PORTLAOISE PARISH link up

18th October 2026

Mission Sunday 2026
ONE IN CHRIST

25 Years of Music and Ministry

On Mission Sunday 2001, a new choir sang at our 12.30pm Sunday Mass under the direction of Nuala Kelly. Twenty-five years later, the choir is still going strong, with a number of its original members still lending their voices!

Over those years, the choir has enriched hundreds of Masses and other parish celebrations, helping us to pray, reflect and lift our hearts to God. We offer our warm thanks to Nuala and to all who have been part of the choir for their talent, commitment and faithful service.

We are truly blessed in our parish by the many gifted and generous people who contribute to our various choirs and music ministry. It is a particular blessing, too, to have music at our daily 10am Mass.

To all who help our parish sing its faith: thank you!



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

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



Solar Panels for Our Parish Church Caring for Our Common Home



Work will begin tomorrow**, 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.



We unite with Catholics around the world in sending Pope Leo our warmest good wishes as he recovers from surgery at Rome's Gemelli Hospital. The operation, which removed a cancerous growth from his lung, was successful and reports of his recovery have been encouraging.

The Holy Father, who carries so many people's concerns in prayer, now needs our prayers himself. We remember him with affection, asking God to grant him a speedy and full recovery. We remember, too, all who are facing illness and those who care for them.

Loving God, watch over Pope Leo in these days of recovery. Grant him healing, strength and peace, and bless the medical staff caring for him. May he feel sustained by the love and prayers of the whole Church and soon return to full health. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Oliver Theodore Byrne, Market Mews

Cathal Tomas Costelloe, Colliers Lane

Who were baptised last weekend.

We warmly welcome Bishop Denis to our 12.30pm Mass today, (Sunday). It is a joy to have him with us, and we pray that God will bless him abundantly in his ministry.





World Mission Sunday

World Mission Sunday is one of the most special days in the global Catholic Church. It unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, mutual friendship and support; both spiritual and material.

Annually, on the penultimate Sunday of October, Mission Sunday is celebrated in every parish around the world. On this day the Universal Catholic Church joins together, through prayer and sharing, in support of dioceses and parishes too poor or young to support themselves.

Today is Mission Sunday
Envelopes in Development Boxes. Thank You.

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).

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ALL CLASSES FOR 2026

Take Note

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

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

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- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 11AM UNTIL 4.30PM.
- EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO STAY IN POSITION FOR THIS STATIC SHOW.
- AUTOJUMBLE SALES MUST BE IN PLACE BEFORE 10.00AM. EXHIBITORS 11.00AM.
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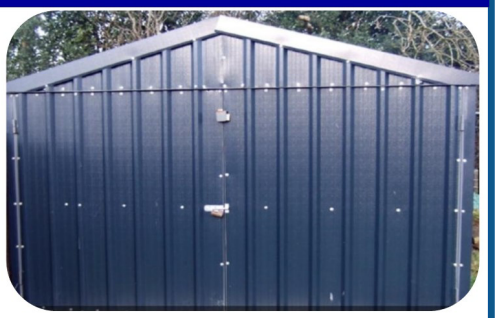
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CALENDARS 2027

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JANUARY 2027

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

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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9:30am - 12:00pm
Tuesday October 20 2026

Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise

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INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL OFFICE

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Enrolment forms also available from:
Jelly Tots
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Village Creche

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Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe

SEANCHUA

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Help Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe win a share of €100,000 for our community project!

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Supporting your Community

Every vote counts!

Voting takes place from 15th to 21st October

How Your Supporters Can Vote:

1. **Open the Lidl Plus app**
Open your Lidl Plus app and tap the Green Fund banner. Select the local project you would like to vote for.

2. **Complete a €30 shop**
Complete a shop of €30 and scan your Lidl Plus app to complete a stamp card.

3. **Submit the stamp card**
Submit the stamp card in the app. The project you selected in the survey will receive your vote!

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Supporting your Community

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LAOIS ARCH CLUB THANK YOU

to all who contributed to the Laois Arch Club church gate collection. Laois Arch Club is a club for adults with an intellectual disability.
For further information contact
MARY BUTLER 087-6323269
KIM HANNIFFY 087-4124843

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2027 PILGRIMAGE

PORTLAOISE PARISH LOURDES COMMITTEE

Tickets go on Sale
October 21st at 7pm
in the Parish Centre.

Tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis.
All information regarding the Pilgrimage is
on the Poster placed in all the Church Porches.



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.



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Warmer Home EXPO

Monday 19th October
10am-3pm

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Bring your Bill and receive your energy retrofit prescription

Portlaoise Solar Meitheal
Info Sessions 11am & 1pm

Solar Meitheal brings local householders together to make solar PV simpler and more affordable.

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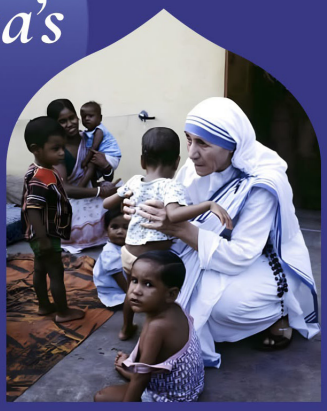
Laois Climate Action Festival 2026

seai Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

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COFFEE MORNING
in aid of
Mother Teresa's House
Kolkata, India

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY



Saturday 24th October
After 10:00 Mass
The Parish Centre,
Portlaoise





Wishing **Mairéad, Emily, and Helen** a safe and blessed journey as they travel to Kolkata on November 10th. All funds raised at this coffee morning will go directly toward supporting the vital work and care provided by Mother Teresa's House.

Everyone Welcome!

HEYWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

CINDERELLA REIMAGINED



TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER
7.30pm

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER
7.30pm

Tickets: tickets@eventbrite.ie

CateKIDS



Portlaoise Parish www.portlaoiseparish.ie.



What is the 'Missionary Spirit?' Pope John Paul II said 'It is still true today to say that charity begins at home, but home today is all the world' In the Gospel we are asked to 'go out to all nations and spread the Word of God'. So, what is mission? Is it a place? Is it a thing? No….. Mission is YOU! You are the life you live is a testament and powerful example God's love, to the Word of God working in our World. Your life should be a reflection of God's love for everyone. Years ago missionaries left Ireland and went all around the world to spread God's love. This is called evangelisation. They went out and helped people who were suffering and lived among them through all their troubles. Missionaries stayed with the people and the people saw this and wondered why they did it. Their lives were a testament to God's love and their lives made people want to listen and learn. Can you be a missionary at home in your community and family? Can your actions spread a message of love?

Today is World Mission Sunday

Today we remember those who work as missionaries. We also welcome those that have moved from other countries and from other parts of our own country. There is a special mission rosary which has different coloured beads than the Traditional rosary. The coloured beads symbolise the missionary efforts of the Church in each of the five continents.



The beads of each decade are as follows:

Green for Africa
Red for America
White for Europe
Blue for Oceania
Yellow for Asia



Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among 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.





Confirmation Enrolment Portlaoise Schools

Please note that the closing date for enrolment for the Sacrament of Confirmation is next Friday, 23rd October.
If you wish your child to receive this Sacrament, please ensure that you register before the closing date.
To register go to:
www.portlaoiseparish.ie



Our Mission Together

The Theme this year
'One in Christ United in Mission'
100 Years of World Mission Sunday

There are many individuals, lay organisations, and religious communities that are involved in missionary work throughout the world and even in Ireland. Missionaries share the tasks of all Christians; to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and to serve the needs of the world by using the hands. Missionaries, following the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, leave their homes and often travel great distances and enter cultures foreign to the own in order to follow God's call.

Your challenge for the Mission Month of October.

- To pray daily for people around the world
- To put into practice the Gospel message: Love your neighbour as yourself
- To make a difference, no matter how small, in your parish or your school.



Love Your Neighbour

What does it mean? It's a very simple concept, it means basically that you talk to and treat people as you would like them to talk to and treat you! Here are a few ideas to help you on your way.

When someone hurts your feelings: Try not to retaliate with anger. Take a moment, think about why you are feeling hurt. Talk to the person who has hurt you, tell them how their actions or words have affected you. Accept any apology they give and try to move on and forget about it. Don't make things worse by telling the world about it!



When you have hurt someone: A simple acknowledgment to the person and apology normally works wonders. Try to imagine how they are feeling and recognise the mistake you made.

