

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

10th May 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Traditionally May is dedicated to Mary, the mother of God. As we honour Mary, join us each evening at 8pm for Rosary at the Grotto.

Our Lady - Pray for Us.



May the Month of Mary



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

**Follow Us
& Like Us**



@PortlaoiseParis



fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois
fb.com/portlaoiselinkup

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



Calling Upon the Holy Spirit

Why do we keep rules? Probably to avoid penalties, punishment or adverse consequence! Rules are a necessary evil if we are to live in a well-ordered

society. Commandments however are different from rules. Commandments are expressions of how we are to love each other. Perhaps we shouldn't need commandments, perhaps we should know how to love each other intuitively, but sadly it seems we need a little guidance and a lot of help.

In today's section of the gospel known as the 'Farewell Discourse'. Jesus gives his disciples some final assurances. He tells them that although he will no longer be with them in the flesh, they will always abide in each other's love. The disciples will have plenty of opportunity to express that love by keeping his commandments. In return Jesus will send them, and us, an advocate, a spirit of truth the Holy Spirit.

How easy life would be if Jesus had stayed with us in the flesh. All we would have to do is keep running to him for answers every time we got stuck. There wouldn't be any great long debates on abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, stem cell research or anything else for that matter we would simply send Jesus an email and twiddle our thumbs awaiting the answer. Because he knew that he could not stay with us in person, Jesus left us the Holy Spirit to take his place but how often do we call on the Spirit? We are good at thinking we can get through life under our own steam. Sometimes we can be opinionated, quite sure that we can work out all the answers for ourselves. Today we are reminded that the Holy Spirit is with us from our baptism and ready to be called upon whenever we need direction or revelation. For most of us, that probably means a daily call.

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday to Friday: 7.30am & 10am

Saturday: 10am

Sunday

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.

St. Peter & Paul's Cemetery Mass Sunday 31st May at 1pm

This Mass will replace the 12.30pm Mass in the Parish Church on that Sunday.



EXAM TIME

Over the next few days and weeks our younger parishioners will be busy taking exams. Remember to keep the young people of our parish in your prayers. We petition for clear thinking, inspiration, guidance and calm.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Finn Theodore Morrissey-Lewis

Mary Cate Connors, Fielbrook Lewns

Bobby Jacob Cheevers, Parkside

Who was baptised weekend.

Readers for Heath and Ratheniska

Would you consider becoming a reader at Mass? This is a wonderful way to serve our parish community and participate more fully in the liturgy. Training and support will be provided. If interested, please contact the parish office on info@portlaoiseparish.ie or 0578621142

MULHALL MEATS

Est. 1931



**Weekly
Special**

**Now Only
€22.99/kg**



Mulhall's Fresh Irish Sirloin Steak

Offer Available Tuesday 5th - Sunday 17th May



Full Range Of Fresh **FISH** Available 7 days a week!

Mulhall's Butcher Counter is located within Mulhall's SuperValu. Phone 057 86 21044

AUDIOLOGIST HEARING AID Consultant

Patricia Kilmartin
B.A.A.T., M.I.S.H.A.A., M.I.A.A.
(36+ years experience with Private &
Public Sector (H.S.E.))



- Comprehensive Hearing Assessment Adults & Children 5 years +
- Full range of rechargeable Digital Hearing Aids available with Bluetooth connectivity incl. FREE PRSI HEARING AIDS TO VALUE OF €1000 TO ELIGIBLE CLIENTS i.e. Social Welfare grants
- Pre-employment tests/Occupational Screening Tests
- Ear Wax Removal Service i.e. Ear Irrigation, Microsuction, Earway Pro
- Ear moulds, Custom made Swim Plugs, Musicians Moulds, etc.
- Hearing Aid Batteries, Minor Repairs, etc. (incl. postal service)

In Attendance

10 Lismard Court, Portlaoise Co. Laois. R32AF58
(Entrance beside Macra Na Feirme Hall on Timahoe Road)

By Appointment Only

Tel: 057 8692289 Mobile: 085 8568808

E-mail: patriciakilmartin@kilmartinaudiology.ie

Website: www.kilmartinaudiology.ie



Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

live life physically well

The Coach House, 4 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise.

JOHN SUGRUE BSc MSc MScP NICOLA CALDBECK BSc MScP MAACP
CONOR BOLTON BSc MSc MScP CONOR HORAN BSc MSc MScP

www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie

087 666 4808

ALL CLASSES HAVE RESUMED FOR 2026

In Clinic:

Senior exercise class Tues. at 11am

Online Pilates every Wed. at 9.30am

Osteoporosis class every Wed.

