PORTLAOISE PARISH link up

4th October 2026

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Francis of Assisi
1226-2026

Season of Creation
1st September - 4th October

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying
that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

An enduring message of peace, simplicity and love

Eight hundred years after his death on 3rd October 1226, St. Francis continues to inspire people throughout the World, His love for the poor, his reverence for all creation and his commitment to peace speak as powerfully to our troubled World today as they did in his own lifetime. As we commemorate the 800th anniversary of his death, we give thanks for the extraordinary legacy of this humble Saint, who reminds that true greatness is found not in wealth or power, but in love, service and generosity.

The Parish Centre 057 8621142
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Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie

The Cornerstone

What happens when we forget that our lives are a gift from God? What happens when we forget that humankind is God's creation? What happens when we forget that the planet we live on belongs to God?

Today's parable describes a landowner who leaves tenants in charge of his vineyard. But at harvest time the tenants refuse to pay their rent, failing to recognise the landowner's authority and killing the servants and even the son who are sent for the rent. The tenants appear to have forgotten that the vineyard belongs to the landowner. The tenants had come to believe that they could make up their own rules. They had forgotten that they were accountable. They had certainly forgotten that they had been given responsibilities and entrusted with stewardship.

God is still master of the 'vineyard', and we are the new tenants to whom the welfare of the vineyard has been passed on. The parable was originally targeted at the Pharisees, but for us too, the parable demands some degree of self-examination. We might think of ourselves as good people, but like the first tenants, do we constantly fight shy of accountability? Over the years we each develop our own individual code of conduct. Perhaps we begin to feel that as long as we are living by some kind of moral code, we no longer need to be accountable. We begin to imagine that 'being accountable', is just for those who go round getting things wrong. Living by self-made standards is all well & good, but if we do this, are we in danger of forgetting about the very high standards that God has set for us?

What happens when we forget that Christ is our cornerstone? When we make up our own rules with little thought for Jesus' teachings, the chances are we will fall a long way short of what God expects. Today's invitation is to raise the bar, step up to the mark, and recognise Christ as our cornerstone.

We welcome into our Parish Community

Bobby Luke Keane, Rathleague

Jonna Polly Buckley, Woodstock Close, Athy.

Who were baptised last weekend.

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.

Baptism 'enables all believers to possess an instinct for the truth of the Gospel'

The views and opinions of many different people and of interest groups are important to the Church in discerning 'the signs of the times', so that it can determine how best to proclaim the Gospel.

For instance, scientists, many of whom are non-Christians and perhaps even atheists, are often consulted on church policy documents when the subject matter relates to areas in which they have expertise.

Discerning the *sensus fidei*, however, it is quite different. It doesn't involve seeking out experts, at least not if by this we mean people with extensive knowledge, outstanding qualifications, or exceptional experience.

Rather, it involves seeking out those who, in their daily lives, try as faithfully as they can to live as disciples of Jesus within the community of the Church, nourished in this by the Word of God, personal prayer, regular celebration of the sacraments, and selfless acts of service.

It makes sense to understand the *sensus fidei* as residing with such people because it is the faithful living of one's faith within the church community and keeps alive the gift of being able to appreciate the Church's faith given at baptism.

October, Month of the Rosary

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is because the liturgical Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. Pray the Rosary this month for world peace.

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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

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CALENDARS 2027

JANUARY 2027

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

Portlaoise Parish Fatima Concert

The first ever Portlaoise Fatima Pilgrimage concert took place in the Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise on Sunday evening the 20th September, 2026. Local artists from County Laois and beyond entertained the audience, all in aid of its 30th Pilgrimage to the Portuguese town of Fatima. There was laughter, fun, enjoyment, entertainment and lots more as the audience witnessed a showcase of local talent at its very best. Cllr Vivienne Phelan was MC for the evening, and she did a superb job introducing all the performers.

Proceedings commenced with the St Josephs Accordion Band then AJ' took the stage. Then to a huge applause, the Timahoe Men's choir, took to the stage - followed by Local Irish Dancing star, Bobby Kinsella, from Stradbally and dancers from the Lynam School of Dancing. Other performers included, Maurice Crotty and David's group, Angi McNulty, Vicarstown Ukulele group and the Stradbally Community choir.

