PORTLAOISE PARISH link up

8th November 2026

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

'May Perpetual Light Shine upon Them'

Each candle a life remembered.
Each flame a sign of love that endures

At last Monday's Bereavement Mass, family members placed candles on our cross as we called by name those who died during the past year. Together, we shared our sorrow and our hope, entrusting our loved ones to God's eternal care.

May their light continue to shine in our hearts.



Bereavement Mass last Monday night.

The Parish Centre **057 8621142**

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Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow



We 'know not the day nor the hour', and when death finally catches us out, we can all too often be filled with regrets and 'if-onlys'. "If only," we say after the death of a loved one. If only we'd spared our ageing parents more time. If only we'd made up that old family rift. If only we'd told our children that we loved them. And what of the deceased themselves? Every day people die unexpectedly. Every day people die in road accidents, as the result of violent crime, sudden illness or as the result of natural disaster. Thousands of people wake up every morning not suspecting that this day might be their last. Death is the final curtain by which time we must be prepared to meet our maker. It's a message we've heard over and over .... so why don't we heed it?

Life is full of deadlines. We have deadlines by which we must finish essays, complete projects, submit job applications, apply for loans or make payments. Life is always demanding that we make preparations. We make preparations for work, for exams, for holidays, for visitors, for weddings, birthdays and a hundred and one other occasions. But for the greatest test of all, that of meeting our maker we are curiously unprepared. Deep down we all know that we could be better Christians. Deep down we know there are things that we should be getting round to, but somehow we never do. Those great deeds we are planning can always wait until tomorrow, after all, unexpected death is only something that happens to other people isn't it? Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow!

The five foolish virgins in today's gospel were caught waiting. When the bridegroom they were awaiting arrived unexcitedly in the middle of the night, they were caught unprepared. Their lamps were empty. In a panic they tried to borrow oil from the five wise virgins, but the five wise virgins were unable to help. The message here is that we cannot borrow our way into heaven; we can only enter the kingdom by our own merits. Today's gospel promotes urgency. We must not put off until tomorrow what we can do today. Do we make the most of opportunities to do good deeds as and when they arise? Do we make the right choices conscientiously on a daily basis? Do we live every day as though it were our last? If we are doing all of these things, we have no need to fear the unexpected.

Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday to Friday: 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

Saturday: 10am

Sunday

6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

Sunday: 9.30am

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

Sunday: 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Oscar John Kinahan, Forest Park

Sherena Marie Nevin, Mountain View

Who were baptised last weekend.

This week Masses for the Dead List will be celebrated on:

Tuesday at 7.30am
Thursday at 7.30pm
Friday at 7.30am.



Throughout the Month of November Masses will be celebrated for those whose names are inscribed on our 'Dead List'. If you wish to have your loved ones included envelopes are available in the Development boxes, in the Church porches and at the Parish Centre. You are also invited to place the names of your own dear faithful departed on the memorial trees in the Sanctuary of the Parish Church.

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ALL CLASSES FOR 2026

Take Note

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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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To help our Adoration Ministry ensure faithful attendance for every hour, a Live Rota is now available online.

Please scan the **QR Code** below to check currently available timeslots and securely sign up for your preferred hour.

To better understand our new sign-up system and its guidelines, please take a moment to carefully read all the written instructions and prompts on the form when scanning the QR code for your first sign-up.

If you have any questions, or if you do not use email or a smartphone, you are most welcome to ask a family member or friend who is familiar with mobile phones to assist you with signing up, modifying, or cancelling your preferred hours.

Alternatively, you are most welcome to assist by sending a text message or calling our team directly at 087 961 1331..

Thank you for your beautiful commitment to our Lord!

Fr. Simon Jin
Adoration Ministry Portlaoise

Scan Here







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FATIMA CANDLE

Will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church **Friday 13th November** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm.

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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.

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for

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Be prepared



Once there was a big wedding. The wedding was so big that there were 10 bridesmaids. The bridesmaids all helped the bride get ready for the wedding. Weddings back then started at night. Everyone knew that sometimes during the night the groom would come to the bride's house and call out for her. The bridesmaids would hold up their oil lamps so that the bride and groom could see each other. The groom would be so happy to see his beautiful bride!

Everyone would keep holding up their lamps so that everyone could walk down the streets all the way to the groom's house. Then there would be dancing and eating and lots of fun celebration of the wedding.

