

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**
**link
up**
15th December 2024

Third Sunday of Advent



Keeping Christ in Christmas!
Pictured at the blessing and opening of the new outdoor crib at the Heath - Louis Troy, Margaret Cross, Caroline Whelan, Bernie Dowling with The Hyland family who designed and built the crib. Thank you and well done to all.

Adding to the occasion the boys and girls of the Heath National School with guitarist Nuala Kelly



The Parish Centre 057 8621142
E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie
Parish and Diocesan Websites: www.portlaoiseparish.ie www.kandle.ie

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Come, Lord Jesus

Lord of Joy



Penitential Service
Parish Church
Friday 20th December
7.30pm.



Joy to the World

Today John the Baptist points his finger at the scribes and the Pharisees. As religious leaders, the scribes and the Pharisees

might have thought they were beyond repentance, but John makes no distinction between the sinners and the religious.

Repentance is a challenge for each and every one of us to take a good long look at ourselves. We might be nice people; we might have kind and caring dispositions; we might have values and good intentions, but what legacy do we leave in practical terms? How important is it to a starving child on the other side of the world that we go to church on Sunday? How much does it matter to someone lonely, sick poor or marginalised that we sit and read our bibles each night? Today we are being asked to put our money where our mouths are. Our faith is void if we don't live by it. We are asked to share by giving up our time and our money. We are asked to share by not exploiting others.

Before we can firmly celebrate the joy of Christmas we are asked to ensure that the less well-off are also experiencing the joy of Christmas in practical terms, food warmth and security. We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift. Today we are asked to experience the same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing.

Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we've got.

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

Monday - Saturday

7am (Christmas Novena) & 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.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Callum Brien, Dr. Murphy Place

Jo Jo Mensa, Aspen Way, Foxburrow

Lorenzo Soares Cocuzzi, Maryborough Village

Who were baptised last weekend.



Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. The Latin Gaudete is translated as Rejoice, the first word of the introit.

The reference to joy, hope and optimism are dominant at this point in Advent.

The lesson we can take from this is that Christians ought to be the most hopeful and cheerful of people, bringing both joy and peace into their homes and families, workplaces, and social circles. If you can't feel cheerful to order, use the opportunity to work out which parts of your life fill you with the most optimism.

Christmas Collection for the support of the Priests.

The Christmas Collection for the Clergy will be held at all Masses on Christmas Day.

Envelopes are in the Development Boxes or you can pick up an Envelope in Church porches.

Thank you for your continued support.

Christmas Arrangements Inside our Linkup on page 4 or visit our website
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Monday 23rd December

Friday 27th December

Monday 30th December

Tuesday 31st December

Clinic classes will resume 6th January

Parish Centre classes will resume 13th January

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2024**

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PORTLAOISE PARISH - CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2024

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

16th to 24th DECEMBER

MONDAY 16th to SATURDAY 21st

Mass at 7am.

SUNDAY 22nd Mass at 8.30am.

MONDAY 23rd and THURSDAY 24th

Mass at 7am.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(PENITENTIAL SERVICE)

FRIDAY 20th DECEMBER

Parish Church 7.30pm.

PARISH CAROL SERVICES

SUNDAY 22nd December Parish Church

Children's Carol Service 3pm

Parish Carol Service 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER

after 10am Mass and after the 6.30pm Mass

MONDAY 23rd DECEMBER

after 10am Mass to 1pm and 6pm - 7pm

TUESDAY 24th DECEMBER

after 10am Mass to 1pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES

Portlaoise Parish Church Children's Mass

(mainly aimed at those who have not yet received 1st Communion) 4pm

Children's Mass 6pm

Parish Church Our Midnight Mass 9pm

Parish Church Polish Mass 12am Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES

Parish Church 8.30am, 10am, 11.15am

and 12.30pm

The Heath 9.30am Ratheniska 10am

THURSDAY 26th DECEMBER

(St. Stephen's Day)

Parish Church 10am

Parish Church - Polish Mass 2pm

FRIDAY 27th DECEMBER

AND SATURDAY 28th DECEMBER

Parish Church 10am

SUNDAY 29th DECEMBER

Parish Church 6.30pm (vigil), 8.30am,

10am, 11.15am and 12.30pm

The Heath 9.30am Ratheniska 10am

MONDAY 30th DECEMBER AND

TUESDAY 31st DECEMBER

Parish Church 10am

WEDNESDAY 1st JANUARY

(MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD)

Parish Church 10am

THURSDAY 2nd JANUARY

to SATURDAY 4th JANUARY,

Parish Church 10am

FRIDAY (First Friday) 3rd JANUARY

Parish Church 10am and 7.30pm

SATURDAY 4th JANUARY

Parish Church 10am

SUNDAY 5th JANUARY

Parish Church 6.30pm (vigil), 8.30am,

10am, 11.15am and 12.30pm

The Heath 9.30am Ratheniska 10am

MONDAY 6th JANUARY

(THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD)

8.30am, 10am, 12.30pm & 7.30pm.

