

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





Welcome Fr. Simon from Myanmar

My name is Fr. Simon Ye Yint Naing, but here Simon Young, to distinguish me from the other Fr. Simon! I come from Myanmar, a beautiful country near China. Born on October 21, 1992, and ordained on March 19, 2022. My motto in life and faith is "My grace is sufficient for you" (2 Cor. 12:9). Currently, I am pursuing studies in Leadership and Management at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. During my time in Rome, I reside at the Irish College. I am delighted to spend my holidays here in Portlaoise Parish, improving my English and gaining pastoral

experience. Initially, I had many concerns about coming here, but the warm welcome from the Parish Priest and parishioners has been incredibly heartening. I am truly glad to be here with all of you. I kindly ask for your prayers during my stay and assure you that I will also be praying for all of you. Please join me in praying for peace in my home country, Myanmar, which is currently experiencing a civil war. Thank you for your support and hospitality. Blessings, Fr. Simon (Young)

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 15th August

Thursday's feast is a celebration of Mary's life and her assumption into heaven. Mary is a model of vocation and fidelity, a fidelity that demands self-knowledge courage and sacrifice. For those of us who feel we have no vocation we could learn many lessons



by studying Mary's brand of discipleship. Motivation is key. Mary's motivation was to support God's plan. Nothing Mary ever did or said was for her own glory. We might not feel as though we have a vocation, but if we have even the smallest motivation to change the world, perhaps we have a vocation after all.



Mass times for the coming week (Parish Church or otherwise stated)

Monday-Wednesday: 7.30am & 10am

Thursday (Feast of the Assumption)

Vigil Mass Wednesday 7.30pm 8.30am, 10am & 12.30pm

Ratheniska: 10am

The Heath Cemetery Mass: 7.30pm

Friday: 7.30am & 10am

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.



HEATH CEMETERY MASS Thursday, 15th August

Feast of the Assumption Procession, Rosary at 7pm Mass at 7.30pm

Maximilian Kolbe August 14th

Maximilian Kolbe was a Polish priest who died as a prisoner in Auschwitz on August 14th 1941. When a prisoner escaped from the camp, the Nazis, in reprisal, selected ten others to be killed. One of those selected.



Franciszek Gajowniczek cried out, "My wife! My children! I will never see them again." Moved by pity St. Maximilian stepped forward and asked to die in his place. The request was granted. He was canonized a martyr by Pope John Paul II in 1981. The cell where he died is now a shrine.

Visit our website www.portlaoiseparish.ie



We welcome into our Parish Community

Molly Elizabeth Bergin, Marian Avenue Thea-Leigh Geddes-McCann, Goldencroft Luke James Delaney, Berryridge Avenue Lily Orla Clough, Grattan Street Teidí Kevin Dunne, Killone Who were baptised last weekend.

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Wed: 9:00am -5.30pm

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Kind Regards, all @ Laois Physiotherapy Clinic





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INFORMATION









ON

GENERAL ENTITLEMENTS FOR CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Wednesday, 21st August

10.00am to 12 noon Places are limited

FURTHER INFORMATION AND BOOKING:
Cuisle Cancer Support Centre,
Block Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: 057 8681492

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

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The Fatima Candle will be lit at 10am Mass in the Parish Church,

Tuesday 13th August in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the intentions of all parishioners. Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at 8pm.

All are welcome.



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DAY TRIP CANCELLED

St. Vincent de Paul Day Trip to Rathwood Garden Centre Tullow, Tuesday 13th August. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, this trip has been deferred to a later date, our apologies for deferral. Thank You

HOT TUB FOR SALE

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Scoil Fionntáin Naofa. Shanahoe

will host their Annual Tractor. Truck and Vintage Run Fundraiser



Sunday, 29th September 2024 Registration 1.30 pm in Shanahoe National School £20 fee

Monies raised will help support the school.

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Clothes line poles, Rotary clotheslines, winders, pulleys, saw horses, bicycle stands.

