

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

2nd February 2025

**The Presentation
of The Lord**

**World Day of Prayer
for Consecrated Life**



The Presentation image from Our Lady's Altar in our Parish Church

**World Day
of Prayer
for Consecrated Life
2nd February**

Sunday February 2nd, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, is the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. On this day the Church thanks God for the gift of the different forms of consecrated life, and prays for an increase in vocations so that the life and witness of monks and nuns, religious brothers and sisters, will continue to enrich our Church.

It is also Candlemas day honouring Jesus as the 'light to enlighten the gentiles'. Candles are blessed for home and Church use.



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

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



What Are We Waiting For?

If you were told you were going to die tomorrow, would you be ready to go? Young and old alike, the answer to this question

is probably "no"! Being ready to leave this world demands tremendous clarity, and whilst some of us have achieved clarity in our lives, the rest stumble around confused and overly burdened. We go through the motions of living but all too easily we are living out a 'ground-hog-day' existence... running on the spot and repeating the same old mistakes, What we need is someone to tell us where we are going wrong, and gently put us on the right track. In short, what we need is someone to light our way.

In today's gospel reading, Mary and Joseph present the Baby Jesus at the temple as Jewish law required. Here they meet the elderly Simeon and Anna. Simeon and Anna have been waiting for the promise written in scripture that a Saviour would come to light the world and bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Despite their great age, Simeon and Anna were living and praying in hope that they would see the fulfilment of God's promise. When Simeon sees the Baby Jesus and recognises him as the Messiah he is ready to die in peace because the fulfilment of scripture was his own personal fulfilment too. So what are we waiting for in our lives today? Are we able to recognise Jesus and the opportunities he gives us as Simeon did, or are we too busy running round like headless chickens looking for happiness and re-assurances in all the wrong places? How are we waiting? Are we waiting like the proverbial rabbit mesmerised by the fast approaching headlights, or are we waiting in constant preparation?

The time has come to stop flitting from one ambition to another and from one hollow goal to the next. The time has come to look for a genuinely important goal of God's floodlit making.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

Monday (Bank Holiday): 10am

Tuesday - Thursday: 7.30am & 10am

Friday (First Friday): 7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm

Saturday: 10am

Sunday

Vigils 5pm & 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 5pm Mass.

Communion Calls

The priests of the parish will attend their communion rounds during the week.

BLESSING OF THROATS

On Monday (3rd February) is the Feast of St. Blaise. Blessing of Throats will take place after the 10am Mass in the Parish Church.



Fáilte

We welcome into our Parish Community

Jake Conor Kenneally, Ashewood Walk

Kieran Michael Conlon, Cappagh North

Ellie Delilah Rickard, Rinuccini.

who was baptised last weekend

Candlemas Sunday 2nd February

The Feast of Purification is called 'Candlemas'



because traditionally this is the day on which the year's supply of candles for the church is blessed. By the fifth century we were lighting candles on this day to symbolise that Jesus Christ was the light, the truth and the way.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Malachi 3:1-4

Ps 23:7-10

Hebrews 2:14-18.

Luke 2:22-40

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

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

Please call the clinic to reserve your place.

Classes Available

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

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

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



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Have You Seen Our Cat, Gizmo?



Gizmo has been missing since Sunday, January 26th. He is a fluffy white cat with tabby spots and lives in the Buttercup Avenue area, Esker Hills, Portlaoise.

If you see him, please call
Tom on 086 348 7257

We would greatly appreciate your help in finding him!

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COMMUNITY NOTES

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.**

Couch to Céilí - Dance with Maureen: All are welcome to join us for this exciting project, which continues every Monday (except Bank Holidays) in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise, at 11 a.m., culminating with a Céilí Mór on Monday, March 10th. We will dance all your favourites at your own pace. For further information, contact Catriona at L.S. Partnership or Maureen at **087-6482038 / seanchistin@gmail.com.** Come alone or bring a partner. Don't miss out on this celebration of our culture!

Portlaoise Lions club - Collection: Portlaoise Lions Club will hold their annual Church Gate Collection this weekend, 1st and 2nd February. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Bridge Lessons for Beginners: If interested, please contact **Catherine Brennan at 087-4121913** for details.

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

Monday 3rd February: Bowls in St Mary's Sports hall, 2pm to 4pm. New members always welcome. Tuition given.

