

PORTLAOISE  
PARISH  
**link  
up**

31st May 2026

## The Most Holy Trinity Sunday



St. Peter & Paul's  
Cemetery Mass  
Today (Sunday) at 1pm



### Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas:* *On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*

- **Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical: *Magnifica Humanitas*** A powerful call to rediscover the dignity and greatness of the human person in a fractured world.
- **"Humanity is not a problem to be solved, but a gift to be cherished."** One of the striking themes at the heart of Pope Leo's message.
- **Faith, Hope and Human Dignity** The Holy Father urges the Church to stand beside the poor, the forgotten and those wounded by war, loneliness and injustice.
- **A Gospel for Our Times** Pope Leo reflects on peace, truth, care for creation and the importance of authentic human relationships in the digital age.
- **Hope in a Divided World** The encyclical challenges nations and individuals alike to reject fear and build a civilisation of compassion.
- **The Church as a Field Hospital** Echoing his predecessors while bringing his own voice, Pope Leo calls Christians to be signs of mercy and reconciliation.
- **Young People at the Heart of the Future** A special appeal to younger generations not to lose hope or forget their God-given worth.
- **See Fr. Paddy's 'time to think' on page 16** A further summary and reflection on Pope Leo XIV's landmark first encyclical.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

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



## A God Who Doesn't Condemn

We only have to switch the TV on to know there is plenty of evil in the world, but in today's Gospel John reminds us that if we know and believe in God we can stand up to that evil and that we will never be condemned. If we believe

in God we will be saved. But how do we even begin to know God? Do we think of a God who created the world billions of years ago but has been pretty quiet since? Do we think of God who sent his Son to save us, but only know it because the story sits in a bible up on the bookshelf? Or do we think of a God who made us, a God who sent his Son to teach us, and a God who sent his Spirit to guide us through each day of our lives and through each generation that walks the earth?

The Trinity might be a bit of a theological mystery to us, but that doesn't mean to say that we are not able to understand anything of God. We understand God in three ways; as Father and creator, as Son and redeemer, and as God's Spirit left to guide and strengthen us.

God the Father is all around us. God's miracles are in front of our eyes when we wake up in the morning and in the night skies before we go to sleep. We live on the only planet able to support life in our universe. God's miracles are there for all to see in our breath-taking landscapes, in our oceans teeming with life and in mankind itself. How often do we stop to praise God's creation or appreciate the miracles that surround us?

God the Son came to teach us with stories and signs. He came to reveal God's plan for us. God the Son came to show us the way to God the Father. God's Son came to us in a great manifestation of God's love. "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

The Spirit of God is the part of God left to guide us and lead us. The Holy Spirit is something we can completely forget about ... or something we can call on every day, in every choice and in every decision we make.

Believing in God means that we are never condemned. Belief begins with knowing God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit in every part of our lives.

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

## Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

**Monday to Thursday:** 7.30am & 10am

**Friday (First Friday):** 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

**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.



**A Mass for Leaving Cert and Junior Cert students will be celebrated in the Parish**

**Church on Tuesday at 7.30pm**

## Ratheniska Cemetery Mass Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

*The journey doesn't end here.*

*Death is just another path, one that we all must take.*



**We welcome into our Parish Community**

Michael Paul McInerney,  
Market Mews, Maryborough Village

Jack Junior Horan  
Hillview Drive

**Who was baptised weekend.**

## Month of the Sacred Heart

June is traditionally the month when Catholics are urged to show special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Devotion to the Sacred Heart is the celebration of God's



love for us. The Sacred Heart is the symbol of the eternal love by which "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son". (Jn 3:16)

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**ALL CLASSES HAVE RESUMED FOR 2026**

*In Clinic:*

Senior exercise class Tues. at 11am

Online Pilates every Wed. at 9.30am

Osteoporosis class every Wed.  
10.30am

Osteoporosis class every Thurs. at 4pm

Men's health and fitness every Thurs at 10am

*In Parish Centre*

Mon. morn. Osteoporosis class at 9.30am

Intermediate Pilates class Monday evening at 6pm

Beginners Pilates class Mon. evening at 7pm

**NEW BLOCKS FOR THE NEW YEAR**

**IF YOU WISH TO ENQUIRE ABOUT  
OR JOIN ANY CLASS,  
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# Prostate Cancer Information Mornings

## Workshops for men

### **John Dunne**

Glenbarrow Physiotherapy  
4th June 2026, 11am

### **Sonya Bowen**

St James's Hospital  
11th June 2026, 11am

These workshops are aimed at men diagnosed with prostate cancer. They will provide education and support as well as the opportunity to meet men in similar situations.

