

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

**27th April 2025**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**Divine Mercy Sunday**



**Prayer for Francis**

O God, faithful rewarder of souls,  
grant that your departed servant  
Pope Francis,  
whom you made successor of Peter  
and shepherd of your Church,  
may happily enjoy for ever  
in your presence in heaven  
the mysteries of your grace  
and compassion,  
which he faithfully  
ministered on earth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.



**The Parish Centre 057 8621142**

**E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

**Follow Us**  **@PortlaoiseParish**

**& Like Us**  **fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois**  
**fb.com/portlaoiselinkup**

**Parish and Diocesan Websites: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie) [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)**



## Finding Faith

Poor old Thomas! Condemned to go down in history as 'Doubting Thomas', for demanding proof of the risen Jesus. Yet how many of us would admit to a sneaking sympathy for Thomas? How

many of us would have done exactly the same thing in his shoes? In our defence we come to the story from a slightly different angle to that of Thomas's; we come with a twenty first century agenda. We have been brought up in a culture where science rules the day and physical proof is all important. We live in a society where belief in the spiritual is viewed as naive; eccentric even. Yet we are expected to believe.

The story of 'doubting Thomas' is comforting to our twenty first century ears and perhaps that's what John, the gospel's writer, intended. Surely John must have known that faith, or lack of it, would be an issue especially for those without the benefit of first hand evidence. So what are those of us who are struggling with our faith to take from this story?

The most important thing to notice is that Jesus doesn't condemn Thomas for not believing. He simply offers himself as proof. He helps Thomas to believe. Perhaps Jesus does not rebuke Thomas because he knows how much Thomas loves him, and how badly he wants to believe. Doubt might feel like a very negative emotion, but in actual fact, doubt is a sign that we are struggling to find answers and that has to be better than apathy or outright disbelief. Very often doubt is a prelude to firm faith. In fact, a faith besieged by doubt but based in a deep train of thought can be ultimately better than a faith built on little or no thought whatsoever.

In our struggle to find faith we should first take heed of today's story and acknowledge that doubt is 'normal' and not necessarily a bad thing. Next we should acknowledge that the faith others have isn't just some warm and fuzzy feeling, but a conviction and a commitment. It's all too easy when we cannot determine a faith of our own to decry the faith of others as delusion, but this is to simply dismiss out of hand the thinking of centuries of intelligent and gifted men and women.

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Jesus applauds those who have arrived at their faith, but for those of us who are still struggling we are promised the Holy Spirit to point us in the direction of a well founded and enduring faith.

Mass times for the coming week  
(Parish Church or otherwise stated)  
Monday - Thursday: 7.30am & 10am  
Friday (First Friday): 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm  
Saturday: 10am  
Sunday  
Vigil 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.

*The priest of the parish will do their communion rounds during the week,*



## Divine Mercy Sunday

This afternoon  
(Sunday) Divine Mercy Mass in Parish Church at 2.45pm.

All are welcome.



## St. Joseph the Worker 1st May

"In response to the 'May Day' celebrations for workers, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St Joseph the Worker in 1955.

In an effort to keep Jesus from being removed from ordinary human life, the Church has from the beginning proudly emphasised that Jesus was a carpenter, obviously trained by Joseph in both the satisfactions and the drudgery of that vocation. As Christians and as workers, we are reminded on this day that we have an obligation to treat our brothers and sisters in Christ as true brothers and sisters. Stewardship of the earth's resources so that all may benefit for generations to come.

# MULHALL MEATS

Est. 1931



Now  
**25%**  
Off



## Mulhall's Fresh Irish Silverside

*Offer Ends Sunday 4th May*

Full Range Of Fresh  FISH  Available

Mulhall's Butcher Counter is located within Mulhall's SuperValu. Phone 057 86 21044

## AUDIOLOGIST HEARING AID Consultant

**Patricia Kilmartin**  
B.A.A.T., M.I.S.H.A.A.  
*(28+ years experience with Private & Public Sector)*



- Comprehensive Hearing Assessment
- Full range of Digital Hearing Aids available incl. FREE PRSI HEARING AIDS TO VALUE OF €1000 TO ELIGIBLE CLIENTS
- Pre-employment tests/Occupational Screening Tests
- Ear moulds, Custom made Swim Plugs, Musicians Moulds, etc.
- Hearing Aid Batteries, Minor Repairs, etc. (incl. postal service)
- Ear Wax Removal Service

## In Attendance

10 Lismard Court, Portlaoise Co. Laois.  
*(Entrance beside Macra Na Feirme Hall on Timahoe Road)*

By Appointment Only

Tel: 057 8692289 Mobile: 085 8568808

E-mail: [pkaudiology@gmail.com](mailto:pkaudiology@gmail.com)

Website: [www.kilmartinaudiology.ie](http://www.kilmartinaudiology.ie)

**\*\*STRICT SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE, IN LINE WITH ADVICE OF THE GOVERNMENT & HSE GUIDELINES\*\***



## Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

*live life physically well*

The Coach House, 4 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise.

JOHN SUGRUE *BSc MSc MScP* NICOLA CALDBECK *BSc MScP MAACP*

CONOR BOLTON *BSc MSc MScP*

Online booking: [www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie](http://www.laoisphysiotherapyclinic.ie)

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.**

### Weekly Classes Schedule

**Parish Centre :** Monday Morning: Osteo with John – 9:30 AM  
Evening: Physio-led Pilates with Laura  
6:00-7:00 PM (Intermediate)  
7:00-8:00 PM (Beginners)

**Clinic :** Tuesday Morning: Senior Exercise Class – 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Wednesday Morning: Osteo Class – 10:30 AM  
Thursday Afternoon: Osteo Class – 4:00-5:00 PM

**Online :** Wednesday Morning: Pilates – 9:30-10:30 AM

**All are welcome!**

# Ready To *Hear* Better?

**Virtualy Invisible.**

Small and practically invisible.

