

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

29th March 2026

Palm Sunday



Don't forget to put your
clocks forward on Saturday
night.

*Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come
in your abundant mercy!*

† PALM SUNDAY

" BLESS IS THE KING
WHO COMES
IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD "

The Parish Centre 057 8621142
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Palm Sunday



What Makes Holy Week Holy?

Here we are again at the beginning of Holy Week, but what is it that makes Holy week holy? As we process into Church on Palm Sunday waving our palms or weaving them into crosses, it's tempting to feel that this is all just a

commemoration of the past. But if Holy Week doesn't impact on our lives a little more with each passing year, then it really is just a story about something that happened a very long time ago.

It's the very first 'Palm Sunday' and the excitement is growing like wildfire. Jesus rides into Jerusalem and his followers throw down palms and robes. Only Jesus seems aware that something is very wrong with this triumphant parade. The followers are misguided. They think that Jesus has come like some great military deliverer to overthrow the authorities. But in truth, Jesus doesn't ride into Jerusalem on a stallion with great might and power, he rides into Jerusalem on a donkey and he comes in peace, humility and servitude. He comes to stand up for what he believes without any hint of compromise or aggression. He comes ready to lay down his life. He comes to show humanity what real love means and he brings the promise of his heavenly kingdom for all those who can realise his teaching.

Those original Palm Sunday crowds had a very poor grasp of what Jesus was about, and so it's no wonder that by the end of Holy Week they had switched to shouts of 'Crucify!' Like those original Palm Sunday crowds, we celebrate Jesus' life, but we celebrate for the right reasons. Hopefully we are not celebrating someone we think can wave a magic wand and make everything right for us. Holy Week brings into sharp focus what Christianity should be about. Each year we endeavour to make Holy Week holy with greater insight and a greater maturity of faith. Each Holy Week we endeavour to become better ambassadors for Christ.



Traditional Eastern European Blessing of Food

by Fr. Piotr Jakubiak
on Holy Saturday at 12noon
in the Parish Church.
All are welcome.

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday and Tuesday

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

Wednesday

7.30am & 10am

Penitential Service, Parish Church at 7.30pm.

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

Easter Sunday

Easter Vigil 9pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

Sunday: 6am (Dawn Mass)

9.30am (in the Church).

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

Sunday: 10am

See Holy week Timetable on the back cover.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Daithi Ger Patrick Murphy, Green Road

Lilly Ann Dunne, The Hermitage

Who were baptised last weekend.

Trócaire Boxes

Please bring Trócaire boxes to Mass on Holy Thursday. Place them in the basket provided in the Church. Please do not leave Trócaire Boxes in the Church while unattended. You may return it to the Parish Centre during office hours, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm.

Communion Calls

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

Easter Collection

For the support of our Priests

Easter Collection for the priests of the parish takes place over the Easter period. Envelopes at the Church porches for those not using an Envelope Box. You may also donate to this collection via our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie or directly to our Clergy Account, details inside the back cover.

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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

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Easter at Camp Pio

Date: Saturday 11th April 2026

Time: 12pm-2pm

Venue: Bloom HQ, Old Convent
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camppio2024@gmail.com

Laura 0876313370

Caroline 0852430529



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SÓ
HOTELS

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 24TH MARCH

Top score: Frank Keenan. 1st Lady: Mary Gowing. 2nd Lady: Frances Dunne. 1st Gent: Ann Marie Farrell. 2nd Gent: Tom Gowing. 1st Half: Molly O'Brien. 2nd Half: Sheila Duff. Raffle: 1st Bernie Cahill, 2nd Frances Benn, 3rd Sheila Duff, 4th Susan Jack, 5th P J Cahill. *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*

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 30th March Bowls in St Mary's Hall from 2-4pm. New members welcome tuition given. Wednesday 1st April afternoon of Fun Sport from 3pm in Parish Centre New members welcome. Thursday 2nd of April in Sue Ryder Centre Kilminchy cards and chat from 3pm new members welcome tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 0879187157.

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.

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.

DAFFODIL DAY 2026 Many thanks to the local businesses and Lions Club who supported the recent collection, to the volunteers who collected for hours and the donors for their generous contributions. All proceeds go the Irish Cancer Society and help to provide much needed services such as driving patients to medical appointments and night nursing.