Be polite: Practice saying 'please' and 'thank you' in shops and at home. You'll be amazed at how quickly this becomes a very good habit. You could move on from this by holding open a door for someone, or giving up your seat on the bus for an adult.



Smile: it's amazing how people react to someone who smiles at them. You'll feel much more positive about the world too as people will smile back at you!



Social Media: Always think twice before you post on any site. Ask yourself; will this hurt or offend?' If you are always posting negatively, people will see you as a negative person. Be the one who makes people smile when they read your posts.

Bullying: No-one likes a bully and truth to be told the bully probably doesn't feel too good about themselves either! If you see someone being bullied, talk to an adult about it and ask them to deal with the situation.

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me!!!



Mission Prayer

May all children
In the world
Share love
Share friendship and live
In the peace
Of God's love
Now and forever. Amen.



SEANCHUA
S.N. FIONNTÁIN NAOFA

Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe

Mol an Óige agus Tiocfaidh Sí
'Praise the Young and they will Flourish'

Applications for Admission

for

Junior Infants 2027 - 2028

and the

Sonas Autism Class 2027 - 2028

Applications for Admission Accepted from Friday, 23rd October 2026 to Friday, 13th November 2026.

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VEX Robotics School

Creative Schools
Creative School

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Nature Hero Award Winning School

food dudes Healthy Eating Programme
Food Dudes Healthy Eating School

Na Blátha Beaga
Independent Breakfast Club, Preschool and After Schools Facility
Na Blátha Beaga operates in Shanahoe Community Hall directly adjacent to the school.
https://nablathabeagachildcare.com/

All Information regarding Applications for Admission for 2027-2028 can be found under the 'Parents' tab on the school website
www.shanahoens.net
or at the direct link
https://www.shanahoens.net/shanahoe-school-enrolment.html

www.shanahoens.net | Shanahoe National School | Shanahoe_NS

TEAM HOPE™

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Team Hope is a company limited by guarantee (No. 359820), a registered charity (No. 20047627) and has been granted tax exemption status by the Revenue Commissioners (CHY No. 14524).

Reliable House Furnishers



October Sleep Sale!

Treat yourself to comfort you deserve with 15% OFF all Beds, Headboards & Mattresses for this month only at

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Age & Opportunity

Changing Gears



Age & Opportunity are delighted to offer Changing Gears in collaboration with Portlaoise Library this November and December 2026.

Changing Gears is a course designed to boost wellbeing and resilience for those aged 50+ years. It supports people to manage transitions/change in mid to later life. The change may be to do with: retirement, having more free time, bereavement, job-loss, ill health, becoming a carer or relationship breakdown. Its aim is to: help participants to identify what has served them well to date in life, the successes and challenges they have experienced, what supports they have in their lives and what they may need to put in place, and/or discard, for the next stage of life. It aims to lay the foundations for a positive and fulfilling approach to mid/later life.

How does it work?
Changing Gears runs over 5 weeks with weekly sessions of 2 ½ hours. It offers participants time to:

- Develop skills and techniques build resilience and confidence in managing life-changes or transitions
- Reframe change as opportunity with positive options and also challenging negative stereotypes about ageing

Who are Age & Opportunity?
Age & Opportunity is the national organisation creating opportunities that empower older people to enhance individual and community wellbeing through participation in physical activity and recreational sport, arts and creativity, personal development and active citizenship initiatives.

Visit our website: www.ageandopportunity.ie

Venue: Portlaoise Library, 23 Main St, Maryborough, Portlaoise, Co. Laois R32 N7EP
Dates: Wednesdays 4, 11, 18, 25 November and 2 December 2026
Times: 10.30 - 13.00 (Refreshments will be provided)

To book your place please contact Fiona on engage@ageandopportunity.ie or call on 01 9133922

"I am really enjoying the presentation, the interaction, the musical content and the general dynamic of the class. I look forward to attending the class in The Lexicon every Wednesday. Wishing you every success in your important work in Age & Opportunity"

Teresa, Dublin participant, Changing Gears, March 2025

"A belated thank you for the most enjoyable Changing Gears course. Brian Dooney was a fabulous facilitator, full of energy and enthusiasm with the coursework beautifully put together, especially the writing and music. I so hope you are able to run a Stage Two course."

Clare participant, Changing Gears, February 2026

This course has been funded by the HSE and is free of charge. Participation requires attendance at each of the five sessions.

