

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**
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up**

23rd February 2025

**Seventh Week in
Ordinary Time**



Portlaoise Town Bus Service starts (today) Sunday 23rd February

Portlaoise finally get its own public bus service, to help fulfil its title of Ireland's pilot Low Carbon Town. It will serve much of the town's heavily built up suburban residential areas, helping remove cars off the road, and provide reliable cheap transport for other people with no cars. It will employ up to 25 drivers. Buses will run every half hour.

Photo below of new bus stop outside our Parish Church.



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

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



Confining War to the Dusty History Books

'Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you'. Surely that's a recipe for becoming a doormat, yet this is what Jesus is asking us to do in today's gospel.

The six o'clock news fuels our anger. We want to fight back at the aggressors. We want to hit back at the terrorists who hurt us. We want to see consequences for those who kill or maim or take away from us. Jesus' advice doesn't make any sense. How can we love those we don't even like! How can we forgive when punishment feels more human? But in the words of Martin Luther King Jr "When you live by the rule 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, you end up with a nation of blind and toothless people'".

These are tremendous words, because they tell us that when we respond to those who hate us with love instead of recrimination, we defeat evil. So how do we make it work? Firstly we have to know that love isn't a warm fuzzy emotion that leaps out of a Valentine's card. Love is a decision. Love is not a feeling it's a choice. We have to make decision to do good and then do it. We know we are loved by the way we are treated, and in the same way we have to show others that we love them by the way we treat them. Next come the rules. Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn and you will not be condemned. Give and it will be given to you. In short we have to treat everyone the way we would like to be treated ourselves whether we like them or not. If everyone could live their lives by Jesus' teaching conflict and war would be confined to dusty history books.

Confirmation 2025

We welcome Bishop Denis who will preside at our Confirmation ceremonies next Friday and Saturday. 325 boys and girls will receive the sacrament in the Parish Church.



We hope it is an enjoyable and enriching occasion for the boys and girls and their families. We thank all involved in the preparation and the ceremonies.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

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.



Fáilte

We welcome into our Parish Community

Peigi Kate McEvoy

The Beeches, Forest Park

who was baptised last weekend

But I say to you who hear,

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES
do good to those who hate you

Luke 6:27

Thought for Today!

Whenever a person thinks, questions and reflects on his or her true identity, strives to understand the deeper questions of life and to seek God, or experiences the thrill of catching a glimpse of truth, it leads to the realisation that our fulfilment as human beings is found in love. In loving, we sense that we come to know the purpose and goal of our existence in this world. Everything comes together in a state of coherence and harmony. It follows that, in contemplating the meaning of our lives, perhaps the most decisive question we can ask is, 'Do I have a heart?'

Remember to pray for the Pope who is ill at this time

Pope Francis, Dilexit Nos, On the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ

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To book by phone: 087 666 4808.

There are still some spots available in our beginners' Pilates class. Please email or call our clinic to join these classes.

A new block of Parkinson's-specific classes will begin on Wednesday, 5th February, at 11:20 AM. These classes are designed for individuals with early to moderate Parkinson's.

Please call the clinic to reserve your place.

Classes Available

Monday: Osteo class with John in Parish Centre 9:30am

Tuesday: Senior exercise classes with Conor in clinic 11:00am.

Wednesday: Osteo class in clinic 10:30am,
Online Pilates 9:30am.



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Retirement is something many of us look forward to, but it can also be challenging. Issues like loss of identity, self-esteem, missing the buzz of work, isolation, and fear are common. Lack of purpose and strained relationships can also arise.



If you'd like support in navigating this next chapter of your life, text or WhatsApp 087 6100908 for a free consultation.



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LAOIS ALZHEIMER CAFÉ



THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND

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Thursday 27th February 11am-1pm.

The Laois Alzheimer Café will provide a warm, welcoming space for people with dementia, their family and friends, social and health care professionals, to meet, exchange ideas and learnings. All are welcome.

For further information please contact
Grainne Roche Duff 087-6075037
grainne.rocheduff@alzheimer.ie

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Alanon Family Group for family, friends or anyone affected by someone struggling with alcoholism. Alanon meeting every Thursday night at 8pm in Portlaoise. For further info **contact 086-8706017**.