MASSES WILL RESUME AS NORMAL

FROM TUESDAY 7th JANUARY

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.

Christmas at Portlaoise Library

Christmas Coffee Morning-Portlaoise Library Christmas coffee morning-**Thursday, 19th December 11am**. Come and join us and the students from the Holy Family School Portlaoise who will perform a variety of well-known Christmas carols. All are welcome.

Results of Whist Drive held in Parish Centre Tuesday, December 10th

Top score: Paric Dowling

1st Lady: Betty Murphy

2nd Lady: Tied; Margaret Flanagan & Bernie Cahill

1st Gent: Ann-Marie Farrell

2nd Gent: Tied; Sam Bennett & Tom Kearns

1st Half: Christy Fitzpatrick

2nd Half: Paula McEvoy

Raffle: 1st Sadie Chester, 2nd Paric Dowling, 3rd Sadie Chester, 4th Tom Dunne, 5th Theresa Mulhare.

Last Whist of 2024 is next Tuesday, December 17th and will return on Tuesday January 21st 2025 at 7.30.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Portlaoise Active Retirement Meets every Wednesday afternoon in the Parish Centre for an afternoon of friendship, activities and fun. New members always welcome.

Monday 16th bowls in St. Mary's sports hall 2pm to 4pm

new members always welcome tuition given

Wednesday 18th our Christmas dinner and party.

Meet up in parish Centre 12.30pm dinner 1pm dancing and singing upstairs after dinner. Hope everyone has an enjoyable time.

Thursday 19th Cards and chat in Sue Ryder centre 3pm

We will be taking a break until January after that.

Wishing all our members a very happy and peaceful Christmas

We will all meet up again in January.

For more information , please contact pro Sheila at 0876204617.

Graiguecullen Monster Christmas Bingo

In St. Fiacc's Hall, Graiguecullen. Sunday 15th December @ 3pm.

Jackpot on 40 numbers €700

Double number €3330.

Lotto €1400.

Chocolates left and right of the winners & Great raffle prizes too.

Bingo as usual Tuesday 17th December.

141 White Ford Transit Connect for sale: If interested, please call 0864070333.

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.

Portlaoise Group Pilgrimage To Lourdes :

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9th September 2025,

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For more details please contact any of the following:

John 087-1254841, Mary 0852829231, Joe Walsh Tours 01-2410800

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December
Portlaoise,
The Heath,
Ratheniska Churches

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Saturdays 7th, 14th, 21st Dec. 10am-1pm



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HANDING ON
THE FAITH



Third Sunday of Advent also known as Gaudete Sunday



The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "**Rejoice**". You can see this word in Sunday's missalette or on our screen in the Parish Church at the beginning of Mass.



Rose vestments can be worn to emphasise our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

The Gift That Jesus Brings



There's a story about a young boy who checked the presents under the tree every day. He loved looking through them, arranging them, and counting them. One day, he discovered that his sister had more gifts than he did. He ran to his mother very upset.

"Katie has more presents under the Christmas tree than I do!" he cried.

His mom explained that getting gifts under the tree isn't what Christmas is really all about because Jesus is our greatest gift. Have you ever felt the way this boy did?

How did that experience affect your joy in that moment?

Christmas should be a time of joy. Today, we'll learn our true joy is in Jesus' birth, not the presents we get. In fact, God tells us that giving is even better than receiving.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist was sent to prepare people for the coming of Jesus. He told them to repent of their sins and prepare their hearts for the coming of our Saviour.

"What should we do?" they asked.

John replied, "If you have two coats, give one of them to the one who has none. If you have food, share it with those who have none."

This message is for us, too. If we want to experience the real joy that Jesus wants for us, then we must learn to share. By sharing what God has so generously given to us, we will receive an even greater gift -- the gift of joy.

What is one way you can give others joy during Christmas?

