

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**
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up**

21st June 2026

Twelfth Week Ordinary Time

'Day for Life'



We congratulate all the boys and girls (over 300) who received their First Holy Communion this year in our parish. A big 'thank you' to our Schools, teachers, parents and all involved in the preparations and the First Communion Masses. Two Masses with the boys and girls from Scoil Bhríde brought this year's ceremonies to a close. Well done to all involved.



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

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



Courage and Worth

Some people leave their homes and go to work with the poorest of the poor in far flung third world countries ... but we are not those people. Some people fund raise tirelessly day in and day out for those who are sick or homeless and living in poverty but we are not those people. Some people campaign endlessly to end injustice and cruelty ... but we are not those people. We are not those people! Why not?

We are capable of doing great things, but most of us don't come anywhere near meeting our potential. We are afraid to step out of the comfort zone of our well-worn lifestyles, jobs and homes. We are afraid of the unknown, of failure, disruption and discomfort. In short, we lack the necessary courage.

In the face of a sometimes hostile and sceptical world, Jesus asks us to have the courage of our convictions. The Church today is built on the courage of those who have refused to compromise their beliefs. Today's gospel urges us to be courageous. "Fear no one," Jesus advises us. Why fear those who can make life temporarily uncomfortable when God has our everlasting interests at heart?

Today's gospel teaches us an important lesson; courage is all to do with self-worth. If you feel you are worthless you are easily intimidated, but if you feel you do have worth, your conviction will lend you real courage. So do we appreciate our worth? Jesus convinces us that even the sparrows that are two a penny have worth in God's eyes, so how much more worth have we. We have an individual worth to God who has counted each and every hair on our heads. We all have great potential. We all have something to offer no excuses, no exceptions.

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.

The Birth of John the

Baptist

24th June

John's mission had two facets. First of all he called people to repentance and baptism. Secondly he prepared the way for Jesus. In a way he was God's spokes person. But that's not where it all ends. God's project of salvation is still to be carried out and it doesn't necessarily take a great profit like John. A prophet is simply a spokesperson, a job each of us could undertake to varying degrees. The ministry of John the Baptist continues in us. St. John's motto was, "Jesus must become more and more. I must become less and less." He said that he was not even worthy to loosen the strap of Jesus' sandal.



For some, Father's Day is a chance to celebrate the love they have been given by the men who raised them. For others it is a reminder of lost loved ones, lost hopes and dreams for a family they cannot have, or painful memories of men who were not able to offer a good model of loving care. In all its nuances both happy and sad, a day for us all to reflect on fatherhood.

A Father's Day Prayer

Bless all the fathers in the world.

Father, we ask that you guide them to be good role models and loving to their children.

We also ask that you help them to be a father like You are.

Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.

Amen.



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ALL CLASSES HAVE RESUMED FOR 2026

In Clinic:

Senior exercise class Tues. at 11am

Online Pilates every Wed. at 9.30am

Osteoporosis class every Wed.
10.30am

Osteoporosis class every Thurs. at 4pm

Men's health and fitness every Thurs at 10am

In Parish Centre

Mon. morn. Osteoporosis class at 9.30am

Intermediate Pilates class Monday evening at 6pm

Beginners Pilates class Mon. evening at 7pm

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SOLAS

AN INDIAN IRISH CULTURAL EVENING

ONE BEAT TWO CULTURES

Ashimbandha Bhattacharjee
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Moumita Pal (Kathak Dancer)	Sanatan Shrivastava (Tabla)	Dr. Paul Roe (Clarinet)	Lynam School of Irish Dancing	Carmen Combalus
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20TH JUNE
7 PM
DUNAMAISE ARTS CENTRE

SPECIAL WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY - ON 19TH JUNE

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 16TH JUNE

Top score: Tied; Tom Gowing and Billy Jackson. 1st Lady: Tied; Sheila Duff & Paddy Purcell. 1st Gent: P J Cabill. 2nd Gent: Christy Fitzpatrick. 1st Half: Bernie Cahill. 2nd Half: Lena Kelly. Raffle: 1st Liz Cooper, 2nd Tony Dunne, 3rd Lena Kelly, 4th Christy Fitzpatrick. 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 22nd BOWLS IN ST MARY'S HALL. WEDNESDAY 24TH afternoon with Moez from 3pm in Parish Centre. Thursday 25th Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy Cards and Chat from 3pm new members always welcome. Tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 0879187157.

