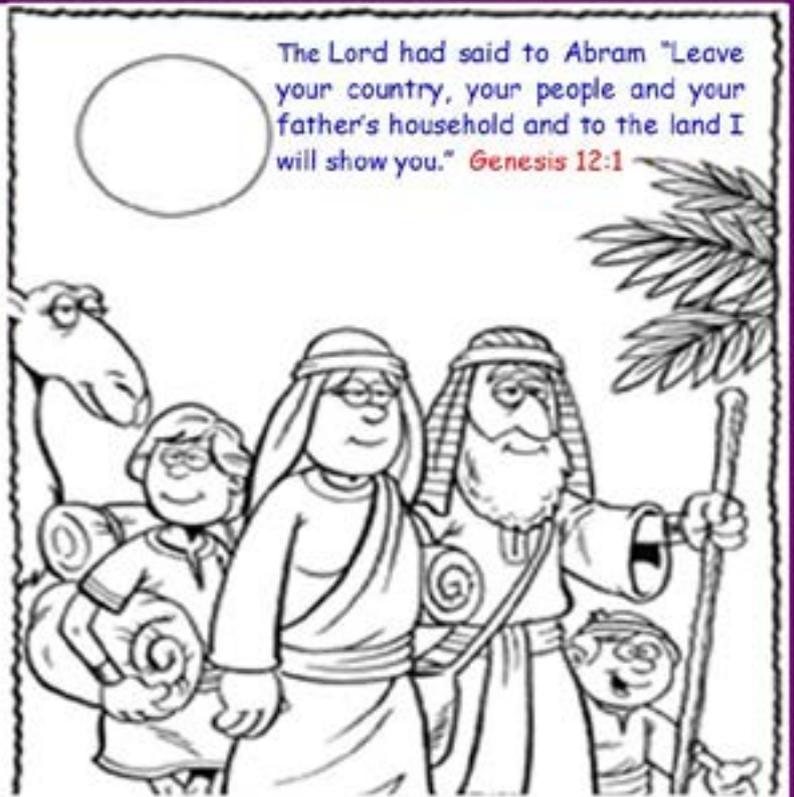
Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and led them up a high mountain. There in their presence he was transfigured.



Our Lenten Prayer

Loving God, help us to work together to share what we have so that everyone has what they need.

Help us to build a better world where each of us can become the best person we can be. Amen



SOME OF THESE SUGGESTIONS MIGHT HELP YOU DECIDE WHAT YOU CAN CONTINUE TO DO FOR LENT:

I will share a smile.

I will pray for those who are hungry.

I will help my mammy.

I will put some money in the Trócaire Box

I will pray for those who have died.

I won't eat sweets.

I will play with my little brother/sister

I will help my teacher.



I will share my lunch with my friend.

I will write a letter to my nana.

I will clean my room without complaining.

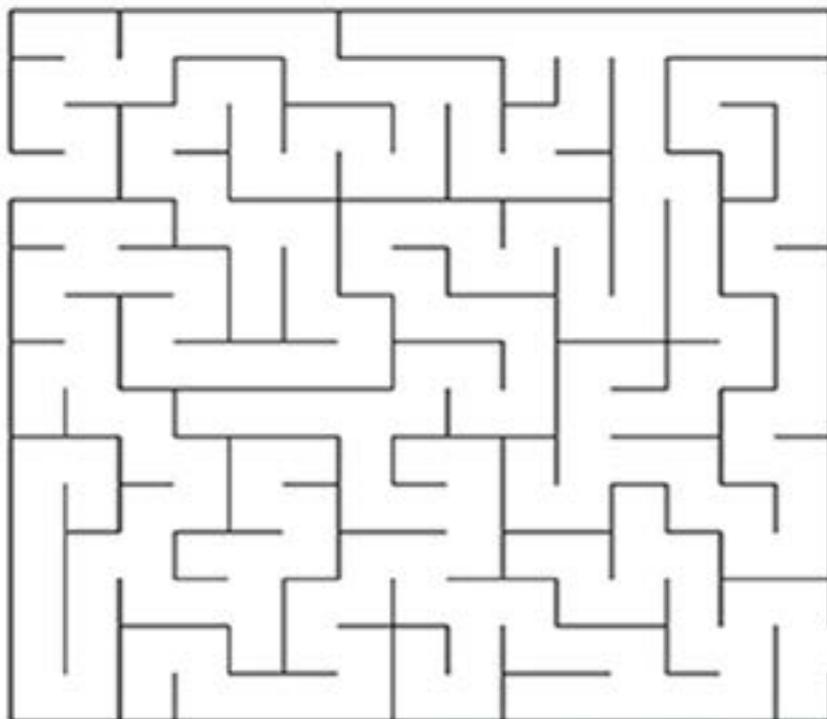
I will be kind to someone.