**Rechargeable.**

No more need for small batteries.

**Ai Technology.**

Ideal for hearing in background noise.



**FREE**  
HEARING  
TESTS

**15%**  
DISCOUNT ON  
HEARING AIDS

**WAX**  
REMOVAL VIA MICRO  
SUCTIONING

Appointments available within 48 hours



**HEARMED**  
ACOUSTIC HEALTHCARE  
*hear when you need us*

**057 863 8181**

Unit 4, Bridge Street Centre, Portlaoise, Co.Laois



**MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN**  
GET YOURSELF NOTICED

EU Business

Irish Enterprise  
Awards 2022

★ BEST PRINTING & GRAPHIC DESIGN AGENCY  
— MIDLANDS 2022  
★ ECO-CONSCIOUS EXCELLENCE AWARD 2022

## THE PRINTER YOU NEED TO KNOW



GRAPHIC  
DESIGN



MERCHANDISE &  
PROMOTIONAL  
ITEMS



BOOK  
PUBLICATIONS



MAIL  
MARKETING



CORPORATE &  
RETAIL PRINT



WIDE FORMAT  
PRINTING



VEHICLE  
GRAPHICS



PROCUREMENT  
PICK & PACK

Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 EH11  
☎ 057 8634050

Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 TF83  
☎ 045 433569



[mochuaprint.ie](http://mochuaprint.ie)



# BREEN STEEL SHEDS

*Drim, Mountrath, Co. Laois*

Tel; 087-9444098 / 086-1732542 | E-mail; [info@breensteelsheds.ie](mailto:info@breensteelsheds.ie)



- ◆ Maintenance free Steel Mobile Garden Sheds in a choice of colours.
- ◆ PVC coated with non drip sheeting to avoid condensation.
- ◆ Timber or Concrete floors fitted.
- ◆ Delivered and erected on site, can be transported in sections or fully assembled.
- ◆ All sizes manufactured; 7x5, 8x14, 10x8, 10x17, 10x20, 20x24
- ◆ Our range of Steel Sheds include two variations of buildings with many uses; garages for vehicle storage in residential areas, small workshops, office accommodation, store rooms, games rooms.



## DUNKEEN OIL

YOUR LOCAL OIL DISTRIBUTOR



Locally owned and locally run for a personalised, reliable and friendly service at all times. We believe in fast efficient service, either the same day delivery or a no hassle following day delivery with 5 trucks looking after your area. There has never been a better time to order your heating oil from Dunkeen Oil!

Dunkeen Oil, Mountmellick Rd., Portlaoise  
Our depot offers kerosene and tractor diesel at discounted prices

Contact our office on 057 86 62777 (8am to 6 pm)  
or order online on [www.dunkeenoil.ie](http://www.dunkeenoil.ie)

Contact Marcus directly  
on 086 2904029 (any time)



zeit



# Children's SWIM Lessons

LEVELS 1-7 • 6 WEEKS BLOCK  
QUALIFIED SWIM INSTRUCTORS

Non - Members €90 | Members €60

057 863 1219 • ZEIST@THEKILLESHEIL.COM



# MARCH FOR ARCH



Laois Arch Club  
Membership Club for People  
with Special Needs



SPONSORED WALK ON THE  
WALKING TRACK AT EMO GAA  
SUNDAY 27TH APRIL STARTING AT 2PM

FOLLOWED BY A DISCO WITH MUSIC PROVIDED BY OUR OWN ARCH CLUB DJ, PJ DEMPSEY UNTIL 4PM

AS THIS IS AN ALL-INCLUSIVE, ALL-ABILITIES EVENT, YOU CAN CHOOSE YOURSELF  
HOW MANY TIMES YOU WANT TO GO AROUND THE TRACK. THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO  
EVERYONE SO COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN.  
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

REGISTRED CHARITY NUMBER 20356227

## Martin Ryan Lawnmower Sales & Service

- Solo Ride-ons • Oleo-Mac
- Legacy • Weibang Lawnmowers

Adj. to  
Portlaoise Golf Club  
AVONDALE,  
ABBEYLEIX ROAD,  
PORTLAOISE



086 2493723



R32

ARTisan Bakery & Coffee Shop  
Dunamaise Arts Centre



## R32 Artisan Bakery & Coffee Shop Inside Dunamaise Arts Centre

083-4824586

info@r32artisanbakery.com

Experience the warmth of handcrafted  
baking right in the heart of Portlaoise.

At R32, we bake our bread and  
pastries fresh onsite daily, using only  
the finest ingredients and  
time-honoured techniques.

Pair your favourite pastry with a cup of locally  
roasted coffee, or enjoy a slow, satisfying  
all-day brunch in a cozy, creative space  
within the Dunamaise Arts Centre.

**Freshly Baked. Locally Brewed.  
Warmly Served.**

Come for the coffee, stay for the craft



Smyth Services & Fuels Ltd.

- **NEED HOME HEATING OIL?**
- **NEED TRACTOR DIESEL?**

**Call Sean Smyth 086-3561669**



SOSAD Ireland

We're here to listen, night or day.

1800 901 909


## PRECIOUS POOCHES BOARDING AND DAYCARE




**For small dogs**  
**Quality Service**

- 20 minutes  
from Portlaoise  
- 4 minutes from  
Mountrath.

