

**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**

**link  
up**

**22nd March 2026**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**



Pupils from Gaelscoil Phortlaoise in our Parish Church this week preparing for their First Holy Communion.

**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)**



## Miraculous Life

Sisters, Martha and Mary send word to Jesus to tell him that his beloved friend Lazarus is seriously ill. When Jesus hears this news, her remains another two days where he is before setting off to Judea.

The story is puzzling to say the least! That Jesus delays rushing off to be with his good friends in their hour of need surely smacks of total indifference. In truth, Jesus' delay is essential to the story.

Jesus is about to deepen the faith of his good friends Martha, Mary and Lazarus and all those who know them. It is because he loves his friends and not because he is indifferent to them that he allows Lazarus to die before returning. It is through Lazarus' death that Jesus is about to display indisputable proof of God. Jesus is about to work the ultimate miracle. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

It is not just that Lazarus got his life back that makes this miracle so exciting, it's that everybody who witnessed it or heard about it had their lives changed as a result. The raising of Lazarus reminds us not only that we are to inherit eternal life, but also that our lives can be miraculously enriched by our faith in Jesus.

As soon as Mary saw Jesus, she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brothers would not have died.' Today's Gospel.

## Chrism Mass



You are invited to join Bishop Denis and the clergy of the diocese for the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral, Carlow, on 30th March at 7:30 pm. This is one of the most important diocesan Masses in the year when the Holy Oils will be blessed and consecrated for use in parishes in the coming year and when the priests of the diocese will renew their priestly promises. Music will be led by Fr Liam Lawton and the Diocesan Choir while tea/coffee will be served in Carlow College, St Patrick's afterwards. Come early to get a seat!

Mass times for the coming week  
(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

**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.



## Stations of the Cross

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



We welcome into our Parish Community  
Lucy Teresa Cahillane, Summerhill  
Who was baptised last weekend.

## Thought for Today!

The best fertiliser stinks. But it is out of that very real stink that something amazing grows. So it is with us: it is the dead and decaying parts of our lives, the rotting resentments, blistering wounds of old hurts, and the festering fears that are the points where we are most likely to be able to experience something new. The only way that happens is to bring them into the light of day, unbind them, and set them free – just as Lazarus was unbound and set free. Doing that takes faith in the process, a faith that Martha confessed, doubted, and then lived out – a faith in resurrection and life.

[blog.loukavar.com](http://blog.loukavar.com)

## 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**

*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

**NEW BLOCKS FOR THE NEW YEAR**

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# FUN

## RUN/WALK

### 4 MILE & 1 MILE

### GOOD DOWNHILL FINISH



Wednesday May 27 | 7.30pm  
Registration from 6.30pm

**SHANAHOE COMMUNITY HALL**

Refreshments Served

Adult & Over 16s 4 mile: €15

Juvenile 1 mile: €5

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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 17TH MARCH

Top score: Ann Pearson. 1st Lady: Betty Murphy. 2nd Lady: Bridie Kennedy. 1st Gent: Peter Stevenson. 2nd Gent: Frank Keenan. 1st Half: Billy O'Keeffe. 2nd Half: Mary Malone. Raffle: 1st P J Cahill, 2nd Mary Gowing, 3rd Terry Dunne, 4th Christy Fitzpatrick, 5th Theresa Mulhare. *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 23rd March Bowls in St Mary's hall from 2-4pm. New members welcome. Tuition given. Wednesday 25th no meeting in parish centre. Day out Thursday 26th March in Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy, cards and chat from 3pm. New members welcome. Tuition given. For info phone Maria at 087-9187157.

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

**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.

**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.

**PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES COMMITTEE** would like to thank everyone who supported our recent cake sale last weekend. It was a wonderful success. Your support is greatly appreciated. A small sum of money was found on the Saturday night of the cake sale. It can be returned to its owner if you contact Frances on 085-8142666 with more information. The committee also advise that the savings club for Lourdes Pilgrimage ends on Thursday the 26th March.

## 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.

**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.

**SPIORAID NAOIMH** Praying Community Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat Saturday 28th March. (10 am to 1.20pm) St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise R32K023 Holy Mass @ 10.00 am - Confessions available after Mass. Retreat continues in Campa Room Parish Centre after Mass @ 10.45 am. (Adoration, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry) Contact: Michael Nerney 086 8157305 Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P [www.spioraidnaoimh.com](http://www.spioraidnaoimh.com). All Welcome.