Pro-Life Collection – Thank You: The Pro-Life team sincerely thanks everyone who generously contributed to **The Heath collection** last weekend. Your support is deeply appreciated. A total of **€192.40** was collected. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Meals on Wheels: The rescheduled meeting will take place in the Parish Centre on Monday, March 3rd, at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

Portlaoise Bridge Club: New bridge players welcome for the **Wednesday Morning Bridge Club** at Portlaoise Enterprise Centre. Starts at 10:30 AM. Tea and coffee will be served. All grades welcome! For more information, contact **William at 087 0929898**.

Samaritans Information Night: Interested in volunteering with the Samaritans? Join us at **Lamberts Coffee House, Dublin Street, on Wednesday, 26th February, from 6-8pm** to learn more. Meet volunteers and discover how you can help answer the 1,500 daily calls for support. Commitment: 3 hours per week, full training provided. **Contact: Therese Dooley 085 1559710**.

Portlaoise Active Retirement meets every Wednesday at 3pm in the Parish Centre for afternoon of friendship fun and activities. New members welcome.

Monday 24th Feb: Bowls in St. Mary's Sports Hall at 2pm. New members welcome. Tuition given.

Wednesday 26th Feb: Club in Parish Centre at 3pm with Moez

Thursday 27th Feb: Cards and chat in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. New members always welcome. Tuition given. For any further information contact P.R.O Sheila at 087-6204617

Chime – Free Hearing Loss Support Clinic in Portlaoise : Chime – National Charity for Deaf and Hearing Loss in Ireland - Laois Outreach Clinic held in Portlaoise Parish Centre, Wednesday 26th February (10.00am – 12.30 pm). Our free and confidential clinic provide one to one support, information and advice about deaf and hearing loss. For more information **contact Chime 057-9351606 / text (086-1436476)**



Volunteers Needed: Jack and Jill Charity are seeking volunteers to assist in their warehouse with sorting stock and donations. If you can spare some time to help, please contact **Abbie at 0872589730**.

Results of Whist Drive - Parish Centre, Tuesday, 18th February

Top Score: Bridie Kennedy. | 1st Lady: Paula McEvoy | 2nd Lady: Mary Lillis.

1st Gent: Christy Fitzpatrick | 2nd Gent: Mary Delaney | 1st Half: Catherine Galvin |

2nd Half: Peter Stevenson | Raffle Winners: M. Dunne, M. Lillis, P. McEvoy, M. Killeen

Thanks for your support! Whist continues every Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre—new members welcome.



RELIGIOUS NOTES

Divine Mercy Chaplet 3pm every Sunday in the Parish Church.

Rosary in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath: Daily 2pm (Monday to Saturday). Sunday 3pm (Adoration).

Rosary will be recited in Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church every evening at 7pm.

Vocations Society of St. Joseph: Holy Hour, Adoration, Prayer for vocations, 3pm Friday in the Parish Church.

Legion of Mary – Invitation to Tea Morning: The Legion of Mary is hosting a Tea Morning in the Parish Centre on **Wednesday, 26th February, after the 10:30 AM Mass**. We warmly invite new members to join us and watch our presentation to learn more about our work. All are welcome!

Radio Maria Ireland Thanks to our listeners and supporters, RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station, we offer commercial-free content including Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, and Interviews. Listen to us on 1.Saorview Channel 210 2.Free "RADIO MARIA IRELAND" App 3.www.radiomaria.ie 4. 'Listen Live' on Facebook.



Thanks to everyone who contributed to "Nanny Ryan knits." at Christmas time in memory of her grandson Ned

The Heaths St Patrick's Day Parade:



• We are reaching out to all musicians, bands, businesses, organisations and community groups to participate in The Heaths St Patrick's Day Parade.

• To participate, you will need to create and design your own banners, floats and signs and to really stand out, maybe add costumes and props to enhance the overall parade experience.

• Taking place on Monday 17th of March.

• The parade will commence at The Heath GAA Community Hall and proceed to The Heath church for 9:30am mass.

• For any information please contact Samantha 086 366 7583.