Wednesday 5th February: Club-Chair Exercises

Thursday 6th February: Cards in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. New members always welcome. Tuition given.

For further information please contact P.R.O. Sheila on 087-6204617

Graigucullen MONSTER Bingo : Tuesday, 4th February – St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8:30 PM | Jackpot (45 numbers): €1350 | Double Number: €320 | Lotto: €550

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



Jack and Jill Volunteers Needed:

Jack and Jill are seeking volunteers to assist in their warehouse with sorting stock and donations. If you can spare some time to help, please **contact Abbie at 087-2589730.**

Results of Whist Drive - Parish Centre, Tuesday, 28th January

Top Score: Mary Delaney

Ladies: 1st – Margaret Flanagan, 2nd – Mary Killeen

Gents: 1st – Tom Gowing, 2nd – Mary Dunne, Frank Keenan & Liam McCarthney (Tied)

Half-Time Winners: 1st Half – Catherine Fitzpatrick & AnnMarie Farrell (Tied),

2nd Half – Paula McEvoy

Raffle Winners: 1st :P.J. Cahill 2nd : Sadie Chester 3rd : Liam McCarthney 4th – Mary

Delaney Thank you for your support! Whist continues every Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre.

New members always 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.

Divine Mercy Conference: RDS Dublin, Day return bus (from Jn17 plaza Portlaoise) **Saturday 22nd February.** Fantastic speakers including His Excellency Archbishop Farrell, Fr. Pat Collins, Fr. Jim Blount and many more, great day of spiritual inspiration and refreshment. €70 for bus and entry ticket. Contact via WhatsApp/text please: Karen 087-4160385 or Séamus 087-2752578 for enquiries and bookings. €40 deposit via Revolut, PayPal or Post secures bus seat.

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 10th February 2025: €699.00 pps. Price includes return train, 4 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on enquiry. For further information contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890 236 or email knockpilgrimimages@gmail.com.

St. Joseph's Prayer Meeting: The St. Joseph's Prayer Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 4th February, after the 10 a.m. Mass in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.

NEW YEAR - FRESH START TIME TO DECLUTTER?

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ROSARY AT THE
GROTTO

Rosary will be recited at the Grotto on the **First Friday (7th February)** at 8pm.
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"TOGETHER WE PRAISE AND WORSHIP HIS HOLY NAME"



The Presentation of The Lord

Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day.

**Today we hear about Jesus and his family
and a special trip they took to Jerusalem.
We hear about the special things that happened to Jesus
there and all that was said about him.**



Jesus' parents Mary and Joseph took him to the Temple, to present him to God.

There were two other people in the story today too, who see the baby Jesus and recognise how important he is. Can you remember their names?

Simeon is an old man, who has been promised by God that he will see Christ – the Saviour of the world. When he sees the baby Jesus, Simeon knows that the child is the Son of God. Simeon tells everyone how special Jesus is.

Anna is also in the Temple. She has spent her whole life in the Temple serving God. She sees the baby Jesus and begins to praise God.

How do you think Mary and Joseph felt to hear Simeon and Anna talking like this about their son?

Even though he was just a baby, Simeon and Anna could see just how important Jesus was. They did not judge by what Jesus looked like. They were filled with faith and they knew in their hearts how special and important he was.

Have you had a time when you have judged someone because of what they look like? Or when you have been judged for what you look like?

What do you think this reading tells us about that?