To register please contact the centre on 057 8681492 or email: [info@cuislecancersupport.ie](mailto:info@cuislecancersupport.ie).



**Cuisle Cancer Support Centre**  
Block Road, Portlaoise,  
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**Zumbini Portlaoise**

Parish Centre, 11am Saturdays



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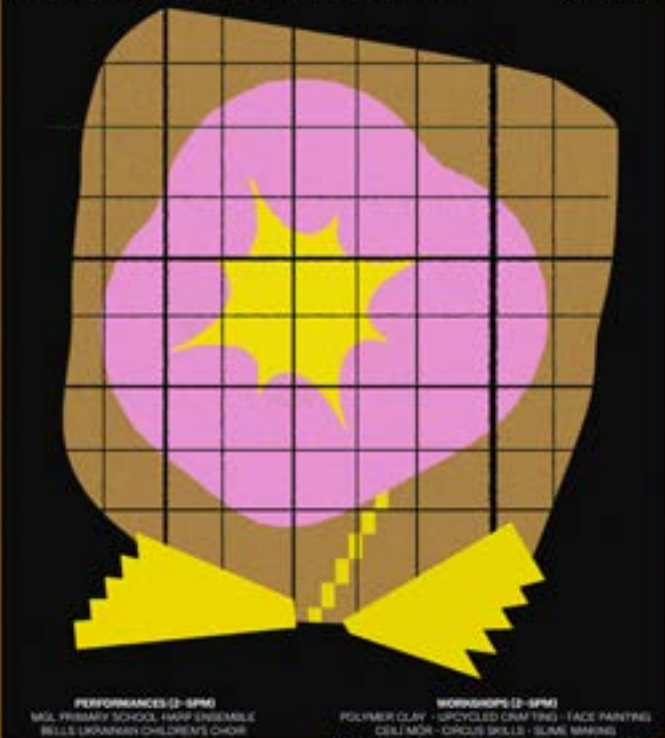
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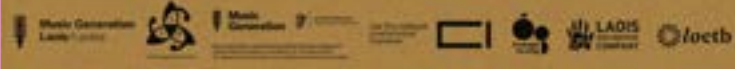
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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 26TH MAY

Top score: Frank Keenan, 1st Lady: Catherine Fitzpatrick, 2nd Lady: Sean Bennett, 1st Gent: Tom Gowing, 2nd Gent: Liam McCarthney, 1st Half: Rita Arrigan, 2nd Half: Liz Cooper Raffle: 1st Terry Dunne, 2nd Mary Gowing, 3rd Frank Keenan, 4th Frank Keenan, 5th Peter Stevenson. 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 1st June - No bowls .Wednesday 3rd June - Fun afternoon with Caroline from 3pm in parish centre. New members welcome. Thursday 4th June 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>.

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

**LOURDES PETITION BOX** Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Committee wish to advise that a petition box will be in placed in the Parish Church (large brown box under Our Lady) for anyone wishing to have a petition brought to Lourdes on the Parish Pilgrimage. The box will be in there from the 8th June to 22nd June. Please do not place money in the envelope as they will not be opened.

**SOLAS** An Indian Irish Cultural evening, Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise, 20th June from 7pm. Doors open at 6pm. SOLAS is a self-funded locally organised cultural evening celebrating connection, creativity, inclusion, and community through Indian and Irish music and dance traditions. The event brings together artists from different cultural backgrounds. The event will feature Indian Classical Kathak Dance Maestro- Ashimbandhu Bhattacharjee (visiting artist from India for his first-ever performance in Ireland), Kathak Dance Artist- Moumita Pal, Tabla Artist-Sanatan Shrivastava, Clarinet Artist- Dr. Paul Roe, Camross Comhaltas, Lynam School of Irish Dancing.

# RELIGIOUS NOTES

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** Every Sunday at 3 PM in the Parish Church.