PRAYER

Dear God, help us to learn that it is through remembering Jesus' birth and giving to others that we receive true joy at Christmas.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



CateKIDS

Portlaoise Parish www.portlaoiseparish.ie

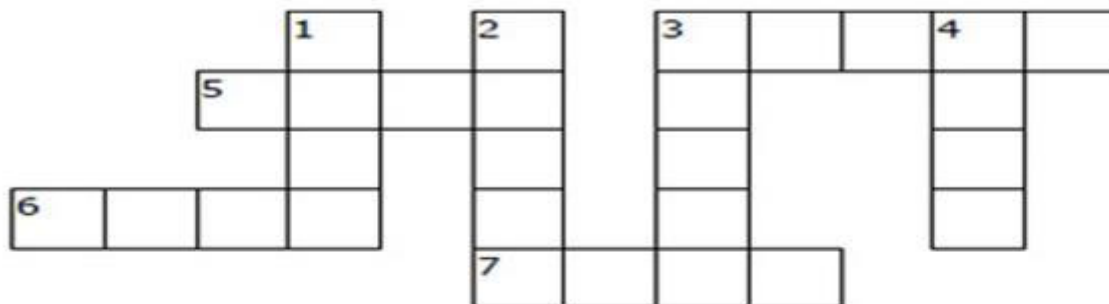
HANDING ON THE FAITH



CHRISTMAS JOY

John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." Luke 3:11

Puzzle is based on Luke 3:7-11



ACROSS

3. An item of clothing that is worn on the upper half of the body.
5. To have very little money or possessions
6. The opposite of bad
7. A tall plant that has a trunk, Branches, and leaves.

DOWN

1. What we eat
2. The sweet food that grows on a tree.
3. To give part of what you have to someone else
4. The part of a tree that grows under the ground.

REJOICE



ROOT	TREE	POOR	SHARE
FOOD	GOOD	FRUIT	SHIRT



*Come, Lord Jesus,
child of the earth,
child of God.
Come into our world of
joy and sorrow.
Stay with us always,
now and at the hour of
our death.*



ALTAR SERVERS

To show our appreciation to all our Altar Servers for their hard work, we are holding a Christmas Movie and party in the Parish Centre after school on Friday 20th December. Children can be collected from the Parish Centre at 3pm.

If you seek a special gift
The greatest gift of all
Don't look beneath your tree
It was never there at all
The greatest Christmas gift
Was given to us all
The Christ child in a manger
In a lowly cattle stall.



Time to Think!

Christmas, a time to hope

A woman was Christmas shopping with her two children. After many hours of walking down row after row of toys and after hours of hearing both her children asking for everything they saw on those many shelves, she finally made it to the store elevator with her two children in hand. She was feeling what so many of us feel during the holiday season time of the year, getting that perfect gift for every single person on our shopping list, overwhelming pressure to go to every party, every housewarming, taste all the holiday food and treats, making sure we don't forget anyone on our card list, and the pressure of making sure we respond to everyone who sent us a card. Finally the elevator doors opened revealing a crowd in the elevator car.

She pushed her way in and dragged her two kids and all her bags of stuff in with her. As the doors closed she couldn't take it anymore and blurted out, "Whoever started this whole Christmas thing should be found, strung up, and shot." From the back of the car, a quiet calm voice responded, "Don't worry, we've already crucified Him." The rest of the trip down was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. Don't forget this year to keep the One who started this whole Christmas thing in your every thought, deed, purchase, and word. If we all would, just think how much better this world would be.

I love visiting the cribs in various churches this time of year. Many of you, have by now placed your crib, in a sacred place at home. Saint Francis of Assisi, was the first to introduce visually displaying the crib. He did so in a deliberate portrayal of the deep poverty and yet great love, the Christ child, was born into. A young mother and father, placing a tiny little baby in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes. There was no room for this baby in the inn, his birth was extra dramatic where eventually Mary and Joseph, found shelter in a lowly stable.

The first to be made aware of this tremendous new life were the outsiders. Shepherds, by their very nature lived on the outside. Their lives were nomadic and hardship was the norm. I have no doubt, that when the angels appeared, with the melody of hope, their hearts were instantly lifted. When they went to examine and validate what they had been told, their immediate response was one of wonder and awe, in the presence of Emmanuel "God among us". Their silence, was a prayer filled by God's grace. The birth of Jesus Christ surrounded by cattle and sheep, was and continues to be such a powerful encounter, God became one of us. "The word became flesh and dwelt amongst us".