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>.

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.

THE ARC PROJECT LAOIS hosts weekly Family & Recovery Support Meetings every Monday from 7:15pm to 8:15pm at the Laois Partnership Building, New Road, Portlaoise. These free, confidential meetings provide a safe and supportive space for individuals in recovery, as well as family members affected by a loved one's addiction. The groups offer peer support, connection, encouragement and practical help in a welcoming environment. Everyone is welcome and no referral is required. For further information: 085 818 7470
www.thearcproject.ie info@thearcproject.ie

SOCIAL CHESS CLUB PORTLAOISE for adults only (male and female). The next chess meetings will be held in Portlaoise Library on Saturday 20th June and Saturday 4th July between 1 pm and 4pm and it is free. Board games are provided in the library. The Portlaoise Social Chess Club have a website and it is <https://portlaoisecchessclub.ie>. Chess games are usually held every two weeks in the library, Check the website for clarification of dates and times.

GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO Tuesday 23rd June 2026. St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €6,160. Double number €2,000. Lotto €2,500. Bonus Ball €1,800

BLANDSFORT & DISTRICT GUN CLUB AGM Thursday 25th June @ 9.30pm in Whelan's Lounge, Ballyroan. All members requested to attend and new members 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 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.

SPIORAID NAOIMH MONTHLY RETREAT SATURDAY 20th June. Mass @ 10am in the Parish Church Portlaoise. Confessions are available. Retreat Continues in the Ratheniska Room Parish Centre ...10.30 am. - 1.30 pm. Adoration Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise and Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry with individual prayer. www.sporaidnaoimh.com Ph. Ml. Nerney 086 8157305 Spiritual Director Fr Ruairi O'Domhnaill P.P. All welcome.

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.

PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES COMMITTEE All Pilgrims are asked to attend the Information Evening in the Parish Centre on 23rd June at 6:45pm to advise of travel arrangements, programme for our Pilgrimage and lots of necessary information. Mass Bouquets will be available on the night.

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HANDING ON
THE FAITH



"Hello Pope Leo XIV, I'm Renzo, I'm six years old. I'd like to ask you a few questions."

Renzo, a little a boy from the poor neighbourhood of Barcelona, stole the show at St. Augustine's parish, Renzo in the sweetest way ever asked those questions to the pope:

Do you like soccer? When you were little, did you want to be Pope? Why are my mom and dad worried? Why does my dad have so many jobs? Why do bad things happen to some people and not to others? Whose fault is it? Why are there so many people living on the streets? Does no one see them? Does no one help them? How can we help if the world is so big? Does God want there to be poor and rich? Why are there so many lonely grandparents? And one last question ... Must we always forgive?

What pope Leo answered the boy was really moving.

"Regarding whether I like football, I confess that I play tennis and I enjoy it very much, but I also appreciate football; in fact, during my years as bishop in Peru, I liked to follow how some local teams were doing; and now, as Pope, I have also received football clubs and sports groups," .."sport is important because it helps us grow up healthy in body and mind." He said that as World Cup unfolds, "many will be watching the matches. Football reminds us of something we must not forget: life is not a race to show off alone, but a path we learn to travel together." "Whoever doesn't know how to pass the ball, even if they have talent, hasn't yet understood the game. And whoever doesn't know how to live with others and for others hasn't yet understood life." Did he want to be Pope? "Well, Renzo, I don't think so. I don't think I ever thought about it." "But I can tell you something: from a young age, I felt the desire to dedicate my life to God. I didn't yet know exactly how or where the Lord would lead me. Over time, I discovered that Jesus was calling me to follow him as a priest, and that this path led through the Order of Saint Augustine." "But this isn't just true for me," he said. "Every child is a dream of God. You are too. God desires the happiness of all and wants us, from childhood and throughout our lives, to have a heart like that of children capable of trusting, full of kindness; he wants us to be his friends and not turn away from him. Therefore, more important than asking oneself whether one will be a priest, doctor, teacher, parent, or anything else, is asking oneself whether one wants to be a friend of Jesus. Because friendship with Jesus gives us joy, sets us free, and helps us to see, step by step, the vocation and the path that God has planned for each of us." And on injustice in the World.. "through the life of Jesus Christ, God shows us that, although there is suffering, he never abandons any of his children, because he has prepared for us an eternal joy where there will be no more sadness or pain. Let us have confidence, Jesus is with us, he helps us and accompanies us, and gives us strength to go through the difficult moments we may encounter in life." Stressing that grandparents play a crucial role in families, the pope said: "Let us not allow loneliness and abandonment to become normalized in the lives of older adults. That is a very sad thing. Let's have our hearts open to all of them." On forgiveness, he told Renzo and those gathered: "It does not mean forgetting by force, as if nothing had happened. Forgiveness means not letting hatred become the master of our hearts ... our willingness to forgive is a condition for the forgiveness we receive from God."