10.30am

Osteoporosis class every Thurs. at 4pm

Men's health and fitness every Thurs at 10am

In Parish Centre

Mon. morn. Osteoporosis class at 9.30am

Intermediate Pilates class Monday evening at 6pm

Beginners Pilates class Mon. evening at 7pm

NEW BLOCKS FOR THE NEW YEAR

IF YOU WISH TO ENQUIRE ABOUT
OR JOIN ANY CLASS,
PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL OUR OFFICE





Adults & Kids

SWIM LESSONS

START DATE: FRIDAY, 5TH JUNE

Levels 1-7 | 6 weeks block | Every Friday 5pm
€75 Members | €105 Non members

057 863 1219 • ZEST@THEKILLESBIN.COM



HEARMED

ACOUSTIC HEALTHCARE

FREE
Hearing Test

15%

OFF ALL HEARING AIDS

☎ 057 86 38181

getintouch@heardmed.ie

www.hearmed.ie



Hearing Care You Can *Trust.*

SERVING PORTLAOISE & SURROUNDING AREAS

- +** **Free Hearing Tests**
Comprehensive assessment, no obligation
- ◆** **Wax Removal**
Safe micro suction technique
- ◆** **Rechargeable Hearing Aids**
Latest technology, all styles
- €** **PRSI Grant Available**
Up to €1,000 towards hearing aids
- 🏠** **Home Visits Available**
We come to you, nationwide service

📄 Quote "Parish Link Up" when booking your appointment to avail of these offers

Free

HEARING TEST

€1,000

PRSI GRANT

15%

OFF HEARING AIDS

Micro

SUCTION WAX
REMOVAL

**T&Cs apply. Offers subject to eligibility.*



MARIAN PILGRIMAGES

RENEW OUR SPIRIT OF LOVE, FORGIVENESS & PEACE



€ 1,175

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Estoril

Departs Dublin | 13th - 20th June 2026
4 nights Fatima and 3 nights Estoril

Join us on a spiritual pilgrimage to Sanctuary of Fátima, followed by three peaceful days by the sea in Estoril - a journey of prayer, grace, and quiet reflection.



WWW.MARIAN.IE
GROUP PILGRIMAGE SPECIALISTS
(01) 878 8159 | (028) 95680005
38-39 Pearse Street, Dublin 2



Licensed by the Irish Aviation Authority
T0142



MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN
GET YOURSELF NOTICED

Powering Your Brand Through Print & Marketing

For over 20 years, Mochua Print & Design has helped businesses stand out with professional printing, creative design, branded merchandise and direct mail marketing solutions. We don't just print, we help bring your ideas, brand and marketing campaigns to life.



Your Complete Print & Marketing Partner

From **business cards** and **brochures** to **signage**, **packaging**, **promotional merchandise** and **targeted mail campaigns** – our experienced team works with you to create marketing that gets noticed and delivers results.

As an Award winning ISO9001 & ISO14001 certified company, we are committed to quality, sustainability and exceptional service for every client we work with.

Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 EH11 ☎ 057 8634050
Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 TF83 ☎ 045 433569

mochuaprint.ie



TV SERVICES

Repairs to TVs and home entertainment equipment. Supply, fit, and repair; Saorview, aerial, and satellite systems.

CONTACT

057 873 2998

087 363 6497

083 374 2600



NOLAN LOCKSMITHS

24/7 Emergency Service
Auto - Home - Commercial

086 2624270 | 085 2833064

SHOP: 057 8620135

www.jacknolan.ie

CARPENTER AVAILABLE

All aspects of Carpentry covered

2nd Fix Carpentry

Wardrobes, flooring etc.

PH: 087-0624431

ACTIVE BUILDING SERVICES

All domestic plumbing

Oil fired central heating

Service your Oil-Fired Boiler NOW

EMERGENCY CALL OUTS WELCOME

Plumber on call for

Portlaoise & surrounding areas

Fitting water softeners, showers, repairs.

Copper cylinder replacement

Full Oil-Fired Central Heating

Installed & Maintained

CONTACT FERGUS 089 4541868

PLUMBER AVAILABLE

- All Domestic Plumbing
- Solid Fuel & Oil Servicing
- Water Softener Installation
- Full Bathroom Renovations

CONTACT ALAN

085 1141395

LK BYRNE PLUMBING & HEATING

For all your plumbing needs.

CALL LORCAN

085-2876043

HANDYMAN / BUILDER

15yrs Experience in all trades
Specialised in painting & decorating
Carpentry / Doors & floors
Building / Extensions/Renovations
Electric & Plumbing Work
Garden maintenance / Tree cutting / Patios / Paving

Ph. 083-8854144



Carpets · Upholstery

Mattresses · Rugs

Professionally Steam Cleaned

Sanitised and deodorised

Contact Darren

085 836 0077



GREG THE HANDYMAN

CALL 089 956 7135

- Home improvements and repairs
- Flooring, tiling, carpets
- Fence maintenance and repair
- Repairs of toilet, faucet and shower units
- Furniture assembly and installation

GARDEN SERVICES

Hedge trimming / tree pruning
Tidy ups / fallen trees cut up
Grass cutting / spraying etc.
Tree and Hedge Planting

TEXT OR RING

RICHARD 087 9828558

KITCHEN & FURNITURE RESPRAYING SERVICE

Qualified Cabinet Maker
Transform your kitchen / wardrobes with a respray
Highest quality finishes with the colour of your choice
Have your dream kitchen without the expense of replacing

CALL PAUL ON 085-7762298

PAINTING & DECORATING

- Interior & Exterior
- Power Washing
- 15 Years' Experience

Fully Insured

089 445 9958

www.kukic-hms.ie

WINDOW & DOOR REPAIRS

- Hinges & Handles
- Letterboxes
- Sliding Patio Door Rollers
- Window & Door Draught Proofing

Fully Insured

083 315 3211

www.kukic-hms.ie

FREE COLLECTION OF SCRAP METAL

Washing Machines, cookers, lawnmowers etc.