Pilgrimage organiser, Maura O' Brien thanked all artists for performing on the night, together with sponsors and people who donated prizes for the very generous raffle. She thanked her committee members, and particularly John Colton, whose vision it was to hold the concert, the proceeds which will help greatly in sending assisted pilgrims to Fatima on the 10th June 2027 for 7 nights. Concert organiser, John Colton thanked John Maher, Tom Walton and all committee members who sold tickets and helped to make the concert such a success. He also thanked Andy Conroy (Sound) and Tony Mulhall (Video) for all their help on the day. Sandra Brennan and the excellent staff of the Midlands Park Hotel for all their help and advice. Bouquets of flowers were presented to Maura O' Brien and Vivienne Phelan

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2. Click on ‘awards’
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4. Once you finish voting you must v**erify your vote in your email**, otherwise your vote does not count.

https://www.weddingsuppliers.ie/awards/vote

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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.

Fógra Clárúcháin / Annual Admission Notice for Gaelscoil Phortlaoise

Maidir le clárúchái n/ In respect of Admissions 2027/2028:
Tá cóip den pholasaí clárúcháin agus an fhoirm léiriú suime ar fáil ó na foinsí seo a leanas /
A copy of the admissions policy and expression of Interest form is available from:
Suíomh idirlíona na Gaelscoile / School website **www.gaelscoilphortlaoise.net**

Ar iarratas ó oifig an rúnaí ag an seoladh / On request from school office by e-mail **priomhoide@gaelscoilphortlaoise.net**
Spriocdátaí Iarratais & Clárúcháin don scoilbhliain 27/28 Application & Admission deadlines for Junior Infants & new applicants for our Special Classroom for Autism* for school year 27/28.
*We have 1 place available in our Special Classroom for Autism
Glacfar le hiarratais ón 5ú Deireadh Fómhair 2026 / Applications will be accepted from October 5th 2026.

Is féidir an fhoirm léiriú suime a líonadh agus a chur ar aghaidh ag runai@gaelscoilphortlaoise.net ach amháin i gcás iarratais don Rang SU, ní mór iad a chur trí phost cláraithe nó ó lámh le Rúnaí na Gaelscoile / One may complete the Expression of Interest Form and email to **priomhoide@gaelscoilphortlaoise.net**. In the case of applications for ASD classroom, reports must be sent by registered post or by hand to the school secretary.

Is í an spriocdáta glacadh le hiarratais ná an 23ú Deireadh Fómhair 2026 / The deadline date for acceptance of applications is October 23rd 2026.

An dáta go mbeidh an chinneadh tugtha le fios do na hiarrthóirí ná an 13ú Samhain 2026 / The date by which applicants will be notified of the decision on their application is November 13th 2026.

An spriocdáta glacadh le hofráil ar iarratas ná an 20ú Samhain 2026 12.00 i.n/ Applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission by November 20th 2026 12.00pm.

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Parable of the Tenants

The Gospel today is about one of Jesus' parables. It is a story about a man who owned some land. He planted some grapes on the land and then rented it to some other farmers who were to work in the vineyard and take care of it for him. Part of the agreement he had with these farmers was that they would give him a share of the crops.

When it came time to harvest the grapes, the landowner sent his servants to collect his share of the harvest. The farmers who had leased the land beat the servants and even killed one of them. They refused to give the landowner what was owed to him.

A second time the landowner sent servants, more than the first time, but again the farmers treated them in the same way.

Finally, he sent his own son, thinking, "Surely they will respect my son."

But when they saw the son coming, they said, "This is the landowner's son, let's kill him and take his inheritance."

Jesus asked the men listening to his story, "What do you think the landowner will do to those men?"

"He will destroy those wicked men, and rent his land to someone else, who will give him his share of the fruit at harvest time" answered his listeners.

