

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

11th October 2026

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

Saint Carlo Acutis
Feast Day
Monday 12th October

**"Happiness is keeping your eyes fixed on God.
Sadness is looking at yourself."**
St. Carlo believed that constantly
focusing on ourselves
- our problems, appearance, status,
or achievements - can make us unhappy.
Turning toward God gives life a deeper perspective.
St. Carlo Acutis



See page 2 for more
on St. Carlo Acutis

HOLY CROSS ABBEY



**Students from St Mary's CBS and Scoil Chríost Rí
enjoyed a memorable Pope John Paul II Award pilgrimage on Tuesday.**

At Holy Cross Abbey in Tipperary, their guide, Tom, gave them a fascinating tour before opening the relic of the True Cross for the first time in 13 years, allowing the students to hold it and blessing the students with it. It was a great honour and a wonderful testament to the reverence and respect the students showed.

They then travelled to Ardfinnan, where Fr Michael Toomey gave an inspiring talk on the life and faith of St. Carlo Acutis.

**Sincere thanks to Tom, Fr Michael, everyone who welcomed the students so warmly.
Best of luck to all the students as they continue their Pope John Paul II Award experience!**

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

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



Must Try Harder!

Do we sometimes imagine that God ought to love us just as we are, without any need for change or improvement?

In today's parable, a king invites guests to his son's wedding. When some refuse, he invites others, both good and bad. Yet one guest is thrown out for not wearing a

wedding robe. The story is not really about clothing, but about the standards we should strive for.

Jesus reminds us that God's Kingdom is open to everyone, but accepting the invitation is only the beginning. We must also make an effort to live our lives according to God's call.

Too often, we are satisfied simply with avoiding evil and doing what is right. But Jesus asks more of us: to choose not just between wrong and right, but between good and an even greater good. Accepting God's invitation is only the first step. What truly matters is how we live out that acceptance each day.

Solar Panels for Our Parish Church Caring for Our Common Home



Work will begin on **Monday, 19th October**, to install solar panels on the south-facing roof of St Peter and Paul's, our Parish Church, (Stradbally Road side)

This project will help reduce our carbon footprint and our dependence on fossil fuels. It is a practical response to Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls us to care for our common home and to take responsibility for the world we leave to future generations. It will also be self financing over time.

During installation, there will be some disruption on the Stradbally Road side of the church— entrances and car park. We regret any inconvenience and thank you for your patience and understanding. We hope you will agree that it is in a good cause — a positive step towards a greener future for our parish.

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.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Dara James Geddes-McCann, Goldencroft

Who was baptised last weekend.

Annual Bereavement Mass

Monday 2nd November at 7.30pm

Those who died in our Parish during the year and their families will be remembered at our Mass on Monday 2nd November. A family member will be invited to light a candle in their memory. If we have a photo of the deceased it will accompany their name on the screen in the Parish Church.

Also there are parishioners who have lost loved ones, parent or siblings, and also natives of our Parish, whose funerals were celebrated elsewhere. If you would like them to be remembered by name at our bereavement Mass please give the details to the Parish Centre by calling in or email michelle@portlaoiseparish.ie

(A photograph may also be displayed if you wish to provide one).



Saint Carlo Acutis Monday 12th October

On Monday, we celebrate the feast of St Carlo Acutis.

A relic of St Carlo will be present at our 7.30am and 10am Mass on Monday, and at the end of Mass, all will have the opportunity to be blessed

with the relic.

We warmly invite everyone to join us as we celebrate the life and witness of this young saint.

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ALL CLASSES 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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EXHIBITORS FEE: €10 PER CAR

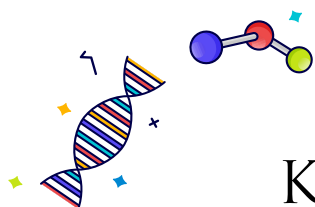
- DISPLAY FOR CLUBS WILL BE BY MAKE AND COUNTRY ONLY UNLESS BOOKED IN ADVANCE
- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TILL 4.30PM.
- EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO STAY IN POSITION FOR THIS STATIC SHOW.
- AUTOMOBILE SALES MUST BE IN PLACE BEFORE 10.00AM.
- EXHIBITORS 11.00AM.
- 24 HOUR SECURITY WILL BE IN PLACE FOR EXHIBITORS STAYING OVERNIGHT.