Also Garden sheds cleared, Fences and sewer issues resolved
Mini digger and small tipper truck available for hire.

CONTACT RICHARD

085-252 9893

ROSARY AT THE GROTTO

Rosary will be recited at the grotto every evening 8.00pm for the month of May.

ALL ARE WELCOME



SMALL BUILDING JOBS

Plastering & Painting
Gardening & Power Washing
Also Block Work.
References on Request & Garda Clearance

PLEASE CALL PAT ON

086-8405079 / 085-1473982



CARPENTRY & BUILDING SERVICES

Roofing • Attic Conversions
1st and 2nd Fixing
Property Maintenance
Extensions Renovations

Gordon
085 860 1873

ALL ASPECTS OF CARPENTRY & BUILDING

Martin Ryan
Lawnmower Sales & Service

• Solo Ride-ons • Oleo-Mac
• Legacy • Weibang Lawnmowers

Adj. to
Portlaoise Golf Club
AVONDALE,
ABBEYLEIX ROAD,
PORTLAOISE



086 2493723

**IRELAND NEEDS
FATIMA**

**ROSARY RALLY
AT
OUR LADY'S GROTTTO**
(beside Sue Ryder House)

Ballyroan, Abbeyleix

**Saturday 16th May, 2026
at 4pm**



PMC
HOME IMPROVEMENTS LEINSTER

www.pmchomeimprovementsleinster.com

**PMC HOME
IMPROVEMENTS**
CALL 085 113 4470

Roofing
Guttering
Gutter Cleaning
Replacement Tiles
Roof Cleaning
Roof leak & repairs
Steam Cleaning
Soffits Repair & Replacement
Painting & Decorating
Home Renovations

**WPC
Decking**

**SAY
GOODBYE
TO
MAINTENANCE**

WPC decking gives you the beauty of wood without the hassle. No sanding, or painting just durable, weather-resistant boards stay flawless for years. Upgrade your outdoor space with zero worries

BUY NOW >

wpc-decking.ie
0838854144
info@wpc-decking.ie



**MIDLANDS LANDSCAPING
& TREE SURGERY**

LANDSCAPING & CONSTRUCTION
Garden Transformation
Patios, Paths & Paving
Decking & Pergolas
Retaining Walls
Fencing & Gates
Lawn Care & Turfing

TREE SURGERY SERVICES
Expert Tree Removal
Pruning & Crown
Stump Grinding
Woodchipping
Site Clearance

**24HR EMERGENCY
CALL OUT**

FULLY QUALIFIED AND INSURED
Phone: 0857837857
Laois / Kildare / Offaly

**Advertise with
Link Up
TODAY!**



**Helping Local Brands Make a
BIG IMPACT**

PORTLAOISE
PARISH

**link
up**

**Contact
057 8692154**

FATIMA CANDLE

Will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church Wednesday 13th May In honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

FATIMA MASS

Wednesday 13th at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

Anyone travelling on the Fatima Pilgrimage can collect their tickets after the Mass.



BINGO!

Single Book €6
Double Book €10
Sheets €2

Every Thursday and Friday Night in St. Mary's Hall
Starts 8pm

Buses collecting from their usual pick up points in the Portlaoise area at 7.30pm.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 5TH MAY

Top score: Sadie Cheater. 1st Lady: Margaret Flanagan. 2nd Lady: Catherine Fitzpatrick. 1st Gent: Liam Cahill. 2nd Gent: Liz Cooper & C Galvin. 1st Half: Peter Stevenson. 2nd Half: Tied; B Cahill, T Mulhare & F Keenan. Raffle: 1st M Cahill, 2nd C Fitzpatrick, 3rd M Gowing, 4th B Murphy. *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*

ACTIVE RETIREMENT Monday 11th May - Bowls in St Mary's Hall from 2-4pm new members welcome. Wednesday 13th May 'Sing Along' with Caroline from 3pm in Parish Center - new members welcome. Thursday 14th May in Sue Ryder Centre Kilminchy 'Cards & Chat' from 3pm new members welcome tuition given.

NATIONAL EPILEPSY WEEK 2026 takes place on 18th May - 25th May. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek.

SOCIAL CHESS CLUB PORTLAOISE for adults only (male and female). The next meeting will be held in Portlaoise Library on Saturday 9th May, 2026 between 1 pm and 4pm and it is free. Board games are provided in the library. The website is <https://portlaoisecchessclub.ie>. Chess games are held every two weeks in the library. Check the website for clarification.

ALONE supports older people across Ireland who may be experiencing loneliness, isolation, frailty, illness, homelessness, or financial hardship. ALONE Needs You — Volunteers Wanted We are currently looking for compassionate volunteers in your area to support older people in your community. By giving a small amount of your time, you can: Reduce loneliness / Build meaningful connections / Make a real difference in someone's life" Please call us on 0818 222 024 if you or someone you know needs support.

GRAIGUECULLEN MONSTER BINGO, Tuesday 12th May 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €5,380. Double number €1,580. Lotto €2,200. Bonus Ball €1,500.

FREE LINE DANCING with Maureen in Portlaoise Library next Monday May 11th at 11a.m. All ages and abilities welcome.