 **085-1384078**

 @PreciousPoochesDayCare

 @preciouspoocheskennelslaois



## **NOLAN** **LOCKSMITHS**

24/7 Emergency Service.  
Auto - Home - Commercial

**086-2624270**

**085-2833064**

**Shop: 05786-20135**

[www.jacknolan.ie](http://www.jacknolan.ie)

## HYPNOTHERAPY

- Addiction/ Smoking Cessation
- Anxiety and Depression
- Weight Management
- Fear, Phobias and Pain Control

**As trained by Paul McKenna**

**Visit : [www.davidward.info](http://www.davidward.info)**

**David Ward B.Sc. D.H.P, adv**

**083 321 6406**

## S&R SERVICES

Painting/Decorating Kitchen  
Fitting , Furniture Assembly,  
Flooring, Carpentry, Tiling,  
Bathrooms and General  
Maintenance

**087-4896429**

## WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIRS

- Hinges/Handles
- Letterboxes
- Slide Patio Door Rollers
- Window and Door draught proofing
- Fully Insured

**083-3153211**

[www.kukic-hms.ie](http://www.kukic-hms.ie)

## PAINTING & DECORATING

- Interior & Exterior
- Power washing
- 15 years experience
- Fully Insured

**089-4459958**

[www.kukic-hms.ie](http://www.kukic-hms.ie)

## PLUMBER AVAILABLE

All domestic, solid fuel and  
oil servicing.

Water softener installation.  
Full Bathroom Renovations.

**Contact Alan:**

**085-1141395**



## GREG THE HANDYMAN

- Home improvements  
and Repairs,
- Flooring, tiling, carpets
  - Fence maintenance and repair
  - Painting inside/outside and  
decorating
  - Repairs of toilet, faucet and shower  
units
  - Furniture assembly and installation

**Contact 089-9567135**

## KPS CLEANING

- School Cleaning
- General House Cleaning
- Deep Cleaning
- End of Tenancy Cleaning

Cleaning of offices,  
schools, shops, salons etc. Contact  
us for all your cleaning needs.

**087-9737073**

## NEW YEAR - FRESH START TIME TO DECLUTTER?

All Scrap Metal collected free;  
washing machines, cookers,  
lawnmowers etc. Garden sheds  
cleaned out, fences or sewer  
problems solved, mini-digger and  
small tipper truck for hire.

**Richard 085-2529893**

## TV SERVICES

Repairs to TV and home  
entertainment equipment.  
Also we supply and fit and  
repair Saorview, Aerial and  
Satellite systems. Contact:

**057-8732998**

**087-3636497**

**083-3742600**

## PODIATRIST MAY COLLINS

*Bsc (Hons) Podiatry MCHSI*  
2 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise.  
Tel.;

**086-3785327**

**By Appointment only.**  
VHI-Aviva-Laya approved

## PAT LALOR TARMACADAM Church Avenue, Stradbally

- Tarmacadam
  - Kerbing
  - Drainage
- Free Quotations  
VAT Registered

**Tel. 083-0211577**

**E-mail; [patlador37@gmail.com](mailto:patlador37@gmail.com)**

## HANDYMAN SERVICES

**Offering a wide range  
of reliable services:**

- Gutter Cleaning
- Power Washing
- Grass Cutting
- Window Cleaning
- Interior & Exterior  
Painting



**No job too big or small!  
Affordable rates and  
professional service.**

**Contact Mick**

**Phone: 085-2151277**

## CARPENTER/CABINET MAKER

**Specialising in Kitchen  
Respraying, Refurbishment**

Wood panelling, Doors, Skirting  
boards, Architrave, Flooring

**No job too small. Call Paul:**  
**085-7762298**

## PROFESSIONAL PAINTER AND DECORATOR

**20+ Years Experience**

Interior/Exterior

Residential/Commercial  
Hand painted Kitchens  
and Bespoke Furniture

**Contact Gary Kelly:**

**086-0717172**





## **CLARE'S DOG SERVICE**



**Stradbally Rd. Portlaoise**

Quality Service

Dogs required for Student grooming. Discounts apply. Tel.

**089-4890869**

[www.claresdoggroomingschool.ie](http://www.claresdoggroomingschool.ie)

## **WANTED: SCHOOL GROUND MAINTENANCE PANEL**

Seeking competent, reliable, and hardworking individuals for school grounds upkeep.

**Garda vetting required.**

Email expression of interest to:

[scoilepn16@gmail.com](mailto:scoilepn16@gmail.com)

**Scoil Eoin Phóil 11 Naofa,  
Ballyroan**

## **LAWN CUTTING AVAILABLE**



Estate green maintenance, Private lawn maintenance, once off heavy cuts. Good Rates

Feel free to contact Shaun!

**085-1754009**



## **GARDEN SERVICES**

Hedges Trimmed  
fallen storm trees cut up, taken away, Green waste removal

Garden clean ups

Locally Based.

Contact Richard;

**087-9828558**

## **GARDENER AVAILABLE**

Portlaoise and surrounding areas covered. Contact

**087-6885017**

## **UNISLIM PORTLAOISE**

New Opening Hours  
Portlaoise Parish Centre:  
Tuesdays 7.00AM and  
12.30PM

Contact Breda:  
**087-6382545**

## **FOR SALE**

Sofa set (3+2+1 seater), taupe colour, excellent condition.