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**CALENDARS
2027**



JANUARY 2027

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3



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2027 **PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE**

CALENDAR OF MEMORIES OVER 50 YEARS

IN FOND REMEMBRANCE OF MICHAEL FITZPATRICK (RIP)

CALENDAR FOR SALE

€15 EACH

Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Committee

Launching the Sale of the 2027 Calendar of Memories with pictures from over 50 years of Pilgrimages. The Calendar is in fond remembrance of our original leader Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick (RIP). Cost €15. Available from Parish Shop, or any Committee Member online from the Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Pilgrimage page. It will also be on sale in all Church Porches Portlaoise on Sat. 21st & Sun 22nd November at all Masses. A beautiful momentum gift for anyone as it is unique. Limited numbers.

You're Invited

Join us for an evening of conversation,
reading & refreshments

as we celebrate the launch of

The Smoke After The Palest Depression

Poems by the late David Duncan



Wednesday 14th October



at 6:30 pm



Parish Centre, Portlaoise

We will be joined by award-winning
poet **Denise Dunne**

All proceeds from the book will go to Pieta House

Let's talk childminding

NATIONAL CHILDMINDING WEEK

19th – 23rd OCTOBER 2026

From 19 to 23 October, communities across Ireland will come together to celebrate National Childminding Week, recognising the invaluable contribution childminders make to children, families and local communities.

For many families, a childminder becomes a trusted and familiar part of family life. Childminders offer a safe, nurturing home-from-home environment where children can learn through play, build confidence, develop independence and form meaningful relationships.

National Childminding Week provides an opportunity to raise awareness of childminding and celebrate the professionalism, dedication and commitment

demonstrated by childminders every day. It also aims to promote greater understanding of childminding as a high-quality childcare option that offers flexibility, continuity of care alongside other unique benefits, not only for children and families but also for the wider community.

Throughout the week, a range of local events and activities will take place nationwide. These events will provide opportunities for childminders to connect with one another, share experiences, learn about available supports and celebrate the positive impact they have on the lives of the families they support.

Childminders play a vital role in communities across Ireland, supporting parents to participate in employment, education and training while providing children with enriching early learning experiences in a warm and familiar setting. As demand for high-quality childcare continues to grow, their contribution has never been more important.

To find out what events and activities are taking place in your area during National Childminding Week, visit www.letstalkchildminding.ie



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FATIMA CANDLE Will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church Tuesday 13th October in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm. ALL ARE WELCOME!	FOR SALE Mahogany Headboard & Locker Unit For a 5ft bed Plus Divan and Dressing Table Cream Headboard, Divan & Double Bed Mattress with Matching Lockers PH. 087-2274959	PMC HOME IMPROVEMENTS CALL 085 113 4470 - Roofing - Guttering - Gutter Cleaning - Replacement Tiles - Roof Cleaning - Roof leak & repairs - Steam Cleaning - Soffits Repair & Replacement - Painting & Decorating - Home Renovations

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8:00 pm

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You Are Invited

How many of you have ever given a party? Of course you have! We have all given a party at some time. Perhaps it was a birthday party, or a slumber party. Maybe you had a picnic or a costume party. No matter what kind of party you give, it is a lot of work to get ready for a party, isn't it? First, you have to decide what kind of a party you are going to have. Then you have to go out and buy the decorations or make them yourself. You have to plan what games you are going to play and make sure that you have all of the proper equipment for the games. Next you have to decide what you are going to serve and go to the shops to buy refreshments. After you have made all the plans, you make a list of who you are going to invite and send out the invitations.