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Confirmation Dates;

*Portlaoise Parish 28th February & 1st March
Ballinakill and Knock : 26th March*

*At the Parish Centre
Open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm*



**PORTLAOISE
Saint
PATRICK'S
DAY**

**MONDAY
MARCH 17 STARTS
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HANDING ON
THE FAITH



The Golden Rule

What do you think of when you see a heart? Most of us would probably say that when we see a heart, we think of love. Who do you love? Do you love your parents? Do you love your brother or sister? How about your best friend? Do you love your teacher? It is easy to love these people, because they love us too.

Are there any boys or girls that are mean to you at school? Has anyone ever said something about you that was not true? Do you love those boys and girls? Should we really be expected to



love people who are mean to us, treat us badly,

and say ugly things about us? Well, let's listen to what Jesus told us to do.

One day Jesus was teaching out on a hillside. We call his lesson that day "The Sermon on the Mount." In his sermon, Jesus said some things that really surprised his listeners. "You have heard that you should love your neighbours and hate your enemies," Jesus said. "But I say, love your enemies - and if someone does mean and hateful things to you, pray them."

Why should we love our enemies? Jesus said that when we love our enemies, we are acting like children of God. If we only love those who love us, will God reward us for that? If we are only kind to our friends, what is so great about that? Everybody does that!

It isn't always easy to love your enemies, but there are some good reasons for doing it.

- It demonstrates the love of God to others.
- It sets a good example for others to follow.
- It turns enemies into friends.



Our Prayer

Father, it is easy to love those who love us. Help us to love our enemies so that they might know that we are your children. In the name of Jesus we pray.

Amen.



Portlaoise Parish Ceremony of Light

for all Confirmation Candidates

Will take place next Wednesday 26th February at 7.30pm
in the Parish Church. (No need to bring a candle).





Time to Think!

Make the Most of Lent 2025

Our world is going through troubled times. In turbulence, Christian values—faith, hope, and love—remain deeply relevant. Kindness and compassion will always prevail. The new U.S. President dominates media coverage, showing a determined leadership. Ireland shares a close bond with the U.S., with over 10% of its population identifying as Irish. I hope the St. Patrick's Day gathering at the White House continues and pray that common sense prevails in these volatile times.

Lent begins on **Wednesday, March 5th**, marking both a spiritual journey and the official start of spring. As Cardinal John Henry Newman said, *"Growth is the only evidence of life."* Just as nature renews itself from the darkness of winter, Lent invites us to a time of renewal and transformation.

Saint Basil the Great, a 4th-century Bishop known for his care for the poor, wrote on fasting: *"Do not limit fasting to abstaining from food; a true fast means refraining from evil. Loose every unjust bond, put away resentment, and forgive. Do not let your fast lead to strife. You do not eat meat, but you devour your brother; you abstain from wine, but not from insults. Then all your fasting is useless."*

Inspired by this, why not try:

- Fasting from anger and hatred—offer extra love to your family.
- Fasting from judgment—before judging, recall how we seek God's mercy.
- Fasting from discouragement—hold onto Jesus' promise and never give up hope.
- Fasting from complaining—instead, recall life's blessings.
- Fasting from resentment—work on forgiveness.
- Fasting from excess spending—redirect it to those in need, e.g., through Trócaire.

Lent is not just about giving up, but taking up—**prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**. It is an invitation to deepen our relationship with Christ, finding strength and resilience in Him.

Make the most of this sacred season to grow in faith and peace of mind. As St. Paul reminds us, *"With God on our side, who can be against us?"*

I Will Turn

(a daily prayer for Lent)

Lord, I will turn,
Turn my face towards you.
I will lay before you the desert
areas I hide
And turn to soak in your refreshing
words of life.
I will cast aside the barren, selfish
pursuits
And turn to rest in the tranquil warmth
of your love.
I will draw back from the harsh pull
of media
And turn to bathe in the gentle power
of your Spirit.
Lord, today I turn my face towards
you.
I will turn
To soak in your words of life,
To rest in the warmth of your love,
And to bathe in the power of
your Spirit.

—Amen



Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 31,500 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR
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MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy to their families.

