

**PORTLAOISE  
PARISH**  
**link  
Up**

24th May 2026

**Pentecost Sunday**

*'Come Holy Spirit'*



The Heath

**Congratulations to the boys and girls from The Heath N.S., Ratheniska N.S. and the Gaelscoil who received their First Holy Communion last Saturday.**

**As always, a massive thank you to their teachers, parents and all who prepared them for their special day.**



Ratheniska



Gael Scoil

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142**  
**E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

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**Parish and Diocesan Websites: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)**



### The Inner You

It is clear that we are not all born the same. We look at people who have achieved great things and imagine that they must have been born with a better brain or more talent. We look at people who do extraordinary things and imagine they must possess greater depths than we possess. These extraordinary people must have greater courage, greater determination or a clearer vision than we have. Is it just possible that we are not getting the full picture?

It is clear that we are not all born the same, and it is also clear, that as human beings, however hard we work we will always come up against our own limitations. As human beings there will always be times when we are hindered by fear, doubts and inadequacies. It's at times such as these that the Holy Spirit can step in and fire our humble human efforts. When we allow ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit, great things are going to happen. Faith in the Spirit can't help but move us in the right direction. People like Mother Teresa of Calcutta would never have put her success down solely to her own human endeavour. Any praise she might have received would have been sent straight back to God.

On this, the Church's birthday, we share a very exciting link with those very first disciples. We are each given gifts and talents which we must share to best advantage. At Pentecost we are given tremendous insight into God's plan. We were not all born the same but we are all given the same twenty four hours in a day. All we need to do to overcome our limitations is to ask the Holy Spirit to galvanise our human effort and involve us in Jesus' saving deeds.

'Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire, these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them.'

Pentecost

### 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 Next Sunday 31st May at 1pm

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



### Ratheniska Cemetery Mass Friday 5th June at 7pm



We welcome into our Parish Community

Fionn Thomas Christie, Aghnahama Drive

Hailey Anne Lawlor, St Brigids Place

Caia Rose Gallagher, Ballyclider

Sophie Sheila LaMothe, Newpark

**Who was baptised weekend.**

### COLLECTION FOR OUR RETIRED PRIESTS THIS WEEKEND 23rd/24th MAY

We ask for your support for this collection which will be held this weekend.

**Envelopes are available in  
Development Boxes or you can pick up  
an envelope in the Church porches.**

We thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

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 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**





# Father's Day LUNCH



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Alzheimer's

TEA day

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Alzheimer's

TEA day

Will you join me for a cuppa?

I'm hosting a special Alzheimer's Tea Day event to help raise funds for vital care and services for those affected by dementia.

Date & Time: May 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Venue: Portlaoise Day Centre  
 Time: 11am - 1pm.

But if you can't, don't worry. You can still help by making a donation to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland today.

# DEFEND IRISH NEUTRALITY

## PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday 26th May  
8pm Parish Centre,  
Portlaoise



Speakers:

**BRIAN STANLEY TD**  
**Senator TOM CLONAN**

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**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

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Clearance

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## HOST A SPANISH EXCHANGE STUDENT IN PORTLAOISE THIS SUMMER

Laois Language Centre is looking for host families (especially with children/teens).  
26th June – 17th July (some return 10th July)  
Excellent rate of pay. Students attend morning classes and join organised afternoon/weekend activities.

**CALL/TEXT FOR DETAILS:**

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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 19TH MAY

Top score: Margaret Flanagan, 1st Lady: Mary Gowing, 2nd Lady: Rita Arrigan, 1st Gent: Tied; Sheila Duff & Frank Keenan, 1st Half: Paddy Purcell, 2nd Half: Bridie Kennedy. Raffle: 1st Sean Bennett, 2nd Liam McCarthney, 3rd Theresa Mulhare, 4th Rita Arrigan, 5th Terry Dunne. *Thanks to all for your support. Whist continues every Tuesday at 7.30 in the Parish Centre, new players always welcome, lessons available if required; Ctc 086 8812228.*

**ACTIVE RETIREMENT** Monday 25th May - Bowls in st Mary's hall from 2-4pm. New members welcome. Wednesday 27th May - Afternoon with Moez from 3pm in parish centre. New members welcome. Thursday 28th May in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy 'Cards and Chat' from 3pm. New members welcome. Tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 087-9187157.