The birth of Jesus Christ continues to be a great gift for all humanity. His birth isn't something that just happened, but because of his amazing grace, continues to pour hope and new life to us all. Deep in the depth of winter darkness, soon we will be reminded that the light once again conquers the darkest hours of the year. Green shoots erupting from the winter soil reminds us, that soon we will celebrate a new season. A new time, when God's grace can indeed rejuvenate all our stories. God's love is a tremendous gift, it's a gratuitous one, not seeking any repayment, but abundantly and generously bestowed upon each one of us,

because God loves us first. We can only be a respond with a sense of gratitude and confidence that we belong to a very good news story. This Christmas I pray that indeed our pathways will be level and smooth, for all who are challenged may burdens be lessened by the grace of God's presence. May all our families be blessed with health of body and Peace of Mind. Finally, A charming story is told of Poinsettia, a poor Mexican girl, who had no gift to present to the baby Jesus in his crib, as was customary on Christmas Eve. As Poinsettia walked slowly to the chapel with her friends and family her heart was full of sadness rather than joy. An angel appeared to the little girl and spoke to her

"I am sure that even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in his eyes".

Not knowing what to do, the little girl knelt at the roadside and gathered a handful of common weeds, fashioning them into a small bouquet.

Looking at these insignificant weeds, she felt more saddened and embarrassed than ever by the humbleness of her offering. Poinsettia fought back a tear as she entered the small village chapel. As she approached the crib she remembered the angel's words. She felt her spirit lift as she knelt to lay the bouquet at the feet of the nativity scene. Suddenly, the bouquet of weeds burst into blooms of brilliant crimson red, all who saw them were certain that they had seen a miracle right before their eyes. From that day on, the bright red flowers were known as the Flores de Buena, Flower of the Holy Night. Known by all of us for its Christmas colour, called the Poinsettia.

This is a powerful story of Christian hope in a time of darkness and uncertainty. The good news story that we are about to celebrate is that we are not alone. Each one of us are willed into life so that we can celebrate the powerful gift of every moment. Christmas is a time to ponder and give thanks for the gifts that we all have been blessed with. The bright promise of Christ's presence assures us to be confident that we are not alone, God is very near. May Christmas 2024 be a time of great blessing..



Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 33,000 followers or @AbbeyleixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

End of Year Rosary at The Grotto

New Years Eve, December 31st at 8pm



BE A PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL

Have a Blessed Candle lit and displayed at the grotto for the sick, deceased, your intentions or in thanks giving. Your Candle will be lit from 5pm on Dec. 31st until after midnight. (Rosary at 8pm).

Your donation for the Candle will go to Mary's Hands in Medjugorje run by Jacov, the youngest visionary, and the invalids, pilgrims, homeless and poor in our own society.

Candle bookings can be made through the shop in the Parish Centre or by contacting any of the following;

Mary Byrne	085-2829231
Paddy Connolly	087-2117174
John Egan	087-1254841
Kitty Timmons	087-9506634
Jimmy Shiels	087-6872633



A Mass will also be offered for your intentions in Portlaoise and Medugorje.



DANA'S



Cross and Cloak Concert

IN AID OF THE SACRED HEART CRUSADE, 2025



SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

Featuring local artists

7:30pm (Doors open at 6:30pm)

The Manor Hotel, Abbeyleix, Co.Laois, R32 VE24

Tickets €25 (Book on [eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie))



For more information contact

Antionette on
0860803047



William AIRD TD



Hardworking, honest & committed to Laois

Thank you

to all who supported &

voted for me in the General Election **FINE GAEL**



Ballyroan Vintage Club

Annual St Stephens Day Tractor/Truck/Car Run 2024.

Main Sponsors Bluebird Care.
In aid of Laois Hospice

&

Laois Alzheimer's.



Registration €20 per Vehicle.

From 11am.

Leaving 12pm sharp.

In Ballyroan Community Hall.

Congregate in Boys School beside Shop.

Soup & Sandwiches in

Whelan's after run.

ALL WELCOME.