Contact:

**087-0536222**



Helping Local Brands Make a Big Impact- Advertise with Link Up today!  
Contact :  
057 8692154

## **ROSARY AT THE GROTTTO**

Rosary will be recited at the Grotto **every evening**

**8.00pm** for the month of May.

*All are welcome.*



# **PARK/RATHENISKA GAA ACADEMY**

Gaelic Football & Hurling for **BOYS** and **GIRLS** from **AGE 4-17** starting in March

**Eircode: R32 WR94**

**FOR MORE DETAILS**



[parkratheniska](https://www.facebook.com/parkratheniska)



[parkratheniska](https://www.instagram.com/parkratheniska)



[@parkratheniska](https://twitter.com/parkratheniska)

[www.parkratheniskagaa.com](http://www.parkratheniskagaa.com)

Email [secretary.parkratheniska.laois@gaa.ie](mailto:secretary.parkratheniska.laois@gaa.ie)



**Ages 4-6 Ratheniska Rascals Football & Hurling Starts Sunday April 13th at 11AM**

- U7-U11 Hurling Sunday mornings 11am
- U7-U11 Football Monday evenings 6.30pm
- U8 Girls Football Tuesday evenings 6.30pm





## Can you Believe It?

Do you find it hard to believe what someone tells you when what they tell you seems impossible? For example, suppose I said to you, "A paper clip will float in this glass of water." That doesn't make sense, does it? Experience tells us that if we put this paper clip in the water, it will sink. So, if I tell you the paper clip will float, you would find that hard to believe, wouldn't you?

Well, why don't you see if a paper clip will float. Put a small square of paper towel on the surface of the water and then carefully place the paper clip on the piece of paper towel. When the paper towel becomes saturated, it will sink, leaving the paper clip floating on the surface of the water. You will see that the paper clip should float! Wow! That's amazing!

It isn't unusual to hear someone say, "I'll have to see it to believe it," is it? That is what our Gospel is about today.

On the evening of the first Sunday after Jesus was crucified, his disciples were together in a locked room. They were afraid that those who had crucified Jesus would also want to put them to death. Suddenly, Jesus appeared there in the locked room with the disciples. It was hard for the disciples to believe, but they saw him and Jesus showed them the wounds in his hands and his side, so they knew it was him.

One of the disciples, whose name was Thomas, was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. When they told Thomas that they had seen Jesus, he did not believe them. He had seen Jesus crucified and buried, how could he be alive? Thomas said, "Unless I see the wound in his side and put my finger in the holes where the nails were in his hands, I will not believe it!"

A week later, the disciples were in the locked room again and this time Thomas was with them. Again, Jesus came and stood among the disciples. Jesus, said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas fell on his knees and answered Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

You and I have never seen Jesus with our own eyes. The question is, will we be a doubter, or will we be one of those who Jesus said were blessed because they believe, even though they have not seen?



Dear Father, help us to believe in our heart those truths we find in your Holy Word, even though we have not seen them with our eyes.

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

# Jesus Appears to His Disciples

**Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.**



On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for the fear of the Jews, \_\_\_\_\_ came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Now \_\_\_\_\_, one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see \_\_\_\_\_ marks in his hands and put my \_\_\_\_\_ where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not \_\_\_\_\_ it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side.

Stop \_\_\_\_\_ and believe."



**Believe      finger      Jesus      nail      side      doubting**  
**hands      locked      seen      Thomas**



## A Prayer for Pope Francis

Dear God,

We are sad that Pope Francis is gone, but we know he is with You in Heaven.

Thank You for giving him to us.

He showed us how to love, be kind, and care for others.

Please help us to follow his example to be gentle, loving, and full of joy.

We pray that he is happy with You forever.

We love You, God, and we love Pope Francis.

Amen.



"When families get along and love each other, it gives everyone hope. Kids bring so much joy — they make their parents smile and help everyone feel excited about the future. Children are a big part of what makes families and the world happy!"

Pope Francis



# Time to Think! The Peoples Pope



## The Peoples Pope

The death of Pope Francis, fills me with a deep sadness as we mourn the loss of a kind, courageous, and gentle pastor. I also have a sense of gratitude to God for the great leadership he has given to the Church over the course of his papacy. The first Latin-American to be pope, he insisted right from the start that a key focus of his pontificate would be on 'the peripheries'. His preaching, teaching and travels brought him to many of the poorest and most marginalised communities on the earth to remind them of their human dignity as children of God. He urged politicians and other leaders there, and everywhere, to work for peace, justice and responsible economic development. The plight of the peoples of Gaza, Ukraine and in so many other theatres of conflict was constantly on his lips and in his prayers. He urged an end to violence in human affairs and underlined the need for a sense of fraternity and social friendship between peoples and nations in order to build a more just and peaceful world.

In terms of the life of the Catholic Church itself, at least four persistent themes reflect the teaching and preaching of Pope Francis. First, the importance of Mercy, recognising that God is ever merciful and that we are called to respond to this great truth and to be merciful ourselves in our relationships with each other. Second, Hope – evidenced by the current 'Jubilee Year of Hope 2025' – underlining the need to trust in the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives and thus not to give in to despair or anger. Third, 'synodality, a vision of Church faithful to the teachings of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) which has at its heart the need to develop a greater sense of co-responsibility in mission between clergy and people everywhere. Fourth, his teaching on the need to care for the earth as set out in his *Laudato Si'* encyclical, a document much appreciated well beyond the bounds of church and faith, where he called for a global dialogue that would allow us to shape and care for our planet through our daily actions and decisions.

Pope Francis lived a prophetic life, who not just talked a good talk, but more importantly, walked the walk. Throughout life, his pathway has been informed by Jesus Christ. The Gospels, repeatedly highlight, that Christ, deliberately embraced those who found themselves on the periphery. Pope Francis was a shepherd to those on the periphery. He is universally recognized as perhaps the most significant world leader of the new Millennium. In a turbulent and often polemical world, Francis voice always brought a sense of reason and balance. I have no doubt that his pontificate historically will be significant.