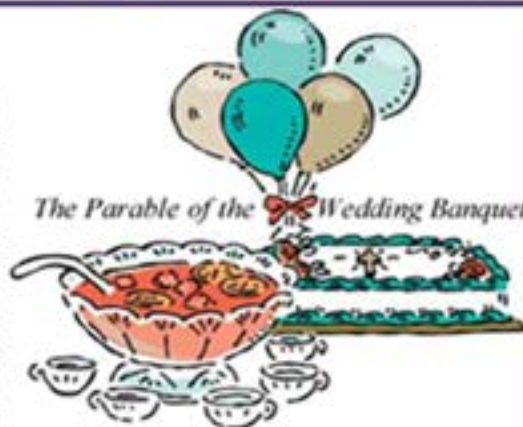
Have you ever planned a party and sent out the invitations, but no one showed up? Oh, I hope not! If that happened, how do you think it would make you feel? Would you be angry? Would your feelings be hurt? What do you think you might do?

Jesus once told about a king who threw a party, but none of the people he invited showed up for his party. In Jesus' story, the king was going to have a party for his Son who was getting married. Since he was a king, and this was his only son, you can imagine that it was going to be quite a celebration and it was a tremendous honour to be invited!

All of the plans had been made, the food was prepared, the invitations had been sent. The day of the celebration came, but no one showed up! The king sent his servants to see where the people were and why they had not come to his celebration. The people all began to make excuses about how busy they were.

The king was very upset, so he told his servants to go out into the streets and invite everyone they saw to come to his son's wedding celebration. They did exactly what the king told them to do and the Gospel tells us that the wedding hall was filled with guests.

In this story, the King is God and, of course, Jesus is His Son. God is going to have a great celebration for His Son in Heaven and we have all been invited. I can't imagine why, but some people will turn down God's invitation. You've been invited -- I hope you will accept God's invitation.



The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Prayer



Dear Father, thank you for inviting us to join you in your heavenly celebration.

If there are any here today who have not accepted your invitation,
we pray that today will be the day. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



A Gentle Reminder

Portlaoise Parish Schools Confirmation Prayer Service
will take place next Saturday at 5pm in the Parish Church.

We look forward to seeing you all there
and sharing this special occasion together.

Enrolment for First Holy Communion and Confirmation for 2027
For Portlaoise schools is now available on the Parish website

www.portlaoiseparish.ie

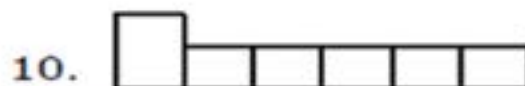
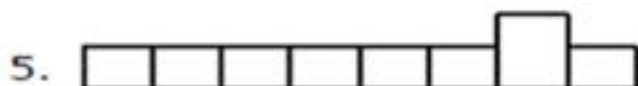
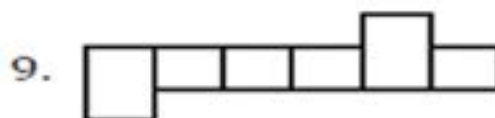
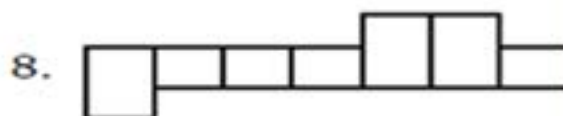
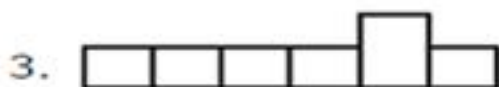
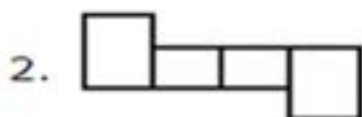
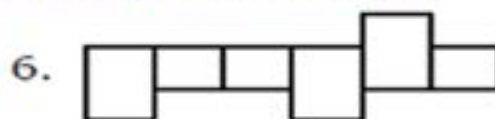
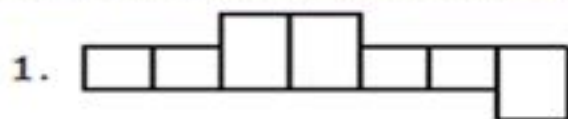


The Wedding Banquet

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10



Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



people

servants

invite

king

guests

parable

dinner

wedding

come

streets

The Angelus

The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord

Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh.

And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord,

Your Grace into our hearts;

that as we have known the incarnation of Christ,

your Son by the message of an angel,

so by His passion and cross

we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.