**ROSARY IN THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH** Daily 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. 10:30am Sunday 31st May. All are welcome. Sponsored by Laois Partnership

**EMMANUEL HOUSE CLONFERT** Co. Galway, H53 E5N6- Day of Prayer with five first Saturday Fatima devotions and healing service. Led by Eddie Stones and team. Saturday 6th June from 11am-4pm. Music, talks, confession and Holy Mass. Please bring a packed lunch.

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA** 1st Saturday devotions - 6th June - in the Old Vestry in St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise at 8.30am and 3.45pm in Holy Rosary Church, Abbeyleix.

**ROSARY AT THE GROTTA** First Friday 5th June 8pm. Rosary First Sunday 7th June at the Top Square at 2.30pm

**THE ROSARY GROUP** would like to thank all who attended the Rosary at the Grotto during the month of May to honour our Lady.



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## The Most Holy Trinity

What do you remember from today's reading?

This story is part of Jesus' farewell conversation to the disciples before he dies on the cross.

Jesus says to the disciples that after he has gone, the Holy Spirit will guide them. The Holy Spirit will be their teacher and will speak to them just as Jesus did when he was alive and with them. The Holy Spirit will show the disciples what they must do and what they must say in Jesus' name.

Who teaches you and guides you? Teachers, parents, friends and family all teach us and guide us. And the Holy Spirit is there to guide us too.

God is made up of three parts: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. This is what we call the Trinity. Trinity means three. Their relationship is a relationship of being together but each having different tasks to do. This is like our families - we have mums and dads, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, cousins and grandparents. Whatever the size of our family, we know there are different people in our family who are of different ages, have different relationships and jobs, and live in different places, but they are all connected to us through our family bond.

Who do you live with? Do you live with lots of people or just a few? Do all your friends and family live close by or are they spread far apart?

We are also all part of one big global family that includes everyone in the world. We are all God's children. We are all special, and even though we are all different we are all equally important. We all have our own job to do depending on our talents.

We are all called to care for one another and for the earth that we live in. But how we do this depends on who we are and our own gifts.

We believe that Jesus' promise to the disciples - that the Holy Spirit would be with them and guide them, is still true for all of us today and all people after us. The Holy Spirit can guide us to do what is right and to use our talents in the best way to help others.

Can you listen to the Holy Spirit in the coming week, and see how the Spirit guides you, especially in the way you treat those you live with and the members of our global family throughout the world?

Let us all do our best this week to listen to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and try to live as he asks us to.

**"The Trinity is like a family of perfect love — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, always together and always loving us."**



Loving God, you are with us always. Send us your Spirit to teach and guide us to live in peace with each other every day. Amen.



# Trinity Sunday

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

John 16:13

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



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

COME  
TRUTH  
MORE  
HEARS  
BELONG  
GUIDE  
SPIRIT`  
GLORY  
SPEAK  
FATHER  
BEAR  
KNOWN





# DUNAMASE COLLEGE

*DUNAMASE COLLEGE CELEBRATES  
SUCCESSFUL PRIMARY SCHOOL PODCASTING  
COMPETITION WITH SPECIAL GUEST:  
KATELYN CUMMINS, ROSE OF TRALEE*



Dunamase College recently welcomed students, teachers and families for a highly successful Primary School Podcasting Competition, an event organised and hosted by the school to celebrate creativity, communication and digital learning.

The competition was inspired by the work being carried out in Dunamase College through its involvement in the LOETB STEAM Programme, which promotes innovation and engagement in areas such as digital technology and creativity in schools. As a digital



school where iPads and technology play an important role in everyday teaching and learning, Dunamase College places a strong emphasis on developing students' digital skills and encouraging creativity through technology.

Over the last number of years, the school has actively embraced several strands of the STEAM programme, including podcasting, VEX Robotics, Lego League and more recently TY filmmaking and VR. Podcasting has become a very successful area within the school, with Dunamase College proudly receiving two prestigious awards in recent years for its work in this area.

Inspired by these achievements and the continued development of STEAM within the school, staff wanted to create an opportunity for younger students to explore podcasting and showcase their own creativity and talents. The result was the school's first Primary School Podcasting Competition. Primary school





students were invited to create content around the theme “My Life, My Community,” and the response was outstanding, with over 50 entries submitted. The standard of entries showcased excellent creativity, storytelling and confidence among the young participants.