Francis's pontificate was tagged as surprising from the start. In February, 2013, Benedict resigned, the first Pope to step aside in nearly six hundred years. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, of Buenos Aires, Argentina, was elected the next month: the first Jesuit Pope, the first Pope from the Americas, and the first to take the name Francis—in emulation of Francis of Assisi, the medieval Italian saint known for "holy poverty." Once the new Pope assumed office, he lived in the Vatican guesthouse rather than the Apostolic Palace, often rode to papal events in a Fiat instead of a Mercedes-Benz, and brought an anything-goes playfulness to the regular audience outside St. Peter's. His rapport with the public suggested that he had been changed by his election—that a man known to many Argentinians as dour and circumspect had been infused with what he calls "the joy of the gospel."

Since then, Francis has made the unexpected seem obvious again and again. The Pope began confessing his sins before hearing the confessions of others; waded into a crowd outside St. Peter's and embrace a man whose illness had left his face marred; visit a camp for migrants and refugees on the Greek island of Lesbos (and bring some refugees back on the papal plane to settle in Italy); go to a mosque in the Central African Republic in the midst of a civil war fuelled by Christian-Muslim strife; and admit that he was wrong to have defended a Chilean bishop accused of covering up priestly sexual abuse. (Though the bishop, Juan Barros, has denied these allegations, the Pope accepted his resignation and averred, "I was part of the problem.")

Francis has also brought his knack for the unconventional to the everyday workings of the Vatican. He assembled a council of advisory cardinals, making it clear that he would consult with others; launched an investigation of the Vatican Bank, which was long suspected of corruption and money laundering; made efforts to streamline the Vatican administration, called the Roman Curia; and appointed a woman, Sister Nathalie Becquart, of France, to a key role in the Dicastery for Bishops, one of the most influential Curial offices. These were not giant steps, but they were steps beyond those that his two predecessors had taken during their combined thirty-four years in office.

At the same time, Francis has purposefully directed the papacy outward: devoting his second encyclical letter, "*Laudato si'*" to the Climate Crisis as a result of our failure to care for the environment. Pope Francis has travelled to about a dozen predominantly Muslim countries; opening the Secret Archive of documents pertaining to the Vatican's diplomatic machinations during the Second World War; and speaking to the press with an offhand ease that is rare for any public figure. In July, 2013, during his first press conference aboard the papal plane, he compassionately reached out to the LGBT community "If someone is gay and is searching for the Lord and has a good will, then who am I to judge him?"—and set the tone for a pontificate whose aims he has spelled out in interviews and discussions as much as through encyclicals and other formal documents.

Throughout his life Francis has been passionately concerned about the poor, and he knows that poverty in the 21st century takes many forms. It can be found in the grinding material poverty of his native Buenos Aires, caused by decades of corruption, indifference, and the church's failures to catechize Argentina's economic and political leaders. But poverty can also be found in the soul-withering spiritual desert of those who measure their humanity by what they have rather than who they are, and who judge others by the same materialist yardstick. Then there is the ethical impoverishment of moral relativism, which dumbs down human aspiration, impedes common work for the common good in society, and inevitably leads to social fragmentation and personal unhappiness.

Pope Francis was a revolutionary. The revolution he proposed, however, was not a matter of economic or political prescription, but a revolution in the self-understanding of the Catholic Church: a re-energizing return to the Pentecostal fervour and evangelical passion from which the church was born two millennia ago, and a summons to mission that accelerates the great historical transition from institutional-maintenance Catholicism to the Church of the New Evangelization.

Soon a conclave will take place. This is a most intriguing process. In his pontificate lasting just 13 years, Pope Francis has appointed the majority of Cardinals who will elect his successor. The appointment of these cardinal electors, has been very prophetic. Reaching out to the periphery, Francis has created a College of Cardinals that truly represent the universal church. Pope Francis has both challenged and inspired. I see him as a Christ like compassionate shepherd. Who **"Brings good news to the poor"**

*May the Lord grant to  
this faithful servant  
everlasting rest.*



**Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 33,800 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website: [www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles)**

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**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**.

**National Guide Dog Day – Volunteers Needed** National Guide Dog Day takes place on May 23rd. If you would like to volunteer for Guide Dogs, contact **Paul at 087-725264** or **Jim at 087 4746519**, or leave a message on WhatsApp at Laois Guide Dogs. Guide Dogs are also seeking puppy walkers—please visit the Guide Dogs website to register. Thank you for your support.

**Theatre Night Out – Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise:** Theatre Night Out on **Thursday 15th and Friday 16th May** in the Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise. A comedy play, **I Do Not Like Thee, Doctor Fell** by Bernard Farrell and presented by Fourth Wall Laois Theatre Group. Booking: 057 8663355 or online at [www.dunamais.ie](http://www.dunamais.ie). Not to be missed.

**Team Hope Shoebox Appeal – Volunteer Info Session:** Team Hope's Christmas Shoebox Appeal brings joy to children affected by poverty in Eastern Europe and Africa. Volunteers are needed in Portlaoise to help sort shoeboxes this October–November. An info session will be held on **Tuesday 29th April at 2.30pm in Portlaoise Library**. Come along to learn more and meet the team! For details, call **01-2940222** or visit [[www.teamhope.ie](http://www.teamhope.ie)](<http://www.teamhope.ie>).

**Portlaoise Active Retirement:** Meets every Wednesday at 3pm in the Parish Centre for an afternoon of friendship, fun, and activities—new members always welcome. On Monday 28th, Bowls takes place in St. Mary's Hall from 2–4pm with tuition available. Wednesday 30th features Chair Yoga with Tara, and on Thursday 1st May, there will be Cards and Chat in the Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. For more information, contact **Maria on 087 918 7157**.