**ROSARY AT THE GROTTA** Wednesday 25th March at 8pm (Feast of the Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary).

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LET'S GET PHYSICAL

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 and get YOU back!!*

### NEW 6 WEEK MUM-DANCE TERM

Date: Starting Tuesday 24th March.

Time: 18:45 — 19:45pm.

Location: Gaelscoil PE Hall,  
 Portlaoise.

**DUST OFF THOSE LEGWARMERS  
 & BOOK YOUR SPOT TODAY.**

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**FOLLOW MUM-DANCE  
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 MUM-DANCE  
 (KILDAREANDLAOIS)**



## A Saviour Who Weeps

Do you ever cry? Of course you do. Even you big strong boys sometimes cry - even though someone may try to tell you that "big boys don't cry."

Have you ever fallen off your bicycle and hurt yourself so badly that you cried? Have you ever moved to a new school where you didn't know anyone and you were so lonely that you cried? Has anyone ever said something mean and hurt your feelings so badly that you cried? Have you ever had a friend that was crying, so you just cried along with them? I think that we all could answer, "yes" to at least one of these questions. We all cry, don't we?

Did you know that Jesus cried? The shortest verse in the entire Bible says, "Jesus wept." What are some of the things that made Jesus cry? I know of at least three things that made Jesus cry.

(1) The Bible tells us that Jesus cried when he prayed for others. It says, "While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears." (Hebrews 5:7)

(2) The Bible also tells us that Jesus cried when he saw people who were missing out on what God wanted for them. Luke tells us that as Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "I wish that even today you would find the way of peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from you." (Luke 19:41-42)

(3) Another time, the Bible tells us that Jesus cried when friends of his were hurting. Jesus had a friend named Lazarus who became very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus and asked him to come and heal Lazarus, but when Jesus arrived, Lazarus had already died. The Bible tells us that when Jesus saw Mary weeping because her brother had died, he cried too. That isn't all that Jesus did - listen to what happened next.

Jesus went with Mary and Martha and some others to visit the grave where Lazarus was buried. It was a cave with a large stone across the entrance. When they arrived at the tomb, Jesus said to some of the men who were with them, "Take away the stone." Then Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus walked out of the grave. I imagine that when she saw that, Mary's tears of sadness turned to tears of joy.

We all cry, and I am glad that we have a Saviour who weeps too. I am glad that he loves us so much that he hurts when we are hurting. He feels our pain. He sees our tears and, who knows, perhaps he keeps our tears in a bottle.



### My Prayer

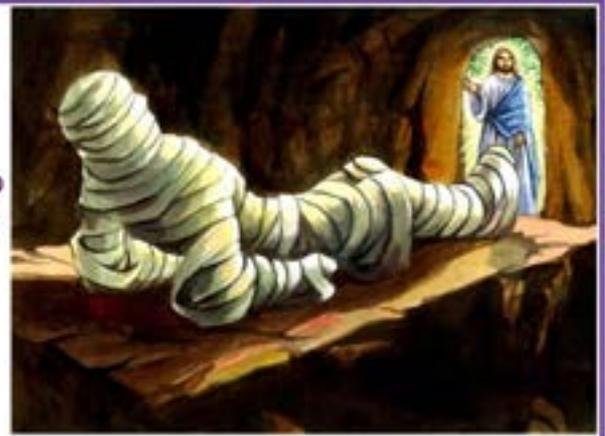


Dear Jesus, It is comforting to know that when we cry, you cry with us. But it is even more comforting to know that you have power over death and the grave and that one day we will be in heaven with you - and then there will be no more tears. Amen.



# Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." John 11:25



- \_\_\_ 1. To be physically ill; not well or healthy  
A. tomb B. asleep C. alive D. sick
- \_\_\_ 2. To stop living  
A. die B. live C. sleep D. resurrection
- \_\_\_ 3. To be alive or have life  
A. live B. sleep C. sleep D. die
- \_\_\_ 4. A man that Jesus raised from the dead  
A. Mary B. Lazarus C. Martha D. John
- \_\_\_ 5. Woman who poured perfume on Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair  
A. Lazarus B. Martha C. Mary D. tomb
- \_\_\_ 6. One of Lazarus' two sisters  
A. Lazarus B. Martha C. Deborah D. Elizabeth
- \_\_\_ 7. A place where someone is buried  
A. bed B. live C. die D. tomb
- \_\_\_ 8. Rising from the dead or returning to life  
A. die B. resurrection C. sick D. asleep.