**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.

## PARISH BULLETIN NOTICE

### ARE YOU, OR IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW, LIVING WITH A LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITION?

If so, then you may be interested in the 'Living Well Programme'. Living Well is a FREE, Online 7week self-management group programme for adults living with long term health conditions, such as asthma, COPD, diabetes, heart conditions, stroke and others to name but a few. There are spaces available for the Online Programme due to start in early June.

To book your place please contact Aine 041 6850676 / 087 1140371 or Elaine 041 6860710 / 087 4308735.

(Closing date for registration is Friday 5th June)

**FINDING GOD IN NATURE AND CULTURE** – Saturday 27th June 2026, Kildare Town. A day of talks, music, storytelling, prayer, and pilgrimage exploring the relationship between Christian faith, Irish culture, imagination, and the natural world. Featuring Paul Vander Klay, Fr. Conor McDonough OP, and Heather Pollington. Hosted at Solas Bhríde Centre with pilgrimage visits to St Brigid's Well and Kildare Cathedral. Tickets and information on eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/finding-god-in-nature-and-culture-tickets-1988447493982>.

**BEALTAINE DANCING** FREE Céilí Mór, Parish Centre, Portlaoise, 2.15 p.m on Monday 25th May. All ages and abilities welcome.

# 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). From June 1st every day at 3pm.

**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.

**BELADD ANNUAL OPEN AIR MASS** takes place on the Lower Green Wednesday June 3rd at 7pm. All are welcome.

**FATIMA PILGRIMAGE 11-18 JUNE** Book your Candle [€3] to be lit at the Grotto (Capilino) on the 13th June – for your deceased, sick, intentions or in thanksgiving. Candle bookings/petitions etc from Maura 087-1210263; John 087-1254841; or any member of the Fatima committee. Further info from Maura/John.

**INTERGENERATIONAL TEA & COFFEE MORNING**, Ratheniska Hall. 10:30 am Sunday 31st May. All are welcome. Sponsored by Laois Partnership

**SPIORAID NAOIMH PRAYING COMMUNITY** Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat Saturday 30th May. (10am to 1pm), St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church Portlaoise R32K023, Holy Mass at 10.00 am - Confessions available after Mass. Retreat continues in Ratheniska Room Parish Centre after Mass at 10.45am. (Adoration, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry). Contact: Michael Nerney 086-8157305 Spiritual Director: Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P. [www.spioraidnaoimh.com](http://www.spioraidnaoimh.com). All Welcome.

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# DUNAMASE COLLEGE

## STUDENT WINS NATIONAL CAREERSPORTAL SKILLS COMPETITION



There was tremendous excitement and pride throughout Dunamase College this week as student Moya was announced as the 1st place winner in Ireland in the prestigious CareersPortal Skills Competition.

The national competition, organised by CareersPortal and supported by the Department of Education, encourages students across the country to explore career opportunities, reflect on work experience placements, and develop a deeper understanding of the skills required for future employment. The competition attracts entries from schools nationwide each year and is recognised as one of Ireland's leading career development programmes for students.

As part of her incredible achievement, Moya won a brand new MacBook Pro, just in time for college, while the school also received €1,000 in prize funding. Moya is pictured proudly accepting her trophy and prizes in the Clock Tower Hall of the Department of Education.



The judging process focused on students' career research, understanding of workplace skills, communication, and personal reflection, making Moya's national win an outstanding accomplishment. This success marks a historic milestone for Dunamase College, as it is the first time a student from the school has won the national competition.