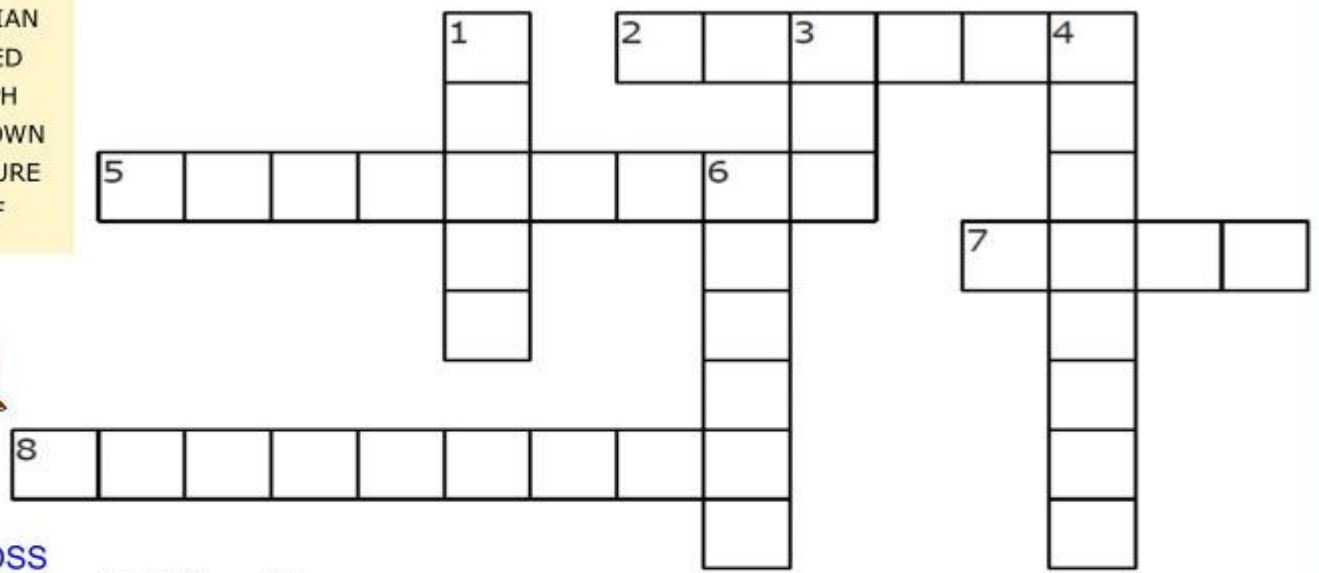
Simeon and Anna see that Jesus is important. Even though he was just a baby, and probably looked like all other babies, they could see that he would grow up to be very special.

Our faith tells us that each person, no matter who they are, is made in the image of God. That means that we can see something special in each and every person.



The Presentation of The Lord

HEAL
SON
PHYSICIAN
AMAZED
JOSEPH
HOMETOWN
SCRIPTURE
CLIFF



ACROSS

- 2. The earthly father of Jesus
- 5. Another word for a doctor
- 7. To make or become healthy again
- 8. The sacred writings of the Bible

DOWN

- 1. The area of high, steep rocks beside the sea
- 3. A person's male child
- 4. The town where you grew up
- 6. To be very surprised.
- 7. To make or become healthy again



Our Prayer

Father, as we celebrate The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. We are reminded of who is important and special in our life. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



First Holy Communion Candidates

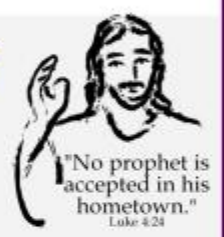
There will be a special Mass for all the boys and girls who will receive their First Holy Communion this year. This Mass will take place next Saturday 8th February in the Parish Church at 5pm.

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Time to Think!

After The Storm.....

Weather wise January 2025 has been dreadful. Because of heavy snow and dangerous pathways, it was reminiscent of lockdown. The recent storm Eowyn caused devastating damage and inflicted hardship on so many households leaving them without water or electricity. I pray, very soon, we will get a good taste of early spring.

Random tales of Wisdom...

How do you handle adversity? What are you thinking when the sun goes down on those cold, windy nights, when you're trying to get to sleep, and the wind keeps swirling and howling through your bedroom windows?

Sleep Soundly When the Wind Blows



Years ago a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic. They dreaded the awful storms that raged across the Atlantic, wreaking havoc on the buildings and crops.

As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals. Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer. "Are you a good farm hand?" the farmer asked him. "Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man.

Although puzzled by this answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired him.

The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk, and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work. Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore.

Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters. He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!"

The little man rolled over in bed and said firmly, "No sir. I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows."

Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot.

Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the coops, and the doors were barred. The shutters were tightly secured.

Everything was tied down, Nothing could blow away.

The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the

wind blew.

Can you sleep when the wind blows? When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally, and physically, you have nothing to fear.

A Cat goes to Heaven

A cat dies and goes to Heaven. God meets him at the gate and says, 'you have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask.' The cat says, 'Well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, a fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, 6 mice are killed in a tragic accident and they go to Heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that he made the cat. The mice said, 'All our lives we've had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn't have to run anymore.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates.

About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks, 'How are you doing? Are you happy here?' The cat yawns and stretches and says, 'Oh, I've never been happier in my life. And those Meals on Wheels you've been sending over are the best!'