Age & Opportunity is funded by HSE | SPORT IRELAND | arts council | funding the arts

TOY DRIVE

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

FOR JACK AND JILL

MONDAY 14 DECEMBER

DONATE

TOYS OR CASH DONATIONS HERE AT JOHN ADAMS CAR SALES

We are accepting donations or new or unopend toys, cash and gift vouchers. closing date is the 14th of December!
any help will be greatly appreciated

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Gift vouchers
Money donations
New or unopened toys

TOGETHER,
WE CAN MAKE
A DIFFERENCE!



JOHN ADAMS CAR SALES HONDA CITROËN

JACK AND JILL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION™

Follow Fr. Paddy on X @frpaddybyrne or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on the Parish website www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Time to Think...



Fr. Willie Doyle... An Inspirational Life

The canonisation Cause of heroic First World War chaplain Father Willie Doyle S.J. this week moves to its Roman stage. The diocesan phase of the Cause is now complete and has been sent to the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints in Rome. Father Willie Doyle, SJ (1873–1917) was an Irish Jesuit priest, renowned preacher and confessor, and heroic military chaplain in the First World War. He is remembered for his courage under fire, deep spirituality, practical charity, and self-sacrifice. He is a Servant of God whose cause for beatification and canonisation is advancing in the Catholic Church.



William Joseph Gabriel Doyle was born on 3 March 1873 in Dalkey, a suburb of Dublin, the youngest of seven children of Hugh Doyle (a court registrar) and Christine Doyle (née Byrne). The family was devoutly Catholic and practically charitable: the poor regularly received help from their home. Four of the seven children entered religious life—two brothers became Jesuits, one died shortly before ordination, and a sister became a Sister of Mercy.

Educated partly in Ireland and at Ratcliffe College (a Catholic boarding school run by the Rosminians in Leicester, England), young Willie showed early signs of kindness. He helped servants with chores, brought food and money to the poor, and even cleaned or painted their homes. He enjoyed sports and practical jokes, traits that later made him popular with students and soldiers.

Inspired by reading St Alphonsus Liguori's Instructions and Considerations on the Religious State, he entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in March 1891 at St Stanislaus College, Tullabeg (in the Diocese of Meath). His long formation (about 16 years) included periods of ill health from a digestive complaint that continued throughout his life. He taught at Clongowes Wood College (where he helped found the magazine The Clongownian) and Belvedere College, studied philosophy in Belgium and England, and completed theology at Milltown Park, Dublin.

He was ordained on 28 July 1907 (in the same ceremony as Blessed John Sullivan) and took final vows in 1909 after tertianship in Belgium. On the day of his ordination he resolved "to go straight for holiness" and strive to become a saint. As a novice he had already offered himself as a martyr, writing a resolution in his own blood. From 1908 to 1915 he served on the Jesuit mission staff, giving at least 152 missions and retreats across Ireland and Britain. He became known as a powerful preacher, confessor, and spiritual director with a gift for reaching hardened or neglected sinners. He also promoted working-men's retreats, supported the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association, and helped found a Poor Clares monastery in Cork. Behind his active apostolate lay a hidden life of intense prayer, penance, and offering himself as a victim for the salvation of souls, especially priests.

When war broke out in 1914, Doyle volunteered as a chaplain (he had earlier hoped for missionary work in Africa). Appointed in late 1915 to the 16th (Irish) Division of the British Army, he served primarily with the 8th Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers, and also ministered to other Irish units including the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Inniskilling Fusiliers, and Irish Rifles. Despite holding officer rank, he lived in the trenches with the men, sharing their hardships, dangers, and rations.

He served through major engagements: the Battle of Loos (where he endured a gas attack and was mentioned in dispatches), the Somme (especially the assaults on Guillemont and Ginchy), Messines Ridge, and Passchendaele (Third Battle of Ypres). He repeatedly risked his life to administer the sacraments to the wounded and dying, carry men to safety under fire, and bury the dead—Catholics and Protestants alike. He also showed kindness to German wounded and prisoners.