Speaking about the achievement, school principal Mrs. Kelly said: "We are absolutely delighted for Moya and immensely proud of her achievement. Winning a





national competition of this calibre is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and talent. Moya has been an exceptional ambassador for Dunamase College throughout this journey, and we wish her every success as she begins the next exciting chapter of her education and future career."

The entire school community extends its warmest congratulations to Moya on this remarkable achievement and wishes her every success in the future.





## The Power Source

Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with his Father, he told his disciples that they would do even greater things than he had done when he was on earth. Now Jesus did some pretty great things, didn't he? He healed the sick. He turned water into wine. He made the blind to see and the lame to walk. Where were the disciples going to get the power to do such great things? Jesus promised them that he would ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit would give them the power to do great and mighty things.

It happened just as Jesus said it would. On the day which is called Pentecost, the disciples were all together in one place. The Bible tells us that there was a sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind and it filled the place where the disciples were gathered. Then, there were flames of fire that appeared and rested upon each of them. When these things happened, the disciples were filled with power and began to preach and teach about Jesus. They were able to do things that they had never done before because of the power of the Holy Spirit in them.

Did you know that you and I have that very same power available to us today?

The Bible says that "all who are led by the Spirit are children of God." We who are the children of God have the power to do great and mighty things, not in our own strength, but through the power of the Holy Spirit that is within us.



Dear God,

Thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit.  
Thank You for the Church and for all the people  
who love You.

Fill our hearts with Your light and love,  
so we can be kind, brave, and joyful every day.

Help us to listen to You,  
to speak words that bring peace,  
and to share Your love with others.  
Just as You filled the first disciples with Your  
Spirit,  
fill us too and guide us in all we do.  
Amen.

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

## The Day of Pentecost



All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Acts 2:4

Choose the word that best matches the definition

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| SPEAK     | LANGUAGE |
| PENTECOST | HEAVEN   |
| BLOWING   | SOUND    |
| OTHER     | HOLY     |
| SPIRIT    | HEAR     |
| FILLED    | WIND     |
| FIRE      | TONGUES  |
| AMAZED    |          |



## Gifts of the Holy Spirit



**Wisdom** is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. The gift of wisdom helps you to avoid the things that could lead you away from God.

**Understanding** is the gift of comprehension, or the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Church. The gift of understanding helps you be tolerant and sympathetic of others. It helps you sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.

**Right Judgment** is the gift of prudence. The gift of right judgment helps you make choices to live as a faithful follower of Jesus.

**Courage, or Fortitude**, is the gift that helps you stand up for your faith in Christ. The gift of courage helps you overcome any obstacles that would keep you from practicing your faith.

**Knowledge** is the gift of knowing and enlightenment. The gift of knowledge enables you to choose the right path that will lead you to God. It encourages you to avoid obstacles that will keep you from him.

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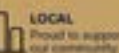
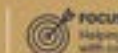
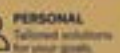
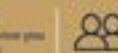
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## Go For Life Games



**Where?**

St. Mary's Bingo Hall, Portlaoise

**When?**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June

**Time?**

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# Time to Think...

## The Monkey Trap and Pentecost



This week, we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit isn't something that just happened in the distant past but continues to be relevant and available for all our lives. The Spirit of Pentecost landed in a room full of fear and disappointment, to a frightened and bewildered people. Pentecost brings transformation, from darkness into light, from despair into hope. God's spirit is always one which sets us free. That same spirit anoints us with creativity, spirituality and deep hope.

For Christians, Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Jesus, who were gathered together in the upper room. It also marks the beginning of the Church: That day, empowered by the new gift of the Holy Spirit, the first followers of Jesus left the upper room to bring the Good News to the people gathered in Jerusalem. Through their words and witness, the first of generations of people became believers in Jesus Christ and were baptised into his Church.

The following well known story fits well into the spirit of what Pentecost is all about.