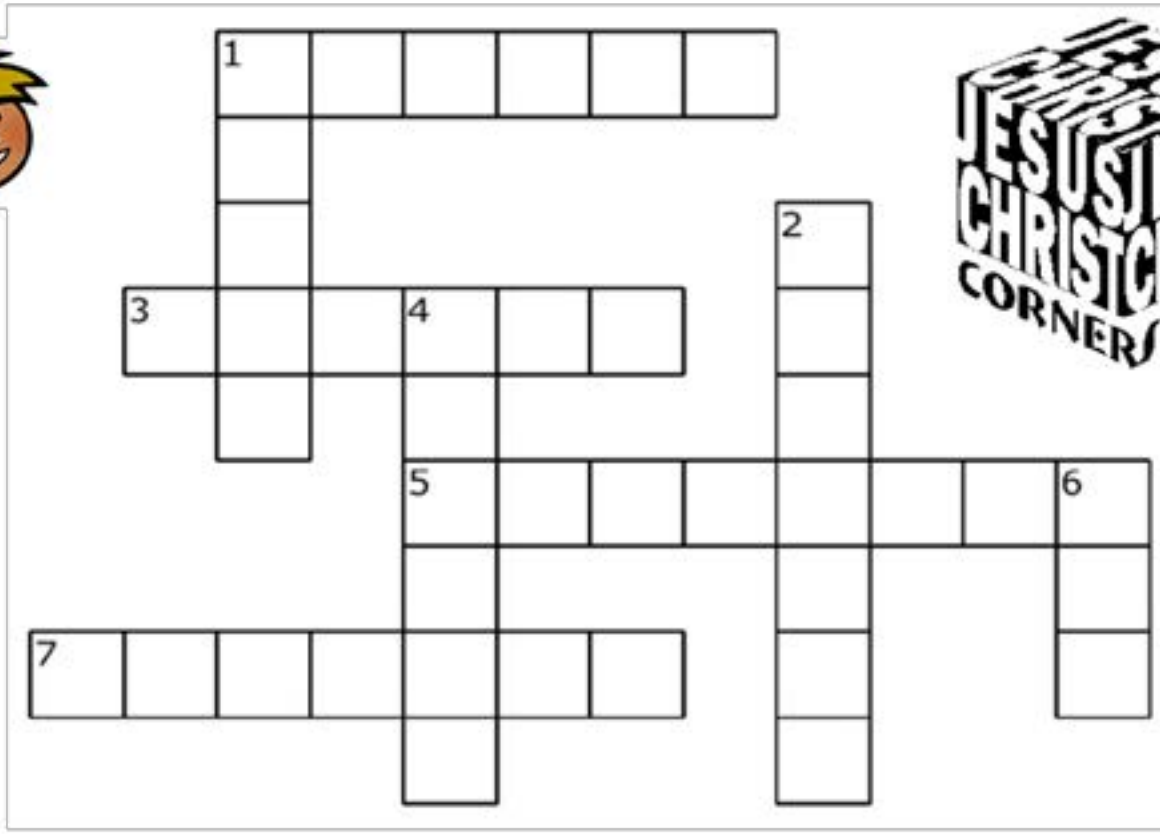
In this story that Jesus told, the landowner represents God. God first sent men such as Noah, Moses, David, the prophet Isaiah, and others to tell people of his love for them and to call them to turn away from their wicked ways, but many would not listen. Finally, he sent His own Son, Jesus. You know what they did to him, don't you? That's right, they crucified him. God gave them a chance. He even gave them a second chance - and a third. But when they rejected His Son, that was their last chance. He is our last chance too - our only chance to have eternal life in heaven with him.

Prayer

Dear Father,
we thank you for sending us Jesus, your only Son.
Help us to remember that he is our only chance to receive
eternal life. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

The Parable of the Tenants

Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son', he said. Matthew 21:37



ACROSS

1. **A person who works with plants and flowers**
3. **To put to death**
5. **People employed to perform services for another person**
7. **The time or season for gathering crops**

DOWN

1. **The part of a vine or tree which is eaten**
2. **A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson**
4. **To hear or pay attention to something.**
6. **A parent's male child**

PARABLE LISTEN KILLED HARVEST
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Morning Prayer

Thank you, O God,
for this new day.
Help me in body and soul,
In my work and play.
Bless all I do or think or say.
Let me do everything to please
You, and to keep me from all
danger and sin.
Amen.

Evening Prayer

O God, I thank You for being good to me.
Forgive me for anything I have done to displease You this day.
I am sorry!
Bless my father and mother,
My brothers and sisters,
All those I love,
And the children of the whole world.

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www.portlaoiseparish.ie

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON 29TH SEPTEMBER
Top score: Liz Cooper. 1st Lady: Sadie Chester. 2nd Lady: Theresa Mulhall. 1st Gent: Ann O'Dowd. 2nd Gent: Liam McCarthney. 1st Half: Molly O'Brien. 2nd Half: Margaret Flanagan. Raffle: 1st M Flanagan, 2nd B Cahill, 3rd C Fitzpatrick, 4th B Murphy. 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. BOWLS CONTACT ELISH 085 1636853. Wednesday 7th October afternoon with Moez from 3pm in Parish Centre. New members welcome. Thursday 8th. October in Sue Ryder Centre Kilminchy "cards and chat" from 3pm new members welcome, tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 087 9187157.