***In Loving Memory of
MAMAN MONIQUE TEMFACK
Toronto, Ontario, Canada.***



With heavy hearts, we, her children and grandchildren, ask for your heartfelt prayers for our beloved Maman Monique Temfack, who passed away in Toronto. May God welcome her soul and spirit into His eternal presence, and may she continue to watch over the legacy she left on this earth. Her love, wisdom, and kindness will forever remain in our hearts.

May she rest in peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*In Loving Memory of
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McREDMOND***

*Knockanina, Mountrath, Laois and late of
Grove House, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.*



***Bernadette's
Month's Mind Mass
will be celebrated in
St. Edmund's Church,
Castletown on Sunday,
23rd February
at 9.30 am***

The family of the late Bernadette McRedmond, who passed away on 14th January 2025, would like to thank most sincerely all those who sympathized and supported them during their very sad loss.

Bernadette is remembered, loved, and greatly missed by her sisters Mary, Margaret, Kathleen, and Chris; her brothers Michael, Frank, and Donal; her aunt Maidie; her carer Evelyn; sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Thank you to all our relations, friends, neighbours, and everyone who travelled long distances to attend the Rosary and Requiem Mass for Bernadette. To all who sent messages of condolence online, text messages, Mass cards, and floral tributes, we found great comfort in your kind words for Bernadette.

Thank you to the doctors, nurses, and staff in the C.C.U. and Slieve Bloom Ward of the Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise.

Sincere thanks to Fr. Brian Griffin and Fr. Joe Brophy for the beautiful Mass celebrated for Bernadette. A special thank you to Heather Fogarty for her beautiful singing.

Thank you to Guilfoyle Undertakers, Ray and Canice, for your support and professionalism with Bernadette's funeral arrangements, as well as to the grave diggers.

A huge thank you to Laois Arch Club for the guard of honour and for the beautiful tribute composed for Bernadette.

A special thank you to all Bern's colleagues and carers who attended her Rosary and Funeral Mass.

Thanks to Sacristans Seamus and Catherine for preparing the church for the Funeral Mass, and to Eddie Phelan and staff for providing refreshments. Thanks to Castletown Community for the use of the hall.

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

***The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will
be offered for all your intentions.***

May Bernadette Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARY & DOMINIC DUNNE**

Glendowns, Portlaoise.
Mary's 1st Anniversary occurs
25th February 2025
Dominic's 17th Anniversary occurs
27th February 2025



***In loving memory
Of a special Mum***

The day you left and gained your wings,
My heart just broke in two,
I wish you could have stayed with me,
But heaven needed you,
You left me with the memories,
And I love you dearly still,
No matter how much time goes by,
You know I always will,
You were a very special person,
With kindness in your heart,
And the love we had together,
Grows stronger now we're apart,
I know I cannot bring you back,
Although I wish it everyday,
But a piece of me went with you,
The day you went away.

Dad

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's meant to be,
A resting place along the road,
To sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way.
We are all meant to learn some things,
But never meant to say.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 22nd February at 6:30pm.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your sons
Joe & Dominic, daughters Teresa, Anne & Jacinta
Bryan, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law,
grandchildren & great-grandchildren*

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN KELLEHER**

Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
9th Anniversary occurs 23rd February 2025.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 23rd February at 10am.

*Our thoughts are ever with you,
Though you have passed away.*

*Always remembered by all his loving
family and friends.*

Also remembering John's wife Theresa at this time.

May John Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
BREDA DUNNE (née Whelan)**

Capoley, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 3rd March 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church
Portlaoise,
Sunday 2nd March at 11.15am.

*As day dawns and starts anew
As each day ends, we think of you
And in between no matter where,
Deep in my heart you are always there.*

Sadly missed and always remembered by her husband
Liam, son Declan, daughter-in-law Maeve, grandchildren
Cillian and Aoife, sister Mary, brother John, extended family
and friends.

May Breda Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
BABY JAMES MORAN**
Main Street, Ballyroan, Laois.



*1st Anniversary occurs 29th
February 2025.*

Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in St. Patrick's Church,
Ballyroan, on **Sunday 2nd March**
at 9.30am.

