

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**
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8th March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent

PRAY FOR PEACE



Pope Leo calls for peace in the Middle East

Pope Leo XIV has issued a strong appeal for peace as tensions escalate in the Middle East following military strikes involving Iran, Israel, and the United States. Referring to the attack by the United States and Israel on Iran, as well as Iran's bombing of several areas in the region, the Pope said:

"Stability and peace are not achieved through mutual threats, nor through the use of weapons that sow destruction, suffering, and death, but only through reasonable, sincere, and responsible dialogue. Let us continue to pray for peace."



Prayer for Peace

Lord God, source of all peace, look with compassion on our world.

Where there is hatred, bring love. Where there is violence, bring mercy. Where there is fear, bring hope.
Guide the hearts of leaders and nations so that they may choose dialogue over conflict and justice over war.

Comfort those who suffer, protect the innocent, and heal the wounds of division.

May your peace fill every heart and spread across every land.

Amen.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie



Who Belongs?

This much loved Gospel is a pivotal reminder as we make our Lenten journey that Jesus is the source of our life. It is the first of three Gospels from John we listen to in Lent that draw on central symbols in baptism – in this instance the symbol of water.

In the encounter between Jesus and the woman we see God's mercy in action. The woman is an outsider, left to draw water at the hottest part of the day, alone. Jesus actively reaches out to her, ignoring the social norms of the time that would keep her in isolation. And in doing so the woman comes to know Jesus as the source of our life, as the living water that dwells within us, as our saviour. Not only that, she becomes a messenger of that Good News. In Jesus, all belong and all are renewed.

As we welcome this reading into our hearts this Lent, may we follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ who reached out to the marginalised and to those who felt on the outside, who shattered the narrow definitions of 'who belongs'. May we recognise, that, in Christ, we belong. May we welcome Jesus into the very circumstances of our life to heal us and bless us. May we recognise Jesus as our saviour who brings us to eternal life. And may we bring this good news to others without borders - recognising also when others are bringing it to us.

(Julie Kavanagh, Faith Development office, Carlow)

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.

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

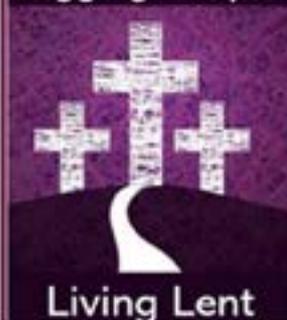
Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.



Stations of the Cross

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

Digging Deeper



Some suggestions for the week

† Reflect on next Sunday's Gospel. Resources on www.syond.ie

† Get some holy water for your home and use it as you come and go to bless yourself

† Share with the hungry and set aside some of your weekly shop for a food bank or donate the cost

† Do a Friday penance

† Be a happy presence in your home

† Find ways to conserve and reduce your use of water in the home. See water.ie/conserve

Bitesize

Some things have to be believed to be seen.

Ralph Hodgson, *The Skylark and Other Poems*



We welcome into our Parish Community
Hannah Louise Conlon, Cappagh North
Conor Noel McGrath, St. Brigid's Place
Laura Edudzi Agbonu, Lakeplace, Kilminchy
Who were baptised last weekend.

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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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Time: 10am - 12 noon
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COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 3RD MARCH

Top score: Catherine Fitzpatrick. 1st Lady: Frances Benn. 2nd Lady: P McEvoy. 1st Gent: Tom Jacob. 2nd Gent: Leslie Hunter. 1st Half: C Galvin. 2nd Half: Sean Bennett. Raffle: 1st Margaret Flanagan, 2nd Frances Benn, 3rd A Pearson, 4th Ann O'Dowd, 5th Frank Keenan. *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 9th March Bowls in St Mary's Hall from 2-4pm new members welcome tuition given. Wednesday 11th. Sing along with Caroline from 3pm. New members welcome. Thursday 12th in Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy cards and chat from 3pm new members welcome tuition given. Further information contact Maria at 087-9187157.

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.

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.

UNDERSTANDING SELF HARM WORKSHOP Portlaoise Parish Centre, R32 FH67 Date: 11th March 2026. Time: 09:00 - 16:30 Registration: <https://bookwhen.com/suicidepreventiontrainingmidlands/e/ev-s6lvp-20260311090000>.

PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES COMMITTEE are having their annual cake sale on Saturday 14th March after 6.30pm Mass and Sunday 15th March after 12.30pm Mass in Parish Centre. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

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.