Ballyroan Vintage Club wishes all our
friends & supporters a very happy & holy
Christmas and a Happy new Year

The Heath N.S. Tractor Run Fundraiser

Sunday 15th December 2024

to support the continued use of Music Generation

STARTING and FINISHING at the HEATH HALL
(Beside the Heath Church)

REGISTRATION in the HALL from 4pm – 4:45pm

RUN COMMENCES @ 5pm SHARP

MINIMUM €20 REGISTRATION PER TRACTOR
DONATIONS WELCOME

JUNIOR TRACTOR RUN FOR ALL KIDS



Assemble at the Green Area opposite the Heath Church –
Start time 4:30pm - All types of pedal power welcome



Organised by
The Heath N.S.
Parent's Council



CASH REWARD-MARIE KILMARTIN MURDER 1993



A substantial cash reward is available to the person or persons with adequate information regarding the death of Marie Kilmartin, Beladd, Portlaoise in 1993. Marie disappeared in mid-December of that year and her body was found on the 10th of June the following year, 1994, at Pim's Lane Mountmellick Co Laois, sixteen kilometres from her home.

Her death was established as murder.

Any person who supplies such adequate information need not be involved in any prosecution or required to appear as a witness, and anonymity can be assured. The purpose of the information sought is to identify the person(s) responsible and secure a conviction.

The significant reward money has been put up by friends of Marie Kilmartin.

To share information please get in contact
via Facebook group:
"Justice for Marie Kilmartin"

Portlaoise Group Pilgrimage To Lourdes 9th-13th September 2025

Accompanied by spiritual director.
4 Nights & 5 Days

Special Christmas Offer:
€635 if paid in full by 12th January 2025.
Price increase of €100 after
12th January 2025 to €735.

For further details please contact:

John Egan: 0871254841

Mary Byrne: 0852829231

Derek Marum: 0858390157

Or

Joe Walsh Tours: 01-2410800

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



**Mary Maher
(née Brady)**
Kilminchy, Portlaoise



Fionán Bracken
Dun Masc,
Portlaoise



Tony Curran
Liogard,
Portlaoise



Finbar Heneghan
Collies Lane,
Portlaoise

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Love your neighbour
as yourself

MATTHEW 22:39



**In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH FLANAGAN**



*née Wright. Late of Green Rd. Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurred 12th December 2024*



*For each cloud there's a
rainbow,
For each shadow; the sun,
For each parting; memories,
So our loved ones are never
truly gone.*

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your
loving husband Tony, daughter Sinead, sons
Trevor, Kevin, Tony Jnr. and Matthew Jnr.
grandchildren, relatives and friends.*

Rest in Peace Elizabeth



**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL & BRIDGET RYAN**



KILMURRAY, STRADBALLY

Whose 11th and 6th Anniversaries occur at this time.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the Church of
the Assumption, the Heath, this Sunday 15th December
at 9:30am.



*To your resting place
we visit, place flowers
there with care,
But no one knows our
heartache, when we
turn and leave you
there.*



*Sadly missed by their loving family, extended family
and friends.*

May They Rest in Peace



**In Loving Memory of
JIMMY & GERTIE RANKIN**



1 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.

Whose 23rd and 29th Anniversaries both occur on
19th December 2024.



*Never more than a
thought away, and
those who have loved
you dearly are thinking
of you today.*



Sadly missed and always remembered by their loving family.

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
DES BROWNE**

Mountrath Road, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 19th December 2024



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

*I am that little Robin that sits upon a tree,
I sing to you each morning,
But you don't know its me,
I am that little Robin in your garden every day,
I will never leave you, I will never fly away.*

Sadly missed and always remembered by his wife & family.

May Des Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN and MARY ROCHE**

Mountrath Rd., Portlaoise.

John's 6th Anniversary occurs 18th December 2024
Mary's 3rd Anniversary occurs 9th January 2025



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



I hide my tears when I say
your name,

But the pain in my heart is still the same,
Though I smile and seem carefree,
There is no one who misses you more than me.
Your presence I miss, your memory I treasure,
Loving you always, forgetting you never.

Sadly missed and always remembered by their sons,
daughters, grandchildren, sons-in-laws, daughters-in-law,
great-grandchildren and extended family.

May They Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN FITZPATRICK**

*3 Ashton Manor, Portlaoise, formerly Meelick.
5th Anniversary occurs 19th December 2024.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, this **Sunday 15th December at 10am.**



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

Sadly missed by his loving wife Josie and all the family.

May John Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL LEECH**

*Ridge Rd. Portlaoise and formerly Kellystown, Wolfhill.
7th Anniversary occurs 26th December 2024*



*Nothing different,
On the day you were gone,
The world still shining,
Birds singing and people living,
Nothing different,
But everything.*

*All our love, Anne, Elizabeth, Colette,
Geraldine, Michelle and families.*

Michael's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in St. Mary's Church, Wolfhill, on
Sunday 29th December at 10am.