*Silently we grieve
And brush away our tears
The memories he left behind
Will last throughout the years*

*Sadly missed and always
remembered by your loving Mammy, Daddy, Anto,
T.J and extended family and Friends.*

May Baby James Rest in Peace



**In Loving Memory of
DENIS GRIFFEY**

32 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
39th Anniversary occurs 22nd February 2025



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

Sadly missed by all his loving
family.

Rest in Peace Denis

**In Loving Memory of
SEAN & UNA McEVOY**

Clontygar, Acragar, Co. Laois and formerly
Ridge Road, Portlaoise.

Sean's 10th Anniversary occurs 20th February 2025
Una's 22nd Anniversary occurs 24th February 2025.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Saturday 22nd February at 6.30pm.

*Softly the leaves of memory fall,
Gently I gather and treasure them all,
Unseen, unheard, you are always near,
So missed, so loved, so very dear.*

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by all their
loving family and friends.

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
Our Loving Father
WILLIAM KERRY**

61 Knockmay Estate, Portlaoise. Died February 1999.
26th Anniversary occurs 19th
February 2025.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Wednesday 19th February at 10am.

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

Sadly missed by your loving family.

Rest in Peace William

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
In Loving Memory of
ORLA CONROY-KELLY**

25 Bianconi Way, Portlaoise.
9th Birthday in Heaven occurs 25th February 2025



*Are there birthdays in Heaven?
Does the angel blow his horn?
Announcing to everybody, that this is
the day you were born.
Can the stars be your balloons and
angel food your cake?
Presents wrapped in moon beams,
all the angels helped to make.
Birthdays meant so much to you,
They were always a big deal,
Birthday presents, lots of friends and
perhaps a special meal.*

*So we'll whisper a little prayer today, asking everyone up
above, to sing you a happy birthday song and give you all our
love.*

Happy birthday Doll, loved and missed more everyday.

*Lots of love from your loving family, children Lydian &
Paddy, and grandchildren.*

May Orla Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARGARET (PEG)
GEOGHEGAN**

Dublin Road, Portlaoise.



**Remembering on her 25th
Anniversary .**

*Forever loved and deeply missed,
In our hearts, you still exist.*

*Peg, fondly remembered and deeply
missed by all her family .*

Rest in Peace Peg

**Birthday Remembrance
ANTHONY REDDIN**

8 Triogue Place, Portlaoise and Mountmellick.



Remembering Anthony at this time on
his birthday which occurs on the 25th
of February

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

Sadly missed by all his loving Family and
Friends.

Rest in Peace Anthony

In Loving Memory of
PADDY CLOONEY

Shanahoe Rd., Ballytarsna, Abbeyleix.
2nd Anniversary occurred on 20th February 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
the Church of the Most Holy Rosary,
Abbeyleix on
Sunday 23rd February at 11am.

*God looked around His garden
And found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth,
And saw your tired face.*

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

*It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone.
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.*

*Always remembered, never forgotten by
his loving daughters Anne & Patricia, sons-in-
law Eamon & Aidan and grandchildren Roisin,
Tommy, Sean & Conall.*

Rest in Peace Paddy

In Loving Memory of
NANCY (Johanna) HORAN

Late of 23 Grattan Street, Portlaoise.
12th Anniversary occurs 2nd March 2025



The Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated for Nancy & Sheila
on **Saturday, 1st March, at
6:30pm in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Church, Portlaoise.**

Mammy

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

*Love and missing you always, Hannah, Andy,
Cian, Pat, Fiona, Jason & Rachel.*

*Also remembering Sheila Horan, late of
9 Grattan Street, Portlaoise whose anniversary
occurs 9th March.*

May They Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
ANNIE TARLETON

Late of Rossleighan, Portlaoise, who died 27th Feb. 2001.
R.I.P. Masses offered.
23rd Anniversary occurs at this time.



*Time slips by and life goes on,
But from our hearts you are
never gone.*

*Loved and remembered always, your nephews Jim
and Eddie, and their families.*

May Annie Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
CONCEPTA PHELAN

(née Breen)

Attanagh, formerly Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary and Birthday away from home;
28th February 2025

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on Saturday 1st March at 6.30pm.