Results of Whist Drive held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 6th August;

Top Score: Ann Healy | 1st Lady tied: Kit Farrell & Sadie Chester | 1st Gent tied: P.J. Cahill & Ann Marie Farrell 1st Half: Agnes Holland | 2nd Half: Tom Gowing | 13 Tricks: Margaret Flanagan, Liz Cooper, Mary Lillis & P.J. Cahill Raffle: 1st P.J. Cahill, 2nd Kathleen Kennedy, 3rd Frank Keenan, 4th Molly O'Brien, 5th Mary Gowing, 6th Bernie Cahill, 7th Paddy Purcell, 8th Mary Dunne.

Whist continues every Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre at 7:30pm, new players welcome.

Lessons available, please leave your name and number at Parish Centre reception.

Graiquecullen Bingo Tuesday 13th August in St. Fiacc's Hall at 8.30pm;

Jackpot on 50 numbers €2,390. Double number €2,000. Lotto €1,850.

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.



RELIGIOUS NOTES

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

Rosary in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath; Daily 2pm (Monday-Saturday). Sunday 3pm (Adoration). Vocations Society of St. Joseph; Holy Hour, Adoration, Prayer for vocations, 3pm every Friday in the Parish

Rosary at the Grotto at 8pm on 15th August for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Clonad Cemetery Mass; Wednesday 14th August at 7pm.

Bus to Knock; Stradbally, Timahoe and Vicarstown Bus to Knock, 8th September for Our Lady's Birthday. Contact; 085-7482558.



PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Sunday 18th August

Bus leaving Lyster Square Carpark, Portlaoise at 9am. For more info. contact

Maura O'Brien 087-1210263 Helena Corbett 087-9611331



Church Gate Collection 17th/18th August

Your support would be greatly appreciated.



THE GIFT OF LOVE

One of my favourite movies is "The Sound of Music." In that movie, there is a song called "My Favourite Things." Some of you may have seen the movie and you may know that song. If so, you will remember that the character named Maria, sings about her "favourite things." One of the things that she mentions in that song is "brown paper packages tied up with string."

On Christmas morning, we will wake up to find a lot of packages under the tree. Packages wrapped in brightly coloured paper and tied up with pretty ribbons and bows. What if there was one package under the tree wrapped



in plain brown paper tied up with string -- and what if that package had your name on it? Would that be the package you would choose to open first? I don't think so! After all, a gift is supposed to come in a beautiful package, isn't it?

You know, I think that is why a lot of people have missed out on the gift that God sent to them. You see, God's Gift didn't come in a beautifully wrapped package. God sent Jesus, His only Son, as His gift to us. His mother was a young virgin... his earthly father was a poor carpenter... he was born in a stable. Not a very pretty package, is it? But do you know what? It was the greatest gift the world has ever known. It was the gift of salvation and it had your name on it... and yours... and yours... and mine!

The gospel on Thursday tells us that when Mary found out that she had been chosen to be the one to deliver God's gift to the world, she was filled with joy. She hurried to the home of Elizabeth to share the good news. When Elizabeth heard the news, she exclaimed in a loud voice, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would

do what he said."

Well, the Lord has fulfilled his promises to us too. He has sent us the gift of His love, but some people are so busy unwrapping the beautifully wrapped packages that this world offers that they have missed out on the greatest gift. Maybe it is because it came wrapped in brown paper tied up with string. On Thursday, we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Prayer for This Week

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.



Children! a task for you Find this image of the Blessed Virgin Mary in our Parish Church.





Time to Think! Compassion and Kindness

Recent violent protests in the United Kingdom regarding racial tensions, displays firsthand the horrible reality of racism and prejudice. We live in turbulent times, where polarisation and extremism are becoming all too familiar. The Gospels tell the story of how to overcome this reality. Written in the context of a new movement, trying to overcome a prevailing culture, where like what's happening now, was also the norm back then. Jesus by his radical teaching and courageous witness, always erred on the side of compassion and kindness.

The wars in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and many other areas bear witness to the need to be compassionate. Compassion is vital to our survival as a species and as individuals in this time of global turmoil, the rise of authoritarianism and the destruction of Mother Earth. Cultivating compassion may be our saving grace. Compassion means literally 'feeling together with'. Compassion is being moved in our depths by another person's experience and by going beyond our prejudices to respond with care and kindness to another person's suffering.