In Jesus' parable he told what happened when the 10 bridesmaids helped the bride get ready for the wedding. Five of the bridesmaids were wise. They knew that sometimes the groom would wait a long time before he came to get the bride. So the wise bridesmaids brought extra oil for their lamps. They wanted to be ready even if the groom came very late in the night.

The five other bridesmaids were foolish. They did not think about bringing extra oil.

After the bridesmaids got the bride ready they waited and waited for the groom to come. They kept their lamps lit so they would be ready when he came. As time went by the bride and all of the bridesmaids got sleepy and fell asleep.

Then someone shouted "Here's the bridegroom, come outside and meet him!"

The bride and all of the bridesmaids woke up. They fixed their lamps to make them nice and bright. The five foolish girls noticed that their lamps had run out of oil and had burned out. They asked the wise girls for oil but there was enough for them to have some too.

The foolish girls had to go and try to find more oil for the lamps. They did not get to go out with the bride to meet the bridegroom. They did not get to walk down the streets to the wedding feast with all of their friends. They were too busy trying to find oil.

When the wise bridesmaids and everyone else arrived at the groom's house they went inside and began the celebrations. The groom shut the door and locked it so no strangers could get inside. When the foolish bridesmaids came to the door they were not allowed in. The groom didn't even know who they were! This parable explains how it will be when Jesus comes again.



Dear Jesus,
we know one day we'll get to meet you face to face.
Help us get ready for that wonderful day.
In Jesus' name, Amen.





TEN BRIDESMAIDS



MATTHEW 25:1-13

Are the statements below TRUE or FALSE?

	TRUE	FALSE
All 10 bridesmaids were prepared to meet the bridegroom.	☐	☐
The bridesmaids fell asleep waiting for the bridegroom.	☐	☐
Five bridesmaids went to find more oil for their lamps.	☐	☐
Five bridesmaids shared their extra oil with the bridesmaids who ran out.	☐	☐
The bridegroom let in the unprepared bridesmaids.	☐	☐



We pray for peace in our world,
and an end to war.
Instead of hatred,
let there be love.
Shelter your children
and protect us.
Guide us
and keep us from harm.
Amen



'Stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour',
Jesus said to his disciples.

T	Z	F	E	S	G	H	O	G	Q	N	O	G	T	A
O	B	M	P	K	S	M	I	D	N	I	G	H	T	A
G	O	M	Q	I	N	A	N	H	E	A	V	E	N	S
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F	E	O	G	S	W	O	I	H	A	Z	S	R	Q	P
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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...



Mother Teresa's Faith



Throughout the month of November, we continue to remember all our loved ones gone before us. This month began with the great Feast of All Saints. Saints hold a scared place in the life of the church and inspiration given through their lives. However, saints are all vulnerable human beings personifying what St. Augustine detailed "Every saint has a past, every sinner has a future"

A wonderful book on Mother Teresa, *Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light*, makes public a huge volume of her intimate correspondence and in it we see what looks like a very intense, fifty-year, struggle with faith and belief. Again and again, she describes her religious experience as "dry", "empty", "lonely", "torturous", "dark", "devoid of all feeling". During the last half-century of her life, it seems, she was unable to feel or imagine God's existence.

Many people have been confused and upset by this. How can this be? How can this woman, a paradigm of faith, have experienced such doubts? And so, some are making that judgment that her faith wasn't real. Their view is that she lived the life of a saint but died the death of an atheist. For doctrinaire atheists, her confession of doubt is manna from the abyss. Christopher Hitchens, for example, writes: *"She was no more exempt from the realization that religion is a human fabrication than any other person, and that her attempted cure was more and more professions of faith could only have deepened the pit that she dug for herself."*

What's to be said about all of this? Was Mother Teresa an atheist?

Hardly! In a deeper understanding of faith, her doubts and feelings of abandonment are not only explicable, but they're also predictable: What Mother Teresa underwent is called *"a dark night of the soul."* This is what Jesus suffered on the cross when he cried out: *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* When he uttered those words, he meant them. At that moment, he felt exactly what Mother Teresa felt so acutely for more than fifty years, namely, the sense that God is absent, that God is dead, that there isn't any God. But this isn't the absence of faith or the absence of God, it is rather a deeper presence of God, a presence which, precisely because it goes beyond feeling and imagination, can only be felt as an emptiness, nothingness, absence, non-existence.