... Until We Meet Again
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 and always remembered by Moira,
Vera, Liam and Tom, nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law,
sisters-in-law, grandnieces and grandnephews.*

Concepta - Forever in our Thoughts

In Loving Memory of
PAT REGAN

Tea Lane, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 28th February 2025



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, this **Saturday
22nd February at 6.30pm**

*Will those who think of Pat
today,
A little prayer to Jesus and Mary
say.*

*Sadly missed and always
remembered by his loving family.*

Rest in Peace Pat

In Loving Memory of
PATRICK (Fiddler) DELANEY

8 Clonroosk View, Portlaoise.

22nd Anniversary occurs on 28th
February 2025.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 2nd March at 12.30pm.

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, from which we'll never part,
God has you in His arms, we have you in our hearts.

Lovingly remembered by Mam, Dad, sister MaryAnn, brothers
Clement, Alan & Don, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

May Patrick Rest in Peace

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of
MARTIN BRENNAN

54 Borris Little, Portlaoise.

60th birthday away from home
occurred on 21st February 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Friday 21st February at 10.00am.

Along the road of suffering, you found a little
lane, that took you up to Heaven and ended all
your pain, You may be out of sight, we may be worlds apart, but
you are always in our prayers and forever in our hearts.

Sadly missed by your loving wife Ann, Helen, Mark, Eve and
granddaughter Iris.

Rest in Peace Martin

In Loving Memory of
Our Dear Father
TOM WALSH

Laurel Court, Dublin Road, Portlaoise.

2nd Anniversary occurs 24th February 2025

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
this Sunday 23rd February at 11.15am
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church



You were always there
when we needed you,
No task too great or small,
With loving heart and willing hands
For us you did it all,

In God's garden now at rest,
Peacefully sleeping lies one of the best.

Loved and missed by all his loving family, extended
family and friends.

Rest in Peace Tom

rest in peace

In Loving Memory of
PETER LALOR

The Green, Kilminchy, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurs 23rd February 2025



Husband:

My love, losing you was
hard, but living without you
every day is the hardest,
My heart and soul still
seeks for you, but it knows
that you are at peace in
Heaven.

I miss you so much more
than words can say.

Forever loved and missed by your loving wife Jean xxx

Brother:

No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knows why.
My heart still aches in sadness,
And secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

Loved and missed every day, Ger xx

Brother/Uncle:

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.

Love and miss you every day P
Marie, Christy, Kyle and Finn xxxx

Brother/Uncle:

To hear your voice, to see your smile,
To sit and talk to you a while,
To be together in the same old way,
Would be our greatest wish today.

Loved and remembered always
Daithí, Mags, Shauna, Oisín and Cillian xxxxx

Brother/Uncle:

I wish I could have you back a while,
I miss your laughter, I miss your smile,
I would hold you tightly and never let go,
And tell you how much I miss you so.

Everyday is hard without you
Olive, Willie, Ciara, Aimee, Jodie and Tierna xxxxx

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Saturday 22nd February, at 6.30pm.

Rest in Peace Peter

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Friday evenings during Lent
at 7.30pm

St. Bridget's Church Shanahoe,
Abbeyleix. R32AH90

Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of
smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing
times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who
grieve, to dry before the sun;
Of happy memories that I leave
when life is done.



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**** All Stores open Sunday 23rd February 12-5pm**



to our lucky winners in last week's lotto draw sharing the winning Jackpot of **€19,000**

Pictured Left: Fr Ciprian presenting Conor & David Donohue with €9,500 and the promoters prize of €950 to Betty Lynch



Pictured Right: Michelle Conroy presenting Sean Heavin, the winner & promoter with his prize of €10,450



Play lotto online at www.portlaoiseparish.ie or purchase a lotto membership in the Parish Centre, either for yourself or as a gift for someone else.

If you not in, you can't win!!

The lotto draw takes place in the foyer of the Parish Centre every Thursday evening at 5pm and is live streamed on the Portlaoise Parish facebook

Don't miss your chance to win.

This week it could be you!!