APPLEFEST '26 -Abbeyleix Community Garden this Sunday, October 4th from 2pm -5pm. Fresh Apple Juice, Junior Baking Competition, Cookery Demonstration with Sam Moody of Bramley's at 3pm, Green Cleaning Products with Blathnaid Bergin at 2.15, Hannah's Bakes, Teas & Coffee. A Raffle with GREAT PRIZES takes place on the day. You're encouraged to bring your own bottle - but don't worry we'll have some on standby – take home some of this year's delicious juice.

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.

IRISH GIRL GUIDE BROWNIES New members welcome for IGG Brownies. 7-8 years old.
Email: portlaoiseiggbrownies@gmail.com

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 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 clothes-lines, winders, pulleys, sawhorses, bicycle stands.

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.

FATIMA INVALID COMMITTEE "Thank You" to all who contributed to the Church Gate Collection in Abbeyleix, Spink, Ballinakill, Ballyroan, Raheen & Shanahoe. Total amount raised €1,520.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA 1st Saturday Devotion – 3rd October 2026 in the Old Vestry in St Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise at 8.30am and at 3:45pm in the Holy Rosary Church, Abbeyleix.

ROSARY AT THE GROTTO Wednesday 7th Oct for Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary at 8pm.

ROSARY Sunday October 4th, first Sunday of the month, Rosary at the Shrine, Market Square at 2.30pm.

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

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...

October and the Rosary

As we begin the month of October, I pray that we will all be nourished with great hope and peace. I found the recent visit by Pope Leo to France extremely inspiring. France one of the world's most secular countries surprisingly gave Pope Leo a huge welcome. At times the pontiff visibly moved with emotion gave great witness to the relevance of Jesus Christ and his gospel message in today's world. In Lourdes, a place where many seek healing, Pope Leo embraced the wounds and vulnerability of over 200,000 people gathered.

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary in the Catholic Church, a traditional time of heightened devotion to this form of prayer centred on the life of Jesus Christ as seen through the Blessed Virgin Mary. The connection comes primarily from the Memorial (or Feast) of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. This commemorates the Christian victory at the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. A Holy League fleet (including forces from Spain, Venice, the Papal States, and others) defeated the Ottoman Turkish navy in a major Mediterranean naval battle. Pope St. Pius V had urged the faithful across Europe to pray the Rosary for protection and victory; he attributed the unexpected success more to Mary's intercession through the Rosary than to military means alone. He established a feast of thanksgiving, initially called Our Lady of Victory (or Victories). It was later renamed Our Lady of the Rosary (under Pope Gregory XIII and subsequent popes) and fixed on October 7.

The practice of dedicating the entire month of October to the Rosary developed later and was strongly promoted by Pope Leo XIII (often called the "Rosary Pope"). Beginning in the 1880s, he issued multiple encyclicals encouraging the faithful to recite the Rosary throughout October—often publicly in churches, with the Litany of Loreto—and framed the month as especially sacred to the Queen of the Rosary.

Church tradition links the Rosary's popular form to St. Dominic in the early 13th century (around 1206–1214), when Mary is said to have given it to him as a spiritual aid against the Albigensian heresy. It combines vocal prayers (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be) with meditation on "mysteries"—key events in the lives of Jesus and Mary (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and, since St. John Paul II, Luminous). Popes and saints have long recommended it as a simple yet powerful contemplative prayer that draws people closer to Christ. In practice, October often features daily or more frequent Rosary recitation (individually, in families, or in parishes), processions, and special intentions for the Church, peace, or personal needs. It complements May (traditionally the Month of Mary) as another Marian focus in the liturgical year. In short, it's a month rooted in historical gratitude for Mary's intercession at a pivotal moment, reinforced by papal teaching, and oriented toward praying the Rosary as a way of meditating on the Gospel.