We are most fully human, when we see someone in the truth of his or her experience and are moved to respond with kindness and care. Pausing from the busyness of our lives and recognising the tenderness of the humanity of another person restores us to our humanity. The pulse of care and connection within us is resuscitated and our hearts beat freely with love. Compassion is the heartbeat of humanity, restoring the heart of our humanity. Its healing can make human again the hardened heart of another. Compassion is an untapped human superpower that can help us shift out of our patterns of control and dominance. Compassion bridges the divides that prevent us from seeing the goodness in ourselves and each other.

Do we always see the goodness in ourselves? Think of how often we berate and criticise ourselves. Focusing an open heart towards others while closing our hearts to ourselves is like screaming our way into silence. We can only treat another with care and kindness when we have had self-compassion. Compassion begins at home, with self-compassion which is frequently missing in our world. Self-compassion can begin with us becoming aware of our inner critic. By noticing what we are saying to or doing to ourselves, we can begin the process of being kind and caring to ourselves rather than beating ourselves up. This self-compassion is our asset to finding peace and restoring our sense of self and love. When we extend to ourselves the care and kindness that we may do to a suffering child, it brings us home to ourselves.

When we neglect self-compassion, both ourselves and our loved ones suffer. Without compassion the soul decays. It takes strength to be compassionate, and it can be difficult. Many of us are challenged to be like Nelson Mandela, who invited his jailor of twenty-seven years to stand at his side during his presidential inauguration.



Ordinary folks like us can be in awe and inspired by him. Compassion is not about wishing away unpleasant emotions; it challenges us to meet adversaries and those who hold contempt for us in an empathetic understanding that is forgiving and restorative. When a person or society is in despair, it does not care about itself and certainly not about others. Despair kills compassion. When we are in despair, we need an immense dose of awakening to the beauty of life.

Compassion is genuine loving regard that flows freely from our hearts. It tames the furies we hold for others as it calms our difficult emotions and tormenting self-talk. By freeing ourselves of past hurts and mistakes through forgiveness and letting go, we learn to live in the present without worrying about the future (fear) or the past (regret). Our compassionate heart is then generous and naturally able to extend to others. This generosity is linked with kindness, and kindness is compassion. If each of us has that spark of kindness, the inherent dignity in us will cause us to rise and demand the justice and equality that is everyone's birthright.

Even in the depths of despair, compassion can spring forth. The path of compassion reconnects us to the sources of life and love that sustain us. It invites us to go deeply inwards knowing that we are held and healed in love and be liberated from the inner turbulence that disconnects us from our compassionate self. St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, reminds us, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you".

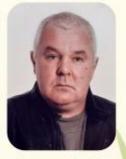
Prayer for Compassion

"Dear Heavenly Father, help me to be gentle towards every person I encounter today, in thought, word and deed. May I recognise that others are facing difficult circumstances which I know nothing about. Oh Lord, that others would encounter You when they meet me today! Still my thoughts, bridle my tongue and open my heart. Fill me with a spirit of forgiveness and generosity. As it be Your will Lord, place the words in my mouth that others need to hear today. Help me to share Your unfailing compassion with all people, especially those with whom I live and work. In Your Mighty Name I pray, Amen.

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY:



Rita Conroy née Maher Beladd, Portlaoise and Carlow



Fintan Lalor The Courthouse. Harper's Lane, Portlaoise



Maureen McAllister née Herbert The Beeches, Portlaoise and Naas

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE Our sympathy to their families.

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by logging on to the death notice at www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices



26 Mountain View, Portlaoise. Died 13th August 2023. Remembering you on your

1st Anniversary away from Home.



Once in a lifetime an angel is sent, To bring joy, love and light, You shone over every life you touched, and made countless memories bright. We see you in the rainbows, Feel your warmth in the shinning sun, And when we ask for guidance, We hear your words of wisdom. Rest softly our precious angel, Know your guiding lights shine on, You may no longer be here with us, but angels are never truly gone.

All our love, Leanne, Bobby, Evie and Fiadh xx

Rest in Reace Conor





16 Parnell Crescent, Portlaoise. Died 13th August 2023. 1st Year away from Home.



Your presence might be missed, But your memory will always be cherished,

One year has passed, yet it still feels like yesterday.

Loved and missed so much Mam, Aoife, Kayleigh, Mollie, Sean, Chris, Gavin and Craig.