The eventual winners, the ‘Ratheniska Ramblers’ from Ratheniska National School, stood out immediately. Their submission was particularly memorable, allowing judges to hear their personality, enthusiasm and natural talent from the very beginning.



The event itself proved to be a wonderful celebration of student achievement and creativity. Special guest Katelyn Cummins, Rose of Tralee, attended to present awards to the students and spent time engaging with participants throughout the day. Also in attendance were the students’ proud principal, Pauline Dunn of



Ratheniska National School, parents and families, along with representatives from LOETB, Linda Tynan and Joe Cunningham.

Students were also given the opportunity to experience podcasting in action. The winning primary school podcasters, Michael Quigley, Molly Conroy and Bobby Dargan, had the chance to create and record their own podcast during the event, while Dunamase College’s 1st Year Podcasting Team interviewed Katelyn Cummins, giving students valuable experience in communication, interviewing and production skills.

School Principal Dympna Kelly praised the success of the event, saying: “We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part. The creativity, confidence and enthusiasm on display was outstanding, and it was wonderful to see young people developing their voices through digital storytelling.”

The day was a fantastic success and highlighted the importance of creating opportunities for young people to develop confidence, communication skills and creativity through digital learning. It also reflected the continued growth of STEAM education within Dunamase College and the school’s commitment to providing meaningful and innovative learning experiences for students.



# Time to Think...

## Magnifica Humanitas (The Grandeur of Humanity)



Pope Leo XIV, recently published the first encyclical, major teaching letter, of his papacy. The letter, Magnifica Humanitas (The Grandeur of Humanity) is aimed at safeguarding humanity at a time of artificial intelligence. At its heart is an appeal to all people of good will to work together to ensure that AI will be developed and used in ways that promote 'human flourishing' and help us to build a better and more just world. At this moment in time, the human family is facing a 'pivotal choice' and Pope Leo is calling on the global community in all its manifestations – international organisations, governments, commercial companies, scientists and technology specialists, educators, citizens, parents and consumers – to work together to ensure that those who are driving the development of the technology are truly open about what they are doing and are subject to oversight and accountability.

Pope Leo observes that "most people are watching and waiting, observing from afar and merely hoping for the best." He insists that crucial questions cannot be avoided: "Where are we going? Toward what goal do we wish to orient ourselves? What direction should we choose as people and as a human community?"

The Pope is inviting us to think about the values, traditions, social customs and practises that help the human community to flourish. Human flourishing requires us to be attentive to the factors that promote the well-being of individuals, that protect and support the human communities where people live and grow together, that remind us to have an inclusive understanding of the human family where the dignity of the most vulnerable is defended and valued and where we live in peace with one another. In recent years, we are also increasingly aware that human flourishing will not be sustainable if we do not live in harmony with our natural ecological environment. This reflection becomes even more urgent in the context of AI which it is acknowledged is set to be highly disruptive of our existing political, economic, labour and social dynamics.

In terms of the impact on individuals, Pope Leo highlights the risk that overreliance on AI will weaken and impair our capacity for critical reflection, will blind us to many of the biases and interests embodied in data sets that condition the outcomes of Generative AI platforms, and that the seemingly human voice and sensitivity of many chatbots will undermine our capacity or appetite for true human friendships and relationships. "They may imitate language, behaviour and analytical skills, or even simulate empathy and understanding, but they do not understand what they produce, for they lack the affective, relational and spiritual perspective through which human beings grow in wisdom."

The human community is suffering a crisis of trust where the mixture of false news and deep fakes is worsening existing patterns of polarisation and undermining the capacity of people to communicate and build good relationships. In a context where AI is already worsening these possibilities, the Holy Father encourages all people to renew their commitment "to transparency in communication and the honest pursuit of facts." He invites parents, educators and the broader community to be especially vigilant in caring for the young. "Today, accompanying children and young people in using

technology for developing responsible relationships, helping them to recognize the risks and choose what fosters inner freedom, is a concrete form of charity and will safeguard their dignity."

In a world where inequality is already embedded in 'structures of sin' – unfair economic and political systems which perpetuate poverty and exclusion – the Pope invites us to be alert to the capacity of AI to exacerbate these injustices. The uneven distribution of the wealth generated by technology and the threat it poses to the employment of many workers must be acknowledged. "To think that new technologies will automatically benefit everyone is to ignore the evidence. Unless transformations at the design stage prioritize the prevention of new and further disparities, technological progress will inevitably produce structural inequalities. Today, justice requires access to the benefits of innovation, including care, knowledge, tools and opportunities."