Through the same Christ, our Lord.

Amen



Time to Think...

Hope for the Irish Church



The number of priests and members of religious orders in Ireland has dropped by 70% since 1970. In the past three years more than 25% of all priests in Ireland have died. The average age of priests has risen substantially in that time; it is now well above 70. Add to that, problems of health and morale, and you have a serious difficulty with staffing, to name just one. I currently hold the responsibility as parish priest of three parishes. Clustering parishes has become the norm. In our diocese many clergy generously continue holding active posts of responsibility well into their 80s. I often marvel at these elderly priests being so selfless despite the burden that comes with old age. However, does the institution think that this responsibility inflicted on such men to be acceptable?

The volume of work has not grown less; if anything, the contrary is true, but the numbers available to do it have declined. Statistics and anecdotal evidence could be multiplied, but it is unnecessary. This situation did not develop overnight. A substantial decline in vocations began as far back as thirty years ago. There was no shortage of voices calling for action, for a review of the way that we are church, for the training and empowerment of lay people, for the creation of structures of dialogue, participation, and subsidiarity. In response, some wagged a finger in reproof, saying, 'God will provide'. That was to evade the issue, and the decline continued. Regrettably, little of the above was done. A crash landing, therefore, seems more likely than a soft one. If you don't learn lessons the easy way, you are taught the hard way. If you don't take the initiative, you will be boxed into a corner by circumstances beyond your control, and with no room for manoeuvre. If you don't reform, you precipitate a revolution – or a collapse.

Perhaps it is providential. The model of church – that is to say, the particular way of being the church – we have lived with in Europe for centuries is on its last legs and, most likely, will collapse. What will follow? It is impossible to know, and speculation about the future usually gets it wrong. What may emerge will be a new model of church, more democratic and less hierarchical, more charismatic and less structured, more lay and less clerical, smaller and less concerned with numbers. Out of that, a new understanding of the Christian faith may also emerge. In much of the world, the

Catholic Church turned the faith into a control system. That was to repeat the Pharisees' mistake, and to miss the point that Jesus was trying to free people from that. If the faith is seen as prophetic and motivating, focusing on relationships, enabling people to realize their humanity, it will be true to itself and be welcomed. Otherwise, it will wither and have to await a better day.

The Church as we knew it may be in crisis, but a new model is emerging. Many Irish bishops acknowledge that the Irish Church is facing a crisis. Bishop Denis Nulty began his recent pastoral letter by describing the stark reality of the crisis: the number of priests is declining, some religious and overseas priests are returning to their orders or home dioceses, and many diocesan priests are serving beyond the normal retirement age. Kildare and Leighlin now has 56 parishes and 117 churches organised into 11 pastoral areas. This means parishes will have to reconsider Mass schedules, chaplaincies to schools, hospitals and nursing homes, and the workload being carried by priests. He appealed for sensitivity toward elderly and overburdened clergy, noting that it is no longer possible for fewer priests to meet every expectation. He pointed out that there are 27 priests over 75 who are still holding parish appointments, including 10 serving as parish priests or administrators.

But paradoxically, as the old model of Church is dying, a new model is slowly emerging. The bishops are calling attention to a synodal way of being Church, which is being discovered in many dioceses. They are clearly discerning that this emerging model is being inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit. Don't get me wrong; we need priests. All bishops emphatically proclaim that we need priests so that the Eucharist may nourish the whole body. They acknowledge that parishes, Christian communities, will not survive without the sacraments, which can only be administered by priests. However, a new ecclesial reality is emerging. Lay pastoral leaders are being recruited, trained and commissioned to work collaboratively with priests in parishes. Parishes will be served by clergy and pastoral leaders working together as a team.

Here in Kildare and Leighlin 25 people are currently training as lay pastoral leaders. Lay leaders are engaged in a diverse range of pastoral activities, such as

coordinating the visitation of the housebound and elderly, visiting nursing homes, and supporting staff and residents to celebrate moments of prayer; they also design initiatives around catechesis that complement the role of the teacher in sacramental preparation of children. Some of the newly commissioned lay leaders exercise a ministry of bereavement support and lead funeral ministry teams. Some are skilled in IT and so use social media, which significantly improves communications in their parishes.