I will go Mass.

I will give my daddy a hug.

I will make a card for my granddad.

I will say I am sorry when I am wrong.



Can you help Abram find the way to his new home?



Time to Think...

Wisdom on life



George Carlin on age 102, offered the following wisdom that is deeply relevant for us all.

IF YOU DON'T READ THIS TO THE VERY END, YOU HAVE LOST A DAY IN YOUR LIFE. AND WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED, Reflect and put it into practice.

George Carlin's Views on Ageing

Do you realise that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about ageing that you think in fractions.

'How old are you?' 'I'm four and a half!' You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half, going on five! That's the key

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead.

'How old are you?' 'I'm gonna be 16!' You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16! And then the greatest day of your life. You become 21. Even the words sound like a ceremony. **YOU BECOME 21. YESSSS!!!**

But then you turn 30. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk! He **TURNED**; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now, you're Just a sour-dumpling. What's wrong? What's changed?

You **BECOME 21**, you **TURN 30**, then you're **PUSHING 40**. Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it, you **REACH 50** and your dreams are gone.

But wait!!! You **MAKE** it to 60. You didn't think you would!

So you **BECOME 21**, **TURN 30**, **PUSH 40**, **REACH 50** and **MAKE** it to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you **HIT 70!** After that it's a day-by-day thing; you **HIT Wednesday!**

You get into your 80's and every day is a complete cycle; you **HIT** lunch; you **TURN 4:30**; you **REACH** bedtime. And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; 'I Was **JUST 92.**'

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. 'I'm 100 and a half!'

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay 'them.'
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
3. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle.
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be **ALIVE** while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but **NOT** to where the guilt is.

10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER

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

A Prayer for Acceptance

Dear Gracious and Loving God,

As I take this time to be still, help me to let go of anxiousness and feel your peace.

Your Word says that you are love and where there is love there can be no fear.

Help me to let go of fear and receive your perfect love.

I come before you with heaviness because of being hurt by others.

Help me to accept the effect that their actions have had in my life and to let go of this hurt.

Holding onto past hurts – holding onto resentments and judgments weighs me down.

I release this hurt.

I release this weight on my body and spirit. I ask your love to carry me.

I let go of hurt, resentment and judgment.

I forgive those who have hurt me.

Because I practice awareness in all areas of my life, I am aware of self-criticism or poor choices.

I accept my actions. I forgive myself and let go of poor choices or self-criticism.

To receive or accept love, I let go of building walls of self-protection.

Help me to receive and accept love.

Help me to freely give love.

Help me not to strive for perfection but to make progress each day.

I accept the choices I make.

I can trust myself.

I make good choices.

Each day, help me to step into the glorious person you created me to be.

I accept and find comfort in knowing – I am completely loved with your divine, perfect love.

In the name of your Son whose example lights our way,

Amen.



St. Patrick's Day The Heath Parade 17th March

WE ARE REACHING OUT TO ALL MUSICIANS, BANDS, LOCAL BUSINESS, ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS TO PARTICIPATE.

TO PARTICIPATE, YOU WILL NEED TO CREATE/DESIGN YOUR OWN BANNERS, FLOATS AND SIGNS.

THE PARADE WILL BEGIN AT THE HEATH GAA COMMUNITY HALL AT 8.45AM AND PROCEED TO THE HEATH CHURCH FOR 9.30AM MASS.

FOLLOWED BY LIGHT REFRESHMENTS IN THE CHURCH HALL AND MUSIC.

TO CONFIRM PLEASE CONTACT MARIE 087 9747323.

See you there!

SOLEMN NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP



St. Peter & Paul's Church
Monasterevin W34 KD61

This year our Novena is confined to 5 nights

Monday 9th March to Friday 13th March

THEME: BAPTISED & SENT

PORTLAOISE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & STREET FESTIVAL 2026

PARADE START TIME: 12:30

- Carnival Rides
- Bouncy Castles
- Live Music & Entertainment
- Clown Jeca
- And Much More!