Pope Leo encourages politicians and economists to be particularly attentive to prepare for a relatively immediate future where many workers across all sectors risk being replaced by machines with huge impacts for their well-being and that of families. This is not just a matter of the economic consequences "since work is not merely a source of income but a crucial sphere in which identity is formed, friendships and relationships are forged, practical responsibilities are learned and one's vocation is discerned." Artificial Intelligence now demands to be disarmed, freed from logics that turn it into an instrument of domination, exclusion and death," he added.

The pope invoked J.R.R. Tolkien's Lord of the Rings character Gandalf as he urged people to do their part to build a "civilization of love" amid the threat of AI. He quoted the wizard saying in *The Return of the King*: "It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the succour of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clean earth to till." Leo wrote that the civilisation of love "will not arise from a single or spectacular gesture, but from the sum total of small and steadfast acts of fidelity that serve as a bulwark against dehumanization". This is a wonderful document of both hope and challenge for the times we live.



*Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died*



**Mary Ann Delaney**  
(née Dempsey)  
Ballinakill / Rosenallis



**Christy Clear**  
New Road, Portlaoise



**Daithi Lalor**  
Colliers Lane



**Paul Houlihan**  
Market Mews,  
Maryborough Village  
Portlaoise



**Mary Brophy**  
Castlecomer & formerly  
Killamuck, Abbeyleix

*May They  
Rest In Peace*

*Our Sympathies Are  
With Their Families*



In loving memory of  
**COLEY CONNELL**

Ballycarnan, Portlaoise.

22nd Anniversary occur at this time.  
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
**Saturday 30th May at 6:30pm.**

You still live on in the hearts and minds  
of the loving family you left behind.

*Always remembered and sadly missed by your loving husband Liam,  
son Philip, daughter Orlaith, son-in-law John and grandchildren  
Holly, Saran and Rowan.*

*May Coley Rest in Peace*



In loving memory of our  
**TERRY CONNELL**  
& **JOHN (RINTY)**  
**CONNELL**



Whose 38th and 32nd Anniversaries occur at this time.

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

Dearer still as the years depart, they live forever in our hearts.

*Always remembered and sadly missed by Liz,  
Liam, Noreen, John, Mary, Domo & Freda.*

*May Terry & John Rest in Peace*



**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

In Loving Memory of my Beautiful Son

**JAMIE-LEE MOORE**

11th Birthday away from home  
occurs 5th June 2026.

If I could have one wish in life,  
that wish would have to be,  
That God would take away my pain,  
and send you back to me  
Your birthday's here today, my son  
And I just wanted you to know,  
How much I deeply love you and that I miss you so.  
On days like this we should celebrate,  
But for me that now proves hard,  
For unlike other mothers,  
I cannot send a simple birthday card.  
No kisses can I give you or birthday gifts to buy,  
Only flowers I now can give you  
which I place down where you lie.  
Two other things I send you are my thoughts and all my love,  
So hold them close and keep them safe in Heaven up above,  
And please wait for me, my darling son, until my days are  
through, and then I'll come and spend all time  
in Heaven just with you.

*Happy Heavenly 28th Birthday Jamie*  
*Love and miss you always, Mammy xxxxxxxxx*

*Brother*

You were the centre of our world, a brother held so dear,  
But now that world is shattered and you're no longer here,  
But all you need to know today is how much joy you brought,  
You brightened every moment though your life was far too short,  
You were loved completely from the day you were born,  
And no one could imagine such a dreadful day would dawn,  
But memories are wonderful and though they still bring pain,  
They give us hope and keep us strong until we meet again.

*Happy Heavenly Birthday brother*  
*Loved and missed always, Tanya, Tirna, Jake & Tayler xxxxx*

*Uncle*

Holy Angels up above, give our Uncle Jamie-Lee  
a great big hug. From all your nieces;

*Kyra, Nellie, Jamie, Lorren, Darla, Michael, xxxxxxx*

*Nephew / Grandson*

We think of you in silence, we often speak your name,  
But all we have are memories and your picture in a frame,  
Your resting place we visit and put flowers there with care,  
But no one knows the heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.