**Whist Drive Results – Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Parish Centre :** Top score – Peter Stevenson; 1st Lady – Betty Murphy, 2nd Lady – Shiela Duff; 1st Gent – P.J. McDonald, 2nd Gent – Mary Delaney; 1st Half – Catherine Fitzpatrick, 2nd Half – Mary Killeen; 13 Tricks – M. Delaney & B. Murphy. Raffle winners: 1st M.J. Dunne, 2nd P. Stevenson, 3rd M. O'Brien, 4th T. Gowing. Thanks to all who attended—Whist continues Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, all 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 Portlaoise:** Meets every Wednesday at 7.00pm in the prayer hall of the parish church. 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](http://www.radiomaria.ie) 4. 'Listen Live' on Facebook.



### GRAIGUECULLEN / KILLESKIN PARISH

#### 20 YEARS OF OUR PARISH Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Nine Monday Nights 28 April - 23 June 2025

#### Our 2025 Guest Speakers



**DANA ROSEMARY SCALLON**  
Irish singer, songwriter  
and former politician



**FR SHAUN DOHERTY**  
Irish Catholic priest and former  
prelector with Highland Radio



**PEADAR KIRBY**  
TD and Founder and Leader  
of Green Political Party



**NIALL QUINN**  
Former professional footballer,  
businessman and sports pundit



**DERMOT DOOLEY**  
Chaplain of De La Salle  
College, Horebyford



**THERESE DOOLEY**  
Former UNESCO Advisor with  
water, sanitation and hygiene



**RICHIE POWER**  
Former Dubliner footballer  
and All Star Winner



**GER BRENNAN**  
Former Dublin Footballer &  
Current Manager of Laois  
Cricket GAA Team



**ELIZABETH ZION**  
Writer and advocate for  
Irish Employment

7pm Rosary led by the Poor Clare Sisters

7.30pm Mass with Benediction

@gkparish

[www.graiguecullenkilleskin.com](http://www.graiguecullenkilleskin.com)

059 9141933



**GiannaCare**  
We're here to help.

All of our services are FREE of charge and are available no matter where you are in Ireland.

Practical assistance throughout your pregnancy, no matter your situation:

### LAOIS JET WASH SERVICES LTD



**C.C.T.V. PIPE & DRAIN INSPECTION  
HIGH PRESSURE DRAIN CLEANING**

TEL/FAX 057-8681720 MOBILE 087-7749519

**HAVE YOU A PROBLEM WITH YOUR DRAINS?**

**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR  
THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY**



**LORRAINE SHAW**  
Bellingham, Portlaoise.



**JOHN KEATING**  
The Grange, Portlaoise/Cavan



**HANNAH KIRK**  
(née Gibbons)  
Boley, Abbeyleix  
/Kilkenny



**PAULA COSS**  
(née Jennings)  
Parnell Crescent,  
Portlaoise/Mountrath



**CHARLIE (CHARLES)  
BREEN**  
Fountainside, Abbeyleix



**PHYLLIS MARUM**  
(née McEvoy)  
St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise



**MICHAEL  
EARLY**  
Stradbally Rd  
Portlaoise

**MAY THEY  
REST IN  
PEACE**



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
*In Loving Memory of*  
**ANNIE RYAN (née Rohan)**  
*Old Rd, Ballydavis, Portlaoise.*



*Annie's Month's Mind Mass will be  
celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, The  
Heath on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 at 9.30 am.*

*We, the family of Annie Ryan, would sincerely like to thank all  
who sympathised and supported us on our recent sad loss. Our  
sincere gratitude to everyone who attended Annie's wake and  
Requiem Mass, offered Mass cards, and sent messages of  
sympathy on her recent passing. We are deeply grateful to our  
extended family, neighbours, and friends  
who called to see Annie.*

*Our heartfelt thanks to Fr. Paddy Byrne for visiting Annie in  
hospital in her final days and for celebrating a meaningful  
Requiem Mass. Also, to Fr. Adriano who anointed her, and we  
would like to extend our thanks to all the priests of Portlaoise  
Parish for attending Annie's Funeral Mass.*

*There are many people who assisted us at the time of the  
funeral, for which we are so grateful: all the team in the Parish  
Centre for their support and kindness; our musician,  
Aisling Rohan, for her beautiful music; the gravediggers,  
Brendan and Adrian Dunne; as well as a sincere thank you to  
David Goode and Matthew Keegan for their professionalism.*

*Over the last few years of her life, Annie received great help  
and support from healthcare professionals. We would  
particularly like to acknowledge and express our sincere  
thanks to Dr. Simon Honan and staff of  
Maryborough Family Practice; Dr. Gerard Crotty and his  
team at the Haematology Department at Tullamore Regional  
Hospital; Professor Paul McCormick and his team at  
St. James's Hospital, Dublin; and finally, to all the staff at  
Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise, including  
Dr. Sean Fleming and his team.*

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

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

*May Annie Rest in Peace*



**MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN**  
MEMORIAL CARD SPECIALIST

**A SPECIAL MEMORY  
OF YOUR LOVED ONE**

📍 Clonminam Business Park  
Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
R32 EH11

☎ 057 86 34050

✉ info@mochuaprint.ie

🌐 www.mochuaprint.ie



**In Loving Memory of  
JAMES (Jim) ROWE**

Mill Lane, Killlone.  
6th Anniversary occurs 29th April 2025



*Those we love don't go away,  
They walk beside us everyday,  
Unseen, unheard, but always near,  
Still loved, still missed, and very dear.*  
**Sadly missed and always remembered  
by your loving wife Anne, son Jim,  
grandchildren, great-grandchildren,  
family and friends.**

*Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
ANTHONY EGAN**

New Road, Portlaoise.  
2nd Anniversary occurs 30th April 2025



*Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on  
Wednesday 30th April at 7.30  
am and 10am.*

*Our thoughts are ever with you,  
Though you have  
passed away,  
And those who  
have loved you  
dearly,  
Are thinking of  
you today.*

During his lifetime, Anthony got  
great inspiration from his faith  
and his many pilgrimages with  
family and friends.