Soldiers of all backgrounds held him in high regard; he was described as fearless and an "angel of mercy." For bravery at the Somme he received the Military Cross. He also earned a divisional parchment of merit for conduct during a gas attack. He was recommended for the Distinguished Service Order and the Victoria Cross, but neither was awarded (some contemporary and later accounts suggest anti-Irish, anti-Catholic, or anti-Jesuit prejudice played a role). His commanding general, William Hickie, called him "one of the bravest men who fought or served out here."

On 16 August 1917, during the Battle of Langemarck. Fr. Doyle was killed by a German shell while going to the aid of wounded soldiers (including two Protestant officers from Ulster) in no-man's-land and administering the last rites. His body was never recovered; he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial. He was 44. His wartime letters and spiritual writings reveal a man of profound faith, humour, and self-sacrifice. After his death, Alfred O'Rahilly's 1920 biography brought his inner life and heroism to wider attention. He has long been regarded as a "martyr of charity." Devotion to him has persisted, and he has influenced figures including (according to some accounts) aspects of Mother Teresa's spirituality.

A cause was considered in the 1930s but not pursued at the time. In 2022 the Father Willie Doyle Association, supported by the Irish Jesuits and the Diocese of Meath, successfully petitioned for the opening of his cause. Bishop Tom Deenihan formally opened the diocesan inquiry on 20 November 2022 at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Mullingar. Father Willie Doyle remains an inspiring example of priestly zeal, courage, and love of neighbour—ready to lay down his life for others regardless of creed or nationality. His story continues to draw interest among those seeking models of holiness amid the trials of ordinary and extraordinary life.

Some of Fr. Willie's thoughts..

"I think the best of all prayers is to quietly kneel and let Jesus pour himself into your soul".

"Look upon nothing as too small to offer to Jesus"

"To do something great and heroic may never come; but I can make my life heroic by faithfully and daily putting my best effort into each duty as it comes around".

"Keep smiling it is the very best remedy for gloom".

"Let him act", must be your motto. Jesus will bring all things right in the end. The more I get to know God, the more inclined I feel to let him work out things in his own way and time, and to go on peacefully not troubling about anything".

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 13TH OCTOBER
Top score: Frank Keenan. 1st Lady: Molly O Brien, 2nd Lady: Frances Benn, 1st Gent: Liam McCarthnry, 2nd Gent: Paul Shirley, 1st Half: Margaret Flanagan, 2nd Half: Catherine Fitzpatrick, Raffle: 1st Tom Jacob, 2nd Peter Stevenson, 3rd Sheila Duff. 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 BOWLS CONTACT Elish.0851636843. Wednesday 21st Oct fun and games with Caroline Cahill from 3pm in Parish Centre. New members welcome. Thursday 22nd Oct. Cards and Chat in Sue Ryder Kilminchy 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 members welcome and also recruiting Beginners – lessons will be given – Bridge takes place **Wednesday MORNINGS**, contact William 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 Dunamaise 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.

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

HEATH HALL & CEMETERY COMMITTEE AGM Tuesday 27th October at 8pm in the Hall beside the Heath Church. New members very welcome to join. Refreshments will be served.

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.

EMMANUEL HOUSE, CLONFERT, CO. GALWAY Day of Prayer including Five first Fatima devotions and Healing Service led by Eddie Stones and team. Sat. Nov. 7th 11am. Please bring a packed lunch. Music, talks, confessions and Holy Mass.

Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died



Mary Delaney (née Cahill)
Ballydavis, Portlaoise, Laois /
Castlecomer, Kilkenny



Josephine Hughes (née Coss)
Grenville, Portlaoise



Elizabeth (Eithne) Gowing
Dublin and Ballinakill



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

PATTI DONNELLAN

Glenside, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs 15th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
Saturday 24th October at 6.30pm

Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.

Sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Patti



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

CATHERINE PENNEY

Ballsbridge and formerly Togher.
14th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Thursday 22nd October at 10am.

Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered every day,
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts, you're always there.

Sadly missed by all her loving family & friends.

May Catherine Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOHN (JOEY) TUOHY

10 Marian Avenue.
Whose 1st Anniversary occurs on
October 17th.

Your gentle face and patient smile
With sadness we recall
You had a kindly word for each
And died beloved by all.

So dearly loved and truly missed x

The Tuohy Family.

Rest in Peace John



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

WILLIE LYNCH

St Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

Those special days will not return
When we were altogether,
But the love you placed within our hearts
Will stay with us forever.