*Happy 28th Birthday Jamie-Lee*  
*Loved and missed always Aunty Sharon, James, cousins,  
Nanny Maureen and Uncle Kevin, Nanny Mag,  
Caroline & Boys xxxxxxxxx*



In Loving Memory of  
**PATRICK (PADDY)  
CARROLL**

25 Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise.  
44th Anniversary occurred 28th May 2026.

A Dad's love is special,  
A gift beyond compare,  
You only know the meaning,  
When he is no longer there.  
A special time, a special face,  
A special Dad we cannot replace,  
With an aching heart we whisper low,  
We miss you Dad, and love you so.

*Love Micky, Tommy, Ann, P.J., Eileen and John, sons-in-law,  
daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.*

*May Patrick Rest in Peace*



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

On your 12th birthday away from home.

Wishing you were here today, for even just a while,  
So we could say happy birthday Craig xx  
and see your smiling face.

The only gifts today will be, your sweet memories left behind,  
of laughter, joy and happiness,  
They echo on in our minds.

We'll gaze upon pictures,  
We'll think of you with love,

And hope you are doing fine, in Heaven up above.  
May angels hold you closely and sing you a happy song,  
And we'll be sending wishes today and all year long son.

*Happy birthday in Heaven Craig  
Love and miss you always.*

*Sadly missed and loved always, Mammy, Mudasar,  
your brothers Brandon, Noah and Junaid  
and sister Aisha and extended family.*

*May Craig Rest in Peace*

In Loving Memory of

**AARON  
KELLY-GORMAN**

Knockmay and Millbrook, Portlaoise.  
7th Anniversary occurs 7th June 2026.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on **Sunday 7th June at 10am.**

Wonderful memories woven in gold,  
This is a picture I tenderly hold,  
Deep in my heart a memory is kept,  
To love, to cherish, never to forget.

*Sadly missed and always loved and remembered by your  
heartbroken Mum, Mudasar, brothers Brandon,  
Noah and Junaid and sister Aisha xxx*

*Rest in Peace Aaron*

In Loving Memory of

**BERNADETTE KELLY**

11 Green Mill Lane, Portlaoise.  
Whose Anniversary occurs at this time.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this  
**Sunday 31st May at 10am.**

We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name,  
But all we have are memories  
And your picture in a frame.  
Your resting place we visit  
And put flowers there with care,  
But no one knows the heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.

*Always remembered by Sean, Donal and Joan.*

*May Bernadette Rest in Peace*



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



105 Cherrygrove, Portlaoise.  
Birthday Remembrance for Craig; 2nd June  
7th Anniversary for Aaron; 7th June.

We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name,  
But all we have are memories,  
And your picture in a frame.  
Your resting place we visit,  
And put flowers there with care,  
But no one knows the heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.

*From your loving father Michael, brother Brandon  
and sister Chloe, niece and nephew Grace and Liam,  
extended family and friends.*

*May They Rest in Peace*



In Loving Memory of  
**MICHAEL FARRELL**

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurs 1st June 2026.

Also remembering him on his birthday.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Tuesday 2nd June at 10am.**

God saw you were getting tired and a cure was not to be,  
So, He put his arms around you and whispered, "come to me"

With tearful eyes we watched you and saw you pass away,

And although we loved you dearly,

We could not make you stay.

No matter how life changes,

No matter what we do,

A special place within our hearts is always kept for you.

*Love always, Patricia and Patrick, also your brothers,  
sisters, nieces and nephews xxxxx*

*May Michael Rest in Peace*



In loving memory of  
**ROSE CONROY**  
*(NÉE McCORMACK)*

Carrick Hill, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 8th June 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Sunday 7th June at 10am.**

You gave us years of happiness,

Then sorrow came with tears,

You left us many lovely memories,

We will treasure through the years.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by all your sons and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Rose*



2nd ANNIVERSARY

In loving memory of  
**JOE CUNEEN**

Rathleague.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in

Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,

**Saturday 6th June at 6.30pm.**

*Loved and missed by his wife Margaret,  
sons David and Stephen, daughter Mary,  
daughters-in-law, grandchildren and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Joe*



10th ANNIVERSARY  
REMEMBRANCE

In loving memory of

**JIM FITZPATRICK**

Abbeyleix Rd., Portlaoise.