**Sadly missed by John, all the Egan  
family and his friends.**

*Rest in Peace Anthony*



**In Loving Memory of  
DENIS (Dor) WHELAN**

Kilmurray, Stradbally, Co. Laois  
3rd Anniversary occurs on 29th April '25



*Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
the Church of the Assumption, the  
Heath, this Sunday 27th April, 9.30am.*

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by  
his brother Michael, nieces & nephews.*

*Rest in Peace Denis*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
In Loving Memory of**

**DONAL RYAN**  
Abbeyleix and Roscrea.



*Donal's Month's Mind Mass will  
be celebrated in the Church of the  
Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix,  
on Friday, 2nd May 2025 at  
10am.*

*Donal's wife Helen, sons, Mark,  
Robert, daughter, Lorna and,  
extended family, would like to thank  
their close friends and neighbours  
most sincerely, for their expression  
of sympathy in their recent sad loss.*

*A special thanks to the wonderful care given to Donal by  
Dr Madden, Carers Ria, Roisin, Beatrice, Stacey & Jack  
and Palliative Care nurses Sonya and Bridgit Murphy.*

*Thanks to Father Damien Nolan, Donal's nephew, and  
Father Paddy & Father Petru for a lovely mass and  
constant prayers. Also to Eamon from Kelly Funeral  
Services for his help and kindness.*

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

*Rest in Peace Donal.*

**In Loving Memory of  
ARON GING**

Formerly 51 Borris Little, Portlaoise.  
5th Anniversary away from home; 30th April 2025



*Life is but a stopping place,  
A pause in what's to be,  
A resting place along the road,  
to sweet eternity.*  
*We all have different journeys,  
Different paths along the way,  
We all were meant to learn some  
things, but never meant to stay.*  
*Our destination is a place,  
far greater than we know,  
For some the journey's quicker,  
For some the journey's slow.*

*And when the journey finally ends,  
We'll claim a great reward,  
And find an everlasting peace, together with the Lord.*

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,**

*Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts.  
Loved and remembered by all your loving family.*

*Rest in Peace Aron*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
In Loving Memory of  
PETER MURRAY**

*Lakeside Gardens, Kilminchy, Portlaoise.*

**Months Mind Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 pm.**



The family of the late Peter Murray would like to express their sincere gratitude to all who shared in their recent sudden loss. We are immensely grateful for all who travelled long distances especially his son Sean who travelled from Indonesia, and all Peters friends and neighbours who showed their unwavering support and kindness throughout Peters life.

A special word of thanks to John (Rolo) Egan his friend since they started school together and was always there for Peter. Nicky Mulhall another very special friend, Peter especially looked forward to their road trips and the many intellectual conversations over a cup of tea. Edwina for checking in on Peter on a daily basis and making sure he was well.

A word of thanks also to Msgr. John Byrne for looking after Peters spiritual needs, Dr White whom Peter always spoke very highly of and for his understanding of Peter. The family would also like to mention Garda Kate Coleman who was so kind to us when we met her at the hospital.

Thanks to the Undertakers William Keegan for their professionalism and for arranging the music for the church. Peter would have been very proud of the send off that he got. As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our appreciation. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for all your intentions.

*May Peter Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MICHAEL COLLINS**

*Subur, Newpark, Portlaoise*

**A Dear Husband, Father and Grandfather.**

**8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**



Michael's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm.

Lonely is our home without you,  
Life is not the same,  
The world would be like Heaven,  
If we could have you back again.

Loved and sadly missed by your wife Sally, son Alan, daughter Ruth and family.

*May Michael Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of**

*A Cherished Wife, Mother,  
Grandmother, Great-Grandmother  
and Sister-in-Law*

**KATHLEEN PAISLEY**

*Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.*

**8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs on  
28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**



Your Mother is your first friend,  
Your best friend and your life  
time friend.

Every time we think of you  
Our hearts just fill with pride  
And though we will always miss  
you  
we know you are by our side

*In laughter and in sorrow*

*In sunshine and in rain*

*we know you are watching over us*

*Until we meet again.*

**We will love you forever and miss you always.**

**From all her loving family, extended family  
and many friends.**

*May Kathleen Rest in Peace*

*Also remembering at this time;*

Kathleen's late husband Joe, whose birthday occurs on 1<sup>st</sup> May, her brother Bill Doyle and all deceased members of the Doyle & Paisley families.

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

*Our Lady Queen of Peace Pray for Us*

**In Loving Memory of**

**JOHN EGAN**

**Caragh House, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.**

**8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025**



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm.

It broke our hearts to lose you,  
But you did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you,  
The day God called you home.

Rest in peace Dear loved one, thanks for all you've done,  
We pray that God has given you the crown you truly deserve.

Sadly missed by his loving wife Anne, daughters Jennifer, Deborah, and Stella, grandkids Corey and Tamin and all his loving family and friends.

*May John Rest in Peace*



**In Loving Memory of  
RITA LALOR**

57 Hillview Drive, Portlaoise.  
8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025.



*Our Mom*

Our Mom gave us the world,  
Put it right at our feet,  
And with her at our side,  
There is nothing we cannot beat.  
Our Mom was a woman who taught us  
never to lose sight, though times may  
seem helpless, she taught us how to fight.  
She has shown us how through times of  
much sorrow, to look to the future,  
And new days of tomorrow.