Rest in Reace Conor



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Today we remember our sister MAUREEN HOLLAND (née Byrne), Mountrath Road, Portlaoise whose anniversary occurs at this time



We also remember our sister Anne and brother John and our parents Jack and Annie Byrne at this time.

May They All Find Heavenly Peace.

Sadly missed and always remembered by Phyllis, Raymond and Oliver.

May They Rest in Reace

50th BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE In Loving Memory of PATRICIA GING

44 St. John's Square, Portlaoise. 8th Birthday away from home; 12th August 2024



Missing You on your birthday in Heaven

Today would have been such a special day, but now it brings sadness and sorrow, If we could share just one more day, if there was one more tomorrow.

But birthdays are a time for reflection, to look over years past, and we can't believe another year has gone by, the time just goes so fast.

But memories of more happier times, in our hearts will always stay, we'll treasure each and every one, until we meet again someday.

So we'll say goodbye for now Patricia and blow a kiss to Heaven above, to wish you the happiest of birthdays and send you all our love.

Loved and missed by all her loving family.

Rest in Peace Patricia



In Loving Memory of ROSE DEMPSEY

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise. 2nd Anniversary occurs 9th August 2024.



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

Though your smile is gone forever, And your hand we cannot touch, Still we have so many memories, Of the ones we loved so much.

Your memory is our keepsake, With which we'll never part, God has you in His keeping, And we have you in our hearts.

Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving daughter Cora, son Cyril, family & friends. Also remembering her husband Paddy at this time.

Rest in Reace Rose

In Loving Memory of A Son, Brother and Uncle *PETER FRAWLEY*

Lynden Court, Portlaoise. 1st Anniversary occurs 18th August 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this Saturday 17th August at 6.30pm.

We have you in our hearts, Your hand we cannot touch, Still we have so many memories, Of the one we loved so much. Your memory is our keepsake, With which we'll never part,

God has you in His keeping, we have you in our hearts.

Love always, Mam (Nancy), Sylvia, Pat, John, Tanya, Craig, Aine, Becca and Jay.

May Reter Rest in Reace



Beechfield, Portlaoise.



Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Sunday 18th August, 11.15am.

Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his loving wife Mary, Shane, Darragh, Neala and Eoghain, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Rest in Reace Niall

In Loving Memory of BREDA KEANE

Corrigeen, Stradbally. 2nd Anniversary occurs 14th August 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, Sunday 11th August at 9:30am.

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, loved and remembered by all her loving family.

Rest in Reace Breda



In Loving Memory of JOHN HYLAND

I

Ballydavis, whose 20th Anniversary occurs 9th August.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of the Assumption, the Heath, on Sunday 11th August at 9:30am.

After Glow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one, I'd like to leave an after glow 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.

Loved and remembered by his loving family.

Rest in Reace John



In Loving Memory of

A dear Mother and Father

VIRGINIA & PATRICK DOYLE

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

Virginia's 2nd Anniversary occurred 7th August. Patrick's 22nd Anniversary occurred 9th August.



We hold you both within our hearts and there you shall remain, To walk with us throughout our lives, until we meet again.



Sadly missed by their children Lisa, Thomas and Patrick and grandchildren, Jane, Brian, Barry, Jack and Joe.

May They Rest in Reace Together





Precious Memories of Our Darling MARTIN WALSH Jnr.

118 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise. 32nd Anniversary occurs 11th August 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday 10th August at 6:30pm.

A whisper on an August evening, You heard a gentle call, You took the hand of Jesus, And gently left us all.

Thinking of you today and always, from your ever loving Mammy Margaret, brother Joseph, sisters Mary, Tina, Attracta, Patricia and Colette, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and extended family.

Thinking of his Dad and brother Anthony at this time. R.I.P.

Rest in Reace Martin



In Loving Memory of JOHN (SON) WALSH



Late of Summerhill, Portlaoise. Whose 20th Anniversary occurs 12th August 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on Monday 12th August at 10am.

"Though time may pass, the impact you had on our lives remains as strong as ever. Remembering you with love and gratitude on this special day, Dad"

Sadly missed and loved always by Deirdre, Jacinta, Niall, Mark, Aisling, Alan, Ciaran, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandsons, granddaughters, great-granddaughter, great-grandson, sisters, extended family and friends. Also remembering our late Mum Rose at this time R.I.P.