Anything that you have to control, controls you.

There are many variations to this story, but it's quite instructive. In South America, Africa and Asia, the natives have devised a very effective method of trapping monkeys. The plan is deceptively simple: the natives take a gourd or some similar object and drill a hole just large enough for a monkey's hand to pass through; they add some extra weight to the gourd with sand or pebbles, then put a nut or some fruit inside and place the gourd where a monkey will find it.

Here's what happens: the monkey sticks his hand through the hole to get the food — but with the prize in its grasp, the monkey cannot get its hand back out. The hole is too small for the monkey's hand to pass through so long as it's holding the treat, and the gourd is too heavy for the creature to carry. Because the monkey will not let go of its prize, it becomes trapped. The animal gives up its freedom to hold on to a small piece of food.

It seems obvious that all the monkey needs to do is let go of the bait and it can escape. But because it views the treat as its possession and is not willing to let go, the monkey is trapped. It loses its freedom.

It's easy for us to see how foolish it is to keep holding something that really isn't worth much. The monkey is making a very poor trade-off: his freedom for a prize that wouldn't be that difficult to find in a less threatening location. But the animal is blinded by its attachment to the treat.

The monkey is acting out of instinct; it probably doesn't have the ability to recognize the danger of grasping the bait — or the fact that such behaviour will have a dramatic impact on its future. But humans should be able to avoid falling into such a trap. We should be able to understand the danger of holding on to things that don't serve us well. We should realise when we're creating traps for ourselves.

Unfortunately, most of the traps in life are those we create for ourselves. We hold on for dear life to things that don't serve us

well. We hold on to past mistakes; we cling to the privilege of being right; we won't let go of anger and resentment; we become attached to material things that are of little value; and we often put our attachment to possessions ahead of our own well-being.

If you're going to find happiness in life, you need to examine what you hold. Take a close look at the attachments in your life. Do you place more importance on things outside of yourself than on things inside you? The more important something is in your life, the more you become attached to it. If what you treasure is outside yourself — that is, other things or other people — then you risk being trapped by those bonds.

You have the ability to choose your treasures in life. You need to examine your life to determine if you're being trapped by the things you treasure.

If we're attached to things, we are restricted. Only by letting go can we be free.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,

by the light of the Holy Spirit

you have taught the hearts of your faithful.

In the same Spirit

help us to relish what is right

and always rejoice in your consolation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



*Our Prayers are asked for  
those who recently died*



**Helen Addala**  
*(née Powders)*  
London & formerly  
Grattan Street



**Mary Dunne**  
*(née Walsh)*  
Glendowns, Portlaoise



**Pat Bambrick**  
Ballyroan Rd, Abbeyleix/  
Ballaghaderreen,  
Roscommon



**Eileen Barrett**  
*(née Moore)*  
Clare/Limerick &  
formerly Abbeyleix

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

In loving memory of our Dear Mother

**ROSANNA GING**

O'Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
15th Anniversary occurs 26th May 2026.

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

*Also remembering our father Patrick and  
brothers John and Michael at this time.*

*Always loved and remembered by their loving families..*

*May They Rest in Peace*



Acknowledgement and First  
Anniversary Mass  
In Loving Memory of  
**CHARLIE BERGIN**  
Church View House, Shanahoe.

Charlie's First Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe on **Sunday 24th May at 12 noon.**

The family of the late Charlie Bergin who passed away on the 19th of May 2025, wish to sincerely thank all those who sympathised with them on their great loss. We offer our heartfelt thanks to the many friends, neighbours and well-wishers who visited our home, attended the reposal, funeral Mass and burial. For those who travelled long distances, sent Mass cards and posted messages of condolence online, and for all those who kept us in their thoughts and prayers we are truly grateful.

A special thanks to our extended family, relatives, friends and neighbours for their ongoing help and support.