Prayer to let go of the Past

Lord Jesus I pray that You would enable me to forget the things which are past and help me to press forward, knowing that my hope and my future is in You. Help me not to dwell on past hurts and painful memories and enable me to forget what is behind and to walk forward into each new day, holding Your hand.

Lord I release all of the painful memories I have to You and pray that You would help me to renew my mind day by day and to focus my thoughts on the Lord Jesus Christ. Help me also to forgive all those that have caused me pain so that by Your grace You would help me to fill my heart with new and joyful thoughts.

Lord I believe that You came to heal the broken-hearted and set the captives free. Wash away all these hurtful memories that are causing me so much heartache I pray - and replace them with the joy of my salvation, which I have received in Christ Jesus my Saviour - for which I offer You thanks and praise. Lord may the words of my mouth and all the thoughts in my mind be filtered through You - and may I build up new memories that are sweetened by the beauty of Your Person, in Jesus name I pray, Amen

Lord, I let it go and give it all to you.



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

Spring Programme

Water

Safety Classes

With Water Safety Ireland Laois

Water Safety Ireland Certified Exams



Junior Classes (10 Weeks)

Saturday Sessions
12-15yrs
Beginning 8th Feb
11.45am - 12.45pm

Venue Laois Leisure Portlaoise
Cost €60

Free
Come and Try
Session
on Wed 5th
February at
6.45pm

Places are limited and booking is essential.
Please email sports@laoisccco.ie or call 057-8664058

Spring Programme

FREE Water Safety Classes for all Emergency Service Workers

With Water Safety Ireland Laois

Water Safety Ireland
Certified Exams



Come
and Try
It Out
on Wed 5th
February at
6.45pm

Emergency Services Classes

Beginning: Wednesday 5th Feb 2023 (10 weeks)
6.45pm - 7.40pm

Open to members of the Civil Defence, Fire Services,
Gardai and Defence Forces
Venue: Laois Leisure Portlaoise

These Classes are completely **FREE!**

Improve your swimming technique,
life saving ability and endurance!

20 places are available and booking is essential.
To register, please email sports@laoisccco.ie or call 057-8664058

Spring Programme

Water

Safety Classes

With Water Safety Ireland Laois

Water Safety Ireland Certified Exams



Free
Come and Try
Session
on Wed 5th
February at
6.45pm

Senior Classes Adult and 16+

Beginning: Wednesday 5th Feb 2023 (10 weeks)
6.45pm - 7.40pm

(Additional Weekend Hours for Pool Lifeguard in MAY 2025,
subject to achieving a Minimum standard of Rescue 2)

Venue: Laois Leisure Portlaoise
Cost: Adults €75 Students €60
National Pool Lifeguard - €200*
National Pool Lifeguard Revalidation - €75*

*Subject to achieving minimum standard and previous
participation in Water Safety Laois classes

Places are limited and booking is essential.
Please email sports@laoisccco.ie or call 057-8664058



A multi-round trivia presented by
Shanahoe Parents Association



Friday
7th March, 2025



8pm sharp
til late



Doogue's Bar,
Raheen

COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN!

Table of 4 = €40

RAFFLE ON THE NIGHT

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



**Barbara
Anne
Delaney**
Ballyfin/
Portlaoise



**Betty
Wilson**
Newpark
Portlaoise



**Giovanni
(Nino)
Ciamberlano**
Glenregan
Portlaoise



**Mary Purcell
(née Barry)**
Abbeyleix



**Stella McHugh
(née Burke)**
Clondarrig
Portlaoise



**Patrick
(Paddy)
Davy**
Abbeyleix



Martin Kelly
Bellingham
Portlaoise

**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](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)

Your light will shine like the dawn

Isaiah 58:8

In Loving Memory of
CARMEL O'GORMAN (née Lynch)

Rathevan View, Portlaoise.

Remembering Carmel on her 3rd Anniversary.

*3rd Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, Portlaoise, on
Sunday 2nd February at 12.30pm.*



*Until we meet again,
We think of you always,
We talk about you still.
You have never been forgotten,
And you never will.*

*We hold you close within our
hearts,
And there you will remain,
To guide us through our lives,
Until we meet again.*

*Dearly missed and never forgotten
Daddy, Barbara, Norma, Geraldine, Gwen, Paul,
Aidan and all their families.*

Rest in Peace Carmel

In Loving Memory of
EDWARD COOKE

Rathevan, Portlaoise.