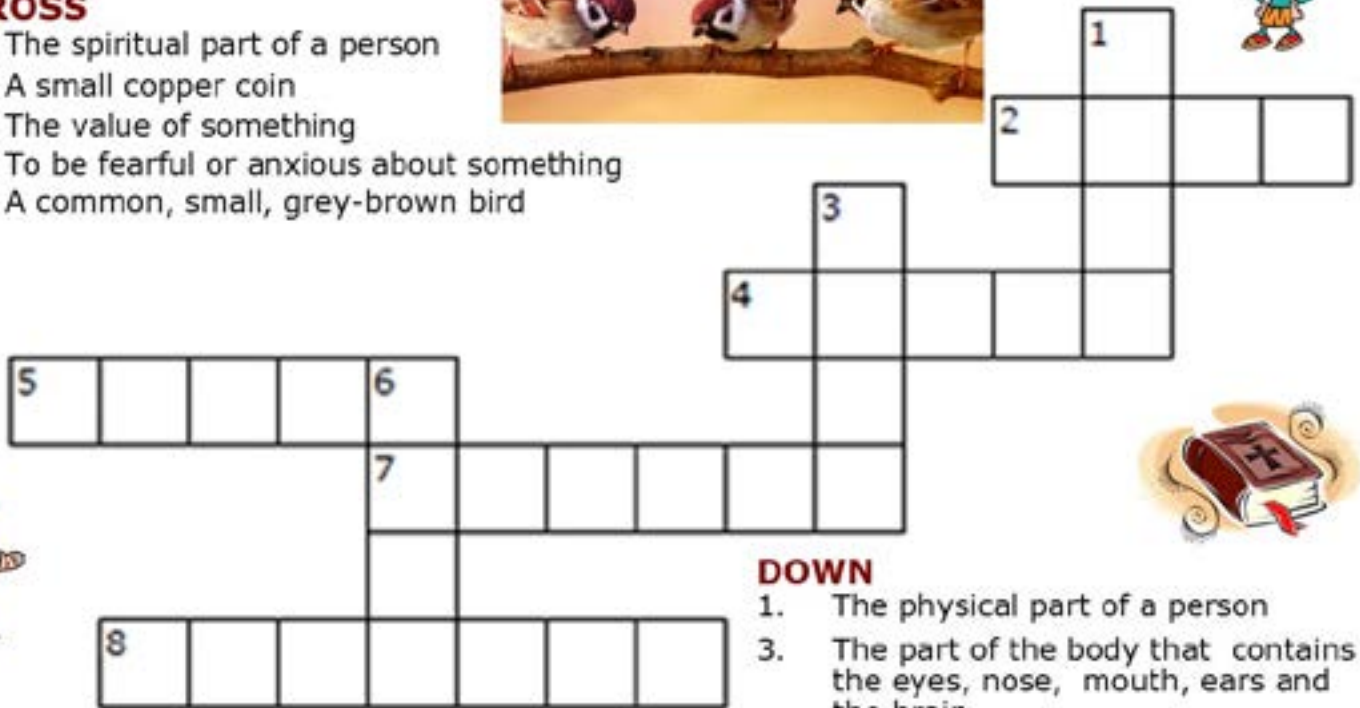
YOU ARE PRECIOUS IN HIS SIGHT

So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.
Matthew 10:31.



ACROSS

2. The spiritual part of a person
4. A small copper coin
5. The value of something
7. To be fearful or anxious about something
8. A common, small, grey-brown bird



DOWN

1. The physical part of a person
3. The part of the body that contains the eyes, nose, mouth, ears and the brain
6. Threadlike structures growing on the head of a person.