But how can this make sense? How can faith feel like doubt? How can God's deeper presence feel like God's non-existence? And, perhaps more importantly, why? Why would faith work like this? The literature around the *"dark night of the soul"* makes this point: Sometimes when we are unable to induce any kind of feeling that God exists, when we are unable to imagine God's existence, the reason is because God is now coming into our lives in such a way that we cannot manipulate the experience through ego, narcissism, self-advantage, self-glorification, and self-mirroring.

This purifies our experience of God because only when all our own lights are off can we grasp divine light in its purity. Only when we are completely empty of ourselves inside an experience, when our heads and hearts are pumping dry, can God touch us in a way that makes it impossible for us to inject ourselves into the experience, so that we are worshiping God, not ourselves. And this is painful. It is experienced precisely as darkness, emptiness, doubt, abandonment. But this is, in fact, *"the test"* that we pray God to spare us from whenever we pray Matthew's version of the Lord's Prayer – *"Do not put us to the test."* Moreover, this experience is usually given to those who have the maturity to handle it, spiritual athletes, those who pray for and truly want a searing "purity of heart", people like Mother Teresa. They ask Jesus to experience and feel everything as he did. He just answers their prayers!

Henri Nouwen, in a book entitled, *In Memorium*, shares a similar thing about his mother: She was, he states, the most faith-filled and generous woman he had ever met. So, when he stood at her bedside as she was dying, he had every right to expect that her death would be a serene witness to a life of deep faith. But what happened, on the surface at least, seemed the exact reverse. She struggled, was seized by doubts, cried out, and died inside a certain darkness. Only later, after prayer and reflection, did this make sense. His mother had prayed her whole life to die like Jesus – and so she did! A common soldier dies without fear, Jesus died afraid.

In a remarkable book, The Crucified God, Jurgens Moltmann writes: *"Our faith begins at the point where atheists suppose that it must end. Our faith begins with the bleakness and power which is the night of the cross, abandonment, temptation, and doubt about everything that exists! Our faith must be born where it is abandoned by all tangible reality; it must be born of nothingness; it must taste this nothingness and be given it to taste in a way no philosophy of nihilism can imagine."* Mother Teresa understood all of this. That is why her seeming doubt did not lead her away from God and her vocation but instead riveted her to it with a depth and purity that, more than anything else, tell us precisely what faith really is.

"I am not sure exactly what heaven will be like, but I know that when we die and it comes time for God to judge us, He will not ask, 'How many good things have you done in your life?' Rather He will ask, 'How much love did you put into what you did?'"
~Mother Teresa

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RESULTS OF WHIST DRIVE HELD IN PARISH CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER
Top score: Elizabeth Cooper. 1st Lady: S Duff. 2nd Lady: M O'Brien. 1st Gent: M Dunne. 2nd Gent: T Jacob. 1st Half: B Jackson. 2nd Half: A Pearson. Raffle: 1st F Benn, 2nd C Fitzpatrick, 3rd M Malone, 4th P Stephenson.. 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 at 085-1636843. Wednesday 11th November sing along with Caroline from 3pm in Parish Centre. New members welcome. Thursday 12th of November in Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy "cards and chat" from 3pm new members welcome, tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 087-9187157.

BRIDGE BALLYROAN in the Sue Ryder Centre, Ballyroan, every Thursday at 7.20pm. New members welcome. Contact 087 1258734.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION IN AID OF L.S.P.C.A. will take place this weekend at all Masses. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

DANCING commencing Monday, 9th November, for 6 weeks, Parish Centre Portlaoise, 11am. Beginner friendly, foxtrot, quickstep, jive, waltz, céilí. Cost €20. Contact 087-6482038. Come alone or bring a partner – total enjoyment assured.

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.

LAOIS VOLUNTEER CENTRE would like to hear your views and opinions as we prepare our new Strategic Plan. Workshop on November 11th, 7pm-9pm in The Killeshin Hotel. Come a long and have your say. Booking essential – by email – info@volunteerlaois.ie.

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.

GUILD OF ST. PHILIP NERI PORTLAOISE visits prisoners in **Portlaoise & Midlands Prison** as befrienders/listeners. The guild is a conference of St. Vincent de Paul. Ph. 086-0462405 for further information.

ANNUAL PRAYER SERVICE to remember deceased staff and members of **Laois County Council** will be held Monday 16th November in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Portlaoise at 6pm. People of all faiths welcome. Light refreshments afterwards.

STRADBALLY PARISH PILGRIMAGE to Lourdes takes place from 26th–30th July 2027, accompanied by Canon Frank McEvoy. Cost: €895 per person. A €200 deposit and weekly installments are available. Limited places remaining. Contact the Stradbally Parish Office – (057) 864 1665.