May Michael Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL MORRIS**

*Colliers Lane, Kilminchy
1st Anniversary occurs 20th December 2024.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, Friday 20th December at 10am.



In Life we loved you dearly,
In Death we love you still,
In our hearts you have a special
place,
No one else can ever fill,
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The night God took you home.

*Forever in our thoughts.
Sadly missed by your loving wife Peggy,
daughters Michelle & Mary,
sons Kieran & Michael.*

May Michael Rest In Peace

ISAIAH 9:1

THOSE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS
HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT

**In Loving Memory of
ETHNA DUNNE**

Clonad, Portlaoise.

4th Anniversary occurs 15th December 2024



*Your life was full of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for other's needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.*

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

From your loving family.

Also remembering our dad Anthony at this time.

Rest in Peace Ethna & Anthony



**In Loving Memory of
JAMES O' REILLY**

Marian House, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.

45th Anniversary occurred 10th December 2024



*A sudden call from God on high,
We had no chance to say goodbye,
Without farewell you fell asleep,
But memories of you, we will always keep.*

*From his loving sons Martin and Jas, daughter
Eileen, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law,
grandchildren and great-grandchildren.*

May James Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
ELLEN COSTIGAN (née Doyle)**

*Clonad, Portlaoise / Ballymoheen, Roscrea
1st Anniversary occurs 22nd December 2024*

**Anniversary Mass for Ellen will be celebrated on Saturday
28th December at 7pm in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen.**



*Ní imithe uainn,
ach imithe romhainn.*

*Much loved and sadly missed every
day by her family and friends.*

Rest In Peace Ellen

**First Month Remembrance
HELENA HAJDUKIEWICZ**

Szprotawa, Poland.

Who passed away 12th November 2024



My mother

*Who gave me the best of her life,
Who cherished my secrets,
My sorrows my strife.
Who thought me to love,
Who thought me to pray,
My Mother in Heaven,
God bless her today.*

Babcia/Grandmother

*We miss you,
We miss your hugs,*

*Your smile and your little treats,
But we know now you're in Heaven,
Watching over us all keeping us safe,
We will forever keep you in our hearts,
Our Guardian Angel.*

*Helena's Month Mind Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this
Sunday 15th December at 12.30pm*

*Sadly Missed by your son Andrzej,
daughter-in-law Winnie and your
grandchildren David, Michael and Juliet.*

*May Helena
Rest In Peace*

**In Loving Memory of
Sarah Doyle**

*Kyle, Ballyknocken, Portlaoise
12th Anniversary occurs on
Tuesday 24th December 2024*



*Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter and
Paul's Church Tuesday 24th
December at 10am.*

*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 & always remembered by Dad
& all The Doyle Family*

Rest in Heavenly Peace Sarah

*You are the
Light
of the World*



**In Loving Memory of
JIM O'CONNOR**

Redhill, Ballyroan, Portlaoise.
First Anniversary occurs
21st December 2024



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter and Paul's
Parish Church on
Saturday 21st December 2024 at
10am.

Greatly missed and remembered by his
family & friends.

Rest In Peace

Jim



**In Loving Memory of
PHYLLIS LALOR**

Hawthorn Drive, Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurs 20th December 2024



Mam;

A daily thought, a silent tear,
A constant wish that you were here.
**Love and miss you everyday Mam,
Gerard x**

Mam;

A smile for all, a heart of gold,
The very best this world could hold,
Never selfish, always kind,
These are the memories you left behind.
Call Mammy's name out softly Lord,
And when she looks your way,
Tell her that we love her and miss her everyday.
**Love and miss you beyond words,
Marie & Christy xx**

Nan;

No special time is needed for us to think of you,
For you were someone special and we thought the
world of you.

**Missing you everyday Nan, love from your two
special boys, Kyle and Finn xx**

Mam/Nanny;

A loving Mother and Nan so true,
No one on earth we'll find like you,
For us you always did your best,
God grant your soul eternal rest.
**Sadly missed, loved everyday, Daithí, Mags,
Shauna, Oisín and Cillian xxxxx**

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church
Saturday 21st December at 6.30pm.

Rest in Peace Phyllis

**In Loving Memory of
DENIS (Dinny)
FITZPATRICK**

46 Liogard, Portlaoise.
16th Anniversary occurred 13th December 2024



We miss you from your
fireside chair,
Your loving smile and
gentle air,
Your vacant place, no one
can fill,
We miss you Daddy and
always will.
He was a husband so very
rare, content in his home
and always there,

On Earth he toiled, in Heaven he rests,
God bless you Din, you were one of the best.