WORTH	SOUL	SPARROW	HEAD
HAIR	PENNY	AFRAID	BODY

His Eye Is on the Sparrow



Are you ever afraid? Do you ever worry? Are you ever discouraged? Here are some things that might cause worry, fear or discouragement: Loneliness, Feeling neglected, Feeling that you don't have any friends, Failure in school or other activities, Illness or injury or Criticism from others.

Today I want to tell you a story about a woman named Civilla Martin who wrote a song about overcoming fear, worry, and discouragement. Mrs. Martin and her husband were visiting a couple named Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle who lived in Elmira, New York. Mr. Doolittle was crippled and had to move about a wheelchair. Mrs. Doolittle had been confined to bed for over twenty years. Despite the problems they faced in life, they always seemed to have a cheerful outlook on life. Mr. Martin asked Mrs. Doolittle, "How do you manage to remain so joyful when you face so many problems?" Mrs. Doolittle's reply was simple. "If God has his eye on the sparrow, then I know he is watching over me."

Mrs. Martin was so touched by Mrs. Doolittle's reply that she wrote a poem that was to become the basis for a song that has brought peace and comfort to people for over a hundred years.

"Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come? Why should my heart feel lonely, and long for heaven and home? When Jesus is my portion, a constant friend is He. His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches over me. His eye is on the sparrow; and I know He watches me. I sing because I'm happy. I sing because I'm free! His eye is on the sparrow; and I know He watches me. His eye is on the sparrow; and I know He watches me."

The next day Civilla Martin mailed the poem to Charles Gabriel, a gospel songwriter, who wrote a tune for it. "The rest," as they say, "is history."

The truth of the message of the song, "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" is found in our Gospel today. In Matthew chapter 10, Jesus was teaching his disciples that even though they were going to be facing some difficult times as his followers, they should not be afraid. He said to them, "Two sparrows are sold for one copper coin, but not one single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. So don't be afraid, you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows."

Isn't that amazing? God knows everything that we go through. Nothing that happens to us that he doesn't know about. When we feel lonely and totally abandoned, when it seems that our prayers are unanswered, when everything seems hopeless, God knows and God cares.

Time to Think...

The brightest days of the year



Soon the summer solstice will take place. This is when the sun is at its furthest point from the equator, making it the longest day of the year. It has been marked as the high point of summer – or midsummer – since the Neolithic era. I'm very conscious of the growing harvest and all who work the land this time of year. We all respond positively to the brightness that is the summer solstice. In recent weeks I've celebrated many graveyard masses. These are wonderful occasions where families gather close to where loved one's mortal remains are buried, in prayerful hope, that they enjoy the fullness of light in eternal life. It's not by accident that Jesus repeatedly described himself as the "Light of the world." These days invite us to renew, refresh and indulge in the healing presence of God's brightness.

A very clever Dog!!!!

A wealthy man decided to go on a safari in Africa. He took his faithful pet dog along for company. One day, the dog starts chasing butterflies, and before long, he discovers that he is lost. Wandering about, he notices a leopard heading rapidly in his direction with the obvious intention of having lunch.

The dog thinks, "Boy, I'm in deep doo doo now."

Then, he noticed some bones on the ground close by and immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the leopard is about to leap, the dog exclaims loudly, "Man, that was one delicious leopard. I wonder if there are any more around here?" Hearing this, the leopard halts his attack in mid stride, as a look of terror comes over him, and slinks away into the trees.

"Whew," says the leopard, "That was close. That dog nearly had me."

Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So, off he goes. But the dog saw him heading after the leopard with great speed and figured that something must be up.

The monkey soon catches up with the leopard, spills the beans, and strikes a deal for himself with the leopard.

The leopard is furious at being made a fool and says, "Here monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine."

Now the dog sees the leopard coming with the monkey on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?"

But instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet.

Just when they get close enough to hear, the dog says, "Where's that monkey? I just can never trust him. I sent him off half an hour ago to bring me another leopard, and he's still not back!"

Sometimes in life we need the gift of pragmatism. Behind every challenge no matter how overwhelming it may be, there is always a way forward. Gifts such as honesty, courage, trust and faith are abundant in all our lives. Perhaps there have been tricky moments when we had to "Think on our feet" like that clever dog....

These days are beautiful, let's hope for a prolonged spell of bright, warm and good weather. Make the most of this time to tapping into the positive and resilient energy that accompanies Summer. This is a time to be chilled, relax and renew. May we find these important gifts in all our lives. As our Primary schools begin Summer holidays, I pray that young people will get out in the fresh air..... and have lots of time to play and have fun.....