*Jimmy*

*Suaimbneas Dé ár d'anam dílis,  
le grá ó do chlann go léir.*



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE  
In loving memory of

**MARY FARRELL**

20 Mountain View Square, Portlaoise.

3rd Birthday away from Home.

Those we love never go away,

They walk beside us everyday,

Unseen, unheard, but always near,

Still loved, still missed and very dear.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by her loving husband Patrick,  
daughters Martina, Mary, Sheila, grandchildren and extended family.*

*Rest in Peace Mary*



In loving memory of

**JOHN FITZPATRICK**

Ballinlough, Ballyroan.

7th Anniversary - Died 30th May 2019.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix on **Saturday 30th May at 5pm** & St. Patrick's Church,

Ballyroan, on **Sunday, 31st May 2026, at 9:30am.**

Memory drifts to scenes long past

Time rolls on, but memories last,

Sunshine passes, shadows fall,

Love's remembrance outlasts all.

*Sadly missed by his wife Alice, daughter Una and son-in-law Mark.*

*May John Rest in Peace*



In loving memory of

**PATRICIA FARRELL**

12 Riverview, Portlaoise.

1st anniversary occurs on 7th June 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in

Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on

**Sunday 7th June at 12.30pm.**

Wonderful memories of one so dear

Treasured still with a love sincere

In our hearts she is living yet

We loved her too dearly to forget.

*Sadly, missed and always remembered from your brothers Paddy,  
David & Noel and sisters Catherine & Geraldine.*

*Rest in Peace Patricia*



In Loving Memory of  
**FRANKIE KEALEY**  
*Father and Grandfather*  
 Sheffield, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.  
 3rd Anniversary occurs 1st June 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this **Saturday 30th May at 6.30pm.**

We treasure every moment we spent in life with you.  
 And loving you a little more for  
 everything you have done for us all.

We are thinking of the thoughtful things  
 that you have said and done for us all.

There comes a time for us all when we must say goodbye,  
 however our memories of you

*Dad / Granddad*  
 will live on and never die.

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by your children:  
 Pauline, Carmel, Fran, Breda and families.*

*Rest in Peace Dad*



In Loving Memory of  
**LAURA KILKENNEY**  
 Pallas, Portlaoise.  
 5th Anniversary occurs on  
 1st June 2026.

A bright light sadly missed from our lives.  
 You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers.

I close my eyes and see your face,  
 Smiling at me from a beautiful place,  
 You tell me you are never far away,  
 And that we will meet again someday.

I ask if you could stay a while,  
 I miss your laugh, I miss your smile,  
 Then you whisper sweetly into my ear,  
 I never leave you, I am always here.

Also remember

**TONY KILKENNEY**  
 22nd Anniversary occurs on  
 17th July 2026.



*Love always, your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Laura & Tony*



In Loving Memory of  
**PATRICK (PADDY) SHIELS**  
 formerly of Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise  
 17th Anniversary occurs on 2nd June 2026.  
 Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday  
 2nd June** in Sts. Peter & Pauls Parish Church.

Dad, though your smile has gone forever  
 And your hand we cannot touch  
 We still have so many memories of the Dad we loved so much  
 Your memory is out keepsake with which we'll never part  
 God has you in his keeping  
 We have you in our heart.

*Sadly missed by your loving sons, daughter, son-in-law,  
 grandchildren & great-grandchildren.*

*Rest in Peace Patrick*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

In Loving Memory of  
**ANTHONY WALSH**  
 The Heath  
 61st Birthday Remembrance  
 occurs on 1st June 2026.



Anthony of all the gifts in life however great  
 or small,

To have you as my son was the greatest gift of all.  
 My love is forever with you.

*Your loving Mother Margaret.*

Anthony deep in our hearts you will stay  
 Missing you is a heartache that never goes away.

*Love and forever in our hearts love your brother Joseph  
 sisters, Mary, Tina, Attracta, Patricia, Colette and families.*

*Rest in Peace Anthony*



In loving memory of our  
**THERESA WHELAN**  
 23 Coote Street, Portlaoise.  
 3rd Anniversary occurs 2nd June 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on **Saturday 30th May at 6.30pm.**

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered  
 by her loving husband Paddy and sister Olive.*

*Rest in Peace Theresa*



*Rest in Peace*

# NOTICE!

## CEMETERY SUNDAY MASS

31st of MAY, 2026

Due the restricted parking spaces

# PARKING IS RESERVED

for the Elderly & Disabled only.