Here in Abbeyleix, our church is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. It is very rare to visit a church where candles are not lighting in front of a sacred space dedicated to Mary mother of Jesus. Devotion to Mary stems from her empathy and maternal love for all of us. A mother's love is both rich and deep. In the scripture Mary says very little, but her presence speaks louder than her words. Mary had the courage to say yes to cooperate with God's desire to become one of us. Mary nourished Jesus with all that was necessary in his young life. No doubt when he went missing as a teenager in the temple, she was troubled and anxious. She trusted that in a time of crisis, like at a friend's wedding, her son, would transform water into wine. Mary's heart must have bled when she saw her son dying on the cross and her joy was great when he rose from the dead, victorious over sin and death.

I pray throughout this month dedicated to the Holy Rosary grace and peace will fill us with hope and joy.

Prayer for Strength

"Take my hand O Blessed Mother,
Hold me firmly lest I fall,
I am nervous when I'm walking,
And to thee I humbly call.
Guide me over every crossing,
Watch me when I am on my way,
Let me know you are beside me,
Listen to my frequent prayers.
Bring me to my destination,
Safely every single day,
Help me with my understanding,
As the hours pass away.
And when evening falls upon me,
And I fear to be alone,
Take my hand O Blessed Mother,
And once again guide me home".

Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died

John Muldowney
Kinnegad, Westmeath
formerly of Portlaoise, Laois

John Drennan
Ballyroan, Laois

May They Rest In Peace
Our Sympathies Are With Their Families

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

PETER LANHAM

Late of Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise.
24th Anniversary occurs
5th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Monday 5th October at 10am.

We often come and visit you just to say hello
We touch the stone where we laid you,
can you feel it? we don't know,
we wonder can you see us,
when we are at your resting place,
can you tell how much we miss you,
by the look upon our face,
we tell you all that's happened
and just before we go
we tell you that we miss you, as if you didn't know,
and as we walk away from you feeling very sad,
we turn around and take one more look,
and say we love you, Dad.

Always loved and remembered by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

May Peter Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOE LAFFAN

Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
27th Anniversary – 4th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
Sunday 4th October at 10am.

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

Sadly missed by his loving wife Kitty and family.

May Joe Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOHN BYRNE

St. Martins, Ridge Road, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs
6th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 4th October at 10am.

God saw you getting tired,
and so it was to be.
He put his arms around you
and whispered, "Come to Me."
With tearful eyes we watched you
and saw you pass away,
and although we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.

Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family.

Rest in Peace John

ALSO REMEMBERING AT THIS TIME
OUR MOTHER

HELEN BYRNE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

CATHERINE (KATE) BROPHY

Market Sq. Portlaoise.
49th Anniversary occurs at this time.

"A loving Mother with a Heart of Gold"
Will those who think of her today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.

Lovingly remembered by your son John, daughter in law Rita, and grandchildren.

May Catherine Rest in Peace

An appreciation from the family of the late

Mairéad Culliton

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MAIRÉAD CULLITON

Glendowns, Portlaoise.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the support and kindness shown following our recent loss.

Thank you to all those who sent Mass cards, contacted us by phone, sent messages, attended the funeral in person or online, and for the ongoing messages of support during the past few difficult weeks, especially from family, neighbours, colleagues and friends.

We would especially like to thank the Palliative Care team, Dr Avril Atkinson and Dr Michelle Byrne, GPs, and all of Mairéad's wonderful carers for their unending care and compassion.

A special word of thanks to Fr Paul Murphy, OFM Capuchin, and Fr Simon Jin for a beautiful ceremony in thanksgiving for Mairéad's life.

Fr Simon, your many visits and calls to our home were greatly appreciated.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, we trust this small acknowledgement will be accepted as a token of our sincere appreciation and gratitude for all your support and kindness during our sad loss.

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

Rest in Peace Mairéad

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

PADDY BYRNE

113 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
36th Anniversary occurs
30th September 2026.

We miss your voice
Your warm embrace
The twinkle in your eye
But we still feel your presence near.

Loved and remembered always your loving wife Mary, sons, daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Rest in Peace Paddy

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ELIZABETH BONHAM

Raheenabrogue, Ballyroan.
Whose 20th Anniversary occurs on 3rd October 2026.

Granny

Of all the special gifts in life,
however great or small,
to have you as our grandmother
was the greatest gift of all.

Gone but not forgotten.
Love from Louise and all your grandchildren and family.

Rest in Peace Elizabeth

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MARTIN BREW

Clonshannon, Clonsast, Co. Offaly.
Whose 1st Anniversary occurs 2nd October 2026.

God saw you getting tired
and a cure was not to be
So he put his arms around you,
and whispered "Come to Me".