LAOIS SPCA CHURCH GATE COLLECTION next weekend 4th & 5th April. We would like to thank everyone for their generosity on previous collections. Parishioners are always so generous and nice to us on collection days, which makes the job a lot easier.

WALK IN THE PARK FOR PARKINSONS will take place on Saturday, 11th April at 11a.m. in Colt G.A.A. Grounds, Raheen, Abbeyleix. R32 V085. Visit www.parkinsons.ie to register in advance or register on the day. Phone John on 087-2712448 or Mary on 087-9617940 for more information. Refreshments will be served afterwards in Doogues Bar, Raheen. All support greatly appreciated

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

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.

EMMANUEL HOUSE CLONFERT Divine Mercy Sunday, 12th April starting at 11am led by Eddie Stone & Team. Divine Mercy Novena begins Good Friday. Please bring a packed lunch. Schedule for Healing Services: Weds 11am & Thurs 7am.

ROSARY & HOLY FACE DEVOTION: Good Friday at 12 noon in Market Square, Abbeyleix.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA – 1st Saturday Devotion – Sat. 4th April 2026 in the Old Vestry in St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise at 8.30am.

ROSARY AT THE GROTTA First Friday 3rd April 8pm. Rosary First Sunday 5th April at the Top Square at 2.30pm.

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A Joyful Celebration

Today is Palm Sunday. It's a day when we remember how people celebrated when Jesus entered into Jerusalem on a Sunday around two thousand years ago. You may have already heard the story, but let me tell it again.

Jesus was walking with His disciples toward Jerusalem. As they came near to the city, Jesus told two of his disciples to go on ahead into the town. He told them that they would see a young donkey tied there that had never been ridden. "Untie the donkey

and bring it to me. If anyone asks you what you are doing, tell them, 'The Lord needs it. He will send it back to you soon.' "

The disciples did what Jesus told them to do, and it happened just as He had told them. They found the young donkey, untied it, and started to lead it away. Some men were standing nearby, and they said to the disciples, "Where are you taking that young donkey?" They told them what Jesus had said, and the men let them take the donkey.

The disciples brought the young donkey to Jesus, and they put their coats on it to make a soft place for Jesus to sit. As they made their way into the city of Jerusalem, people went ahead of Jesus shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" Others followed behind, and they were also shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest!" All the while, people lined the streets cheering and waving palm branches.

It was a wonderful celebration, as people cheered loudly for Jesus.

Just as those people celebrated two thousand years ago, we have come here today to celebrate Jesus. What better day to do that than on Palm Sunday? The Bible says, "This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24)



Dear God, we celebrate today just as those people celebrated in Jerusalem two thousand years ago. This is the day that You have made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!

In Jesus' name, Amen.





The Triumphal Entry



Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.

Jesus sent two _____, saying to them, "Go to the _____ ahead of you, and at once you will find a _____ tied there, with her _____ by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. A very large _____ spread their _____ on the road, while others cut _____.

From the trees and spread them on the _____.

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed _____.

"_____ to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest!"



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		VILLAGE



LAUGH-A-MINUTE

Q. Why do bees hum?
A. Because they don't know the words.

Q. When is the best time to go to bed?
A. Anytime, the bed won't come to you.

Q. Why did the young boy take his scooter to bed?
A. He didn't want to walk in his sleep.

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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 12th - Tuesday 14th April inclusive.

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Stoma Support Group for Cancer Patients and Carers

**Tuesday 7th April @
2.30pm**

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.

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Time to Think...

Easter is much more than chocolate and lamb!



In recent times, there has been much commentary, regarding a gentle reawakening and appreciation of the Christian faith. In Paris, London and Dublin, record numbers of adults are being baptized this Easter 2026. This is indicative of a deep spiritual hunger that is now being satisfied in the rich tradition of our faith context. Jesus Christ this Easter anoints us with an inner resilience and confident hope that no matter what, all will be well!

This is a beautiful time of year; nature awakens within us all a time of hope and new beginning. This week, we begin Holy Week. The past few weeks of Lent have moved quickly by. These days, spiritually, we are invited to indulge in a wonderful promise that our God conquers darkness, transforming fear into hope, sadness into joy, anxiety into a deep confidence, that in Christ, all will be well.

There is no shortage of bad news, we live in a turbulent and troubled world. War in the Middle-East continues to have a severe global impact felt with the massive increase in fuel and energy cost. Images across the world of war, famine and devastation caused by natural disasters makes us all somewhat fragile. It is precisely in this context, at a particular moment of time, where Jesus in his final days, lived and witnessed every aspect of human vulnerability.