Sadly missed by Mam, brothers & sisters.
Also remembering his Dad Billy R.I.P.

Rest in Peace Willie



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MICHAEL COMERFORD

Pearl River, New York.
Formerly of DYSART Passed away peacefully on 5th October 2026 aged 86yrs.

Michael will be remembered at Mass in Church of the Holy Cross, Ratheniska **Sunday 25th October at 10am.**

Still missed, still loved and always dear.
He has gone no further than to God;
and God is very near.

From your loving family.

May Michael Rest in Peace



MONTH'S MIND REMEMBRANCE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

SEAMUS DEEGAN

Chapel Street, Ballyroan.
Died 18th September 2026.

Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in
St. Patrick's Church, Ballyroan
Sunday 18th October at 9.30am.

Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts.
Loved and missed more than words can say.

From your loving family.

May Seamus Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

JOSEPH (JOE) DOOLEY

7 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs 17th October 2026.

A special day, another year
A loving thought, a silent tear
A little prayer to keep in touch
With one we love and miss so much.

Dearly loved and sadly missed by all his loving family.

Rest in Peace Joe



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

SHANE LYNCH

110 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

Twenty-six looks like it would
have suited you so well.
We imagine the wise, beautiful person
you'd still be becoming.
Miss you beyond words.

Happy Heavenly Birthday Shane

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

WILLIE LYNCH

110 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.



Five years of waking up in a world
where you aren't physically here
yet loving you just as fiercely
as the day we parted.

Happy Heavenly Anniversary Willie

Deeply loved and missed by Mother/Wife Kathleen,
Gran/Mother Betty, Sisters & Brothers, Sons & Daughters,
extended family & friends.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF A CHERISHED HUSBAND, FATHER, GRANDFATHER, GREAT-GRANDFATHER AND BROTHER.

JOSEPH PAISLEY

10th Anniversary occurs 20th October 2026.

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.

We will love and miss you always -
From all your loving family.

Also remembering at this time, Joseph's wife Kathleen,
brother-in-law Bill Doyle, nephew Gerard Brennan,
all deceased members of the Paisley & Doyle families.

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

May They Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

DES CARROLL

Beladd, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs 23rd October.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church **Sunday 25th October at 11.15am**

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

Sadly missed, deeply loved and fondly remembered by your loving wife Margaret, daughters Gwen, Yvonne, Deirdre & Tracey, sons-in-law, grandchildren, brothers, family and friends.

Rest in Peace Des



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

AARON JORDAN KELLY GORMAN

8th Birthday away from home occurs 21st October.

Happy 26th Birthday Son

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 proves hard,
For unlike other Mothers, I cannot send a 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, until my days are through,
And then I'll come and spend all time in Heaven just with you.

Loved and eternally missed by Mammy, Mudasar, brothers Brandon, Noah and Junaid and sister Aisha xxx

Happy Heavenly Birthday Aaron



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

P.J. O'BRIEN

Late of St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
10th Anniversary away from home on 16th October 2026.

An Autumn leaf has fallen,
A golden heart stands still,
The place is vacant in our home,
That never can be filled.
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you will remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.

Deeply loved, sadly missed, and warmly remembered by his loving wife Teresa, sons, daughters, grandchildren, brothers, sisters and a wide circle of friends.

Rest In Peace P.J.
gone but not forgotten



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MARY KELLY

St. Fintan's Terrace, Durrow, Co. Laois and late St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise

On her 1st Anniversary.

The family of Mary would like to extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to all who travelled to attend Mary's funeral, who sent cards, thoughts and prayers throughout the year. It was greatly appreciated.

Until We Meet Again

Those special memories of you
Will always bring a smile
If only I could have you back just for a 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 me pain
but you're forever in my heart
until we meet again.

Missed and loved always
The Kelly & Bergin Family.

Rest in Peace Mary



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

CAROLINE MOORE
(NÉE WHELAN)

Cois Na hAbhainn, Portlaoise.
15th Anniversary away from home - 16th October.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church **Saturday 17th October at 6:30pm.**

Caroline

We thought of you with love today but that is nothing new,
we thought of you yesterday and days before that too.
we think of you in silence, we often speak your name,
Now all we have are memories and your picture in a frame.
Your memory is our comfort with which we shall never part,
God has you in His kingdom now.
But you will always be in our hearts.