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FRIDAY 13TH MARCH

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ALL ARE WELCOME

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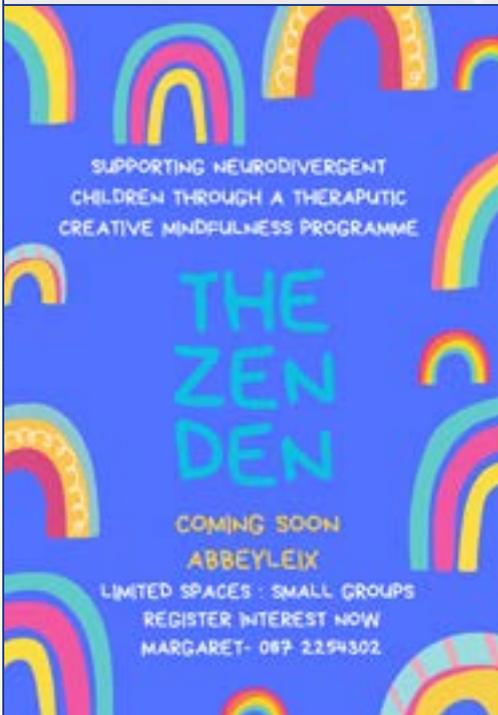
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- Stress levels
- Overall wellbeing and day-to-day coping

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- Share feedback on how the process fits into real family life

Who can take part

- Are a mother with regular caregiving responsibilities
- Feel tired, stressed, overwhelmed, or not like yourself lately
- Can commit to 3 weeks and attend in person

You don't need a diagnosis. This is about day-to-day wellbeing.

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LAOIS OPEN DOOR THEATRE

On behalf of Laois Open Door Theatre I want to extend our very sincere apologies to all our wonderful patrons who had tickets for our performances of "perfect wedding" by Robin Hawdon on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th February in the Dunamaise Theatre and Arts Centre, Portlaoise which we regrettably had to cancel at very short notice.

Unfortunately, due to illness in the cast, we were left with no other option.

This decision was not taken lightly but the health and wellbeing of our cast and crew has to be paramount. We apologise sincerely for the inconvenience caused, but hope that you'll be understanding of our decision.

Fortunately, the Dunamaise Theatre and Arts Centre have been able to offer us alternative dates of Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March and we sincerely hope that you will come to support us on those nights where we guarantee you a night full of fun and laughter.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Mary Delaney

Chairperson

Laois Open Door Theatre



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FREE *Céilí Dancing with* **Maureen**

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Free Céilí Practice Session

Monday, March 9th

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Free Céilí Mór

Monday, March 16th

2:00 - 3:30pm



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The Woman at the Well

Most of you probably play some kind of sports. What kind of sports do you play?

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The question is: What kind of liquids should you drink?

Ordinary water, of course, is a good choice, but when you go to the shops, the shelves are full of all kinds of sports drinks, energy drinks, and flavoured water. It's hard to know what's best.

The advertisement for one popular brand of sports drink says, "It's better than water, juice, or any other drink. It gives your body what it is thirsty for! It gets you going and keeps you going."

Wow! They have me convinced, but one thing I've noticed: In all the claims made by sports drinks, not once have they ever claimed that if you would drink their product, you would *NEVER* be thirsty again. If somebody had something that would do that, they would really have something, wouldn't they? Well, Jesus claimed to have that very thing!

One day Jesus was walking through a town in Samaria. He was hot and tired so he sat down beside a well to rest. A woman came to the well to get some water and Jesus asked her if she would give him a drink. The woman was surprised that Jesus spoke to her because Jews would not usually speak to Samaritans.

Jesus told her that He could give her living water!

She didn't understand what He was talking about so she said, "You don't even have anything to get water in, how can you give me living water?"

Then Jesus said, "Whoever drinks from the water from this well will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst again."

Wow! Water that would satisfy your thirst so you would never be thirsty again! Jesus wasn't talking about our thirst for water from a well. He was talking about our thirst for God. The Bible teaches us that we have a thirst in our heart for the living God. And that is a thirst that only Jesus can satisfy. So when we have Jesus in our heart, He satisfies our thirst for God and we will never thirst again!

Jesus is life! Drink it up!