Often people ask how God allows such bad things happen? As we journey through life, our human experience teaches us words or answers, to the why of human suffering, are not found readily. Jesus, doesn't give an answer to the why of human suffering, but rather by his example offers each one of us a great sense of empathy as he himself carried the cross.

As we enter Holy Week, we walk with Jesus through the most sacred and challenging moments of His life. This is a time to pause, reflect, and open our hearts to the mystery of God's love. From Palm Sunday's triumphant entry to the silence of the tomb, we see a journey that mirrors our own - moments of joy, betrayal, suffering, and, ultimately, resurrection. So, this Holy Week, let's journey with Him. Let's serve like Him, endure with Him, wait with Him, and rise with Him. For in His passion, we find our salvation; in His rising, we find our joy. This Holy Week, seven days, filled with Religious Symbolism and Rituals, from Washing Feet to Venerating the Cross. Holy Week tells the very hopeful story of Jesus' great love and resilient compassion. A free love, given in an absolute fashion. A love, told powerfully by a God who "lay down his life for his friends".

On Holy Thursday, we witness Jesus washing the disciples' feet, a radical act of humility. He shows us that love is not a feeling alone but a service, a giving of oneself. How often do we hesitate to serve, to forgive, to kneel before others in compassion? Jesus in Gethsemane reminds us that we are not alone. His fragile and very vulnerable experience of doubt, frustration and extreme anxiety is a powerful solidarity with so many who are uncertain and overwhelmed. I think especially of those who live with anxiety, ill health, bereavement and the horrible reality of war and violence especially Christians being persecuted across the world.

Good Friday confronts us with the cross—raw, real, and heavy with the weight of human suffering. Yet it's not the end. Jesus' cry of abandonment becomes a cry of trust: "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." In our own crosses—our struggles, losses, or fears—can we trust that God is near, even when we feel forsaken?

The Prayer of Abandonment by Charles de Foucauld is a profound expression of trust and surrender to God's will. Charles de Foucauld (1858–1916), a French Catholic priest, hermit, and missionary, lived a life of simplicity and devotion, particularly among the Tuareg people in the Sahara Desert. Though he didn't formally compose this prayer as a standalone piece, it is derived from a meditation he wrote in 1896, reflecting his spirituality of self-abandonment—letting go of personal control and entrusting oneself entirely to divine providence.

The prayer is often presented as follows:

"Father, I abandon myself into your hands,
do with me what you will.

Whatever you may do, I thank you:

I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only your will be done in me,

and in all your creatures—I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul.

I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,

for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,

to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve,

and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father."

Then comes Holy Saturday, a day of waiting.

The tomb is sealed, and silence reigns.

It's a reminder that faith often means holding on in the dark,
trusting that light is coming.

Finally, Easter dawns.

The stone is rolled away, and death is defeated.

This is our hope: that no darkness is final,

no wound beyond healing.

Christ's resurrection invites us to rise too -

to new life, new purpose, new love.

Holy Week is an invitation to pause,

reflect and nourish our spiritual selves.

In a secular world,

Easter eggs have been on sale since last Christmas.

Easter, is much more than chocolate and lamb.

Holy Week is indeed seven very sacred days.

I pray that the grace and love of God

will accompany you throughout these special days.



*Our Prayers are asked for those
who recently died*



Helena Brophy
*Dublin / late of Raheen
Co. Laois*

Mary (Mae) Lewis
(née O'Connor)
*Newpark, Portlaoise /
Emo, Co. Laois*



John Keavey
*Borris Road,
Portlaoise, Co. Laois*

May They Rest In Peace
Our Sympathies Are With Their Families



In Loving Memory of
JOHN DEVOY
Borris Great, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs
28th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, **Saturday 28th March at 6:30pm.**

*Greatly missed and fondly remembered by
family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Dad



In Loving Memory of
THOMAS BROPHY
Late of Market Sq. Portlaoise.
59th Anniversary occurs 25th March.
Died 25/3/1967.

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

*Also remember his daughter Phyllis during this time.
Always remembered by his son John and family
and extended families.*

May they both Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
TERESA SHIELS
28 Beladd, Portlaoise.
2nd Birthday away from home
31st March 2026.