To Dr. Ailish Phelan, Mountrath Health Clinic and to Casserly's Pharmacy, Abbeyleix thank you for all your care and support through the years. We deeply appreciate the care given to Charlie by the staff, doctors and nurses in St. James Hospital Dublin, the Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise and Tullamore Hospital, and by the paramedic teams and Ambulance crews. Thanks also to the Team at Comfort Homecare for their kind and compassionate care of Charlie.

A special thank you to Fr. Paddy Byrne and Fr. Petru Medves for their prayers and the beautiful celebration of Charlie's life during the requiem Mass. Thanks to our Sacristan Mary Delaney for all her hard work preparing the Church, and to Martin Delaney for his beautiful music and singing.

We also wish to thank Seamus Burke funeral directors and his colleagues for the compassionate and professional manner in which they carried out Charlie's funeral arrangements. Thank you to the members of Shanahoe GAA Club who took part in the guard of honour and arranged parking. Also, we thank our neighbours and the Manor Hotel Abbeyleix for the lovely food.

We wish to thank all who helped in any way to support us through our loss. As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude.

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

*May Charlie Rest in Peace*



**Acknowledgement and First Anniversary**  
 In Loving Memory of  
**LARRY BRADY**  
 22 Beechlawn, Portlaoise.  
 Died 26th of May 2025.

On Larry's first anniversary, his family would like to express their sincere gratitude and thanks to everyone who sympathised with us, attended the funeral, sent Mass cards, brought food, posted online condolences and those who stood to pay their respects as Larry's remains travelled to the Church and cemetery.

We wish to express our gratitude to David Goode and Matthew Keegan of Keegan's Undertakers for their advice, kindness, professionalism and support.

A sincere thank you must also go to all at Bosco's for providing beautiful food.

A special thank you to Monsignor Byrne and Fr David Vard for their kindness and support and for celebrating Larry's funeral Mass.

Thank you to Sarah Troy for her beautiful singing and to all who helped and participated in the Funeral Mass and Burial.

The family were privileged to have guards of honour from Timahoe GAA and Laois, Carlow and Birr Rally Club, Larry would have been very proud.

To the nurses and doctors in both Portlaoise, St James and The Beacon hospitals, who cared for Larry during his illness, thank you for your kindness, dedication and professionalism.

We must also offer our sincere gratitude to Larry's GP Dr. Gerald White, for going above and beyond with his support and care.

A special thank you must go to Olive Delaney in Laois Palliative Care and Evelyn Walsh, public health nurse. With their care and attentiveness, Larry was able to remain at home during his illness and in his final days.

We wish to acknowledge the kindness of the wonderful neighbours and friends of Larry and the Brady family who visited from near and far both during the funeral and the weeks and months that followed.

Please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our deepest appreciation.

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

*Rest in Peace Larry*



**FIRST ANNIVERSARY**  
 In Loving Memory of  
**BERNADETTE**  
**(DETTA) BERGIN**  
 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise  
 1st Anniversary occurs on 26th May.

They say there is a reason,  
 They say that time will heal,  
 But neither time or reason,  
 Will change the way we feel.

For no one knows the heartache  
 That lies beyond our smiles,  
 No one knows how many times  
 We have broken down and cried.

We want to tell you something,  
 So, there won't be any doubt,  
 You're so wonderful to think of,  
 But so hard to be without.

Your laughter, love and caring way,  
 Are treasured still in every day  
 We cannot bring the old days back  
 When we were all together.

The family chain is broken now but memories live forever.

*Now back beside your husband, hand in hand once more,  
 Missed beyond all measure, loved forevermore.*

*Fondly remembered and dearly missed by her loving family -  
 John, Siobhan, Wesley, Sean & Hannah.*

*Rest in Peace Bernadette*



**In Loving Memory of**  
**PAT BYRNES**  
 29 Beechfield, Portlaoise.  
 12th Anniversary occurs 29th May 2026.

Pat's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Friday 29th May at 10am.**

*Husband*

Wonderful memories of one so dear,  
 Treasured still with a love sincere,  
 In our hearts he is living yet,  
 We loved him too dearly to forget.