*Lovingly remembered by your wife Doreen,
children Ann, Tina, John and Dor, sons-in-law,
daughter-in-law and grandchildren.*

May the Lord lay his gentle hand upon him

**In Loving Memory of
ANN CASS**

Tullore, Ballyroan
First Anniversary occurred 14th December 2024



We think of things you used to say,
And all that you would do.
At some point, every single day,
Our thoughts will turn to you.
No matter how life changes,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our
hearts is always kept for you.

**Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving
husband Michael, daughters Elizabeth and Mary, son Joe,
sons-in-law Russell and Keith and your grandchildren.**

I am with you
always

Matthew 28:20

**In Loving Memory of
MARY PATRICIA LALOR
née Breen**

*Late of Boley, Abbeyleix.
5th Anniversary occurs 15th December 2024.*



**5th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe, this Sunday
15th December at 12 noon.**

Patty with a heart of gold,

A life well-lived, a love untold.

*Her days were bright with simple joys,
Her grandkids' laughter, her pride, her noise.*

*A holy woman, her faith ran deep,
Her prayers a comfort she'd always keep.*

*Rosary beads hold in her hand,
Her guiding light through life's demand.*

*Patty, forever dear,
In every hear, you're always near.*

Your warmth, your laughter, your gentle grace,

A light that time cannot erase.

**Forever in our hearts.
Your loving husband Donal, children Margaret,
Alice, Noreen, Donie, Patricia, Thomas,
John & Patrick xx**

Rest in Peace Patty

**Birthday Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
MARIA McDONALD**

*Whose Birthday occurred 13th December,
5th Christmas away from home*

OLIVER McDONALD

3rd Christmas away from home



*There's a little place within my heart,
That is with me everyday.*

*A place where all my memories,
Are softly tucked away.*

*It is the perfect place,
At special times for me to go,
For, words could not explain,
How very much I miss you so.*

*And now that one again,
Christmas time has come around,
It's where the sweetest memories,
And thoughts of you are found.*

**Remembered with love.
From your daughters Sharon,
Margaret, Sierra & Jan. Sons Lee
& Cody, all the grandchildren,
friends & extended family.**

May They Rest In Peace

**In Loving Memory of
FRANK SYDES**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.

5th Anniversary occurs 17th December 2024.



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

*The world changes year to year,
Our lives from day to day,
But the friendship and the
memories, shall never pass away.*

Sadly missed by all your friends.

Rest in Peace Frank

**In Loving Memory of
JOHN ARRIGAN**

Newpark, Portlaoise.

11th Anniversary occurred 8th December 2024



**Anniversary Mass was celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 8th December, 11.15am.**

**Sadly missed by all his loving
family and friends.**

Rest in Peace John

**In Loving Memory of
PADDY CROSSAN**

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

6th Anniversary occurs 18th December 2024.



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

**Sadly missed and always remembered
by Pdraig, Michael & family,
Kieran & family.**

Rest in Peace Paddy

In Loving Memory of
FIONA CONROY

*Kilteale Avenue, Portlaoise.
14th Anniversary occurs at this time.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, Saturday 21st December at 6:30pm.



Loving memories of you Fiona,
We will never forget,
Sadly missed along life's way,
With silent thought and deep regret,
We think of you every day,
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts,
You're always there.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your
loving daughter Isabel and Pascal, your
Mother Mary and family.*

Rest in Peace Fiona

3rd ANNIVERSARY
*Of A Loving Husband, Father,
Grandfather and Great-Grandfather*
In Loving Memory of
JOHN-JOE CONROY

Carrick Hill, Portlaoise. Died 24th December 2021



*A silent grief that's in our
hearts, no human eye can trace,
For many a broken heart is hid,
Beneath a smiling face.*

*Sadly missed by and all his
loving family.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, on Saturday 21st December at 6:30pm.

