

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

**2nd March 2025**

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Day of Prayer for Temperance



Congratulations to 326 boys and girls who received the Sacrament of Confirmation over the last couple of days. Thanks to Bishop Denis who presided at the 4 ceremonies. Our thanks to the teachers and all involved in the preparations and to all who helped with the gowns, the music, the PowerPoints etc. Our best wishes to the boys and girls, we hope they will have good memories of their Confirmation and that it was a great family day also. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit enrich their lives.



**Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created; and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

**The Parish Centre 057 8621142**

**Follow Us** **@PortlaoiseParis**  
**& Like Us** **fb.com/portlaoiseparishlaois**  
**fb.com/portlaoiselinkup**

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



## Remembering the victims of COVID-19



As we approach the 5th Anniversary of Covid this month, we remember all who died in our Parish during lockdown and their families who had to cope with Covid restrictions at this sad time. We will remember them at Mass on Friday 28th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

If you would like them to be remembered by name at this Mass please give the details to the Parish

Centre by calling in or email

[michelle@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:michelle@portlaoiseparish.ie)

A family member will be invited to light a candle in their memory. If we have a photo of the deceased it will accompany their name on the screen in the Parish Church.

(A photograph may also be displayed if you wish to provide one).

Please have this into the Parish office by Monday 24th March.

### Pray for Pope Francis.

**Send your Spirit of healing Lord, that he may accompany our Shepherd Pope Francis in his illness. As he endures pain and discomfort, give him strength and peace. May he experience the continued grace of your mercy.**

## Mass times for the coming week

(Parish Church or otherwise stated)

### Monday & Tuesday

7.30am & 10am

### Wednesday (Ash Wednesday)

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.

Ratheniska: 10am

The Heath: 7pm

**Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.**

### Thursday & Friday

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.

### Friday (First Friday)

7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.

**Saturday: 10am**

### Sunday

Vigil 6.30pm (Saturday)

8.30am, 10am, 11.15am & 12.30pm

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, THE HEATH

**Sunday: 9.30am**

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, RATHENISKA

**Sunday: 10am**

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday: After 10am Mass & after 6.30pm Mass.

## SHROVE TUESDAY



This Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday - also known as Pancake Day - is the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. It is celebrated throughout Ireland by the cooking and eating of pancakes - a last feast before the fasting and self-denial of Lent!

## Friday (First Friday) - Parish Church

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm  
Mass 7.30pm  
followed by Stations of the Cross.



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

We welcome into our Parish Community

Sean Thomas Moore, Valeview, Stradbally

Darragh Gerald Hughes, Foxburrow

Francis James Keane, Newtown, NSW

**who were baptised last weekend**



Trócaire Boxes are available in the Church porches or you can pick up a box in the Parish Centre.

## LENTEN STATIONS

### For the support of our Priests

Envelopes are available in Church porches for those who haven't got Development Boxes and wish to contribute to the Priests Collection. You can drop this envelope in one of the collection boxes provided in our Churches or returning to the Parish Centre during Lent. Thank You.



Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent when we are invited for forty days to set aside more time for prayer and fasting in preparation for Easter. The Ashes, made in the sign of the cross on our foreheads on this day, are an outward sign of our

inward sorrow for our sins and of our commitment to Jesus as Our Lord and Saviour.'

Blessed Ashes will be available in the Parish Church and Parish Centre from 11am on Wednesday.

**Wednesday (Ash Wednesday)**

**7.30am, 10am & 7.30pm.**

**Ratheniska: 10am**

**The Heath: 7pm**

Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

# MULHALL MEATS

Est. 1931



Now  
**25%**  
Off



## Mulhall's Fresh Irish Silverside

Offer Ends Sunday 9th March

Full Range Of Fresh  FISH  Available

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

## AUDIOLOGIST HEARING AID Consultant

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



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

## In Attendance

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

By Appointment Only

Tel: 057 8692289 Mobile: 085 8568808

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

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

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



## Laois Physiotherapy Clinic

*live life physically well*

The Coach House, 4 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise.

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

CONOR BOLTON *BSc MSc MScCP*

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

To book by phone: 087 666 4808.

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

**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.



We are local and here for you

## Private Occupational Therapy



### Housing Assessments

- Housing Adaptation Grant assessments and reports.
- Stairlifts, adapted bathrooms, ramps, extensions, etc.



### Paediatric Assessments

- Occupational Therapy assessments to help your child grow.
- Supporting children's development at home, in school, and during play.