The emerging lay leaders experience their ministry as a calling, a vocation. They are asked to engage in a six-month discernment process to test that calling as it were. They are then inducted into the two-year theological formation programme. Graduates have testified to their deep spiritual experience of vocation as they begin their ministry. It is apparent from the response to date that there are many such vocations. People are responding to the call with great generosity of spirit and are eager to establish dynamic collaborative leadership teams in parishes to serve the people in their communities. Here in the parishes that I serve I am deeply indebted to the many lay people who take leadership and contribute greatly to our faith communities. It is often in the absence of the priest where that lay presence comes forward celebrating our common baptismal calling as followers of Christ. So yes, even in the midst of such a crisis, I have great hope for the Irish Church.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 6TH OCTOBER

Top score: Theresa Mulhare. 1st Lady: Betty Murphy. 2nd Lady: Sheila Duff. 1st Gent: Peter Stevenson. 2nd Gent: Liam McCarthney. 1st Half: Sadie Chester. 2nd Half: Mary Dunne & Frank Keenan. Raffle: 1st Theresa Mulhare, 2nd Joan Brennan, 3rd Sheila Duff, 4th 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; Contact 086 8812228.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT Ref.to BOWLS CONTACT Elish at 085 1636843. Wednesday 14th October sing along with Caroline from 3pm in Parish Centre. New members welcome Thursday 15th October in Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy "cards and chat" from 3pm. New members welcome tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 0879187157.

WEDNESDAY SINGERS CHOIR Do you enjoy singing, making new friends and having a cuppa and chat – if so come along on the Wednesday Singers Choir at Treo Nua Community Centre, Harpers Lane. Wednesday mornings 11am-12.30pm. Open to all.

LAOIS CO. BRIDGE CLUB PORTLAOISE New season starting – beginners welcome – lessons given. Contact: Wm. 087-0929898.

CÉILÍ AND SET DANCES All are welcome to join us Wednesdays at 8pm at Seanchistin, Irey, Ballyfin R32AY99 to dance our native céilí and set dances in a relaxed and inclusive environment at a gentle pace - beginners very welcome - come alone or bring a partner. Further details Maureen 0876482038 or seanchistin@gmail.com.

FOURTH WALL LAOIS THEATRE GROUP seeking Actors/Actresses all age groups. Also looking for Backstage People. Contact Kevin: 087-9614235 – follow us on Facebook. An ideal group to be part of performing in various theatres around Ireland including the Dunamase Arts Centre.

PORTLAOISE COMMUNITY CHESS CLUB has now been established and we meet every Saturday in the Portlaoise Library between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. The only exception is bank holidays when the library is closed. The chess club is open to all ages. We invite Adults (male and female) and children. We welcome beginners and experienced chess players. There is no money involved and chess sets are provided in the library.

TEAM HOPE CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL If anyone would like to help with the appeal during the month of November. Ph. Dorothy 087-2130833 or Joy 087-9144992.

THANKS FROM THE LAOIS BRANCH OF GUIDE DOGS to our volunteers and most of all to the generosity of Laois people who donated to our recent church gate collection to raise €9,000 so as the blind community can avail of guide dog services free.

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.

ROSARY RECITED IN ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH SHANAHOE on Wednesdays at 7.30pm and Sundays at 3.30pm for the month of October.



Advertisement for Christmas Club. It features a dark background with a red and white Christmas tree graphic. Text includes: "Techmarket", "JOIN TODAY", "CHRISTMAS CLUB", "AN EASY WAY TO SHOP TECH THIS SEASON!", "PAY FOR THE LATEST PHONES, TABLETS, GAMING PCs, LAPTOPS & MORE IN EASY INSTALLMENTS!", "THE KYLE CENTRE PORTLAOISE, R32 NSYD", and "085 233 3220".



Religious poster with a green background and a photo of people walking on a path. Text includes: "Is not this what God asks of you?" (MICAH 6:8), "Working Document for the Irish National Synodal Assembly", "17th October 2026 | Gormanston, Co. Meath", and the "Irish Synodal Pathway" logo.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**NORA/NOREEN
TWOMEY**
(NÉE KEATING)

Renard South, Caherciveen, Co. Kerry and
formerly Ballina, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
First Anniversary 1st October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's Church on
Saturday October 10th at 6.30pm.