## Word search

L A Z A R U S E S L E E P M P  
 Q E N T R A N C E B D F L Y U  
 L J O A S O W D Y L I F E V L  
 F N I K T W E I X L G T O M B  
 X Y K S C Q E S F O E D Z N R  
 P R A Y E D P C F V R E E E D  
 B K Q W E S I I A E C A H V X  
 G L F K K N N P O A V T C V R  
 R L A Z U K G L G T O H G A E  
 I W O H F E E E Z R R H H V R  
 S F C R X J W S B J T T E S A  
 E H W Y Y N Y B N S R I U W A  
 L W B P O M A R Y A L S H M K  
 G C Q L W H J S M E E R A X G  
 B H A E U U Q H B J S I C K V

**MARY**      **DISCIPLES**  
**JESUS**      **GLORY**  
**PRAYED**      **DEATH**  
**ENTRANCE**      **LAZARUS**  
**WAKE**      **LIFE**  
**STONE**      **MARTHA**  
**WEEPING**      **TOMB**  
**LOVE**      **BROTHER**  
**SICK**      **BELIEVE**  
**SLEEP**      **RISE**



**Scoil Fionntáin Naofa,  
Shanahoe**  
will host their annual  
Truck, Tractor & Vintage  
Road Run

**Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Registration from 1pm  
Shanahoe Community Hall R32E3FR  
departing at 2pm sharp  
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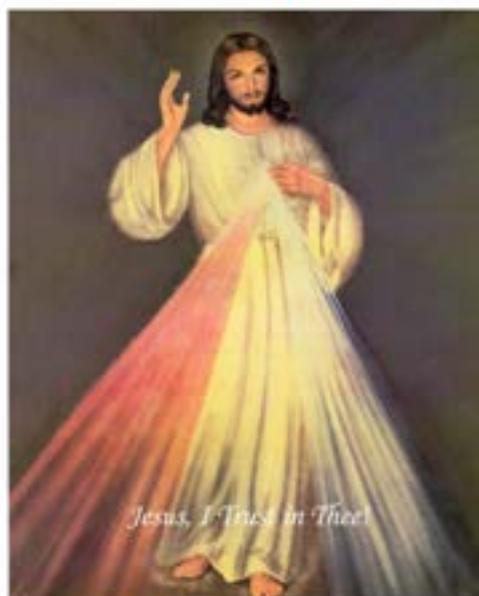
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# Come Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday



Welcome to the Feast of Mercy being celebrated at:

**Venue:** St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.  
**Date:** 12th April 2026  
**Time:** Confessions at 2:30pm followed by  
Procession Up the Church at 2.45pm  
Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Mass.

Scoil Fionntáin Naofa,  
Shanahoe, R32F899

# Clothes Collection

Wednesday April 15, 2026

Items Accepted:

- Clothes (men's, ladies and children's)
- Shoes and socks (pairs only).
- Sports shoes/boots, runners etc. (Can be soiled, but not ripped)
- Hats, scarves, belts, suits, Jewellery etc.
- Soft toys (no plastic parts).
- All items must be in reusable, wearable condition.

Items Not Accepted:

- No Pillows or duvets.
- No Ripped, damaged or wet clothes.
- No Single shoes.
- No slippers or flip-flops.
- No tablecloths or towels.

All donations to be left in the shelter behind the school from Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April inclusive.



Also featuring an Al-Anon Speaker



Portlaoise Serenity Group  
AA Open Meeting  
26th March @ 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm  
Refreshments: 8.30 pm - 9.00 pm

**All newcomers, visitors, members and those seeking information are welcome**

Beech Haven Day Centre,  
St Fintan's Campus,  
Portlaoise



Scan Me!

# Time to Think...

## Spring Cleaning



Soon we will enter into the rich tradition of observing Holy Week. A week, that embraces every aspect of the human story. from joy to sorrow, despair to hope, from darkness into light. It's wonderful to embrace the brighter evenings, soon our clocks go forward, and summertime begins. For millennia, this time of year was observed as a sacred time when light once again triumphed over darkness and that what was planted begins to grow and blossom.