## Cemetery Masses

### Portlaoise

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

### 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

## Hour of Mercy

In October 1937, Jesus appeared to Sister Faustina in her convent in Krakow, Poland and He instructed St. Faustina to observe the hour of His Death, which He called the "Hour of great mercy for the whole world" (1320). "It was the hour of grace for the whole world," Jesus said on another occasion, "mercy triumphed over justice" (1572).

Jesus instructed St. Faustina how to **observe the Hour of Mercy**. He told her to:

- Beg for God's mercy for the entire world, and especially for sinners:
  - Meditate on His Passion, especially on the fact that at the moment of death .
- He was Forsaken; to those who did this .He promised that He would grant the grace of understanding the value of His Passion.

Jesus pointed out that there were **three necessary conditions** which had to be met for prayers at this hour to be heard

- The prayers were to be addressed to Jesus
- The prayers should be said at three o' clock in the afternoon
- The prayers were to refer to the value and merits of His sorrowful Passion.

Each day of the week at 3pm, in the Church of the Assumption the Heath, we meet to pray the Divine Mercy chaplet and the Holy Rosary. Please join us any day.



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CARLOW CHORAL SOCIETY

UNITING VOICES, UNITING COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

MENDELSSOHN

# ELIJAH

FRIDAY 12 JUNE, 2026 7.30PM

CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION, CARLOW



RTÉ Concert Orchestra



SOLOISTS  
Soprano Katy Kelly  
Mezzo-soprano Raphaela Mangan  
Tenor Conor Prendiville  
Baritone - Elijah Benjamin Russell  
Conductor Blánaid Murphy



Digital Concert Programme available on website before concert



Suggested patronage for people over 16 years is €25. See

Choir Members, Eventbrite.ie (plus booking fee) or Scan QR Code.

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# 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.



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## Portlaoise Parish

Results for  
28<sup>th</sup> May 2026



No €12,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Rita & Tommy O Connor  
Rita O'Connor  
Jimmy Fitzpatrick  
Packie Lafferty  
Imelda Fitzpatrick  
Gary O'Byrne  
Peter Houlihan  
Mary Delaney  
Lucy Kelly  
Elizabeth Dowling  
JJ & Tony  
Anne & Baby Grace  
Pat Schwer  
Mrs. Finnegan  
Andrew Booth  
Michael Kerry  
Jumping Jess  
David Curran  
B & T  
Teresa Foley  
St. Helen  
Declan Carroll  
Breda Carter  
Pam Killeen  
F Meade & Family

### MATCH 3s €1,000

25  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€40



Follow Us @PortlaoiseParish  
& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

### PROMOTER

Paddy O'Connor  
Paddy O'Connor  
Richard Phelan  
Paul Dooley  
Online Lotto  
Parish Centre  
Nora Wash  
Mary Delaney  
Lucy Kelly  
Elizabeth Dowling  
Anne Ging  
Anne Brennan  
Peter Ryan  
Peter Ryan  
Peter Ryan  
Michael Kerry  
Liz Hillard  
Veronica Curran  
Martleys  
Marie Heavey  
Bernie Phelan  
Betty O'Rourke  
Rita Watkins  
Pam Killeen  
Mary Haslam

Next Week's Jackpot is €13,000

## Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin  
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira  
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes  
Tel: 057 8621142

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

## Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person  
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and  
the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



LINK UP

Monday to Thursday

9am to 5pm

Contact: Mary Schwer  
057-8692154

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie  
Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

## The Most Holy Trinity

Exodus 34:4-6. 8-9

Responsorial Psalm: Daniel 3:52-56

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

John 3:16-18

## 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

**LAOIS HOSPICE FOUNDATION**

**SUNFLOWER DAY**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Laois Hospice are seeking volunteers to collect on the day.

Would you have **one hour or two** to spare on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June** to help with Sunflower Day?

If you have please contact Mary Delaney 086-8157280 or Mary Finlay 087-2968433 or Irene Murray on 087-2897753

This is one of our biggest fundraising events each year.

All monies collected on the day will stay in Laois to fund the much needed hospice home care and patient comfort services in Laois.

Please support Laois Hospice on the day and thank you for your continued support.

  
**LAOIS**  
**HOSPICE**

*Thank You!*