FREE TEA DANCE in Dunamais Arts Centre, Wednesday May 20th at 2.30p.m. Music by Danny Webster. M.C. Maureen Culleton.

FREE CÉILÍ practice Monday May 18th 2.15p.m. Parish Centre Céilí Mór Monday May 25th 2.15p.m. Parish Centre. Details Maureen 0876482038.

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.

AN IGNITE IRELAND day conference, with special guest speaker Scott Hahn, will take place in Dublin on Saturday, 23rd of May. Scott Hahn is a well-known writer and broadcaster, and is a much sought after speaker. It is an event not to be missed. For information and to book your ticket, go to: www.dominicans.ie.

FATIMA MASS Wednesday 13th at 7.30pm in the Parish Church. Anyone travelling on the Fatima Pilgrimage can collect their tickets after the Mass.

BALLYFIN Vintage Rally

24TH MAY 2026

R32Ad92

DOG SHOW

TUG of WAR

AND MUCH MORE!

Contact Majella 086 3101822

FORT FINANCIAL

A Better Mortgage Deal Could Be Closer Than You Think

EAMON FENNELLY, DIRECTOR OF FORT FINANCIAL, WORKS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF LENDERS, ENSURING THAT EACH CUSTOMER GETS THE BEST OPTION EVERY TIME.

36 Main Street, Portlaoise
 info@fortfinancial.ie
 www.fortfinancial.ie
 087 332 2658

EAMON FENNELLY
Director

Bank of Ireland | h | núa | ICSMortgages | ptsb

Call in branch anytime
or here when you need us.
Let's take the next step together.

TRUSTED | Personal advice you can rely on.
PERSONAL | Tailored solutions for your goals.
FOCUSED | Helping you plan with confidence.
LOCAL | Proud to support the community.

Fort Financial Planning and Advisory Limited trading as Fort Financial is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Member of Brokers Ireland, the professional Supervised Brokers Association. Registered in Ireland. Company Number: 7388719

BROKERS

SMYTH FUELS

Smyth Services & Fuels Ltd.

- NEED HOME HEATING OIL?
- NEED TRACTOR DIESEL?

Call Sean Smyth 086-3561669

Gretta Kelly

DipFH MCFHP MAFHP

Tel: 085 108 8553

Specialist Foot Care Services

Professional foot care in the comfort of your home

- Nail Cutting & Treatment
- Corns, Callus and Hard Skin Removal
- Ingrown & Thickened Toenail Care
- Fungal Nail & Skin Infection Management

House Visits Only

Registered & Insured Practitioner

LACEY

TARMACADAM & CIVILS Ltd.

Thomas Lacey

- ✓ TARMACADAM
- ✓ CONCRETE
- ✓ KERBING
- ✓ MECHANICAL SPREADER
- ✓ SITE CLEARANCE AND FILLINGS
- ✓ DRAINAGE
- ✓ VAT REGISTERED & FULLY INSURED

FAMILY RUN BUSINESS SINCE THE 1970s

PORTLAOISE, CO. LAOIS

057 8670744
086 3844321

LACEYTARMAC@GMAIL.COM

LAOIS JET WASH SERVICES LTD

C.C.T.V. PIPE & DRAIN INSPECTION
HIGH PRESSURE DRAIN CLEANING

TEL/FAX 057-8681720 MOBILE 087-7749519

HAVE YOU A PROBLEM WITH YOUR DRAINS?

CateKIDS

Portlaoise Parish www.portlaoiseparish.ie

HANDING ON
THE FAITH



Showing our Love for Jesus

How many of you have a pet? What kind of pet do you have?

When I was a child, I had a pet parrot named Pete. I spent hours playing with Pete and even taught him to talk. He would say, "Pete's a pretty bird. Pretty boy, pretty boy." We usually left the door to Pete's cage open during the day. When I walked in the door after school, Pete would fly to me and land on my shoulder. I loved that bird! Do you know how I showed Pete that I loved him? I took care him. I made sure that his cage was kept clean. I made sure that he had plenty of food and water. One of the most important ways I showed my love was by spending time with him.

Now, if I came over to your house and watched you and your pet together, how could I tell that you love your pet? What kind of things do you do to show your love? It is important to remember that it isn't enough to say you love your pet. Loving isn't something you say, it is something you show by the things you do. It is the a way you act toward someone or something.

Now, let me ask you a question. Do you love Jesus? How does Jesus know that you love him? What can you do to show Jesus that you love him? That is a hard question to answer, isn't it?

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives his disciples the answer to that question. Jesus said, "Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them."

It isn't enough just to say we love Jesus. Instead, we have to show God our love by **DOING** the right things – just like you show your love to your pets and your parents and your friends. So, what are some things we can do to show our love for Jesus? The Bible is a good place to find the answer. I have listed a few ways that I found, perhaps you can think of some more.

1. Love one another (**John 13:34-35**)
2. Worship him (**Luke 4:8**)
3. Tell others about Jesus (**Acts 1:8**)
4. Talk to him daily in prayer (**Matthew 26:41**)
5. Read his Word (**Psalms 119:11**)
6. Forgive others as you forgive us (**Matthew 6:15**)

No Matter Who You Are
or What You've Done . . .