These days the spring equinox (also called the vernal equinox) takes place, occurring around March 19–22 each year. This marks the moment when the Sun crosses the celestial equator, making day and night roughly equal in length in both hemispheres. It signals the astronomical start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere and carries themes of balance, renewal, rebirth, fertility, and increasing light. In Christianity, the spring equinox has no direct festival dedicated to it as an astronomical event. However, it plays a key indirect role in determining the date of Easter, Christianity's most important celebration commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The rule for calculating Easter was established at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD to standardize the date across churches. Easter falls on the first Sunday, after the first full moon (called the Paschal full moon) that occurs on or after the spring equinox. The church uses a fixed ecclesiastical date of March 21 for the equinox (not always the exact astronomical date, which can vary slightly by 1–2 days). This makes Easter a moveable feast, ranging from March 22 to April 25.

This lunar-solar calculation ties Easter to the timing of Jewish Passover (which begins on the 15th of Nisan, near the first full moon after the equinox), reflecting Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection occurring during Passover week. Theologically, many Christians see symbolic resonance: the equinox represents balance between light and darkness, while Easter celebrates the triumph of light (Christ's resurrection) over death and darkness, paralleling the shift toward longer days. Christianity engages the spring equinox primarily through Easter's dating system—a deliberate choice to align the celebration of resurrection with cosmic renewal and the ancient.

Traditionally this time of year we are prompted to make a spring cleaning. Spring cleaning is not just reserved for our homes but indeed for our personal lives. Spring cleaning offers an opportunity to renew and allow personal growth and well-being to happen. I am reminded of this important task by the following short story.

A young couple moved into a new house. The next morning while they were eating breakfast, the young woman saw her neighbor hanging the washing outside. "That laundry is not very clean; she doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better detergent." Her husband looked on, remaining silent. Every time her neighbor hung her washing out to dry, the young woman made the same comments.

A month later, the young woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband, "Look, she's finally learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this?" The husband replied, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows." And so it is with life ... What we see when watching others depends on the clarity of the window through which we look. So don't be too quick to judge others, especially if your perspective of life is clouded by anger, jealousy, negativity or unfulfilled desires. "Judging a person does not define who they are. It defines who you are."

### A Prayer in Spring - Robert Frost

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;  
And give us not to think so far away  
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here  
All simply in the springing of the year.  
Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,  
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;  
And make us happy in the happy bees,  
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.  
And make us happy in the darting bird  
That suddenly above the bees is heard,  
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.  
For this is love and nothing else is love,  
The which it is reserved for God above  
To sanctify to what far ends He will,  
But which it only needs that we fulfil.



*Our Prayers are asked for those  
who recently died*



*Marie Ready  
St. Brigid's Place,  
Portlaoise*



*John Keavey  
Borris Road,  
Portlaoise*

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



In Loving Memory of  
A Wonderful Wife, Mother and Friend

**ELIZABETH 'LIZ'  
FLYNN**

Clonagh, Ballyfin.  
19th Anniversary occurs  
25th March 2026.

It's true that we never get over our dearest departed,  
It's just a little bit easier to live with it.  
Your legacies live on in your children and grandchildren.  
Love always X

*Sadly missed by her husband Mick, sons, Michael (Calgary, Canada)  
Darren, Barry, (Vancouver, Canada) Shaun (Australia), her daughters,  
Leeza, Jenna, Ciara (Australia), her grandchildren Jack, Olly, Tommy,  
Kayla, Luke, Conor (Calgary, Canada), daughters-in-law Christina  
and Michelle (Calgary, Canada) and son-in-law Lawrence.*

*Rest in Peace Liz*



Acknowledgement  
In Loving Memory of  
**SEAMUS MORRIN**  
Fielbrook Lawns, Portlaoise.

Whose Month Mind Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise on  
**Sunday 29th March 2026 at 11.15am.**

Seamus's Family, sons Niall and Fergal daughters Róisín  
and Carina and extended family wish to express their  
heartfelt gratitude to everyone who shared in their deep  
loss. We are immensely grateful to all our relatives,  
neighbours and friends for their unwavering support  
and kindness throughout Seamus illness and funeral.

We are truly touched by everyone who sent Mass cards,  
text messages, online condolences, floral tributes, travelled  
long distances and attended the wake and funeral. Your  
support and kind words in remembrance of Seamus  
brought an immense comfort to us all.