Celebrate Your Community!

Groups & Businesses: To Participate, Email: paradeportlaoise@gmail.com

Tuesday 17th March - 2026



MOUNTMELICK DRAMA FESTIVAL 2026

- Fri 6th March** "The Year of the Hiker" by John B Keane (Upstage Players Claremorris)
- Sat 7th March** "Chapatti" by Christian O'Reilly (Glenamaddy Players)
- Sun 8th March** "The Burned Man" by Patrick Fogarty (Formoire Productions)
- Mon 9th March** "The Outgoing Tide" by Bruce Graham (Sliabh Aughty Drama Group)
- Tue 10th March** "The Salvage Shop" by Jim Nolan (Nenagh Players)
- Wed 11th March** "Sive" by John B Keane (Dalkey Players)
- Thu 12th March** "From Under the Bed" by Seamus O'Rourke (Bualadh Bos Drama Group)
- Fri 13th March** "Da" by Hugh Leonard (Buncloidy-Kilmyshall Drama Group)



COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE,
MOUNTMELICK

6th to 13th MARCH

8PM NIGHTLY

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE AMATEUR DRAMA COUNCIL OF IRELAND

Adjudicator: Mr Geoff O'Keefe (ADA)

SEASON TICKET €80.00 (plus booking fee)
NIGHTLY TICKET €15.00 (plus booking fee)
NIGHTLY CONCESSION €12.00 (plus booking fee)

ONLINE BOOKING AT
MOUNTMELICKDRAMAFESTIVAL.IE

TEL: 0877942994 | 0874121205
EMAIL: INFO@MOUNTMELICKDRAMAFESTIVAL.IE

First Friday Devotion 6th March 2026

- 6:00pm Adoration
- 6.45pm Divine Mercy
- 7.00pm Rosary
- 7.15pm Benediction
- 7.30pm Mass

St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise



Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died



Anne Murphy
2 Borris Meadows,
Portlaoise / formerly of
Kernanstown, Carlow



Brigid Keogh
(née Conroy)
Parkview, Portlaoise,
Laois



Christy Rafter
Colt, Ballyroan



Nora Tobin
Ballyroan, Laois

May They Rest In Peace

Our Sympathies Are With Their Families



Acknowledgement
In Loving Memory of
MARY (VINIE)
FLAHERTY &
JOHN HORAN



Who died recently.

Anna May Dowling,

St. Anne's, Ballyfin Rd. Portlaoise.

would like to thank most sincerely all those who sympathised with her on the recent deaths of her sister Mary (Vinie) Flaherty, Timahoe, Donadea, Co. Kildare and brother John Horan, Clonbullogue, Offaly and to all who sent Mass cards.

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

May they Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
WILLIE GING

Late of 70 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

Who died 29th February 2008.

You were always there when we needed you,
No task too great or small,
With a loving heart and willing hands,
For us you did it all.

Loved and missed today & every day.

From Liam and Helena and all your loving family.

May Willie Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of our dear
brother, uncle, and nephew
MICHAEL GREENE

Well Road, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary away from home
occurs on 2nd March 2026.

Of all the special gifts in life, however great or small
To have you as our brother, was the greatest gift of all.
May the winds of love blow softly and whisper in your ear;
We love and miss you brother and wish that you were here.

You are loved and missed every day Michael.
From your sister Mary, brothers Christy, Joe & Paul,
aunt Ellie, sisters-in-law, nieces & nephews.

Rest in Peace Michael



Months Mind Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
PETER KELLY

Breffni, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.

Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter &
Paul's Church on **Sunday 1st March at 12.30pm.**

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

Rest in Peace Peter



In Loving Memory of
LILY KELLY

Lr. Boley, Abbeyleix.
32nd Anniversary occurs
3rd March 2026.

Forever in our Hearts

Always remembered by all her loving family.

Rest in Peace Lily



In Loving Memory of
LAR DOOLEY

29 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
8th Anniversary occurs 7th March 2026.
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
Saturday 7th March at 10am.

We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.

*Sadly missed and fondly remembered by his
family, neighbours and friends.*

Rest in Peace Lar



In Loving Memory of
JOSEPHINE LALOR
(NÉE WALSH)

1 Borris Little, Portlaoise.
14th Anniversary 28th February 2026.

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

*Always remembered by her sisters Mary, Dolores,
Veronica and her brothers Oliver and Joe.*

Rest in Peace Josephine



In Loving Memory of
ANNIE TARLETON

Late of Rossleigh, Portlaoise, who died
on 27th Feb. 2001. R.I.P. Masses offered.
25th Anniversary occurs at this time.