She always leaned to watch for us
Anxious if we were late
In winter by the window
In summer by the gate
The long way home would seem more safe
Because she waited there.

*Missed beyond measure Gerard, Anne Marie, Eugene, Steve,
Faith, Clochan, Lewis, Sam, Ellie, Ewan and Ben*

May Nora Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WILLIAM BOHAN

34 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
26th Anniversary occurs
9th October 2026.

The years we spent together, we keep within our hearts,
They hold precious memories that will never let us part,
Unspoken thoughts, no outward show, but deep inside we miss you so.
Each one thought the world of you, for us you did your best,
and now we pray the Lord will grant your soul eternal rest.

*Always remembered, Billy, John, Michael, Maurice, Eugene,
Dermot, Brian, daughters-in-law, grandchildren,
sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.*

May William Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
NED PARKINSON

Cromogue, Kilbricken.
6th Anniversary occurs 12th October 2026.

AND HIS BROTHER FINT

Formerly of Cromogue, Kilbricken and Kent, England.
9th Anniversary occurs 24th October 2026.

You're not just a memory silently kept,
You are both part of a family that will never forget.

*Deeply missed and always in our hearts. Remembering at this time
all deceased members of the Parkinson & Campion families.*

May Ned and Fint Rest in Peace



*Christmas
Memorials*

The Link Up office is currently taking bookings
for Christmas Memorials

N.B. PLEASE NOTE

as the Link Up is now collated externally:

ALL MEMORIALS MUST BE RECEIVED
BY
5PM THURSDAY DECEMBER 10TH

for inclusion in the Christmas edition of
the Link Up (**December 20th**)
this will be the last Link Up of 2026.

The First Link Up of 2027
will be Sunday January 10th.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF A
DEAR FATHER & MOTHER
**SEAN & TERESA
CONROY**

Ballydavis, Portlaoise.

Sean's 22nd Anniversary occurred on 24th May 2026.
Teresa's 6th Anniversary occurred
on 26th September 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on **Sunday 18th October at 11.15am.**

We hold you both within our hearts
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by their son Brendan,
daughter Mary, daughter-in-law Anne, son-in-law Joe,
grandchildren David, Benny, Mark and Chloe.*

ALSO REMEMBERING THEIR SON

JOHN

whose 54th Anniversary occurs
31st December.



May They Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DARREN BREEN

3rd Birthday away from home.
47th Birthday - 15th October 2026.

Thinking of Dar on his 47th Birthday.

You will be loved and missed forever.
Love from Ma, his brother, sisters
And all his loving family.

*Some people leave this world too soon
They never leave our hearts*

xxxxxxx

Rest in Peace Darren



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ENDA DUNNE

Trumera, Mountrath/Clonreher, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 16th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, **Sunday 18th October at 12.30pm.**

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by his loving wife Nicola,
loving children Michael & Emily, brothers Joe & Paul
and his many friends.*

May Enda Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MICHAEL LACUMBER

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
Died 15th October 2011.

15th Anniversary away from home.

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

Our lips cannot speak how much we love you,
Our hearts cannot tell them what to say,
Only God knows how much we miss you,
Every hour of every day.
Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Michael Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN FAHY

55 Beladd, Stradbally Rd. Portlaoise.

14th Anniversary occurs

15th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be in St. Peter & Paul's Church on
Sunday 18th October at 12.30pm.

Dad

This heartfelt message is for you
Each word is meant sincerely
Now that you have passed away
We miss you so very dearly.
Sometimes our lives feel empty
Nothing can take your place
We wish we could still hear your voice
And see your smiling face.

You will never be forgotten we think about you always
And treasure happy memories that will never fade away
Losing you was irreplaceable
Causing us pain that is hard to bear
Our hearts feel truly broken knowing you are no longer here.

Love you always Dad.