My Prayer

Dear Lord, You have given us Jesus, the Living Water.
May we drink of Your Living Water so we will never thirst again.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Types of Prayer

- Seeking Forgiveness from God / Confession / Contrition
- Giving Thanks / Thanksgiving
- Giving Praise to God / Adoration / Worship
- Seeking Help / Intercession
- Seeking Guidance



Confession/Contrition

Sometimes we pray to say sorry for letting someone down or hurting someone or failing to do the right thing 'forgive us our trespasses'



Thanksgiving

Sometimes we pray giving thanks to God because things are going well in our lives 'hallowed be thy name'



Intercession

Some people pray because they have illness or suffering in their lives



Petition

Sometimes we pray to God asking his help when times are difficult or we are powerless to help someone we love.

WHY DO

Different circumstances give rise to different kinds of prayer

Protection

Sometimes when we feel weak and vulnerable we pray to God to strengthen us.

WE PRAY



Petition

Some people pray to create a stronger bond between themselves and God

Adoration/Worship

Praising God. God is a mystery. 'Who art in heaven'

Seeking Guidance

In times of crisis in our lives we pray for guidance.



Heartfelt Worship

Time to Think...

Doing the little things well



After a long dark and very wet winter, it's great to welcome the brightness and new life, associated with spring. As we continue in this season of lent, to prepare for Holy Week and Easter, this is a great opportunity to be aware of God's presence in our lives. The violent war in the Middle East, makes us all feel vulnerable and somewhat powerless when it comes to the might of global aggression. While we can't change the global reality, we can always grow in our own self-understanding. Change happens from within. Conversion is that gentle movement, turning and embracing the bigger picture, the brighter light. The following short story inspires such hope.

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, an elderly man was taking a walk along the beach. He was relaxed and content. The sun shone brightly in the sky, the birds wheeled and sang, the waves washed ashore, the sand was firm underfoot, and a gentle breeze tempered the heat.

Some distance in front of him, the man saw the figure of a young man who was behaving strangely. He bent down from time to time, went over to the sea, bent down, and then back to the strand again as he walked along. 'What's he doing?', thought the old man, 'Maybe he's just happy, celebrating life with this strange dance of his. I'll ask him'.

A few moments later they met and greeted each other, 'Good morning'. 'A beautiful day'. 'Isn't it lovely by the sea?' And so on. Then the elderly man said, 'As I was walking along, I saw you bending down, and then going over to the sea and back again. Do you mind if I ask what you were doing?' 'Not at all', replied the young man. 'Do you see all those starfish that have been washed up on the shore? The whole length of beach is lined with them. They're exposed to the wind and sun, and they're drying up. A drying starfish is a dying starfish, so I'm putting as many of them as I can back into the water. Those that survive will produce the next generation of starfish, and life will go on'.

'How many have you put back in?' asked the old man. The young man replied, 'I don't know; maybe fifty or sixty'. 'So, what's the point?' said the old man. That's such a tiny number among the thousands that line the shore. What difference does it make?' The young man didn't reply. He bent down, picked up a starfish, and carried it back to the water. Almost immediately, it took on a healthy, natural appearance as if happy to be back in its own environment. 'It made a difference to that one', he said.

The old man said nothing, but quietly thanked the young man, and began his journey home. As he walked along, he thought to himself, 'I've learned something good today.

You can't do everything, but you can do something. It's better to do something, even if it's only a small thing, than

to do nothing because of being unable to do everything. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something'. He continued on his way.

Then he stopped, bent down, picked up a starfish, and put it in the water. A few steps later, he did the same again, thinking, 'If one person does a small thing, it remains a small thing. If many people do a small thing, it becomes a big thing. Today has been a good day'.

For those in a hurry: 'Those who are faithful in small things, will be faithful also in big things'. (Jesus, in Luke 16.10)

A practical prayer for personal change

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the people I cannot change,
which is pretty much everyone,
since I'm clearly not you, God.

At least not the last time I checked.
And while you're at it, God,
please give me the courage
to change what I need to change about myself,
which is frankly a lot, since, once again,
I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect.

It's better for me to focus on changing myself
than to worry about changing other people,
who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying,
I can't change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up
whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter
than everyone else in the room,
that no one knows what they're talking about except me,
or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God, grant me the wisdom
to remember that I'm not you.

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!



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)

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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:
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- ✿ Bouncy Castles
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Tuesday 17th March - 2026



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Living with Grief Community Supports in Kildare

When: Tuesday, March 24th | 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Where: The Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge, W12 T925

A bereavement information evening with an opportunity to meet representatives from a wide range of local Kildare bereavement services offering practical information and support for anyone who has been bereaved.