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Portlaoise Parish



Results for
20th February 2025



No €10,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Geraldine Harrington
Donna Bowler
Ron Stewart
Ann Brennan
Sean Timmons
Michael O'Connor
Leo Collins
Alice Keenan
Bridget Kirwan
Sarah Fitzpatrick

MATCH 3s €1,000



PROMOTER

Online Lotto
Pat Bowler
John Loughlin
Kathleen Brown
Chris Lacey
Paddy O'Connor
Chris Lacey
Parish Centre
M Farrell
Declan Fitzpatrick



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

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Next Week's Jackpot is €11,000

Clergy of the Parish



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



Fr. Ciprian Matei C.C.
Tel: 057 8600122



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

To contact the Priest on Duty:
Parish Centre during office hours
9am - 5pm Tel: 057 8621142
Outside office hours
in emergency only Tel: 0852134285

Safeguarding

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

Parish Centre



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

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)
All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



LINK UP

Monday to Friday

9am to 5pm

057-8692154

Advertising deadline: Tuesday 5pm or
12 noon Wednesday (Subject to availability of space)

Subject to availability of space

E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-38

Support for the Parish

We have traditionally depended on the passing of the collection baskets at Sunday Masses for support. *Thank you* to the many who have found new ways of continuing to support the Parish during this time of Lockdown. The generosity of so many means we **continue to** be well supported and can pay our way at this time.

Ways to contribute to our Parish

Envelope boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre

Direct payment by cheque or cash

Cashless Point at the back of the 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

(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU



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MONDAY

MINDFULNESS PROGRAMME
10:30AM - 11:30AM
(BOOKING ESSENTIAL)

REFLEXOLOGY/REIKI
(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

COUNSELLING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.



SUPPORT NURSE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



AQUA AEROBICS

PLEASE GIVE THE CENTRE A CALL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THIS CLASS.

TUESDAY

THRIVE & SURVIVE PROGRAMME
THIS IS A SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR CANCER SURVIVORS WITH THE AIM OF IMPROVING THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE TO BETTER MANAGE DAILY HEALTH.

(DEVELOPED BY STANFORD UNIVERSITY)

NEXT PROGRAMME STARTING APRIL 2025

MINDFULNESS FOR MEN
2:30PM - 4:00PM
STARTING 11TH FEBRUARY



CITIZENS INFORMATION ADVISER

WILL GIVE YOU ADVICE ABOUT THE FINANCIAL ENTITLEMENTS YOU MAY RECEIVE AND HELP YOU WITH THE PROCESS. E.G., MEDICAL CARD APPLICATION ETC.

WEDNESDAY



CHAIR YOGA

10:00AM - 11:00AM
BOOKING ESSENTIAL
STARTING 5TH FEBRUARY

'LOOK GOOD, FEEL BETTER'

11:30AM - 1:00PM
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(STARTING APRIL 2025)

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(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

PART FUNDED BY LAOIS HOSPICE

ART

2:00PM - 4:00PM
STARTING 12TH FEBRUARY

THURSDAY

CREATIVE ARTS
10:00AM - 12:00PM
(DATE TBC)



PLAY THERAPIST

AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN FROM 3 YEARS UPWARDS WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY A CANCER DIAGNOSIS IN THE FAMILY



CHAIR YOGA

10:30AM - 11:30AM
(CLOSED GROUP)

PROSTHESIS & BRA FITTING DAY.

STARTING 20TH FEBRUARY
SPACES AVAILABLE
(BOOKING ESSENTIAL)

GARMENT FITTING

SERRA NOVA SLEEVE/LEG GARMENTS FOR LYMPHOEDEMA.
BOOKING ESSENTIAL
STARTS 6TH MARCH

CLIMB PROGRAMME

HELPING CHILDREN UNDERSTAND CANCER. THIS PROGRAMME IS FUN AND CREATIVE, USING DRAMA, ARTS AND PLAY AND AIMS TO HELP CHILDREN COPE WITH A CANCER DIAGNOSIS IN THE FAMILY.
(STARTING APRIL 2025)

The Cuisle Cancer Support Centre is a charity, and all our services are provided free of charge.