Summer Prayer

Creator God, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun
and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me
and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your
creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my
friends and family,

and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray

no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence

and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me

a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

Amen.



Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died



Anne Kavanagh
(née Booth)
Garrons, Stradbally



Fintan Kavanagh,
Derry, Portlaoise

May They Rest In Peace
Our Sympathies Are With Their Families



In Loving Memory of
DARREN (HAGI)
BREEN

Hillview Drive, Portlaoise.
2nd Father's Day in Heaven

Happy, smiling, always content
Loved and respected wherever you went
Always thoughtful, loving and kind
Unforgettable memories you left behind.

Forever loved and missed
Your heartbroken wife Olivia, Kids & Grandkids.

Also remembering my dad
Mickey Doyle and father-in-law George Breen

May They all Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of

MARY (MAISIE) DOLLARD

32 St. John's Square, Portlaoise.

16th Anniversary occurred 20th June 2026.

Anniversary Mass in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Church, **Saturday 20th June at 6.30pm.**

Life is a beautiful memory,

Death is a silent grief,

You sleep now in God's beautiful garden,
in sunshine and perfect peace.

We miss you oh so very much,

But trust that God knew best,

He let us have you for many years,

And then gently let you rest.

Always in our hearts and never forgotten by your loving family.

Rest in Peace Maisie



In Loving Memory of

SAMANTHA MOORE

2 Triogue Manor, Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary occurs 21st June 2026.

If love could have saved you
You would have stayed forever
Until my last breath,
your name will live in my heart
and your memory will be the light that
guides me through the darkest days.

Miss you my precious daughter. Your loving Mam x

Rest in Peace Samantha

In Loving Memory of
Our Dearest Mam & Grandmother

JANE McEVOY

22 Rossvale, Portlaoise.

Anniversary – 21st June.

Birthday – 28th June.



Quickly and quietly came the call,
Without farewell you left us all,
A sudden call from God on high,
You had no chance to say goodbye,
Without farewell you fell asleep,
But memories of you we'll always keep.

Always love you Mam and Dad,
Never forgotten by your loving family.

Rest in Peace Jane

In Loving Memory of

MARIAN MAHER

78 Newpark, Portlaoise.

Died 23rd June 2005.

21st Anniversary occurs at this time.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church this **Sunday 21st June at 10am.**

Your life was a blessing,

Your memory a treasure,

You will always be with us,

In our hearts forever.

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home.

Sadly missed by your loving husband and family & friends.

May Marian Rest in Peace



Remembered with much love at this time

**JANE & DAVID
McEVOY
BRIGID & PATRICK
FITZPATRICK**



What joy and love you gave us,
is with us always and forever.

Remembering also Jean, Phyllis and Billy.

With love Carol, Kenneth, Gerard, James & Billy.

May They Rest in Peace



Remembering you on this Father's Day

PATRICK SHIELS

formerly of Dr. Murphy Place,
Portlaoise.

Even though we miss you
You're not too far away
Because our heart is full of memories
We miss you every day.

*From your sons Billy and Pat, daughter Nancy,
grandchildren & great-grandchildren.*

Rest in Peace Patrick



In Loving Memory of
JOHN J. PHELAN S.C.

Pallas Big, Ballyfin.

Who died on 25th June 2025.

John's First Anniversary Mass will take place on
Sunday 28th June at 10am in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin.

Rest in Peace John



In Loving Memory of
BRENDAN O' BRIEN

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary occurs 20th June 2026.

No words can tell, no tears express,
The love, the loss, the emptiness,
You are not just a memory or part of the past.
You are ours to remember as long as life lasts.

Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Brendan



In Loving Memory of
**NUALA McNAMARA
(NÉE DEEVY)**

Ross, Ballyfin, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurs on
Thursday 25th June 2026.

Anniversary Mass for Nuala will be offered on **Sunday 21st
June at 10am** in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin.

Six years ago, to this day,
We had to do the hardest thing in the whole world,
Say "goodbye" for the last time,
To a wife, mother and grandmother who had a huge heart,
So many memories are our keepsakes,
For which we hold them close in our hearts.