Who will find this event helpful?

- Anyone who is bereaved, whether recently or many years ago.
- Anyone supporting a bereaved family member or friend.
- Professionals and community members who may have a role in supporting those who are grieving.

What will happen at the event?

7:00 pm: Tea/coffee on arrival
7:30 pm: An information talk - Guest speaker Mary Kenneally
8:00 pm: Q&A session with a panel from bereavement support services
There will be representatives from a range of local bereavement support services at the event.

How do I book my place?

Scan the QR code to book your place on Eventbrite or call (01) 963 1131.

This is a FREE event but booking is required.

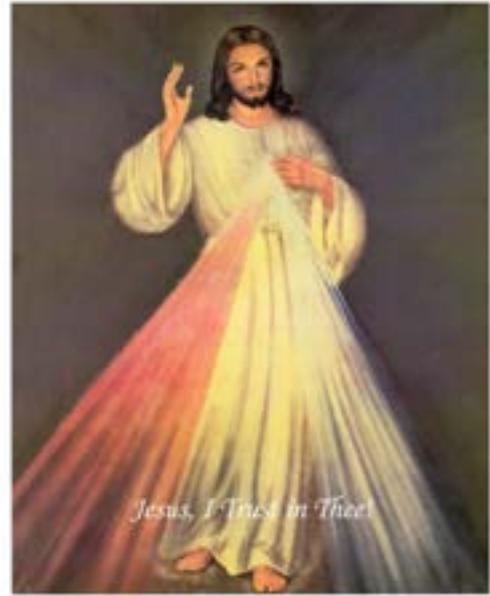


The Kildare Bereavement Network is part of Irish Hospice Foundation's national Local Bereavement Network programme.



RCN: 20013554

Come Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday



Jesus, I Trust in Thee!

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.

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Information Evening
19th March, 7pm

8 week programme
starting 31st March



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Programme Costs €100

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0868146982

Call The Office:
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HAPPY INTERNATIONAL
Women's
DAY



*On this day we celebrate and give thanks for the Women
in our parish, our families, and our community.*

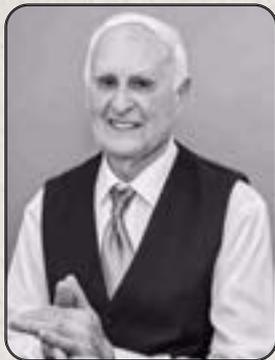
*We remember the strength, faith, compassion
and leadership of women who inspire us
through their service, their care for others,
and their commitment to building a better world.*

*May we continue to support dignity, equality,
and respect for all women and girls.*

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come."

— Proverbs 31:25

*Our Prayers are asked for those
who recently died*



*Seamus Morrin
Fieldbrook Lawns,
Portlaoise*



*John Meehan
Newpark, Portlaoise*



*Tony Walsh
Church St. Ballinakill,
Laois*

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



In Loving Memory of
FRANK KERRY
Busselton Australia, and formerly of
74, Marian Place,
Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
Died 25th February 2026,
peacefully surrounded by
his loving family.

Predeceased by his parents, James and Joan Kerry,
his Sister Catherine, Brother Seamus.

*Sadly, missed by his loving wife Bridget,
Daughters, Emma, Tracy, Desiree, Erin, Son James.
Also, by his Sisters Jo-Anne, Geraldine, Brothers, Martin,
Noel, Alan. His Brothers and Sisters in Law and all his
family and friends.*

*A Mass for Frank will be held in Portlaoise
at a date to be confirmed.*

Link to Death Below:

<https://barrettfunerals.com.au/tribute/-OmHRgnHAHiUEFyKCOfN>

Rest In Peace Frank



Months Mind Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
**ANNIE (EITHNE)
BOYLE (NÉE DEVOY)**

Kilmurray, Stradbally, Laois.
Months Mind Mass for Annie will
be celebrated in the Church of the
Assumption, The Heath next
Sunday March 15th at 9.30am.

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

May she Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
CHRISTY BANNON

72 Newpark, Portlaoise.
Died 4th March 2004.

22nd Anniversary occurs at this time.

Never more than a thought away,
Deep in our hearts you will always stay,
Loved and remembered every day.