A sincere Thank you to Fr. Byrne for the beautiful and  
meaningful requiem Mass in Seamus's Honour. To the  
St Joseph's GAA Club who did Guard of Honour when  
leaving the Church. Also Keegan's Undertakers, Matthew  
& David for the kindness and professionalism in  
handling the funeral.

We are deeply appreciative to the Matron and all staff in  
St Vincent's Hospital, Mountmellick for their dedicated  
care kindness and ability to always bring a smile to Seamus  
during his time spent with them. Always willing to go  
that extra step to keep Seamus comfortable and content.  
A special word of thanks to all the staff in St Martha's  
Wards, thank you to all who went above and beyond  
always to care for Seamus in the most dignified way.

As it would be impossible to express our thanks  
to everyone individually, please accept this  
acknowledgement as an expression of our  
heartfelt appreciation.

Dad, always our hero our inspiration our friend.  
Our love from the heart is without end.

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

*May Seamus Rest In Peace*



In Loving Memory of  
**MAURA PHELAN**  
 Killeaney, Kilbricken, Mountrath.  
 3rd Anniversary occurs  
 23rd March 2026.  
 Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
 in St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe, on  
**Sunday 22nd March at 12 noon.**

If we could visit Heaven  
 If only for a day,  
 Maybe for a moment,  
 The pain would go away.  
 We would put our arms around you  
 And whisper words so true,  
 That living life without you,  
 Is the hardest thing to do.  
 No matter how we spend our days,  
 No matter what we do,  
 No morning dawns, or evening falls,  
 That we don't think of you.

*Deep in our hearts you will always stay loved and  
 remembered every day by your loving husband James,  
 daughter Lisa, son James, son-in-law Tony, daughter-in-law  
 Helen, adoring grandchildren Nicole, Cayden, Connie  
 and James, extended family and many friends.*

*Rest in Peace Maura*



In Loving Memory of  
**MARY CARDIFF**  
 Heathfields Portlaoise.  
 Whose first anniversary occurs  
 22nd March.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter and Paul's  
 Church Portlaoise on **Sunday 22nd March at 12:30pm.**

It has been one year since we said goodbye.  
 While the calendar has turned, your presence is still felt.  
 Sadly, missed along life's way and quietly remembered every day.

*Love Angela and family.*



Month's Mind Acknowledgement  
 In Loving Memory of  
**BRIGID KEOGH**  
 (NÉE CONROY)

Parkview, Portlaoise.

Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's  
 Portlaoise this **Saturday 21st at 6.30pm.**

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

*Lovingly remembered and missed by all her loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Brigid*



In Loving Memory of  
**BERNARD DEVANEY**  
 Newpark, Portlaoise.  
 Died 28th March 2020  
 6th Anniversary.

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

Every day in some small way,  
 Memories of you come our way,  
 Though absent, you are always near,  
 Still missed, loved and always dear.  
*Greatly missed and fondly remembered by  
 his family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Bernard*



In Loving Memory of  
**CRAIG KELLY-  
 GORMAN**

12th Anniversary away from home -  
 26th March.

Of all the special gifts in life, however great or small,  
 To have you as my son Craig, was the greatest gift of all.  
 A special time, a special face, a special son I cannot replace,  
 With an aching heart I whisper low,  
 I miss you Craig xxx and love you so.

*Sadly missed and loved always, your broken-hearted  
 Mother, Mudas, brothers Brandon, Noah, Junaid  
 and sister Aisha.*

*May Craig Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of  
**TOM WALL**

Beladd, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurs 24th March.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
 St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise on  
**Sunday 22nd at 11.15am.**

Rest in peace dear Tom, and thanks for all you've done,  
 A special place is in our hearts, that you have truly won.

*Loved and remembered by your loving wife Lily  
 and all your family and friends.*

*May Tom Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of

## CHRISSIE GRAHAM

Ridge Road. Portlaoise.  
20th Anniversary occurs  
20th March 2026.

No special day is needed, for us to think of you,  
For you were someone special, and we thought the world of you.

*Loved and remembered always by your husband Jim,  
son and daughters and grandchildren.*

*May Chrissie Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of

## BREDA HOLOHAN

Killeen, The Heath.  
12th Anniversary occurs  
19th March 2026.

A day without a thought of you is very hard to find,  
I'm always thinking of you, and you are always on my mind,  
All the things we did together, I'll remember them forever.