*Loved and always remembered by Dan and family –
Mary, Liam & Una, Marguerite & John, John,
Pauline & Eddie and her loving grandchildren xxxxxx*

*May Nuala
Rest in Eternal Peace*



In Loving Memory of
**MAURA MORRIN
(NÉE CARROLL)**

Fieldbrook Lawns, Portlaoise
Whose 2nd Anniversary
occurs at this time.

Until We Meet Again

Those special memories of you
Will always bring a smile
If only we could have you back
For just a little while
Then we could sit and talk again
Just like we used to do
You always meant so very much
And always will do too
The fact that you're no longer here
Will always cause us pain
But you're forever in our hearts
Until we meet again.

*Forever loved and missed
Niall, Fergal, Róisín, Carina and Grandchildren.*

May Maura Rest in Peace



Father's Day Remembrance
In Loving Memory of our Daddy

**KENNETH
(KEN) CLEAR**

44 O'Moore Place,
Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

13th Father's Day away from Home.

Our Father kept a garden. A garden of the heart;
He planted all the good things
That gave our lives their start.
He turned us to the sunshine,
And encouraged us to dream:
Fostering and nurturing
The seeds of self-esteem.
And when the winds and rain came,
He protected us enough;
But not too much because he knew
We would stand up strong and tough.
His constant good example,
Always taught us right from wrong;
Markers for our pathway that will last
a lifetime long. We are our fathers garden,
We are his legacy.

Thank you Daddy, we'll love you for all eternity.

Happy Father's Day Daddy

You are never more than a thought away,

We love and miss you everyday

From Becky and Dylan and your grandson Tommy.



In Loving Memory of

A cherished Husband, Father and Grandfather

WILLIAM (WILLIE) O'REILLY

28 Lakeglen, Mountmellick Rd. Portlaoise.

9th Father's Day away from home.

Losing our father has been
The deepest pain we have ever felt
He was not just our Father, he was our guide,
Our protector and our biggest strength
There are so many things we wish we could say to him,
So many moments we wish we could still share.
His voice, his advice, his quiet support
Everything feels like a memory now
Yet his love remains with us every single day

He taught us how to be strong,
how to face life

And how to never give up.

Even though you are no longer here
We carry his lessons in our hearts forever
Life will never be the same without you
But we know you are watching over us

From somewhere up above.

We miss you every day Daddy

You may be gone but you will never be forgotten.

Happy Father's Day Daddy



Never more than a thought away

*Sadly missed by your wife Anne, Sons and Daughters,
Daughters in Law, Son in Law, and Grandchildren xxx*



1st Father's Day Remembrance

JOSEPH O'BRIEN

Portlaoise Rd, Abbeyleix.

Happy Father's Day Dad

Happy Father's Day
Dad



Today always meant so much to us
Now it only brings me tears
I wish that God could have spared you
For just a few more years
I'm thinking of you today Dad
I know that's nothing new
You were my thoughts of yesterday
And you'll be in tomorrows, too
The memories i'll cherish forever
They always make me smile
I just wish I could hold you close again
If only for a while
But until the day that we unite
We'll no longer be apart
But until that day remember Dad
You're always in my heart

*From your loving children, grandchildren
and great grandchildren.*



Acknowledgement & Month's Mind
 In Loving Memory of
RICHARD FINN
 Kilminchy, Portlaoise.

Richie's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in
 St. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise on
Sunday 28th June at 12.30pm.

Richie's son Kevin, daughters and Finn family wish to
 acknowledge the many expressions of sympathy received
 on the sad loss of Richie.

Thank you to those who attended the Funeral Mass and
 Burial and watched from abroad.

Also, to those who that sent Mass cards, letters of sympathy
 and posted messages of condolence online.

Our sincere appreciation to Monsignor John Byrne for
 celebrating Richie's Mass and to Martin Delaney and
 Paul & Brian Finn for the lovely singing and music.

A heartfelt thanks to all my neighbours at The Green,
 Kilminchy who helped me and to Steven who played
 the bagpipes at the graveside.

I would also like to say a special thank you to the Doctors,
 Nurses and Kitchen Staff at St. James' Hospital P2 Ward who
 treated Richie with such empathy and respect.

To St. Brigid's Hospice, the Curragh who cared for Richie
 exceptionally well in his final days.

Sincere thanks to Matthew Keegan and David Goode,
 Funeral Directors for their professionalism and guidance
 in which they carried out Richie's funeral arrangements.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually,
 please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of
 our deepest gratitude.