Special Sister

Always a face before me,
A voice I loved to hear
A smile I will always remember
Of a sister so very dear.

*Remembering you on your special day with love from
your sister Nancy and brother-in-law Sean.*

Your life was a blessing,
Your memory a treasure.
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure.

From your brothers Billy and Pat.

Aunty Teresa

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

*Missing our telephone chats but especially on your birthday.
Love from Nora Ann, Logan and Patrick.*

Teresa

Today is full of memories, happiness and tears.
Of birthday celebrations we shared throughout the years,
And though we'll always miss you,
The endless joy you brought
Warms our hearts with gratitude
And fills our every thought.

*With love on your birthday from
Martin, Chris, Isabelle and Seán T.*

May Teresa Rest in Peace





In Loving Memory of Our Daddy
**KENNETH (KEN)
CLEAR**

44 O'Moore Place, Portlaoise.
12th Anniversary away from Home
1st April 2026.

Next Wednesday is the anniversary of the day that we lost you.
And for a time, it felt as though our lives had ended too.
But your loss has taught us many things and now we face each day,
With hope and happy memories, to help us on our way.
And though we are full of sadness that you're no longer here,
Your influence still guides us, and we still feel you very near.
What we shared will never die, for it lives within our hearts,
Bringing strength and comfort while we have to be apart.
They say that times a healer, but as the time goes on
We seem to find it just as hard to face the fact you've gone.
You'll never be forgotten and every year we'll shed a tear,
But it's only because we love you and wish you were still here.
Oh daddy if we could turn back time and once more hear your voice,
We'd tell you out of all the daddy's you'd still be our only choice.
Please always know we love you and no one will ever take your place,
Though the years will come and go your memory will never be erased.
Today God as you're listening from your home in Heaven above,
Would you go and find our daddy and give him all our love.
Always just a thought away, loved and missed every day
Becky and Dylan and your grandson Tommy.

Rest in Peace Ken



In Loving Memory of
PATRICIA GING

44 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary away from home
31st March 2026.

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



You left us without warning
Not even a goodbye, and nine years on,
We still can't seem to stop asking the question "why?"
We didn't see this coming, it hit us by surprise,
And when you left for Heaven, a small part of us died.
Your smile could brighten anyone's day,
No matter what they were going through,
And every day for the rest of our lives,
We will be missing you.

Thinking of you in Heaven today and always.
Loved and missed by all her loving family,
extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Patricia



In Loving Memory of
Our Beloved Mother
**BERNADETTE
COYNE**

Boughlone, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
11th Anniversary occurs
29th March 2026.

In the absence of grief, loves light won't wane.
Cherished memories, like stars remain.
In hearts, they'll find their way, ever near
A bond unbroken, soothing every tear.
Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure,
You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Sadly missed by her loving family.

*May our Mother's gentle soul
Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of
**PADDY & MARY
CARROLL**

Knapton, Abbeyleix.

Paddy's Months Mind and Mary's 2nd Anniversary Mass
will be celebrated in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary,
Abbeyleix on **Sunday 29th March at 11am.**

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

Loved and missed by all their family.

May They Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
Precious Memories of a
Dear Son and Brother
**MARTIN WALSH
JNR.**

118 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
52nd Birthday Remembrance
occurs 26th March.

Our lives go on without you Martin but nothing is the same,
The special years will not return when we were all together.
Thinking of you today and always your ever-loving Mother
Margaret, brother Joseph, sisters Mary, Tina, Attracta,
Patricia and Colette, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews,
nieces and extended family.

Also thinking of his Father Martin and
Brother Anthony at this time.

May They Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
SADIE BOHAN

Late of 34 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
42nd Anniversary occurs 2nd April 2026.



We cannot forget the face we loved
Or the memory of your smile,
Or the countless things you did for us
To make our lives worthwhile,
It has been lonely here without you
And grows lonelier every day,
The world has been a sadder place
Since the world took you away,
But we know you walk beside us,
And when our lives are through,
We pray that God will take our hands
And lead us straight to you.

*Always remembered by her sons Billy, John, Michael, Maurice,
Eugene, Dermot and Brian, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.*

May Sadie Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
BERNIE COYNE

Boughlone, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
11th Anniversary occurs on
29th March 2026.



Everyday in some small way,
Memories of you come our way.
Though absent you are always near,
Still loved and missed and very dear.