Jesus
Loves
You this
I know



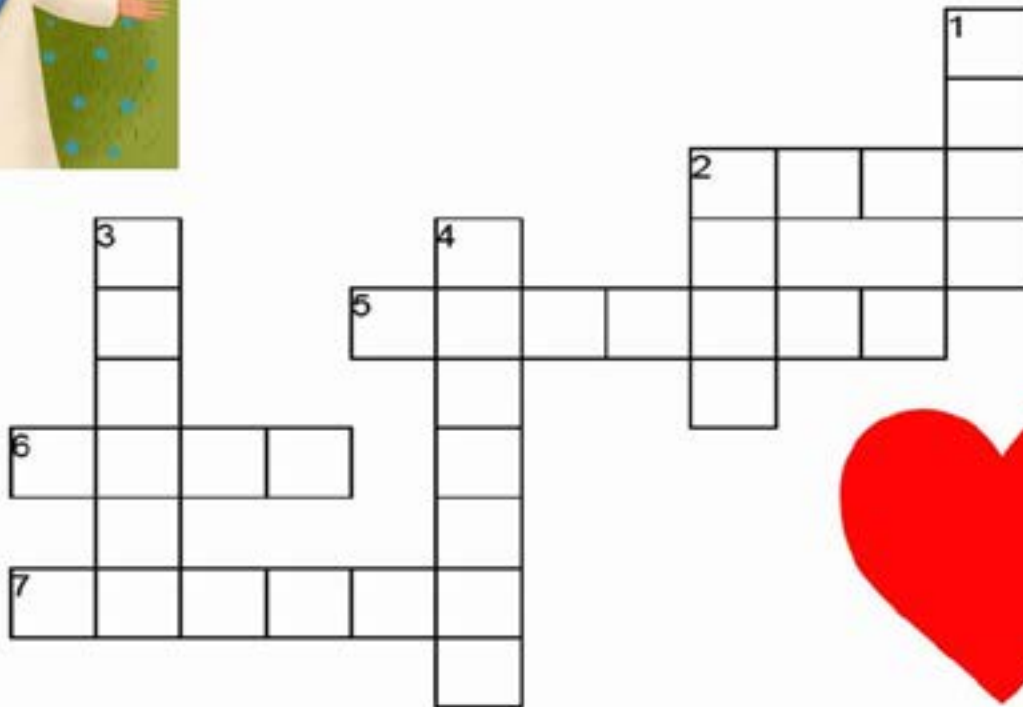
Dear Jesus

Heavenly Father, we are quick to tell you that we love you – but we know that we need to show our love too. Help us to show our love for you – just as you show your love for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SHOWING OUR LOVE FOR JESUS

Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.

The words in the puzzle are based on John 14:15-21



HORIZONTAL

2. To have a deep feeling or affection for another person
5. An endless period of time
6. To give evidence of something
7. A child who has lost both mother and father

VERTICAL

1. To obey (such as the rules).
2. To be alive; the opposite of die
3. The relationship of God to Jesus
4. A rule or an order given to a person to do something

KEEP
FATHER

SHOW
LIVE

LOVE
FOREVER

COMMAND
ORPHAN

Quiz for Kids

What is the first book in the Bible? *Genesis*

What four books tell about Jesus life on Earth? *Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*

In what language was most of the Old Testament given? *Hebrew*

What is the most likely the first Gospel written? *Mark*

Who was the first man? *Adam*

Who was the first woman? *Eve*

Name the city where Jesus was born? *Bethlehem*

Who was Jesus most famous cousin? *John the Baptist*

What was Jesus mother's name? *Mary*



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

Cash and Spot Prizes to be won
In aid of Scoil Fionntáin Naofa,
Shanahoe



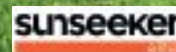
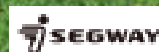
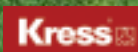
Lawncare Treatment
Specialists

New Lawn Constructions
Sod/Seed options

Robotic Mowing Solutions
Sales/Installation/Service

Green Space Professionals
and Sports Surfaces

Agents for:



www.greenfeet.ie

info@greenfeet.ie
www.greenfeetshop.com



086 770 5510
057 864 6889



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Experienced OTs delivering home-based and clinic services across Laois. We help adults, older adults and children improve safety, independence, and everyday function with clear, practical recommendations.



Adult Services:

- ✓ Housing Grant Reports (Stairlifts, bathrooms, ramps etc.)
- ✓ Seating Assessments
- ✓ Workplace Assessments

Paediatric Services:

- ✓ Handwriting Assessments
- ✓ Sensory Interventions
- ✓ Assistive Technology
- ✓ School Visits

Book your appointment today

0831506755

www.originaltherapies.ie

info@originaltherapies.ie



Earn €225 / week
Hosting an EU
Internship Student

TAX-FREE
INCOME
up to
€14,000/year



STUDENTS
AGED 17 - 19



SHORTS STAYS
(2 - 4 WEEKS)



YOU CHOOSE
WHEN TO HOST



€225 PER WEEK
PER STUDENT

Friendly, mature European students visiting for work experience in your area. Full support from Language Xchange Ireland (LXI).

Interested in becoming a host family?