With tearful eyes we watched you,
we watched you fade away.
Although we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands now rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.

Deeply missed by his wife Nuala Sons Richard, Khalib and daughter Edel.

Rest in Peace Martin

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

KEVIN CULLETON

Brittas Lodge, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs
10th October 2026.

Forever in our thoughts.

Loved and missed by his wife Gemma, daughters Ailbhe and Eve, sons Kevin and John, grandchildren Aoife, Páidí, Peigí, Beauden and Cahir. Sons-in-law Gearóid and Keith. John's Fiancée Jodie. Brother Mike and Sisters Mary, Ber and Monica. Sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Kevin

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

KAY WALSH

Oaklawn, Ballyfin Road, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurred
30th September 2026.
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 3rd October at 6.30pm.

Those special memories of you will always bring a smile,
if only I 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 me pain,
but you're forever in my heart until we meet again.

Sadly missed by your daughter Catriona, sons John & Tony, daughter-in-law Lisa, grandchildren, brothers & sisters.

Also remembering Kay's late husband Anthony R.I.P.

Rest in Peace Kay

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

CHRISTINA MILLS

Portlaoise Rd. Abbeyleix.
Whose 2nd Anniversary occurs
3rd October 2026.

Your love was a safe place for us all
Your smile, your gentle words
And the warmth of your embrace
will stay in our hearts forever.

We miss you more
than words can say,
But we carry your love
with us each day.

Sadly missed by all her loving family.

Rest Peacefully in God's Arms
Christina

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

HELEN & PHILIP ROWNEY

53 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
20th September 1991 & 19th October 2012.
35th and 14th Anniversaries.

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,
Each of us in our own way,
Have special thoughts of you both today.

Always remembered by all your loving family.

May Helen & Philip Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ETHNEA COSTELLO

Guileen, Stradbally
and Kilminchy, Portlaoise.
Whose anniversary occurs at this time.
One day a beam of light shone through
a crevice that had opened wide,
The rose bent gently towards its warmth,
then passed beyond to the other side.

Lovingly remembered by her son Kevin
and her family and friends.

Rest in Peace Ethnea

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

PAT DOWLING

Ballycarroll, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 4th October 2026.
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the
Church of the Assumption, the Heath, this
Sunday 4th October at 9:30am.

In the hearts of those who loved you,
You will always be there.

Sadly missed and always remembered by your family, friends and neighbours.

Rest in Peace Pat

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

EOIN FINGLETON

Sallins and formerly of Ballytegan, Portlaoise.
Died 11th October 2019.
7th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
Sunday 11th October at 12.30pm.

Loved beyond words and
Missed beyond measure.

Sadly missed by his Dad, Mam, sisters Aoife and Ciara, brother Brian, nephews Cillian and Oisín, nieces Áine and Éabha, extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Eoin

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

WILLIAM (JOE) FITZPATRICK

The Hermitage, Borris Rd. Portlaoise.
11th Anniversary away from home –
2nd October 2026.

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

Missed so much by your loving family.

May Joe Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

LIAM (BILL) HORAN

23 Grattan St., Portlaoise.
Whose 14th Anniversary occurs on 8th October.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise on **Saturday, 10th October, 2026 at 6.30pm.**

Daddy / Grandad

Daddy, may the winds of heaven blow softly
And whisper in your ear
How much we love and miss you
And wish that you were here.

Always loved and missed by Hannah, Andy, Cian, Pat, Fiona, Jason & Rachel.

Rest in Peace Liam

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

BERNADETTE KELLY

Parkside Apartments and formerly Capoley.
8th Anniversary occurs 5th October 2026.

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

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be,
so He put His arms around you, and whispered; "Come to me".
With tearful eyes we watched you,
And saw you pass away,
And although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands at rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
that He only takes the best.

Sadly missed by her loving daughters Joan and Thelma, son-in-law, grandchildren and all her loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Bernadette

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MICHAEL & MAUREEN KILLEEN

Grattan St. Portlaoise.
Whose 10th & 20th Anniversaries occur (8th April 2016) & (2nd October 2006)

In the hearts of those who loved you,
You will always be there.

Forever loved and missed by Francis, Mary & John, their 8 beloved grandchildren and extended family.

Leaba i measc na Naomh go raibh acu.