*James, Ber, Sharon, Elaine, Dor Sons & daughters-in-law,
grandchildren & great grandchildren.*

May John Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**MICHAEL (HAR)
FITZGERALD**

59 Glenbarrow, Portlaoise.

Whose 1st Anniversary occurs 13th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Church, on **Sunday 11th October at 12:30pm.**

A light from our household is gone, A voice we loved is stilled,
A place is vacant in our home that never can be filled.
We think of you in silence, we talk about you too,
We have loving memories, but we wish we still had you.
Nothing can replace you, nothing ever will,
In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still.

*Loved and remembered by your loving wife Josie,
stepsons Joseph and Declan, and family, brother, sisters,
extended family and friends.*

May Har Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHRISTINE LEAHY

Clonkeen, Portlaoise.

Whose 1st Anniversary occurs
9th October 2026.

1st Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in St. Peter & Paul's Church on
Saturday 10th October at 6.30pm.

We thought of you today
But that is nothing new
We thought about you yesterday
And will tomorrow too

We think of you in silence
And make no outward show
For what it meant to lose you
Only those who love you know.

Remembering you is easy, we do it every day
It's just the heartache of losing you
That will never go away.

*Loved and missed so much by
your husband Michael, son Adam & daughter Ada.*

Rest in Peace Christine



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MARGARET CULLEN

Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurred
9th October 2026.

Just a prayer from the family that loved you,
Just a memory fond and true,
In our hearts you will live forever,
Because we thought the world of you.

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

Rest in Peace Margaret



MONTHS MIND REMEMBRANCE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MICHAEL FLYNN

Kilcock & formerly Ballyfin, Co. Laois.
Died 10th September 2026.

Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, this
Sunday 11th October at 12.30pm.

Thinking of you today & always
From all your loving family

Rest in Peace Dad / Mick



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
OUR CHERISHED SISTER
CHRISTINE LEAHY

Clonkeen, Portlaoise.
Whose 1st Anniversary occurs
9th October 2026.

Of all the special gifts in life,
However great or small,
To have you as our sister
Was the greatest gift of all.

May the winds of love blow softly
And whisper in your ear
"We love and miss you Christine
And wish that you were here".

*Loved and missed so much,
Maria, Dermot, Fiona, Aidan, Fergal.
Brothers in laws, sisters in law, nieces, nephews,
cousins, friends and extended family.*

*Until we meet again xx
Rest in Peace Christine*



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHRISTY KEENAN

Rossleighan, Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurs 11th October 2026.

Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for other's needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.
*Sadly missed by Pat, Ger and Claire Scully,
neighbours and friends.*

Rest in Peace Christy



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ARTHUR MORGAN

Originally of Bootle, Merseyside and late of
The Downs, Stradbally Road & Kilminchy.
Whose 6th Anniversary occurs on
Monday 12th October 2026.

Always loved and remembered by daughter Margie
and all friends he made in Portlaoise.

*Also remembering Mrs. Agnes Williams of
Clubmoor, Liverpool who has died.*

*Love, strength and prayers to all her family and friends.
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.*

May They Rest in Peace





BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DARREN BREEN

Hillview Drive.
3rd Birthday in Heaven.

Happy 47th Birthday Babe

The loss of a husband can never be replaced

Not in time, not in memory

You must learn to carry the weight of grief

But the emptiness inside never leaves

I feel your love in silence

And miss you in everything I do.

Loved and missed more than words can say

*Your heartbroken wife Olivia children and grandchildren,
mother-in-law Kathleen xxxxxxxx*

Rest in Peace Darren



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
FRANCES COOKE

12 Fielbrook & formerly of Rathevan, Portlaoise.
14th Anniversary occurs on 16th October 2026.

Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church **Friday, 16th October at 7.30am.**

It's been a lonely time without you,

And nothing is the same,

All we have are memories and your picture in a frame,

We travel to your resting place,

And flowers we place with care,

But no-one knows the heartache,

As we turn and leave you there.

*Sadly missed by your loving daughter Margaret, son-in-law Ger,
grandsons Edward & Gearóid, Katie & Rachel &
great-grandchildren Madison, Ailbhe, Autumn & Kalum.*

May Frances Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ELIZABETH LEAHY
(NÉE DELANEY)

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs on
13th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church on **Saturday 10th October at 6.30pm.**

Those we love don't go away

They walk beside us every day.