Scan to learn more /
register your interest



Proudly ISO Certified for 12 years

www.languageexchange.ie
english@languageexchange.ie

PORTLAOISE LIONS CLUB GOLF CLASSIC

PORTLAOISE GOLF CLUB

SATURDAY 23rd MAY 2026

TEAM OF 4
€120

Lots of prizes on the day. Limited numbers.

TO BOOK A TEAM OR SPONSOR A TEE BOX PLEASE CONTACT TONY TYNAN ON

086-8987931

TIME SHEET AVAILABLE AT
057 8661557



PROMOTED BY
PORTLAOISE LIONS CLUB



SUPPORT WORKER

Required to assist a young woman
to live an independent life

Part time Position

10 – 15 hours per week

Friday and Saturdays

Stradbally Area, Co. Laois

Competitive rates of pay

Social Care / Health Care Background Essential

Knowledge and experience of working
with people with intellectual disabilities.

ROLE

To support a young woman with an intellectual
disability both in her home and in the community,

Competitive Rates of pay depending on experience.
For full job description or to apply please email your
CV to kate@theatnetwork.com

YOGA WITH CATHY
RAILWAY STREET PORTLAOISE

READY TO MOVE BETTER,
BREATHE DEEPER AND FEEL
STRONGER INSIDE & OUT



NEW CLASS FOR BEGINNERS
STARTING WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY,
11.00 AM - 5 WEEK BLOCK

NEW

SATURDAY MORNINGS
ALL LEVELS 10.30 AM
PAYG OPTION
AVAILABLE

ADVANCE BOOKING
ESSENTIAL AS
NUMBERS LIMITED



CONTACT CATHY 087 6836260

@MEITHEAL_YOGA



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



Time to Think...

Bring flowers of the Rarest



Recently thousands of people walked the annual Darkness into Light memorial. It is a magnificent moment of solidarity emphasizing together we are stronger. Faith and spirituality enhance our well-being and mental health it gives us a wider lens, a bigger picture and anoints us with an inner confidence that "All will be Well."

It's a rare occasion to visit a church privately and wonder why so many candles are lighting in front of an image of Mary mother of Jesus. This iconic lady, rich in grace and empathy holds dear to all our hearts. I'm very conscious as we move through the month of May, many of these candles will be for young students preparing for state examinations during the coming weeks.

Canon Sydney Alfred MacEwan (19 October 1908 - 25 September 1991) was a famous Scottish priest who was gifted with an exceptional tenor singing voice, and who sang traditional Scottish and Irish songs. Probably his most famous recording is the Marian hymn 'Bring flowers of the Rarest' written by Mary E. Walsh. The hymn was first published as the "Crowning Hymn" in the Wreath of Mary 1871/1883 and later in St. Basil's hymnal (1889). The hymn is synonymous with Marian processions and devotions in the month of May.

The month of May traditionally is associated with devotion to Mary mother of Jesus. Mary holds such an important part not just in the life of Jesus, but in the tradition of our Christian culture. Her courageous "Yes" when invited to partake, in one of the great mysteries in the history of our salvation, continues to resonate with a deep sense of hope and grace. Mary is an iconic woman, courageous, contemplative and deeply empathetic to all humanity. Mary knew the vicissitudes of what it is to rare a family. Her kindness and empathy are close to us especially in this beautiful month of May.

The late Pope Francis, has talked about this devotion and how Mary's faith "unties the knot of sin." We, too, can be bound by our own disobedience, Pope Francis explained. When we do not follow God's will for our lives, "a kind of knot is created deep within us." These knots take away our peace and serenity. They are dangerous, since many knots can form a tangle which gets increasingly painful and difficult to undo. But we know one thing: nothing is impossible for God's mercy! Even the most tangled knots are loosened by his grace. And Mary, whose yes opened the door for God to undo the knot of the ancient disobedience, is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that he can untangle the knots of our soul by his fatherly mercy.

The Knot in My Life.

What are these "knots of our soul"? Knots of financial stress, wayward children, addiction, illness, depression, divorce, stress, health issues, unemployment. . . Most of us are dealing with at least one large knot. Not all of them are the result of our own sin. Some are simply the painful situations that come from living in a fallen world. Whatever their cause, the knots can become so entangled that we fall into a sort of despair that they will ever be undone. The knots of our hearts, every knot of our conscience, can be undone. Do I ask Mary to help me trust in God's mercy, to undo those knots, to change? She, as a woman of faith, will surely tell you: "Get up; go to the Lord: he understands you." And she leads us by the hand as a Mother, our Mother, to the embrace of our Father, the Father of mercies.

Nothing Will Be Impossible. What knot in your life is creating pain for you? Turn over your problem to Mary. As she works on the knot, she will point you to Jesus. He tells us in no uncertain terms never to limit what God can do: "Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from

here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20).

Prayer to Our Lady Undoer of Knots

Holy Mary, full of God's presence, during your life you accepted the Father's will with full humility, and the devil was never able to tie you up with his confusion.

Since then, you have interceded for all our difficulties, as you did at the wedding feast of Cana.

Full of kindness and patience, you show us how to untie the knots of our lives.

By always being our mother, you arrange and clarify the ties that link us to the Lord.

Holy Mary, Mother of God and of us all, you untie the knots of our lives with a mother's heart.