*Greatly missed and remembered by sister
Kitty, Donie and family.
Mary, Peggy and Trish and all families.*

Rest in Peace Bernie

In Loving Memory of
**LILLIAN O'NEILL
CORCORAN**

Late of Clontyglass, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs
30th March 2026.



We cannot have the old days back when we were all together,
But silent tears and loving thoughts will be with us forever.

*Sadly missed by your husband Richard, children Darragh, Sean,
Rory and Kate, parents Tony, Eilish siblings and family.*

Rest in Peace Lillian



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Rest in Peace

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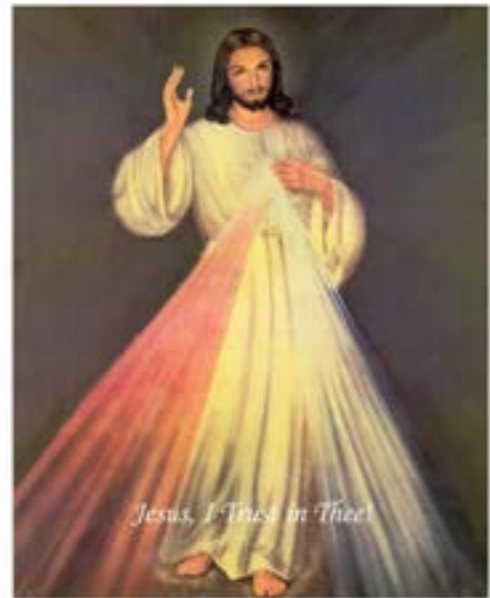
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Come Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday



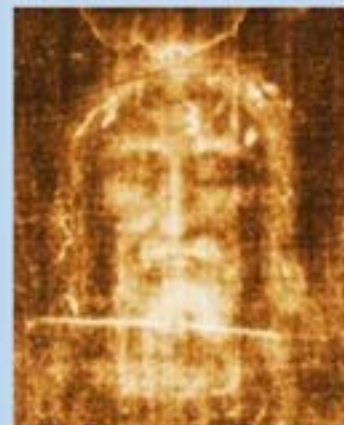
Welcome to the Feast of Mercy being celebrated at:

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.

Come Honour the Holy Face of Jesus



**32 County, Holy Face of Jesus Public Vigil
12.00 noon – 1.00pm Good Friday,
3rd April, 2026**

*“A Heaven revealed remedy for the ills
of our time”*

A Vigil for Portlaoise will be held at:

The Shrine, Top Square, Portlaoise

Contact: 086 0696295

*“Everyone who acknowledges me before others
here on earth, I will also acknowledge before
my Father in Heaven” :Matt 10:32*

Portlaoise Parish

Results for

26th March 2026



No €12,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Nicola Lawless

MATCH 3s €1,000

PROMOTER

Nicola Lawless



www.portlaoiseparish.ie



Next Week's Jackpot is €13,000

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



Cathedral of the Assumption,
Carlow

The Mass of
Chrism

Monday 30th March at 7.30pm
All are welcome.

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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Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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

Holy Week Celebrations

Monday & Tuesday - 30th - 31st March

Holy Mass 7:30am, 10am & 7:30pm

Wednesday - 1st April

Holy Mass 7:30am & 10am
Penitential Service 7:30pm

Holy Thursday - 2nd April

Morning Prayer 10am
Confessions 10:15am to 12noon
and after the 7:30pm Celebration

Mass of the Lord's Supper:
- Parish Church 7:30pm
- The Heath & Ratheniska 7pm
Quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday - 3rd April

Morning Prayer 10am
Confessions 10:15am to 12noon
6pm to 7pm
Commemoration of Lord's Passion:
- Parish Church 3pm
- The Heath & Ratheniska 7pm

Stations of the Cross in the Parish Church:
7:30pm

Holy Saturday - 4th April

Morning prayer 10am
Confessions 10:15am to 12noon
Polish Blessing of Food 12noon
Vigil Mass - Parish Church 9pm

Easter Sunday - 5th April

- The Heath Dawn Mass 6:00am
- Parish Church 8:30am, 10am,
11:15am & 12:30pm
- The Heath 9:30am
- Ratheniska 10am

Octave of Easter Parish Church

Monday - 6th April

Holy Mass 10am
and in Polish 11:00am

Tuesday to Saturday - 7th to 11th April

Holy Mass 10am