*Sadly missed by children Christy, Elaine & Noel,
all his family and friends.
Also remembering his wife Patricia who died recently.*

May they Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
SHARON TOBIN
 9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.
 Whose 4th Anniversary
 occurs 6th 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 I love her 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,
 I do it everyday,
 But there is an ache within my heart
 That will never go away.

Love always Mammy
Love from Victoria, Lennon and Noah xxxxxxxxx

Rest in Peace Sharon



In Loving Memory of
MARY BURGESS
 (NÉE KEOGH)

Coolrain, Laois.
 Whose 1st anniversary occurs on
 March 8th 2026.

In our hearts you will always stay,
 Loved and missed every day.

Loved and always remembered by
Pat & Sylvia, Brendan & Maura,
Hannah & Paddy Craig & Rebecca & Paddy Jnr.

Rest in Peace Mary



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
 In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH BUGGIE

3 Kylebeg, Stradbally.
 Whose birthday occurs
 Saturday 7th March.

Always in our thoughts,
 Forever in our hearts.

Always remembered by your loving wife Patricia,
daughters, Celina, Margaret and Samantha
and grandkids Haleema, Alannah, Kayla and J.J.

Happy Heavenly Birthday Joseph



In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM (BILLY)
O'SULLIVAN

Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.
 12th Anniversary occurs 9th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
 Parish Church, on **Sunday 15th March at 8.30am.**

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

Sadly missed by all his loving family.

May William Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
CHRISTY CAHILL

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
 2nd Anniversary occurs on
 9th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
 Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise on
Sunday 8th March at 12.30pm.

The years may wipe out many things
 But this they'll wipe out never
 The memory of those happy days
 Which we have spent together.

Sadly missed and always remembered by
your Wife Lily, Sons, Daughters, Grandchildren
Great – Grandchildren, & extended family.

May Christy Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
PATRICK LEWIS

Raheen, The Heath, Portlaoise.
 10th Anniversary on the 4th March 2026.
 Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the
 Church of the Assumption, The Heath, this
Sunday 8th March, 9:30am.

You left us special memories,
 Your love is still our guide,
 And though we cannot see you,
 You are always by our side.

Loved and remembered by his wife Kathleen and family.

May Patrick Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
KAREN COONAN
(NÉE DIXON)

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise.
Died 3rd March 2018.

8th Anniversary occurs at this time.

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day,
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.

*Loved and remembered always,
Joyce, Des, Katie and Ashling, Eddie & Mary.
May Karen Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of
BRIGID O'BRIEN

Ridge Road, Portlaoise
Died 10th March 1968
(58th Anniversary).

Softly the leaves of memory fall,
Gently we gather and treasure them all,
Unseen, unheard, you are always near,
So missed, so loved, so very dear.

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by your loving family.
May Brigid Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of
SHARON TOBIN

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.
Whose 4th Anniversary
occurs 6th March.

Four years have passed since you went away,
Yet love still guides us every day,
Time moves on, as it must do,
But every day brings thoughts of you.

Your laughter echoes in hearts that care,
In quiet memories always there,
Though we cannot see your smile so bright,
You live within our souls each night.

Now safe with Mam and Dad above,
Surrounded by their endless love,
Together again, free from pain,
Until the day we meet again.

We speak your name with love and pride,
Forever our sister still by our side,
Loved, remembered, every day,
In our hearts you'll always stay.

*Loved and missed dearly Shar, from Susan, Catherine,
Tracey, Nicola, Ciera, Henry, Rachel and Aideen.*

Rest in Peace Sharon



In Loving Memory of
EDWARD DOOLEY

Killamuck, Abbeyleix.
Whose 1st Anniversary occurs
on 10th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the
Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix
on **Saturday 14th March at 5pm.**

I did not know that morning God was going to call your name.
In life I loved you dearly, in death I do the same.
It broke my heart to lose you, but you did not go alone.
For part of me went with you the day God called you home.

From his son Laurence

*Also remembering his wife Joan and daughter Elizabeth whose
anniversaries occurred on 4th February and 8th March.*

Rest in Peace Edward



Treasured memories of a Loving
Husband and Father

JOHN GING

Mountrath Road, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs
11th March 2026.

A loving husband and father so true,
No one on this earth will find like you.
For us you always did your best,
God grant your soul eternal rest.

*Loved and remembered dearly by your wife Phyllis, your
seven children, seventeen grandchildren, daughters-in-law,
& sons-in-law, all of whom you can be so proud of.*

Rest in Peace John



In Loving Memory of
**CHRISTOPHER
LACUMBER**

The Cottage, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurred 5th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 8th March at 11:15am.