We place our intentions in your hands [mention your prayer request], and we ask you to disentangle every knot and confusion.

Through your grace, intercession, and example, protect us from all evil, and untie the knots that keep us from being united to God.

Free from confusion and error, may we find him in all things, keep our hearts in him and serve him always in our brothers and sisters.

Amen.

The following prayer is most appropriate in this month of May. Mary in her warm affection remains close to us all.

Prayer to Our Blessed Mother (for those who are growing old)

Take my hand O Blessed Mother,

Hold me firmly lest I fall.

I am nervous when I am walking, and to thee, I humbly call.

Guide me over every crossing,

Watch me when I'm on the stairs.

Let me know you are beside me,

Listen to my fervent prayer.

Bring me to my destination,

With you safely every day.

Please help me with each undertaking

As the hours pass away.

And when the evening falls on upon me,

And I fear to be alone,

Take my hand O Blessed Mother,

Please stay with me in my home.

Amen.



*Our Prayers are asked for those
who recently died*



**John James
Fitzgibbon**
*West Sussex, UK /
formerly Main St.
Portlaoise*



Eamon Phelan
*Abbeyleix Road,
Portlaoise*



Seán Farrell
*Abbeyleix Road,
Portlaoise*

May They Rest In Peace
Our Sympathies Are With Their Families



**Acknowledgement &
Month's Mind
In Loving Memory of
JOHN HOLLAND**

Forest View, Togher, Portlaoise.

John's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in
St. Fintan's Church, Raheen on
Saturday 23rd May at 7pm.

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

We are deeply grateful to all our relatives, neighbours, friends and colleagues for their support and kindness during this difficult time. We are truly touched by everyone who sent Mass cards, messages of condolence, travelled long distances and attended the wake and the funeral.

Your support and kind words brought an immense comfort to us all.

Thanks to the wonderful staff in Portlaoise hospital, particularly the Ambulance Crew, Emergency Department & ICU Nurses and Doctors and Dr. John Connaughton for the excellent care and compassion shown to John and our family.

Thanks also to the staff of Tullamore Hospital.

We also very much appreciated Fr. Adriano de Oliveira for his lovely prayers and for administering the Last Rites.

A sincere thank-you to Fr. Petru Medves for the beautiful and meaningful Requiem Mass in John's honour.

Particular thanks to Moloney Funeral Directors for their professionalism, kindness and guidance throughout the funeral arrangements.

To Martin Delaney, thanks for his beautiful music and singing and to everyone who took part in making the ceremony so meaningful.

Thanks to the Abbeyleix Manor Hotel for the excellent meal and service after the funeral.

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

Forever loved and sadly missed.

May John Rest in Peace

Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
TOM BRACKEN

Ardanure, Block Road, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs on 9th May 2026.
Tom's 3rd Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 9th May 2026 at 6.30pm.

Missed deeply every day.

With love always Nancy and all the family.

Suaimhneas Dé ar d'anam dtilis



In Loving Memory of Our Parents
ANNE & THOMAS HILLIARD

23 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

42nd Anniversary.

Deep in our hearts you both will stay,
Missing you both is a heartache that never goes away.

Sadly missed by all their loving family.

*May Anne and Thomas
Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of
DANNY BRENNAN

41 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
22nd Anniversary occurs 14th May 2026.

Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered everyday,
No longer in our lives to share,
vBut in our hearts you are always there.

Loved and remembered always by your wife & family.

May Danny Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**JULIE LACUMBER
(NÉE CARROLL)**

Triogue Court, New Road, Portlaoise.
8th Anniversary occurs 12th May 2025.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this

Sunday 10th May at 11:15am.

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.

*Sadly missed by her loving sons, daughters, grandchildren,
great-grandchildren, extended family and friends.*

May Julie Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
FR. NOEL BYRNE

4 Summerhill, Portlaoise.
25th Anniversary occurs 12th May 2026.

Anniversary Mass in
St Peter & Paul's Church on

Tuesday 12th May 10am.

Never too far from our thoughts and hearts.

Also thinking of his parents Joe & Margaret and his sister Carmel.

From your loving family.

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
ALICE PARNELL

"Avondale", Old Knockmay Road, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs 16th May 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, on
Saturday 16th May at 6.30pm.

As time unfolds this Seventh year
We know and feel you are very near
Silent thoughts of our time together
Hold memories that will last forever.

*Loved and remembered by her husband Kieran, son Michael,
daughter Lisa, daughter-in-law Ann, son-in-law Peter,
grandchildren Aoife, Rachel, Adam, Laura, Conor, Amelia,
relatives and friends xxx*

May Alice Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
**PATRICK CONROY
(SNR)**

Ballymacken, Portlaoise.
29th Anniversary occurred on 15th May 2026.

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.

Remembered always by his loving family.

Rest in Peace Patrick



In Loving Memory of
**MARY (MOIRA)
DOWLING**

Borris Rd., Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurs 11th May 2026.

You are near even if we don't see you,
You are with us even if you are far away,
You are in our thoughts and in our lives always.

*Sadly, missed and always remembered by her
sons and daughter and their families.*

Rest in Peace Mary



Birthday Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
MARIE READY

163 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
1st Birthday away from Home
May 10th 2026.