Rest in Reace Dad



In Loving Memory of MARGARET (Peg) CASEY



Beechfield, Portlaoise. 8th Anniversary occurs 16th August.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise, Sunday 18th August at 11.15am.

Even though you are not with us, Your presence is still strong, Because in your heart we'll always find, The love for which we long.

Sadly missed and always remembered by Liam,
Diarmuid, Denise, Emma and Anna.

May Margaret Rest in Reace





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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Youth Work Ireland Laois are starting a young carers club which will give young carers a space to meet others in similar situations, take a break from their caring role and have fun!

Who are young carers?

Young carers are children and young people under the age of 18 who provide care or help to provide care to a family member or friend living with additional needs, physical or intellectual disabilities, illness, mental health challenges or addiction.

To volunteer, contact volunteer@ywilaois.com

i Follow us today!



Youth Work Ireland

EN PLEIN AIR

TWIN TREES ART & CULTURE FESTIVAL
Three-Day Tutored En Plein Air Painting

In Heywood Gardens, Masslough Lake, Ballinakill Village

Day Tickets €50. Three-Day Ticket €130. Ticket prices are subject to a booking fee. Our event is perfect for beginners and experienced artists.

22ND - 24TH AUGUST 2024

PAINTING IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

BALLINAKILL CO. LAOIS

We're excited to welcome back tutor Jock Nichols and introduce Neal Greig, who will oversee the entire experience. Tutored workshop for children aged 12-16 years, facilitated by Fine Arts Artist, Kate Knowles.

More details at www.twintrees.ie

Portlaoise Parish

Results for



8th August 2024

15)

28

29

No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Pat Bowler

Kathleen Byrne

Bobby Haslam

Erica & Emily

P Lawless

Evelyn Dunne

MATCH 3s €1,000

6 Match 3s

Receive €167

each

PROMOTER

Pat Bowler

Mary Byrne

Bobby Haslam

Erica McCarthy

Parish Centre

Ann Kelly

Play PARISH



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Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

SINDAY

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 King 19:4-8 | Psalm 33:2-9 Ephesians 4:30-5:2| John 6:41-51

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





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



Ailish Higgins

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

safeguarding@kandle.ie



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

MANAGER Declan Kelly

<u>Parish Secretaries</u> Michelle Bartley Lana Lebedieva

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

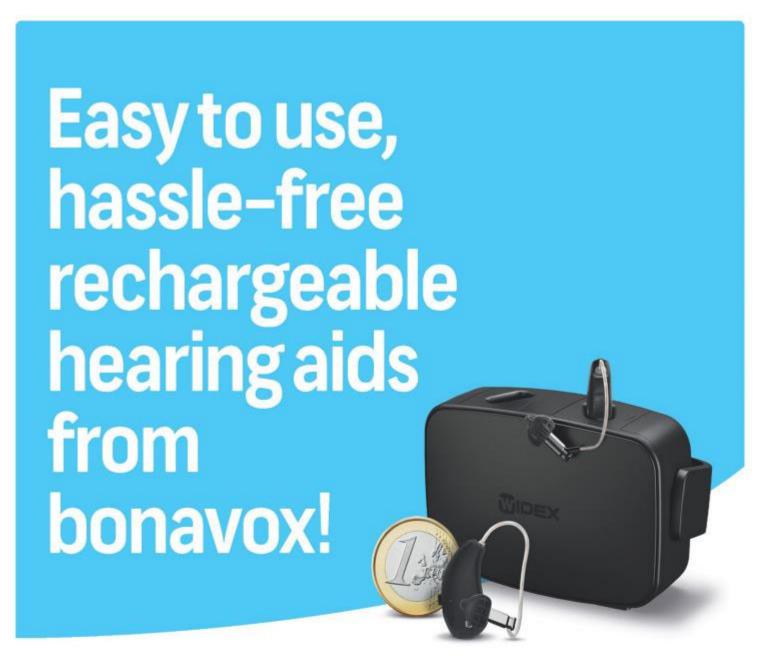
[Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119] All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



Secretary: Julie Conroy Monday to Thursday 11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm 057-8692154

Advertising deadline: 12 noon Wednesday
Subject to availability of space
E-mail: linkup@portlaoiseparish.ie

PARISH SHOP 057 8621142 - Claire Scully





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