Many the thoughts I give to you,
As the long hours go by,
Thinking of the things we used to
do and say, just you and I.
Sometimes they make me smile,
Sometimes they make me cry,
But are precious to me alone,
Memories of You and I.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his loving wife Bridie
and family and brother Jim.*

May Christopher Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**MARY ANGELA
GEOGHEGAN**
(NÉE MARUM)

Dublin and late of
Ridge Road, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary – 10th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass **Sat. 7th March at 6.30pm**
in St. Peter & Paul's Church Portlaoise.

Too dearly loved to be forgotten.
*Loved and missed everyday by her husband Chris,
family Joan, Paul, Christopher, Richard and Orla.
Brother Noel, Sisters Brenda & Theresa.
Extended family, neighbours and friends.
May she Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of
JOSEPH DEEVY

Late of Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

28th Anniversary occurred
6th March 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church this **Sunday 8th March at 11:15am.**

Though your smile is gone forever,
And your hand we cannot touch,
Still we have so many memories,
Of the one we loved so much.
Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part,
God has you in his keeping,
And we have you in our hearts.

*Sadly missed by his loving daughter Marie,
son-in-law Seamus, grandchildren Blaine, Evan,
Aoife & Clodagh, their partners,
great-grandchildren Ellie Mae, Heidi Marie, Leah,
Molly, Bobby and Tom, Téidí and Jack and families.*

May Joseph Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
PADDY DEMPSEY

47, Marian Ave., Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurred on
March 5th 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter and Paul Church on
Saturday, March 7th, at 6:30pm.

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your daughter Cora,
son Cyril, son-in-law Joe, daughter-in-law Noleen,
and grandchildren Emily, Alan, Conor, Tara, and Ryan.*

Also remembering Rose at this time.

May Paddy Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**RICHARD OLIVER
LODGE**

Stradbally Rd., Portlaoise.

23rd Anniversary occurred 6th March 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 his family and friends
and sons Kealan and Crevan.*

Rest in Peace Richard



In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL LALOR

Ballycarnan, Portlaoise.

9th Anniversary occurs 10th March.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Sunday 8th March at 11:15am.

Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered every day,
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts you're always there.
Sadly missed by his wife Peg and family.

Rest in Peace Michael

*To live in the hearts of
those we love is not to die.*



Rest in Peace

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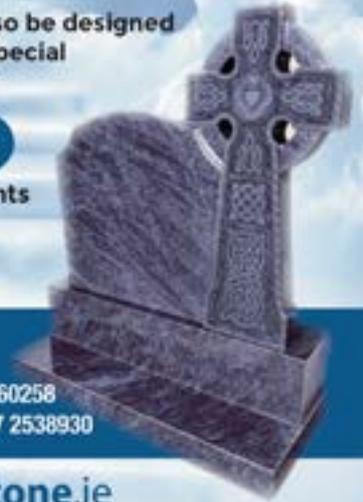
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Portlaoise Parish

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5th March 2026



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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

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Parish Centre during office hours
9am - 5pm Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours
in emergency only Tel: 0852134285

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Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



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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

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7

Responsorial Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-42

Supporting our Parish

*Each one must give as he or she has decided in their heart, not reluctantly or
under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver* 2 Corinthians 9:7

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Please choose a way to make your contribution

- * Making your offering in the boxes at the Church entrances
- * Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes
available at Church porches and Parish Centre
 - * Direct payment by cheque or cash
 - * Cashless tap facility at Parish Church
 - * Donation facility on our website
- * Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre
 - * Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account: IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

Scan this QR Code to take you
directly to our Donate facility



Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



The Parish Shop

At the Parish Centre

Open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm



WE STOCK A WIDE RANGE OF CARDS AND GIFTS FOR COMMUNION



Prayer Books
 Rosary Beads
 Rosettes
 Personalised
 Cards and Candles
 Photo Frames
 Gift Sets
 Bookmarks
 Sterling Silver
 Chains & Crosses



ALSO STOCKING A LARGE SELECTION OF

- * Wedding & Baptismal Candles, Cards & Gifts *(Candles & cards can be personalised)*
- * Personalised Cards for all occasions
 - * Essential Oils/Incense
 - * Willow Tree Gifts
- * Happy Day Soy Candles made locally
- * Grave Ornaments