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
your husband Paddy, sons Paddy and William,
daughter Katie, her partner Paddy and
grandchildren Bridget and Kyle.*

*Also remembering her infant daughter Marie whose
birthday and anniversary occur at this time.*

May they Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
PETER FENNEL

Grattan Street, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurred on 7th May.

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

Always remembered and loved by the Walsh and Fennell families.

Rest in Peace Peter



In Loving Memory of
KEVIN O'ROURKE

Cherrygarth, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurs 15th May 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 16th May at 6.30pm.

Sadly missed by his loving wife Jane and family.

Rest in Peace Kevin



In Loving Memory of
**JOSEPHINE (JOSIE)
TAYLOR**

Late of Mountrath Road and
Knockmay Estate, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurred 14th April 2026.

Quietly today your memory we treasure
Missing you always, forgetting you never.

Sadly missed by all her loving family.

Rest in Peace Josie

Cemetery Masses

Portlaoise

St. Peter & Paul's Cemetery
Sunday 31st May at 1pm
(Replacing the normal 12.30pm Mass)

Abbeyleix

adjoining Cemetery Mass
Saturday 6th June at 5pm

St. Patrick's

Cemetery Mass
Sunday 7th June at 11am

Raheen

Cemetery Mass
Saturday 27th June at 7pm

Shanahoe

Cemetery Mass
Sunday 28th June at 12noon

KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

087-2549195

David **087-2369887**



MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN
MEMORIAL CARD SPECIALIST

A SPECIAL MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONE

Clonminam Business Park
Portlaoise, Co. Laois
R32 EH11

☎ 057 86 34050

✉ info@mochuaprint.ie

🌐 www.mochuaprint.ie



The Parish Shop

Will open on the following dates:

Saturday 25th April

Saturday 16th May

Saturday 30th May

From 10am to 1pm



Portlaoise Stone Centre

Five Generations in Stone Cutting

Established in 1991 by Terry Swayne manufacturing superior quality headstones.

All work undertaken by Portlaoise Stone Centre is guaranteed and carried out to the highest standard by certified & qualified craftsmen.

Unique Headstones can also be designed and created to your own special requirements.

Visit our Showroom

to discuss your requirements and view our range of headstones and grave accessories.

Unit 3B Clonminam
Business Park
Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
R32 DW71

Tel: 057 8660258
Moblie: 087 2538930

www.portlaoisestone.ie



HENRY RANKIN

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

087-2562137



- ✓ SAND
- ✓ GRAVEL
- ✓ DECORATIVE STONE
- ✓ TOPSOIL
- ✓ BARK MULCH
- ✓ COMPOST

and much more.



Visit Our Website
WWW.KYLECON.IE

Call us on
085 7020537

tomato plants

AVAILABLE NOW!

20+ VARIETIES AVAILABLE NOW

*strawberry *seed potato

Pick+Mix Veg

4 PLANTS FOR €2

lettuce onions scallion beetroot
kales cabbages broccoli turnip
cauliflowers kohlrabi basil herbs
florencia fennel spinach celery
celeriac beans chard leeks more

COMING LATE APRIL:

melons cucumbers courgettes
chilies sweet peppers squash more

Roadside stand open 7 days in
Derrygarran Portlaoise

R32 ANB3

EIRCODE:
R32 ANB3

Grown by Kate Heffernan
087 759 2071

Portlaoise Parish

Results for
7th May 2026



One €18,000 Jackpot Winner

Congratulations to David Kelly, Promoter David Kelly

WINNERS

Esther McCormack
A Byrnes
Joe Kennedy
Teresa Sage
Sandra & Barry Bohan
Elizabeth Cahill
Matt Hyland
Michael Conlon
Liz Hilliard
Art O'Neill
Lena Hanlon
Noel Flynn
Mary & Conal
Trish Delaney

MATCH 3s €1,000



PROMOTER

Paul Dooley
Parish Centre
Parish Centre
Mary Doran
Lucy Kelly
Geraldine Cahill
Betty Hyland
Kathleen Brown
Liz Hilliard
Parish Shop
Mary Collins
Paul Dooley
Mary Costello
Pam Kelly



Next Week's Jackpot is €10,000

Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: [@portlaoiseparis](https://twitter.com/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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles: 5-8. 14-17
Responsorial Psalm 65:1-7. 16-20
1 St. Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21

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

BALLYROAN VINTAGE CLUB

Annual Show

17th MAY 2026



Calling all
DAVID BROWN
tractors

**BALLYROAN GAA
GROUNDS LAOIS
R32 WE04**

**10 EURO
CASH ENTRY**



- ★ LIVE MUSIC BY REWIND
- ★ STEAM ENGINES
- ★ THRESHING OF OATS
- ★ VINTAGE CARS, TRACTORS
- ★ TRUCKS, MOTORBIKES
- ★ FOOD STALLS, CREPES
- ★ AUTO JUMBLE
- ★ STATIONARY ENGINES
- ★ OLD FARM DISPLAY
- ★ PIG ON SPIT, COLCANNON
- ★ CHAINSAW CARVING
- ★ KIDS AMUSEMENTS
- ★ DOG SHOW
- ★ BLACKSMITH

**FUN
FOR ALL
THE FAMILY!**



★ ★ A GREAT DAY OUT for VINTAGE LOVERS! ★ ★