Unseen, unheard, but always near

Still loved, still missed and forever dear.

Sadly missed by all your loving family and friends.

We also remember her daughter-in-law Christine at this time.

Rest in Peace Elizabeth



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE & 2ND ANNIVERSARY
IN LOVING MEMORY OF A WONDERFUL DAD

JOE RUTH

35 St. John's Sq.

on your heavenly 90th Birthday and 2nd Anniversary

13/10/1936 - 21/10/2024

The memories of you I treasure so precious and so dear.
Dad, you meant the world to me I wish you were still here.

The sadness is relentless nothing can ease the pain.

But on this very special day I'll think of you

and be glad that I have the best memories

of a very special Dad.

It's been 2years since my world

Shattered and crumbled

Yet I have no words now to tell someone

How it feels without you.

Loved and missed forever your loving Daughter Donna xxx

May Joe Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DANIEL THOMPSON

60 St. Brigid's Place.

14th Anniversary occurs at this time.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Sunday 11th October at 12.30pm.

In our hearts you will live forever,

Because we thought the world of you.

Sadly missed by his wife Maureen and Family.

May Daniel Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
THERESA WHELAN

23 Coote Street,

Birthday 11th October 2026.

Missing You on Your Birthday

Those we love don't go away

They walk beside us every day

Unseen, unheard but always near,

Still missed, still loved and always dear.

Always in our Thoughts. Forever in our Hearts.

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

May Theresa Rest In Peace



FROM 23RD SEPTEMBER TO

1ST NOVEMBER 2026

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AND FOR THEIR BABIES' LIVES TO BE SAVED

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Matt 26:40)

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Portlaoise Parish **Results for**

8th October 2026

LOTTO **05** **09** **21** **27**

No €16,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS
 Art O'Neill
 Pat Moore
 Marcella Carter
 Claire McEvoy
 Ava, Ciara, Kate Lawlor
 Ross Moylan
 Teresa Heffernan
 Nicola Ryan
 Elizabeth Cooper
 Marie Fallon
 Ber Breen
 Catherine Young
 Leon & Noah Bergin
 Coco
 Pat Kenny
 Geraldine Delaney
 Williams Sisters
 Chris Russell
 Mick Six Smith
 Peter & Paudie

MATCH 3s €1,000

20 Match 3s Receive €50 each

PROMOTER
 Art O'Neill
 Lly Moore
 Eileen Preston
 Eileen Preston
 Betty Lynch
 Ross Moylan
 Online Lotto
 Online Lotto
 Online Lotto
 Mary Doran
 Lotto Gift
 Catherine Young
 Parish Centre
 Gemma Lawlor
 Peter Ryan
 Greg Keenan
 Mai Murphy
 Jerry Dooley
 Breda Conroy
 Pam Killeen

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Next Week's Jackpot is €17,000

Clergy of the Pastoral Area

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

Fr. Petru Medves C.C.
 Tel: 057 8600122

Fr. Simon Jin
 Tel: 057 8661605

Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
 Tel: 057 8600121

Deacon Eugene Keyes
 Tel: 057 8621142

Fr. Paddy Byrne P.P. (Abbeyleix)
 Tel: 087 9948505

Fr. Sean Conlon C.C. P.E. (Ballinakill)
 Tel: 057-8733336

Deacon John Delaney
 Tel: 057 8730844

To contact the Priest on Duty:
Parish Centre during office hours
 9am - 5pm Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours in emergency only
 Tel: 0578621364

October Collection for the Priests of the Parish
 Envelopes for the October Collection for the priests of the parish are in the Development Boxes or in the Church porches. Thank you for your support.
Thank You for your support.

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

Parish Centre

Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
 Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722
 E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie
 Twitter: [@portlaoiseparis](https://twitter.com/portlaoiseparis)
 Facebook: fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois

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 Portlaoise Parish are live streamed on our website.

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 057-8692154
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details



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10am-3pm**

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- ✓ Meet the contractors

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receive your energy
retrofit prescription**



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