Even though times may be hard, and all we feel is pain,  
Remember, this too shall pass,  
even the clouds and the rain.

So it is with heavy hearts and tears in our eyes,  
That we lay her down to rest and say our last goodbyes.

Loved always by Terry, Lisa, Nicola, Derek, Keith,  
Ciara, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers,  
sisters and extended family and friends xxx

*Grandmother*

God looked around His garden and found an empty space,  
Then He looked down upon this earth and saw your tired  
face, He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best.

From your loving grandkids xxx

*May Rita Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
MARGARET "RITA" SCULLY**

174 St. Brigids Place Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm.

No special day is needed for us to think  
of you, for you were very special and we  
thought the world of you.

It's been seven years since you slipped  
away, that day seems just like yesterday,

Today, we tell you softly, you are still so  
wonderful to think of and so hard to be without.  
Your presence we miss, your memory we treasure,  
Loving you always, forgetting you never,  
In Heaven you rest, no worries, no pain,  
In God's own time, we will meet again.

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

Sadly missed by your loving family; John, Patrick, Teresa,  
Peter, Jacinta, Roch, Margaret, Kathleen, sons-in-law,  
daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

*Rest in Peace Margaret*

**In Loving Memory of  
PADRAIG McGOVERN**

Lynden Court, Portlaoise and Glangevlin, Co. Cavan.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurred on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025



Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in

Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm.

You are not apart from us  
But a part of us.

For love is eternal and  
Those we love shall be with us forever

Loved always by Siobhan, Daniel, Aidan, Liam &  
Laura, Ciara & Kevin.

*Rest in Peace Padraig*

**Treasured memories of  
Our Dear Daddy and Grandad  
CHRISTOPHER (Christy) O'BRIEN**

Late of Cherrygrove, Portlaoise.  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025



If we could visit Heaven just for one day,  
maybe for a moment the pain would go  
away.

We would put our arms around you and  
whisper words so true, that living life  
without you is the hardest thing we do.

No matter how we spend our days,  
No morning dawns and no evening falls,  
that we do not think of you.

Loved, missed and always  
remembered by Yvonne, Sandra, John and  
your grandchildren Gordon, Evan, Teagan and  
Grace xxx

*Rest in Peace Dad*

**In Loving Memory of  
TONY KAVANAGH**

Colt, Ballyroan, Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025.



The Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in St. Fintan's Church,  
Raheen, on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
at 7:00 p.m.

Your resting place we visit,  
We place some flowers with care,  
But no one knows the heartache,  
As we turn and leave you there.

Sadly missed and never forgotten by his wife,  
family and friends.

*May Tony Rest in Peace*





*In Loving Memory of*  
**ARON GING**



*5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home occurs 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025*  
*Our hearts still ache with sadness and many tears still flow, what it meant to lose you, no one will ever know. We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain, To walk with us throughout our lives, until we meet again.*

*Loved and remembered by Dad, sisters Lisa and Emma, brother Ross and nephew Michael J.J.*

*Rest in Peace Aron*



**HENRY RANKIN**

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

*Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise*

**087-2562137**



*In Loving Memory of*  
**WILLIAM (Billy) BERGIN**



*Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.*  
*15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.*



*You were always someone special,  
Someone kind and true,  
Who will never be forgotten,  
For we thought the world of you.*

*Missed dearly by his loving wife  
Detta, son John and family.*

*Rest in Peace William*

**KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

**087-2549195**

David **087-2369887**



**Portlaoise Stone Centre**

**Five Generations in Stone Cutting**

Established in 1991 by Terry Swayne manufacturing superior quality headstones.

All work undertaken by Portlaoise Stone Centre is guaranteed and carried out to the highest standard by certified & qualified craftsmen.

Unique Headstones can also be designed and created to your own special requirements.

**Visit our Showroom**

to discuss your requirements and view our range of headstones and grave accessories.

Unit 3B Clonminam  
Business Park  
Portlaoise, Co. Laois.  
R32 DW71

Tel: 057 8660258  
Mobile: 087 2538930

[www.portlaoisestone.ie](http://www.portlaoisestone.ie)



A book of Condolence to the late Pope Francis is now available for signing in our Parish Church.

## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2025

08

16

17

18

No €19,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Bridget Noonan  
Denis J Croke  
Damien O'Malley  
Mary Carroll  
Ron Russell

MATCH 3s €1,000

### PROMOTER

Nora Walsh  
Anne Brennan  
Rocky Kehoe  
John O'Reilly  
Greg Keenan

5  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€200  
each

Play PARISH



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Follow Us @PortlaoiseParish

& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

## 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  
viewed on our website and our Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person  
Ailish Higgins [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

*The priests of the parish would like to thank all who  
contributed to the Clergy Collection this Easter.*

### Supporting our Parish

Each one must give as he or she has decided in their heart, not reluctantly or  
under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver' 2 Corinthians 9:7

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Please choose a way to make your contribution

- \* Making your offering in the boxes at the Church entrances
- \* Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes  
available at Church porches and Parish Centre
  - \* Direct payment by cheque or cash
  - \* Cashless tap facility at Parish Church
  - \* Donation facility on our website
- \* Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre
  - \* Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account: IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

Scan this QR Code to take you  
directly to our Donate facility



Thank you  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

### Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)

Twitter: @portlaoiseparish

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](mailto:linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie)

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

# Alleluia

*Christ is risen!*

## Easter 2025 In Our Parish