43rd Anniversary occurred 2nd February 2025



*The years are passing quietly,
With pride we speak your name,
Our lives go on without you,
It's never been the same.*

Loved and remembered always Dad

*From Margaret, Gerard, Edward & Gearóid, Katie, Rachel
and great-grandchildren Madison, Ailbhe and Autumn.*

May Edward Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
STEPHEN O'SULLIVAN

*A Cherished Father, Husband,
Grandfather and Great Grandfather.*

St Brigids Place, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 3rd February 2025



*He left us so quietly,
His thoughts unknown,
But left us a memory,
We are proud to own,
So treasure him Lord,
In your garden of rest,
For when on earth,
He was one of the best.*

Rest in Peace Stephen

**In Loving Memory of
PETER O' BRIEN (PEADER)**

St. John's Square, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurs 9th February 2025



Words are few,
Feelings are deep,
Memories of you
We will always keep.
Forever missed,
By your loving family.
Sadly missed by his loving family.

Rest in Peace Peter

**In Loving Memory of
ANN FITZPATRICK**

Harpur's Lane, Portlaoise.
3rd Anniversary occurred on 29th January 2025.



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 2nd February at 11.15am.

A picture of you I carry in my heart,
I close my eyes to see it when the world
gets dark,
A memory of you I carry in my soul,
I wrap it close around me, when the
nights get cold.

If you ask how I am, I'd say just fine,
But the truth is, if you could read my mind,
Not a day goes by that I don't think of you Mum.

Loved and remembered by your son Tom,
Jack, Emma, Cillian and Freya and family.

Rest in Peace Mum

**In Loving Memory of
FINTAN DOOLEY**

7 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.
12th Anniversary occurs on 2nd February 2025.



Time unfolds another year,
Memories keep you very dear,
Simple words but very true,
We will always love and
remember you.

Always loved and never
forgotten by all his
loving family.

Rest in Peace Fintan

let His light shine.



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**In Loving Memory of
Margaret Byrne (née Styles)**
Boughlone, Portlaoise.



Margaret's Month's
Mind Mass will be
celebrated alongside her
brother Joe Styles
on 2nd February
at 12.30pm in
Sts. Peter and Paul's
Church, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Margaret Byrne wishes to extend their deepest appreciation for the many expressions of sympathy shown to them since Margaret's passing on January 4th, 2025.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the staff of Portlaoise Hospital, who cared for Margaret since December 11th, especially the ambulance driver and medical team who were so kind, as well as the staff in the ICU, Emo Court Ward, and Surgical Ward. Over the past two years, Margaret and her family were supported by Pure Pharmacy, the staff and doctors at the Cedar Clinic, and the HSE community nursing team, who regularly visited and supported Ken, helping to keep Margaret at home, close to her family, as she wished. The kindness of these people did not go unnoticed.

We also extend our thanks to the family members who visited and comforted Margaret during this difficult time, particularly over the challenging Christmas period. These visits helped shorten the days and brought her much comfort.

A huge thank you to Fr. Erick Ebot, who arrived at the hospital in the middle of the night on January 4th to pray over and bless Margaret when she passed. This brought great comfort to all of us. To Monsignor John Byrne, our deepest thanks for your sensitivity and patience shown to the family. We appreciate the space and time given to us to honor Margaret, even though we understand you and your team are always so busy. To Declan Kelly, Michelle Bartley, and all the staff in the Parish Centre, thank you sincerely for your support in preparing the ceremony and facilitating the gathering afterward. Your positive attitude made everything much easier.

Thank you to Matthew and David of Keegan's Undertakers for their attention to detail and compassion throughout this process. Thanks also to Adrian Dunne and Brendan, the grave diggers, for their hard work during one of the coldest spells we've had in a while. We would also like to thank John Delaney from the Parish Pastoral Team for leading us in the rosary at the funeral home.

We extend our sincere thanks to Nuala Kelly, James O'Connor, and Denise Boyle for providing the comforting music that made this final farewell so memorable. Thank you to Bosco Ramsbottom and his staff for the catering in the Parish Centre, which was of its usual high standard and much appreciated.

Please accept this as an expression of our sincere appreciation.

To everyone who came to the funeral home, visited the family, sent texts, and offered condolences online, all of these were a huge source of comfort, and we thank you for taking the time to be with us.