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Margaret, never forgotten.*

*Dad & Grandad*

We hold you close within our hearts and there you shall remain, to walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again.

*Sadly missed by your loving children; Mark, Anna, Joanne, Marguerite & Daniel, your 16 grandchildren and your 1st great grandchild, Jaxson Harding.*

*May Pat Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of Our Wonderful Dad

## **PATSY DEEVY**

24 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

8th Anniversary occurs 26th May 2026.

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

**Sunday 23rd May at 6.30pm.**

What we'd give if we could say,  
"Hello Dad" in the same old way,  
To hear his voice and see his smile,  
To sit with him and chat for a while.

A true friend we could turn to,  
When times were good and bad,  
One of our greatest blessings,  
The man that we called Dad.

*Sadly missed by his sons Pat and Brendan, Daughter Hannah,  
daughters-in-law Sylvia & Maura, son-in-law Paddy,  
grandchildren Craig, Rebecca & Paddy and great grandson Paídi  
Also remembering his dearly departed wife Kathleen at this time.*

*May Patsy Rest in Peace*

Also remembering at this time Patsy's brother

## **JAMES (JIMMY) DEEVY**

17 O'Moore Place, Portlaoise.

28th Anniversary occurs 31st May 2026.

*May James Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of

## **PHYLLIS GRAHAM**

Ballydavis, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

Whose 1st Anniversary occurs

**31st May 2026.**

1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise on  
**Saturday 30th May 6.30pm.**

... And when the work of grief is done,

The wound of loss will heal

And you will have learned

To wean your eyes

From that gap in the air

And be able to enter the hearth

In your soul where your loved one

Has awaited your return

All the time.

*Mam, always loved, always remembered.*

*May Phyllis Rest in Peace*

Second Anniversary

In Loving Memory of

## **HARRIET WHELAN**

**(NÉE DEMPSEY)**

"Villa Rosa" Mosse Lane,  
Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Laois  
/ Portarlinton, Offaly.



*19th May 2024*

In our hearts, your love will stay,  
Guiding us through each passing day.  
A kind soul, so gentle and true,  
We cherish the memories of you.  
Though you're gone, you're never far,  
You light our lives like the brightest star.  
In the quiet moments, we feel your embrace,  
Forever cherished, in God's grace.  
Your memory lives on in all we do,  
Harriet, our love is forever with you.

*Resting peacefully in God's loving arms.  
"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

*Sadly missed by her beloved:*

*Sisters Patricia and Theresa*

*Brother-in-law Seamus*

*Brother Paddy*

*Late brother Leo*

*Sons Vincent and Eric & Anna*

*Daughter Louise*

*Son-in-law Pietro*

*Grandson Thomas*

*Friends and neighbours: Julie, Dolores, Geraldine Dunne,  
late Tommy Hannon & family, Louise Aldritt, Martin  
& Sheila Hannigan, Tom Cooney, Mark & Tara Hyland,  
Mary Clerkin & (James & Sharon Clerkin), late George  
Gallagher & Frank Gallagher, Late Meta Cooke, Eadaoin,  
Siobhán & Dearbhail Cooke.*

*Rest in Peace Harriet*



15th Anniversary  
In Loving Memory of  
Our Beloved Dad, Grandad (Pappa)

**CHRISTOPHER  
MARIANAYAGAM**

5 Bridge Street, Portlaoise  
Died 25th May 2011.

Fifteen years have passed since you left us, yet it still feels like yesterday we heard your voice and held your hand.

Time may move forward silently,  
but the emptiness of losing you never fades.

Your voice still echoes in our hearts, your love still guides our lives, and your memories still bring tears to our eyes.

Not a single day goes by without  
thinking of you and missing you deeply.

You were our strength, our comfort,  
and our greatest blessing.