PORTLAOISE GROUP PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 23rd-27th August 2027 4nights/5 days Flying direct Dublin to Lourdes & return Lourdes to Knock Airport accompanied by spiritual director. €850 p/p/s Agena Hotel.
€200 deposit secures your seat (ideal Christmas gift). Options of weekly installments available. Limited places. **Black Friday offer of €100 off**, if paid in full by Friday 27th Nov. 26. Contact John Egan 087-1254841 or Mary Byrne 085-2829231.

Our Prayers are asked for those who recently died



Har (Henry) Fingleton
Munny, Stradbally



Billy Carroll
Borris Little, Portlaoise



Stephen Sheeran Phelan
Rathdowney, Laois / Abbeyleix, Laois



Peter McNamara
The Green, Kilminchy



Fint Duff
Rathnamanagh, Portlaoise



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, 10TH DECEMBER

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

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

Thank you for your support and co-operation.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

KEVIN BOWE

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
8th Anniversary occurs
5th November 2026

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 7th Nov. at 6:30pm.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
love leaves a memory no one can steal.
As our heartache has only grown,
you now have Rob at your side in your heavenly home.

Sadly missed by your wife Marie,
children Suzanne, Kevin, Sandra,
Paul and Kenneth, grandchildren,
sisters Betty & Patty, brother Frank and extended family.

May They Rest in Peace

IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER
WITH LOVE OUR PARENTS

JACK AND ANNIE BYRNE

Mountrath Road, whose anniversaries occur.

We also remember our sisters

MAUREEN AND ANNIE,

our brother *JOHN* and our niece *ANNA MARIE*

Masses Offered.



Those we love don't go away
They walk beside us every day
Unseen, unheard but always near
Still loved, still missed and very dear.
Lovingly Remembered Always,
From Raymond, Phyllis & Oliver.



May They Find Heavenly Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MARGARET (PEGGY) CONROY

Glenlahan, Stradbally Rd., Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs
10th November 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
St. Peter & Paul's Church on
Saturday 14th November 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 today

Loving and remembering you always,
Joe, Dean, Lorraine, Christian, Mary, Eva and Gavin.

Rest in Peace Margaret



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Breda Walsh (née Keogh)

Ridge Road, Portlaoise • Chelmsford, Essex

10th Anniversary • 6 November 2026

Ten years have passed, dear Mammy,
Since we had to say goodbye,
Yet your love remains beside us,
As the seasons pass us by.

You were our strength, our guiding light,
With a heart so warm and true,
A loving Mam, a wife, a friend,
There was no one quite like you.

New little lives have joined the family,
While others have grown and flown,
From school days to new adventures,
And finding paths of their own.

There have been dreams and milestones,
New chapters still to unfold,
So many stories we wish we could share,
And precious moments to hold.

Our family has grown in unexpected ways,
With connections we will treasure,
New faces, old bonds, hearts brought together,
A family joined in love forever.

You taught us strength and kindness,
To work hard and see things through,
And in the people we have become,
There will always be part of you.

So stay close beside us, Mammy,
Through the laughter and the tears,
Forever loved, forever missed,
Today and through the years.

Forever in our hearts

Loved and missed always by Matty , all her children,
grandchildren and extended family.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MARGARET HARDING

née Conroy

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary - 16th November 2026.

AND HER PARTNER

GER YOUNG

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

18th Anniversary - 12th November 2026

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St Peter & Paul's Church on **Saturday 14th November 2026 at 6.30pm**

Today's the Anniversary of the day we lost you
And for a time, it felt as though our lives had ended too
But loss has taught us many things and now we face each day
With hope and happy memories to help us on our way.
And though we are full of sadness That you're no longer here
Your influence still guides us, and we still feel you near.
What we shared will never die, it lives within our hearts
Bringing strength and comfort, while we are apart.

Love always David, Paul, Ray, Jennie, Tracy and families xxxxx

May They Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOHN CAMPION

Ballycarnan, Portlaoise.

12th Anniversary on

13th November 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Friday 13th November at 10am.**

Rest in Peace John



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

PAULINE CONROY

34 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

Whose 1st Anniversary occurs on

11th November 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's Church on **Saturday 14th November at 6.30pm**

In our minds a constant thought
In our hearts a silent sorrow.

Sadly missed by your loving family.