May They Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOHN BRENDAN SHIELS

51 Fielbrook, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 8th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's Church on **Thursday 8th October at 10am.**

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

Remembered by all his loving family.

Rest in Peace John

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MICHAEL GAYNOR

Whose 52nd Anniversary occurs 4th October 2026.
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Sunday 4th October at 12.30pm**.

You are with us dad when the morning breaks and as the day departs,
For God has left a special gift of footprints in our hearts.

Lovingly remembered Dad today and forever, by all your loving family xxx

May Michael Rest in Heavenly Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MARTIN GORMAN

11 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
63rd Anniversary, 3rd October, 2026.

A silent grief is in our hearts
No human eye can trace
For many a broken heart is hid
Beneath a smiling face.

Sadly missed by your loving family and extended family.

May Martin Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

WILLIAM (BILLY) KELLY

59 Newpark.
15th Anniversary occurs 8th October 2026.

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

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

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

May Billy Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

KATHLEEN DEEVY

24 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.
Whose 14th Anniversary occurs
6th October 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church,
Sunday 4th October at 11.15am.

It's an everlasting sadness,
that you're no longer here,
But every year on this day,
we like to think you're near.
Your love for us was constant,
Your devotion had no end,
You filled our lives with sunshine,
as a mother and a friend.
So may you know forever
that to us you were the best,
And may you find a gentle peace
in sweet eternal rest.
In our hearts you will live forever,
Because we thought the world of you.

Sadly missed by her sons Pat and Brendan, daughter Hannah, daughters-in-law Sylvia and Maura, son-in-law Paddy. Grandchildren Craig, Rebecca and Paddy. Great Grandson Páidí.

Also remembering her dearly departed husband Patsy at this time.

May Kathleen Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

TERESA SHIELS

28 Beladd, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs on
4th October 2026.

Teresa, we miss your smile, your joking ways,
We miss the things you used to say,
And when those times we do recall,
It's then we miss you most of all,
You were always there when we need you,
So many things we didn't get a chance to say.
But your memories will last a lifetime and fill us all with love
Now its your time to rest and sleep with the angels up above.

So sadly missed but always remembered by
Chris, Anthony, Ian and Caoimhe xxx

Rest in Peace Teresa

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

PHYLLIS FITZPATRICK

14 Borris Road, Portlaoise.
Died 14/10/2004.
22nd Anniversary occurs
14th October 2026.

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

As each day dawns, we think of you
As each night falls, we pray for you
Wishing God could have spared you
If just for a few more years
But trust in God to meet again.

Always remembered by your loving husband Mick, sons James, Thomas and Damien, daughter Theresa, daughters-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

ALSO REMEMBERING AT THIS TIME HER LOVING GRANDCHILDREN

GARY & LEONA CUDDY

Meelick Road, Portlaoise.

May They Rest in Peace

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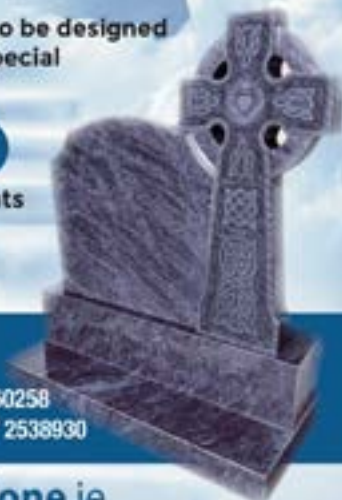

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Portlaoise Parish Results for

1st October 2026

LOTTO 02 03 12 26

No €15,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS
Louise Conroy
Kyle Reddy Dundon
Breda Delaney
Kevin Sweeney
Margaret Cashin
Elliott Clear
Martin Dunne
Joe Conlon
Mrs Hennessy
Damien, H, R, M, & N
Lily & Aidan Moore

MATCH 3s €1,000

11 Match 3s Receive €91 each

PROMOTER
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Online Lotto
Lucy Kelly
Lotto Gift
Betty Brophy
Anne Ging
Mary J Dunne
Kathleen Brown
Peter Ryan
Greg Keenan
Breda Conroy

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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

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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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Thank you FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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

Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722
E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie
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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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PARISH SHOP
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Stoma Support Group for Cancer Patients and Carers

Tuesday 6th October 2pm

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
info@cuislecancersupport.ie

Cuisle Cancer Support Centre
Block Road, Portlaoise,
Co. Laois, R32 Y8P2

CUISLE CENTRE
cancer support group

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