*Sadly missed by your loving husband Michael,  
sister Mary and neighbours and friends.*

*May Breda Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of Our Dear Mother

## HANNAH TUOHY

10 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.  
11th Anniversary occurs  
23rd March 2026.

To hear your voice, to see your smile,  
To sit and talk to you a while,  
To be together in the same old way  
Would be my greatest wish today.

*Loved and missed always by your family.*

*May Hannah Rest in Peace x*



In Loving Memory of

## PATRICIA NORTON

12th Anniversary occurred  
19th March 2026.

Patricia's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
**Saturday 21st March at 6.30pm.**

Gone are the days we used to share,  
But in our hearts, you're always there,  
Loved with a love beyond all telling,  
Missed with a grief beyond all tears.

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

*May Patricia Rest in Peace*



Acknowledgement & Months Mind

In Loving Memory of

## EUGENE VLACEY

Boolvogue House, Craydon  
Court, Portlaoise.

Eugene's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in  
St. Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise on  
**Sunday, 22nd March 2026 at 12.30pm.**

The family of the late Eugene Lacey would like to  
express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone who  
sympathised with us on our recent and very sad loss.

His wife Christine, sons Thomas and Eoin, daughter-in-  
law Olivia, and his cherished grandchildren Molly, Harry  
and Annie are deeply grateful to all our relatives, friends,  
neighbours and colleagues who supported us during this  
difficult time. Thank you to those who attended the wake,  
funeral Mass and burial, sent Mass cards, sympathy cards,  
flowers, and messages of condolence. Your kindness,  
presence and prayers brought us great comfort.

A special word of thanks to the doctors, nurses and staff  
of Portlaoise Hospital for the care and compassion shown  
to Eugene during his illness, and to all who helped and  
supported him in any way during that time. We would  
also like to sincerely thank Keegan's Funeral Directors for  
their professionalism, kindness and guidance throughout  
the funeral arrangements. Our thanks also to Msgr. John  
Byrne and all the priests for celebrating the funeral Mass  
and for their kindness and support to our family.

Thank you to Sarah Troy for her beautiful music and  
singing and to everyone who took part in making the  
ceremony so meaningful.

We would also like to extend our thanks to Bosco's  
Catering for providing the food after the funeral and  
to the Parish Centre for their hospitality and facilities,  
which allowed family and friends to gather and share  
memories of Eugene.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually,  
please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our  
sincere appreciation.

*Forever loved and sadly missed.*

*May his gentle soul Rest in Peace.*

*Rest in Peace Eugene*

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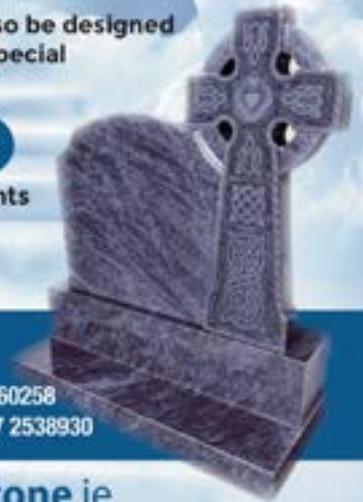
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Results for  
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**No €11,000 Jackpot Winner**

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Anne Ging  
Keenan Sisters  
Derek Lewis  
Marie O'Brien  
Paula Kelly  
Geraldine Brennan  
Maureen Thompson  
Caroline Fitzpatrick  
Irene Doheny  
Isabella Farrell  
Josie & Thomas Kirwan  
Gabrielle Gullfoyle  
Joyce Dunne

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Maura Buggy  
Marie O'Brien  
Lucy Kelly  
Mary Collins  
Peter Ryan  
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Margaret Doheny  
Isabella Farrell  
Heather Mortimer  
M Farrell  
Mary Burke



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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)

## 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**



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057-8692154

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

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Responsorial Psalm 129

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

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## **Stoma Support Group for Cancer Patients and Carers**

**Tuesday 7th April @  
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Group facilitated by Stoma Care Specialist Nurse Anna Bergin. This group will provide stoma advice on the issues that affect you every day – from leakages to skin protection and much more. It offers a safe and supportive space for individuals living with a stoma and those caring for them.

If you are interested in availing of this free service please contact: 057 868 1492  
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**Cuisle Cancer Support Centre  
Block Road, Portlaoise,  
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