You taught us love, kindness, courage,  
and the true meaning of family.

Though you are no longer by our side, your  
presence surrounds us in every prayer,  
every memory, and every heartbeat.

Life has changed in many ways,  
but one thing will always remain the same —  
the love we carry for you in our hearts.

Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts.

*Forever loved, missed and remembered by  
your children and grandchildren.*

*Rest in Peace Christopher*



In loving memory of

**THOMAS SHERIDAN**

Ferndale, Portlaoise.

1st anniversary occurs on  
the 25th of May 2026.

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

*Sadly missed by his loving wife and family.*

*Rest in Peace Tom*

In loving memory of

**FRANK KERRY**

Died 25/02/26. In Australia, formerly of 74  
Marian Place Portlaoise.

Mass for Frank will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise on  
**Friday 29th May at 10am.**

*Rest in Peace Frank*



In Loving Memory of

**WILL SHERLOCK**

Eyne, Portlaoise.

Whose 3rd anniversary occurs on May 22nd.  
3rd Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Heath  
Church on **Sunday 24th May 2026 at 9.30am.**



So many things have happened  
Since you were called away  
So many things to share with you  
Had you been left to stay  
Every day in some small way  
Memories of you come our way  
Though absent you are ever near  
Still missed, loved and always dear.

*You are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.  
Love Helen, Ella, Billy & Leah.*

*Rest in Peace Will*

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

**PAUL JOSEPH KENNA**

Balladine, Abbeyleix.

2nd birthday away from home  
23rd May 2026.

2nd Anniversary Mass for Paul will be celebrated on  
**Saturday 13th June at 5pm** in the Church of the Most  
Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix.

As each day passes, we miss you more and more  
but today on your birthday we miss you the most.

On this day that honours you, we pray that the  
Heavens above are rejoicing in your name and  
reminding you how very special you are to us.

We'll never forget you and how much you mean to us.

**HAPPY HEAVENLY BIRTHDAY PAUL**

*With love from Mum, Dad, Sheila, Fiona & families.*

*Rest in Peace Paul (Pinky)*

*We love you always brother.*

# NOTICE!

## CEMETERY SUNDAY MASS

31st of MAY, 2026

Due the restricted parking spaces

# PARKING IS RESERVED

for the Elderly & Disabled only.

## Rosary Procession

Come participate  
in the Rosary  
procession with us.



30<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Saturday

3 PM  
at

Grotto  
St. Peter and Paul Church,  
Portlaoise

Walk with faith. Pray with love.  
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## Cemetery Masses

### Portlaoise

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

### Ratheniska

Cemetery Mass  
Friday 5th June at 7pm

### 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

## Padre Pio's Glove

St. Pio's Glove will be  
in Fitzpatrick's House,  
Kilberry, Athy, Co. Kildare  
on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
11.00am - 5.00pm

Items of St. Pio will be available on the day.  
For info call Ann 085 1696189

Everyone  
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David **087-2369887**



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  - Willow Tree Gifts
  - Happy Day Soy Candles made locally
  - Grave Ornaments



## Portlaoise Parish

Results for  
21<sup>st</sup> May 2026



11

13

14

31

**No €11,000 Jackpot Winner**

### WINNERS

John Saunders  
Mary Niall & Aaron  
Eugene McDonagh  
Tina Feighery

MATCH 3s €1,000

4  
Match  
3s  
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€250  
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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](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

## Happy Birthday Church

The Feast of Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church? It's called that because Pentecost is when the apostles went out among the people and began spreading Jesus' message, thus establishing the beginning of the Church. On this day we are asked to pray for the Church and her continued growth. Pentecost, Greek for 50th day, is celebrated by Christians fifty days after Easter. Originally it was a Jewish feast that concluded the fifty days of Passover.



## 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

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- \* Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre
  - \* Direct payment by cheque or cash
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  - \* 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](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)

Twitter: @portlaoiseparish

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](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully



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