Much loved and sadly missed by your mother, sisters and brother.

May Caroline Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



CHRISTY FINNEGAN

126 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs 28th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
St. Joseph's Church, Ballinagar,
Sunday 18th October at 10am.

Silent thoughts of times together,
Hold memories which will last forever.

Sadly missed by his wife Mary, daughters Margaret and Anne, grandson Eoin and all his loving family.

Also remembering you on your 98th birthday on 1st November.

May Christy Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MICHAEL COMERFORD

Pearl River, New York.
Formerly of DYSART Passed away peacefully on 5th October 2026 aged 86yrs.

Michael will be remembered at Mass in Church of the Holy Cross, Ratheniska **Sunday 25th October at 10am.**

Still missed, still loved and always dear.
He has gone no further than to God;
and God is very near.

From your loving family.

May Michael Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ANN HEFFERNAN

Clonboyne, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurred 16th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
Saturday 17th October at 6:30pm.

We are sad within our memory, lonely are our hearts today,
For the one we loved so dearly, has forever been called away.
We think of her in silence, no eye may see us weep,
But many silent tears are shed, when others are asleep.

Loved and never forgotten by all your loving family.

May Ann Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

SHANE MOORE

62 Rossvale, Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs
19th October 2026.

Always a smile instead of a frown
Always a hand when one is down
Always true, thoughtful and kind
Wonderful memories you left behind.

Loved and remembered always Mam, Dad, Marian, Ross, nephew Shane, niece Rubi, all your family and friends.

Rest in Peace Shane



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DAD

EDWARD (NED) HASLAM

Portlaoise.
Whose birthday falls on 19th October.

Today is your first birthday
away from us, and we celebrate
your life with so much love.
Remembering a wonderful Dad,
Grandad and brother who is
missed more than words can say.

Although you are no longer here
to celebrate with us,
you are forever in our hearts and in our thoughts.
We will always treasure the memories,
the laughter and the special times we shared together.

We wish you a very
Happy Birthday in Heaven, Dad.
Until we meet again, keep watching over us.
Forever loved, forever missed, forever in our hearts.
From all your loving family.

Rest in Peace Ned



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR MUM/ NAN/GREAT NAN

NANCY FRAWLEY

on your 1st Anniversary away from home - 25th October 2026.
Borris Little, Portlaoise.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
St. Peter & Paul's Church on
Sunday 25th October at 12.30pm.

Our lives go on without you, but nothing is the same
We have to hide our heartache
When someone speaks your name
Sad are the hearts that love you
Silent are the tears that fall
Living here without you is the hardest part of all
You did so many things for us
Your heart was kind and true
And when we needed someone
We could always count on you.
The special years will not return
When we were all together
But with the love in our hearts
You will walk with us forever.

Always loved & remembered by her
Daughter Syliva son in law Pat, son John & daughter in law Tanya, grandchildren Craig & his wife Áine, Rebecca & partner Jay, great-grandson Páidí and extended family.

May you always Rest in Peace Mam

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Portlaoise Parish Results for

15th October 2026

LOTTO 02 08 20 25

No €17,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS	MATCH 3s €1,000	PROMOTER
Betty LaCumber		John Hogan
Sheila Kavanagh		Sheila Kavanagh
Susan Lawlor		Online Lotto
Geraldine Cahill		Online Lotto
David O'Brien		Online Lotto
Paddy & Helen Doran		Mary Doran
Dermot O'Neill		Barbara Moore
Barry Kearns		Jas Reilly
Ula Ciupa		Peter Ryan
Mary Mortimer		Greg Keenan
Sandra O'Sullivan		Paul Dooley
Ciara Holmes		Bernie Phelan
Lucy Conroy		Lucy Conroy
Lorraine Doheny		Margaret Doheny
Niall & Susan Kearns		Catherine Kearns

15 Match 3s Receive €67 each

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& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

Next Week's Jackpot is €18,000

SAFEGUARDING
All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and our Church Porches. Diocesan Designated Liaison Person Michelle Hughes safeguarding@kandle.ie

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

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Fr. Petru Medves C.C.
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Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605


Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
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Deacon Eugene Keyes
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Fr. Paddy Byrne P.P. (Abbeyleix)
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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



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
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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)

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