To all of Margaret's extended family who participated in the ceremony, thank you

May your soul rest in peace,

Margaret.

In Loving Memory of
ELIZABETH(LIZ) SIMPSON
(née Houlihan)
Borris Road, Portlaoise.



**1st Anniversary occurred on 29th
January 2025.**

*Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed,
and very dear.*

**Sadly missed and always remembered by your
loving daughter, Lisa, and your
cherished granddaughter, Melissa.**

May Elizabeth Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
**ELIZABETH (Lizzie)
FARRELL**

**"Chestnut Drive", Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.
5th Anniversary occurs 4th February 2025.**



*We wander to your graveside
And place your flowers with care.
No one knows the heartache
As we turn and leave you there.*

*It feels as though you left
us yesterday,
The wound is still so sore.
For every minute of every day,
We miss you more and more.*

*We hold you close within
our hearts,
And there you will remain,
To walk with us throughout
our lives,
Until we meet again.*

**Forever loved and missed by your loving husband, Frank,
sons Michael, David, and Ken, daughter Regina,
and extended family.**

Rest in Peace Mam/Elizabeth

Missing You, Gran

*Gran, your life was
Full of loving deeds,
Always so thoughtful
Of our everyday needs.*

*Today, tomorrow, and all life through,
We will always love and cherish you. xx*

**Loved and missed dearly by Jennifer, Stephen, Ava,
Saoirse, Leon, and Jaxon. xx**

Rest in Peace Gran

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In loving memory of
DAVID DUNCAN
"Redlough" Rathevan, Portlaoise,



*The family of the late David Duncan, wish to express
their heartfelt thanks to the many people who braved
the freezing cold night in January of last year to pay
their respects following the untimely death
of our beloved son, David.*

*We deeply appreciate the overwhelming support shown
to us by family, close friends, neighbors, and the
wider community during our darkest hour.*

*We would also like to thank Monsignor Byrne for his
prayers and guidance, and Matt Keegan for his
compassion and assistance with all of the arrangements.*

Rest in Peace David

In Loving Memory of
DAN COOKE

'Villa Igea' Mosse Lane, Portlaoise.

3rd Anniversary occurs 6th February 2025.

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 9th February at 12.30pm.**

*Those we love we never lose,
For always they will be loved,
remembered, and treasured,
Forever in our memory.*

**Loved and remembered by Meta, Eadaoin, Siobhan
and Dearbhail, James and Eileen, grandchildren,
extended family and friends.**

Rest in Peace Dan

Birthday Remembrance

In Loving Memory of
MICK McDONALD

St. Jude's, Dublin road Portlaoise.

1st birthday away from home occurred on 24th January 2025

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

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by your loving wife Mary,
sons Stephen, David & family.*

May Mick Rest in Peace



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of
EUGENE O'CONNOR

St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.

14th Birthday remembrance away from home;
5th February 2025.



*Its, the day of a special twin
Brother's 65th Birthday.
Happy Birthday Twin.*

Love from sister Lucy, brothers, sisters,
children James and Zoe and your
grandsons Odin and Zane xxxx

Rest in Peace Eugene

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In Loving Memory of
JOHN BURKE
Ballyknockan, Portlaoise.



*John's Month's Mind Mass
will take place on Sunday,
February 9th, at 11:15 AM in
Sts. Peter and Paul Parish
Church, Portlaoise .*



The family of the late **John Burke** wishes to express our heartfelt gratitude for the messages of sympathy and kindness shown to us on John's passing. To our **relatives, neighbours, and wide circle of friends**, we sincerely thank you for your presence and support, both in person and online. Your kindness brought great comfort to us during our time of grief.

We are deeply grateful to **Msgr. Byrne and fellow celebrants, our readers, musicians, and singer** for their contributions to John's funeral service.

A special thank you to **Rankin's and Keegan's Funeral Directors** for their assistance with John's Requiem Mass, removal, and burial.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to the **doctors and staff of the Slieve Bloom Ward and the Palliative Care Team, Also, the ambulance services Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise, for the excellent care John received in his final days. Additionally, we are grateful to the staff of Cedar Clinic and Hughes Pharmacy for their kindness and support over the years.**

Rest in peace, John.