Time slips by and life goes on,
But from our hearts you are never gone.

*Loved and remembered always, your nephews
Jim and Eddie, and their families.*

May Annie Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
BOB MULHALL

85 Marian Place, Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs
1st March 2026.

You always had a smile to share
A laugh, a joke, a time to care.
A good life came to an end

We miss you more than words can say.

Always loved and remembered by your loving family.

May Bob Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
DENIS GRIFFEY

32 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
40th Anniversary occurred
22nd February 2026.

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

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

Rest in Peace Denis



In Loving Memory of
LILY DARGAN

33rd Anniversary occurs
3rd March 2026.

LAURENCE DARGAN

48th Anniversary occurred 27th February 2026.
Late of 3 Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise.

Gone, yet not forgotten, although we are apart,
Your spirit lives within us, forever in our hearts.

*Loved and remembered always by
Mary, Eugene, Sean and Ronan.*

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH MALONE

"Cumbria" Green Rd. Portlaoise.
12th Anniversary occurred
24th February 2026.

Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
We will always remember you.

Always remembered by Mary, John and family.

May Joseph Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
NOEL HOGAN
 Aghnaharna Drive, Portlaoise
 & formerly Ballyfin
 Noel's Month's Mind Mass
 occurs 7th March.

Noel's Month's Mind Mass will be
 celebrated in St. Peter & St. Paul's Church
 on **Saturday 7th March at 10am.**

There's a spot in my memory that only I know,
 A vale in the hillside where wild roses grow,
 A heavenly place that nature designed,
 A haven of peace there for all of mankind.

I love my dear mountain I love my dear glen,
 I go there in spirit again and again,
 Forget all your troubles dispel all your cares,
 In this heavenly place just whisper a prayer.

The fairies are peeping I know they are there,
 With kind friendly faces and flowers in their hair,
 Their sweet music wafting on the clear summer air,
 In this heavenly place just whisper a prayer.

The cuckoo is calling I hear the dove coo,
 And the blackbird is piping his sweet notes so true,
 Hear clear water trickling in the soft ferny shade,
 And the birdsong at eve' in the sun speckled glade.

So come to the vale where the wild roses grow,
 And find the true peace that the wide world don't know,
 Forget all your troubles dispel all your cares,
 In this heavenly place I wish you were there.

- words & music by Noel Hogan -

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Josephine,
 your family, relatives, friends and neighbours
 You will be forever in our hearts.*

Rest in Peace Noel



In Loving Memory of
KAREN COONAN
 (NÉE DIXON)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise.
 Died 3rd March 2018.

8th Anniversary occurs at this time.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
 Parish Church, this **Sunday 1st March at 10am.**

Our hearts still ache in sadness, and secret tears still flow,
 What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know.

*Sadly missed by her husband Owen, son Matthew, parents
 Anne and Brendan, brother Alan, extended family & friends.*

May Karen Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**PATRICK (FIDDLER)
 DELANEY**

8 Clonroosk View, Portlaoise.

23rd Anniversary occurs on

28th February 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
 Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 28th February at 6.30pm.

We thought of you today, but that is nothing new,
 We thought about you yesterday and days before that too.

We think of you in silence, we often speak your name,
 All we have are memories and your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake, from which we'll never part,
 God has you in His arms, we have you in our hearts.

*Lovingly remembered by Mam, Dad, sister MaryAnn, brothers
 Clement, Alan & Don, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.*

May Patrick Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**BRIGID
 CONNELL
 & JOHN
 CONNELL**
 Tonduff, Abbeyleix.



Brigid's 2nd and John's 19th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
 in the Parish Church Abbeyleix on **Saturday 28th Feb at 5pm.**

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

*Loved and missed by husband / dad Billy,
 Daughters / sisters Mary, Máiréad, Mary's husband David,
 John's daughter Emma, Nephew Cillian, Niece Jessie,
 and the Quigley & Connell Families.*

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
BREDA DUNNE
 (NÉE WHELAN)

Capoley, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 3rd March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts.
 Peter and Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise,
Sunday 1st March at 11.15am.

A daily thought, a silent tear,

Always wishing you were here.