May Richie Rest in Peace



Acknowledgement and Month's mind
 In Loving Memory of

SADIE
(SARAH)
FITZPATRICK

Brockera, Ballyfin,
 Portlaoise.

Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in
 Ballyfin church on
Saturday 20th June 2026 at 8pm.

Sadie's family would like to thank most sincerely our
 relatives, neighbours, friends, work colleagues and all who
 travelled to support us, or sent messages of condolences.

A special word of thanks to Fr. PJ Fitzgerald &
 Fr. Joe Brophy, Sadie's carers, Vincent & his team at
 Chemco Pharmacy, Dr. Peter in Mountrath and the team
 at M.R.H.P for their compassion at this difficult time.

Mass will be offered for your intentions.

*May Sadie
 Rest in Heavenly Peace*



In Loving Memory of
ANTHONY REDDIN

Ardilaun, Abbeyleix Road,
 Portlaoise.

3rd Father's Day away from home.

Dad

A golden heart stopped beating,
 Hard working hands at rest.
 It broke my heart to see you go.
 God only takes the best.

Loved and missed every day by your son Cole.

Rest in Peace Anthony



Acknowledgement &
First Anniversary of

FINTAN FITZPATRICK

Died 28th June 2025.

1st Anniversary Mass for Fintan will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath on **Sunday 28th at 9.30am.**

The family of the late Fintan Fitzpatrick wish to sincerely thank all who sympathised with them on their sad loss.

We are deeply grateful to our friends, neighbours and all who visited our home, attended the removal, Mass and burial, travelled long distances, sent Mass cards and offered messages of condolences and support.

A special thanks to our extended family, relatives and neighbours for their continued kindness and support.

We wish to thank Msgr. John Byrne, Fr Simon Jin and funeral directors Matthew Keegan & David Goode for their professionalism, guidance and support.

We also sincerely appreciate the care given by the doctors, nurses and staff of Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise along with the ambulance crew and paramedic team. Thank you also to the nurses who called to the house.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our deepest appreciation. A Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Rest in Peace
Fintan



In Loving Memory of
ESTHER & JOHN CONNAUGHTON

22 Marian Avenue,
Portlaoise.



Esther's 1st Anniversary occurs June 22nd.
John's 14th Anniversary occurs June 23rd.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
Sunday 21st June 2026 at 12.30pm.

Missing you today and always.

*Love Wayne, Zara, Anna Marie,
son in law Alex and grandchildren Emily & A.J.*

May They Rest in Peace



In Loving Memory of
NED PEACOCK

Millbrook, Portlaoise / Ballyfin.

Month's Mind Mass for Ned will be celebrated in Portlaoise Parish church on **Saturday June 27th at 6.30pm.**

The family of the late Ned Peacock would like to thank all those involved in his treatment and care during his illness, those who attended his wake and funeral, and those who attended to his spiritual needs. Your kindness and sympathy did not go unnoticed.

Rest in Peace Ned



Cemetery Masses

Raheen

Cemetery Mass

Saturday 27th June at 7pm

Shanahoe

Cemetery Mass

Sunday 28th June at 12 noon

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Portlaoise Parish

Results for
18th June 2026



05 15 25 32

No €11,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Nancy O'Reilly
Mary Wright
Pat Phelan
Patricia Phelan
Wm. Butler
Glenn Bradshaw
Deirdre Haslam
Anna Maher
James Houlihan
Chrissie Byrne
Richard Whelan
Mary Loughnane

MATCH 3s €1,000

12
Match
3s
Receive
€84
each

PROMOTER

Bernie Lalor
Der Foley
Betty Lynch
Betty Lynch
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Nora Walsh
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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 be 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: @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

Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Peter's Pence Collection takes place next weekend

The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.

Envelopes in Development Boxes. Thank you for your support.

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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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 - * Direct payment by cheque or cash
 - * Cashless tap facility at Parish Church
 - * Donation facility on our website
- * Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre
- * Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account: IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

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Stoma Support Group for Cancer Patients and Carers

**Tuesday 7th July
2pm – 3.30pm**

Group facilitated by Stoma Care Specialist Nurse Anna Bergin. This group will provide stoma advice on the issues that affect you every day – from leakages to skin protection and much more. It offers a safe and supportive space for individuals living with a stoma and those caring for them.

If you are interested in availing of this free service please contact: 057 868 1492
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**Cuisle Cancer Support Centre
Block Road, Portlaoise,
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