MONTHS MIND

In Loving Memory of
NELLIE (ELLEN) BRENNAN
(NÉE RAFTER)

St Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
(23/04/1933—12/01/2025)



*Nellie's Month's Mind Mass will be
celebrated on Saturday 8th February
at 6.30pm in Sts. Peter and Paul's Church,*

Sadly missed by all her loving family & Friends

May your soul rest in peace,

Nellie.



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David **087-2369887**

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The Parish Shop



At Parish Centre

**Opening Hours: Monday to
Friday 9am-5pm**

*Stockists of a large selection
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(Candles & cards can be personalised)

* Personalised Cards for all occasions e.g.
birthdays, exam results, wedding
anniversaries, new home.

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* Bibles & Spiritual books for adults & children



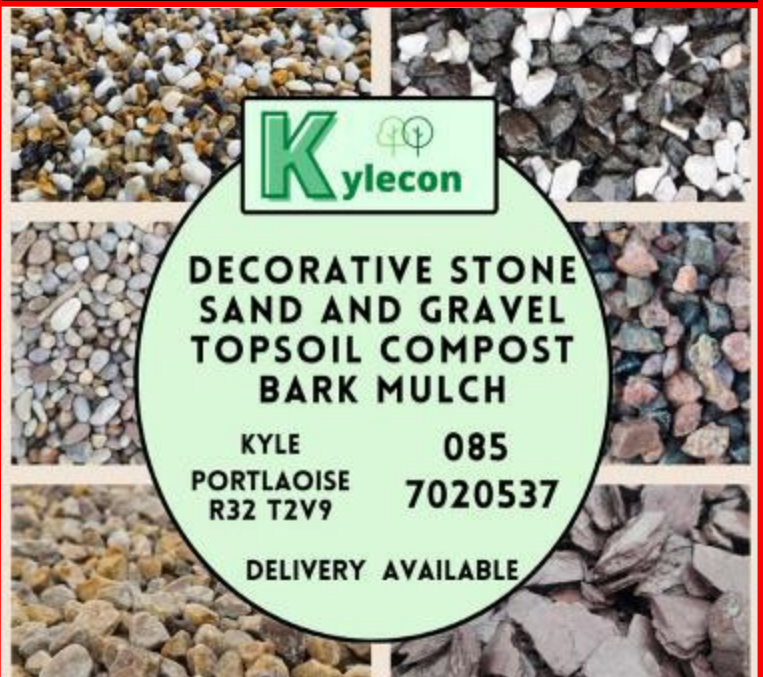
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Starts 8pm

Buses collecting from their usual pick-up points in the Portlaoise area at 7:30pm.

**It always seems
impossible until it's done.**
- Nelson Mandela



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
30th January 2025



No €17,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Mick & David
Mary Connell
Aidan & Sharon Crowley
Anne & Baby Thomas
Mary Byrne
Coleman & Mgt McEvoy
Tracey Moore
Ciara & Bernard Ging
Tricia Lewis
Dympna McArdle
Christina Harris
Agnieszka Kaczmarek
Breda Ryan
Colette Fingleton
Billy & Sinead Kirwan
Elizabeth Killeen
Kitty Moore
Mary Delaney
Willie Phean
martha Carroll

MATCH 3s €1,000

20
Match
3s
Receive
€50
each

PROMOTER

Richard Phelan
Elizabeth Dowling
Ber Breen
Anne Brennan
Lily Moore
Aideen McEvoy
Online Lotto
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Lotto Gift
Betty Lynch
Betty Lynch
Frances Byrne
Pam Killeen
Betty Phelan
Margaret Doheny
Liam Phelan
Betty O'Rourke



www.portlaoiseparish.ie

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Next Week's Jackpot is €18,000

Development Fund Envelope Boxes Available at the Church Porches



We invite you to take a box for your Weekly contribution to the Parish Development Fund. The boxes also contain envelopes for the other collections during the year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Support for the Parish

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

Ways to contribute to our Parish

Envelope boxes available at Church porches and Parish Centre

Direct payment by cheque or cash

Cashless Point at the back of the Parish Church

Donation facility on our website

Standing Order forms available at the Parish Centre

Or Transfer directly to our Account

Portlaoise Parish Account:

IBAN: IE53AIBK93327916658045

Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

(The BIC for both accounts is AIBKIE2D)

THANK YOU

Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and our Church Porches.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)

All Masses and services from the Parish Church and the Heath Church are live streamed on our website



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