Life goes on, we know that's true,

But never the same since losing you.

Loving you always, forgetting you never.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by her husband Liam,
 son Declan, daughter-in-law Maeve, grandchildren Cillian and
 Aoife, sister Mary, brother John, extended family and friends.*

May Breda Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
ANN GORMAN

Cherry Grove, Portlaoise.

Whose 1st anniversary
occurs 2nd March.

If roses grow in heaven Lord, please pick a bunch for me.
Place them in my mother's arms and tell her they're from me.
Tell her that I love and miss her, and when she turns to smile,
Place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while.
Because remembering her is easy, we do it every day,
But there's an ache within our hearts that will never go away.

Love you always, Mammy.

Your 8 children, grandkids, and great-grandkids.

May Ann Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
BREDA DUNNE
(NÉE WHELAN)

Capoley, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 3rd March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise,

Sunday 1st March at 11.15am.

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

Sadly missed by her sister Mary, Tom and family.

May Breda Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM (MICK)
FENNELLY

Late of 30 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

49th Anniversary occurs 20th February 2026.

Memory drifts to scenes long past,
Time rolls on, but memories last,
Sunshine passes, shadows fall,
Love's remembrance outlasts all.

*Loved and remembered always by
Mary, Eugene, Sean and Ronan.*

Rest in Peace William



In Loving Memory of
BABY JAMES
MORAN

Main Street, Ballyroan, Laois.

2nd Anniversary occurs
29th February.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
St. Patrick's Church, Ballyroan, on
Sunday 1st March at 9.30am.

Silently we grieve

And brush away our tears,
The memories he left behind
Will last throughout the years.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving Mammy,
Daddy, Anto, T.J and extended family and Friends.*

May Baby James Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
CONCEPTA
PHELAN
(NÉE BREEN)

Attanagh, formerly

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary and Birthday away
from home; 28th February 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on **Saturday 28th February at 6.30pm.**

... Until We Meet Again

Those special memories of you will always bring a smile,
If only I could have you back,
For just a little while.
Then we could sit and talk again
Just like we used to do –
You always meant so very much
And always will do too.

The fact that you're no longer here, will always cause me pain,
But you're forever in my heart, until we meet again.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by Moira, Vera,
Liam and Tom, nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law,
sisters-in-law, grandnieces and grandnephews.*

Concepta – Forever in our Thoughts



In Loving Memory of
PATRICIA
LYNCH

Borris Road,
Portlaoise.

Whose 1st Anniversary
occurs on March 2nd.

Also remembering her sisters
Mary and Eileen at this time.

*Remembered by her sister Clare,
brother-in-law Tom, relatives and friends.*

May they Rest in Peace



Rest in Peace

HENRY RANKIN

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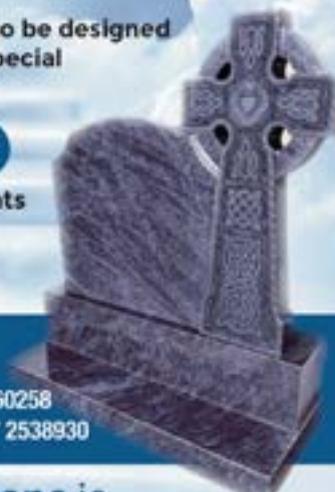
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Portlaoise Parish

Results for
26th February 2026



04 16 19 20

No €18,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Breda Healy
Cathy Mills
Lesley Adams
Fiona Dwane
Joe Lawless
Mary Costigan
Lily Lowry
Finn Wheeler
Catherine Farrell
Pat & Mary Schwer
Tony Flanagan
Ann O'Sullivan
Jenny Duggan
Bridie Laffan
Martina O'Brien
Pat & Heather
A Kirwan

MATCH 3s €1,000

17
Match
3s
Receive
€59

PROMOTER

Rocky Keogh
Betty Lynch
Rocky Keogh
Anne Ging
Stefan Crabb
Online Lotto
Parish Centre
Parish Centre
Parish Centre
Peter Ryan
Paul Dooley
Mary Crossan
Jerry Dooley
Pacelli Walsh
M Farrell
Heather Mortimer
M Farrell

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& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois



Next Week's Jackpot is €19,000

Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

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

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4
Responsorial Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, 22
2 Tim 1:8-10
Matthew 17:1-9

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

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WERE €499 NOW €299



floor model
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