Rest in Peace John-Joe



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Parish Church



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Sunday, 22nd December at 7.30pm

Parish Church



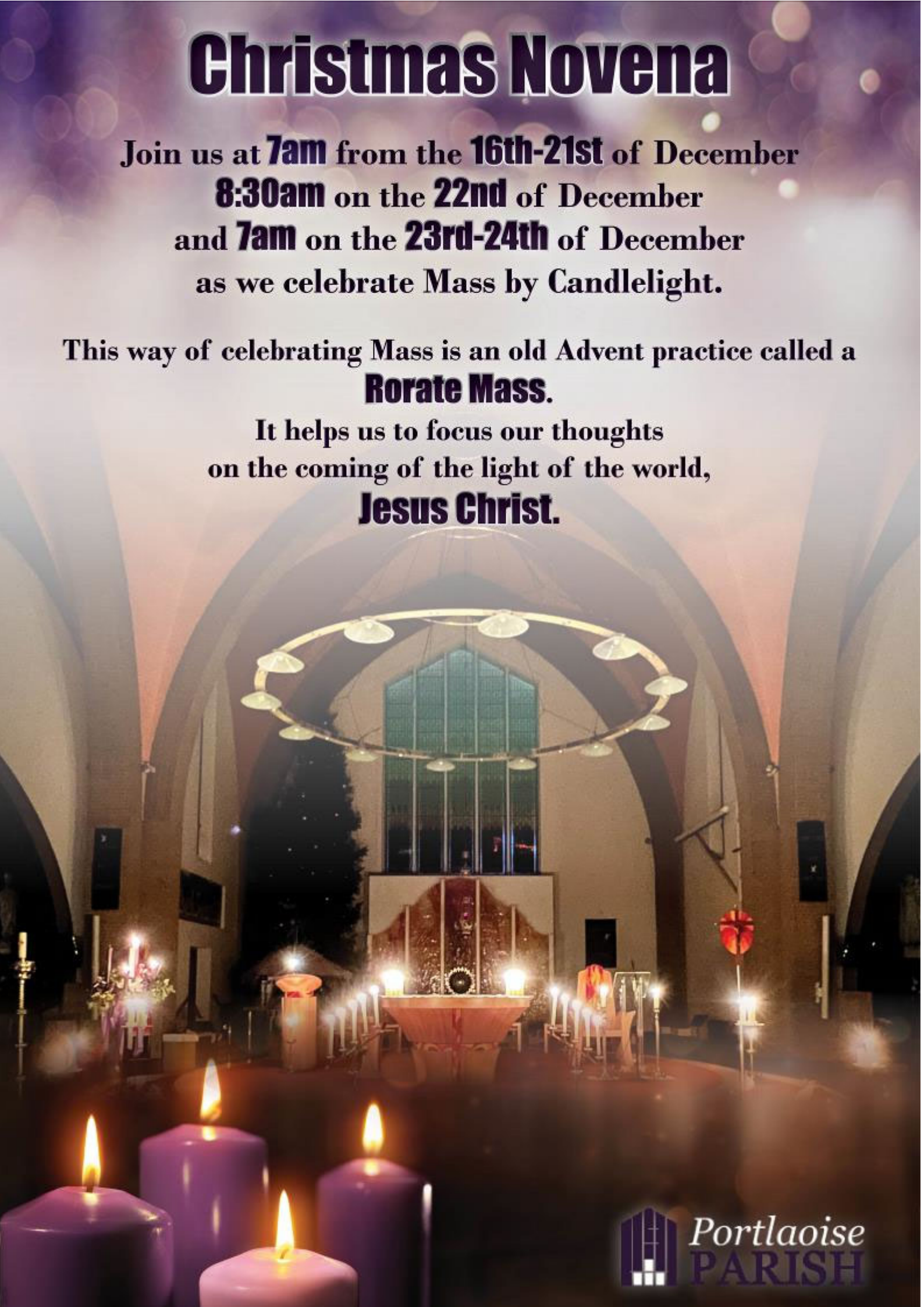
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on the coming of the light of the world,
Jesus Christ.



Portlaoise
PARISH

Portlaoise Parish



Results for
12th December 2024

11

15

26

28

No €11,000 Jackpot Winner

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The Nugget
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Breda Allen Tobin
Marie Hennessy
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Agnes Kennedy

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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



At next Thursday's Lotto Draw there will be
an additional draw for 10 Promoter's Prizes
of €100. Based on this week's draw,
promoters will have one ticket in the drum for
each ticket promoted including their regular
players.

Support for the Parish

We have traditionally depended on the passing of collection baskets at
Sunday Masses for support but have not reintroduced them since Covid.
Thank you to the many who have found new ways to support the Parish.
The generosity of so many means we **continue to** be well supported and
our liturgies are not interrupted - Please find your way to contribute.

* Making your offering in the boxes at the entrances

* Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at
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* Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church

* Donation facility on our website

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IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D

THANK YOU



Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: [@portlaoiseparis](https://twitter.com/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)

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the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



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