May Pauline Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

NICOLA DOLLARD

(née Kelly)

Rathevan View and late of Hawthorn Drive.

7th Anniversary occurs 9th November 2026.

It's lonely here without you,
We miss you more each day,
For life is not the same to us, since you were called away.
Your resting place we visit,
And flowers we place with care,
But no one knows our heartache,
As we turn and leave you there.

Deeply loved, sadly missed and always remembered by her husband Damien, son Andrew, parents Gerard and Carmel, sister Michelle, brother John, nieces Chloe, Rebecca, Sophie and Grace, extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Nicola



13TH ANNIVERSARY
OF MY GRANDSON

SHANE FINAN

10 New Row, Green Rd. Portlaoise and also Canices Terrace, Borris in Ossory.

Shane's 13th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on **Saturday 7th November at 6.30pm.**

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

Sadly missed by your Nana Mary and Brian, Louise, Jake, Steven, Shirley, John & Conor.

May Shane Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ANNE GAFFNEY

(née Tierney)

56 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

1st anniversary occurs on 8th November 2026.

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

"A year has passed since you left us,
yet your love remains a guiding light.
We miss you more than words can say,
today and every day."

Loved and missed by your husband Liam, sons, daughters, grandchildren, great grandchildren, extended family and friends.

May Anne Rest in Peace

ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

FIÁDH & EVE GRAHAM

Boughlone Way, Bellingham

Special anniversary thoughts of our beautiful granddaughters.



You are two of Heaven's angels now,
Two perfect little stars,
And when you shine the world can see,
How beautiful you both are.
May you fly with magic wings,
On clouds so soft and white,
May your hearts be joyful and your days be bathed in light.
And though our hearts are broken, and your lives were far too short,
We thank you sweetest angels for the happiness you brought.



Never forgotten, Nannie, Grandad, Ger, Dolores,
Trevor, Tracy, Emma, Tristan and Shaun xxxxxx.

May Fiadh and Eve Rest in Peace.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY BEAUTIFUL MOTHER

HELENA HAJDUKIEWICZ

2 years have passed, we remember you every day.



Mama/Mom

Two years have passed since you left for heaven,
Mom, yet I still feel your love in the quiet
moments and carry your warmth in my heart
everywhere I am. Until we meet again,
I love you Mama and miss you.

Grandmother/Babcia

Heaven gained a beautiful soul,
and I gained a **lifelong guardian angel**.

Love and miss you until we meet again
Lots of love from your Son Andrzej, Daughter In-law Winnie,
Grandchildren David, Michael, Juliet

Rest in Peace Helena



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

GRETTA KELLY

Kellbyrne House, Rathevan, Portlaoise.

13th Anniversary occurs
8th November 2026.

Not a day goes by that we don't think of you,
Not a moment passes that we don't miss you.
Your love remains with us each day,
In little things along life's way.
Though time may pass and life moves on,
The love we have for you lives on.
Our hearts still ache, our tears still fall,
We miss you more than words can say.

Forever loved by Christy, Adrian & Rebecca.

Rest in Peace Gretta



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

CARMEL KEALEY

Sheffield, Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary occurred
4th November 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 8th November at 11:15am

We lost a mother with a heart of gold
How much we miss her can never be told
We miss you from your fireside chair
Your loving smile and gentle air
Your vacant place no one can fill
We miss you mother and always will
God called your name softly
That only you could hear
No one heard the footsteps of angels drawing near.

Sadly missed by your loving children
Pauline, Carmel, Francis and Breda,
grandchildren, extended family and friends.

ALSO REMEMBERING HER DEAR HUSBAND FRANKIE AT THIS TIME.

May Carmel Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOHN PAUL KIRWAN

Anngrove, Kilbricken,
Mountrath, Co. Laois

22nd Anniversary occurs 6th November.

Anniversary Mass on Sunday November 8th,
in St. Brigid's Church Shanahoe, at 12.15pm

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

ALSO REMEMBERING AT THIS TIME
John's daddy MARTIN (MURT) KIRWAN.

Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
We will always remember you.

Sadly missed, loved and always remembered
by your loving family.

Rest in Peace John Paul



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JOHN O'NEILL

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise & Adamstown, Wexford.

3rd Anniversary occurs 20th November 2026.

Those special memories of you Dad
Will always bring a smile.
If only I could have you back for just a little while.
The we could sit and talk again
just like we use to do.
You always meant so very much to me
and always will do too.
The fact that you are no longer here
will always bring me pain.
You are forever in my heart until we meet again.

Dearly loved and sadly missed everyday by your Son Tommy, Daughter-in-law Jennie, Grandchildren Ger, Amy, James, John & Great-Grandchild Mandy

xxx

May John Rest in Peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

TONY PHELAN

Santa Maria, New Rd., Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary occurs 12th November 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on **Sunday 15th November at 11.15am**



IN MEMORY OF MUM & DAD

I look back in fondness everyday
At the joyful times we had
No one could wish for such
a perfect pair
As my special Mum and Dad.
I am grateful for your love,
And I know that you watch over me
From the heavens up above.
Although you're missed so dearly
And so many tears we've cried,
It is so sweet and fitting,
That you sleep softly side by side.
You shared your love, you shared your life,
Many precious times together
Now you will spend eternity hand in hand forever.

Sadly missed by Zelie, Ger, Ray, Bosco and Brigid, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law and your fourteen grandchildren. Lots of love xxx.

May Tony Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DEAR FATHER AND HUSBAND
who died on the 5th November 2018

DANIEL NORTON (DAN)

Sheffield Ave. Portlaoise

8th Anniversary.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on **Saturday 7th November 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 today.

Sadly missed and always remembered by his loving wife Margaret, daughters, sons, son-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

May Dan Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

PATRICK (PADDY) REDDIN

4 Dr. Murphy Place.

14th Anniversary occurs 14th November.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Saturday 14th November at 6.30pm.**

Your smile was made of sunshine,
Your heart was made of gold,
We thank you for the love you gave,
And the memories that we hold.
No matter how we spend our days, no matter what we do,
No morning dawns, no evening falls,
Without a thought of you.

Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by all his loving family.

May Patrick Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ANNE SMYTH

Ballytegan, Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.
10th Anniversary occurs
9th November 2026.

Thinking of you today

Forever loved, cherished and never forgotten by your husband Joe and your children Gemma, Brian & Joanne, your grandchildren Danann, Caiden, Harry & Lennie, your sons-in-law and daughter-in-law.

May Anne Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

GERARD (GERRY) GORMAN

11 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

12th Anniversary on 6th November 2026.

He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.

Sadly missed by your loving family and extended family.

May Gerard Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ANN LACUMBER

Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.

35th Anniversary occurs 14th November.

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.

Always remembered by her loving family.

May Annie Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

EILEEN RYAN

12 Ridge Road, Portlaoise.

15th Anniversary occurs
13th November 2026.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on **Friday 13th November at 10am.**

In the hearts of those who loved you
You are always there

Loved and missed always Mam.

May Eileen Rest in Peace



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

FR. GREGORY BROPHY

22nd Anniversary occurs
9th November.

"For this God is our God
forever and ever;
He will be our guide even to the end".

May He Rest in Peace



CHERISHED MEMORIES OF
OUR BELOVED SISTER

BREDA WALSH (née Keogh)

Late of Chelmsford Essex
and Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.

10th Anniversary occurred 6th November 2025

We thought of you today, but that is nothing new
We thought about you yesterday and days before that too
We think of you in silence, we often speak your name
All we have are memories and your picture in a frame.
Your memory is our keepsake which we will never part.

Loved and always missed by your sisters,
brothers and extended family.

Rest in Peace Breda





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If you have lost a loved one there is a confidential one-to-one support service available.



To make an appointment

Call 087-9878300

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David **087-2369887**

HENRY RANKIN

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087-2562137



PORTLAOISE PARISH

RESULTS FOR 5th November 2026

WINNING NUMBERS
09, 17, 20, 28

No €20,000 Jackpot Winner
10 Match 3s win €100 each

WINNER	PROMOTER
Anna Lynch	Betty Lynch
Joe Beere	Online Lotto
Honor Crowe	Online Lotto
David Birchall	Online Lotto
Cuan Lawlor	Nuala Arrigan
Breda Delaney	Breda Delaney
John Egan	Peter Ryan
Ailish Nolan	Greg Keenan
Frank Sheehan	Frank Sheehan
S & J McDowell	S McDowell

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LOTTO

NEXT WEEKS JACKPOT €20,000

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

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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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
Twitter: @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.

link up
LINK UP
Monday to Thursday: 9am to 5pm
057-8692154
Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space
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PARISH SHOP
057 8621142 - Claire Scully

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MEL BROOKS' YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

14TH-21ST NOV 2026

SHOWTIME 7:30PM (ALL SHOWS)

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