Contact Us Today for an Appointment:

info@originaltherapies.ie 083 150 6755

www.originaltherapies.ie



## J&L LANDSCAPING TREES & GARDENING SERVICES



**QUALIFIED TREE SURGEON**

- NPTs Certified
- Hawthorn
- Silver Birch Comilers
- Willow Sycamore trees etc. Pruned
- Dangerous Tree Removal
- Fully Insured

**MAINTENANCE**

- Hedges Trimmed
- Rose Bushes Lopped
- New Turf Lawns Laid
- Lawns Rotavated
- Lawns Cut
- Fencing
- Garden Tidy ups

**POWER WASHING**

- Block Paving
- Crazy Paving
- Concrete Drives
- Tarmacadam
- Walls Stonework
- Decking
- Steps
- Rubbish Removal



No job too large or small • Free estimates • Over 15 years experience • Work carried out through the four seasons

Email: info@jllandscapingandtreecare.ie

www.jllandscapingandtreecare.ie  
Call or text John 089 4115912



DECORATIVE STONE  
SAND AND GRAVEL  
TOPSOIL COMPOST  
BARK MULCH

KYLE 085  
PORTLAOISE 7020537  
R32 T2V9

DELIVERY AVAILABLE



- NEED HOME HEATING OIL?
- NEED TRACTOR DIESEL?

Call Sean Smyth 086-3561669

It's unfair! So why put up with it?



Employment law, GDPR, Equal Status Acts,  
Consumer complaints, Professional advice and  
practical assistance. Email: info@unfair.ie Tel:  
083 4294659 www.unfair.ie

## Martin Ryan Lawnmower Sales & Service

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

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



086 2493723

## D.I.L Bathroom Renovations

Heating & Plumbing  
System Power Flush  
Tiling  
Boiler Service

Gavin  
087 649 5274



Scoil Fionntáin Naofa,  
Shanahoe

will host their Annual Tractor,  
Truck and Vintage Day Fundraiser **September 7<sup>th</sup> 2025**



**SAVE THE DATE  
Sunday**



## Finding Purpose after Loss

Week-end Retreat for Men - De La Salle Centre, Castletown: 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> March

When you have loved and lost, it can feel as though the very fabric of your life has been torn apart - and in many ways, it has. You have experienced significant loss and the inevitable grief that follows, but, too often, like many others, have not fully moved beyond it. With time, the pain becomes easier to bear, yet you may never truly let go or fully integrate the experience. This *Finding Purpose After Loss* retreat could act as a bridge between your loss and what lies ahead. By integrating this significant experience into the story of your life, you will be able to move forward with renewed hope, courage, and strength. Organised by [Males Ireland](#) - check website for more details.  
Residential: €180, Non-Residential, €100 (must commit to the full programme.)

# BREEN STEEL SHEDS

## STEEL SHEDS



## CATTLE CRUSHES



## ALL WEATHER CLOTHESLINES



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

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



# DUNKEEN OIL

YOUR LOCAL OIL DISTRIBUTOR



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

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

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

Contact Marcus directly  
on 086 2904029 (any time)

Unit 4 Bridge Street Centre, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



# 10% OFF ANY PREMIUM RECHARGEABLE IN THE EAR HEARING AIDS

Meet Silk Charge&Go IX - so small and subtle, it blends seamlessly into your life, empowering you to participate fully without drawing attention to your hearing aid.

PRSI GRANT of up to €1000 Available!



(057) 863 8181

**CALL US TODAY!**

[WWW.HEARMED.IE](http://WWW.HEARMED.IE)



**MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN**  
GET YOURSELF NOTICED

EU Business

Irish Enterprise  
Awards 2022

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

## THE PRINTER YOU NEED TO KNOW



GRAPHIC  
DESIGN



MERCHANDISE &  
PROMOTIONAL  
ITEMS



BOOK  
PUBLICATIONS



MAIL  
MARKETING



CORPORATE &  
RETAIL PRINT



WIDE FORMAT  
PRINTING



VEHICLE  
GRAPHICS



PROCUREMENT  
PICK & PACK

Clonminam Business Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 EH11

☎ 057 8634050

Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 TF83

☎ 045 433569



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



# Minogue

6TH TO 9TH  
MARCH

## Furniture

PORTLAOISE

R32 XK65



057 8663501

### STARTS THURSDAY ENDS SUNDAY @ 6PM

# BIG SPRING SALE



floor model

**EMSWORTH TABLE & 6 CHAIRS**  
WAS €1863 NOW €1299



floor models

**OASIS & SINATRA CHAIRS**  
WERE €449 NOW €299



floor model

**GIOVANNI LEATHER CORNER**  
WAS €4699 NOW €1999



floor model

**TYRONE 4 SEATER**  
WAS €1299 NOW €999

**HAZEL CHAIR**

WAS €449 NOW €299

**HEMSWORTH POWER RECLINER**

WAS €899 NOW €699

**PORTRUSH 3 SEATER**

WAS €799 NOW €499

**TOPAZ STOOLS**

WERE €189 NOW €139

## SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE



**KILMORE 5FT BEDS**  
WERE €599 NOW €499



floor model

**FRANCESCO 3, 2 & 1 SUITE**  
WAS €4367 NOW €2999



**CAVALLO TABLE & 6 CHAIRS**  
WAS €1893 NOW €999



floor model

**CRONIN 2 & 3 SET**  
WAS €2528 NOW €1999

Up to  
50%  
OFF

## MASSIVE 4 DAY CLEAROUT

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY  
ON SELECTED ITEMS

[WWW.MINOGUEFURNITURE.COM](http://WWW.MINOGUEFURNITURE.COM)



@minoguefurniture

PORTLAOISE FET CENTRE

# OPEN DAY

Thursday March 6th  
10am-12pm, 2-4pm, 6-8pm



**Courses include:**

- Business Administration
- Payroll and Accountancy
- Project Management
- Legal and Medical Studies
- Early Learning and Care (Childcare)
- Special Needs Assisting
- Advanced English (ESOL)
- Healthcare Support
- Office Skills
- IT/ Computer Skills
- Music Studies
- Sound Production

Full & part-time options available for all, regardless of your circumstance

Portlaoise FET Centre, Ridge Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 NN82  
05786 21867/ [portlaoise@loetb.ie](mailto:portlaoise@loetb.ie)/ [lmcevoy@loetb.ie](http://lmcevoy@loetb.ie)



Education Ireland  
Department of Education



Co-funded by the  
European Union



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



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

## LAOIS JET WASH SERVICES LTD



**C.C.T.V. PIPE & DRAIN INSPECTION  
HIGH PRESSURE DRAIN CLEANING  
TEL/FAX 057-8681720 MOBILE 087-7749519  
HAVE YOU A PROBLEM WITH YOUR DRAINS?**

**OPEN 7 Days a Week**

**Techmarket**  
Repairs Sales Accessories



# Techmarket

Sales Accessories Repairs

Located in the Kyle Centre, Portlaoise

Laptops, Macs, iMacs, Tablets and all Computer and Phone Accessories in stock

[techmarket.ie](http://techmarket.ie) @techmarketirl



SALES

ACCESSORIES

REPAIRS



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

**Pro-Life Collection – Thank You:** A sincere thank you to all who supported our Pro-Life Church Gate Collection on the weekend of February 15th & 16th, 2025. Your generosity helped us raise €523.67. We truly appreciate your kindness and support.

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

**Couch to Céilí** All are welcome to join us each Monday at 11am in Parish Centre, Portlaoise for learning and practising of all your favourite dances in preparation for a Céilí Mór on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> for Seachtain na Gaeilge. A truly enjoyable celebration of our culture is promised. Come alone or bring a partner. Event concluding on Monday March 10<sup>th</sup>. For further details contact Catriona at Laois Sports Partnership or Maureen at **087-6482038**

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

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** Bowls in St. Mary's Sports Hall, 2pm-4pm. New members welcome. Tuition given.

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March:** Club in Parish Centre, for afternoon of friendship and activities and fun. Sing along with Caroline at 3pm. New members welcome.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March:** Cards & Chat in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. New members welcome. Tuition given. Memorial service on **2nd April** in conjunction with our clubs 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 2.30pm in Parish Church. Afterwards refreshments in Parish Centre. All members and ex members welcome. For further information please contact P.R.O Sheila on 087-6204617

**Results of Whist Drive - Parish Centre, Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February**

**Top Score:** Paric Dowling, **Ladies:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Lillis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Catherine Fitzpatrick **Gents:** 1<sup>st</sup> Paul Kavanagh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter Stevenson, **1<sup>st</sup> Half:** Ann Marie Farrell **2<sup>nd</sup> Half:** Sadie Chester

**Raffle Winners:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sean Bennett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret Flanagan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Frank Keenan, 4<sup>th</sup> Christy Fitzpatrick, 5<sup>th</sup> Molly O'Brien. Thank you for your support! Whist continues every Tuesday at 7:30 PM 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.

**Legion of Mary – Meetings:** Every Wednesday at 7pm in the Parish prayer hall. All are welcome!

**World Day of Prayer** will be celebrated on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in the Methodist Church, Mountmellick, at 11:00 am. Theme: **"I Made You Welcome"** All are welcome.

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



**Relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux & Her Parents**

As part of the **Canonisation Centenary Celebrations**, the relics will be at **St. Brigid's Parish Church, Suncroft, The Curragh, Kildare:**

*St Thérèse of Lisieux*

**Sat, 8th March 2025** – 6pm Mass & veneration

**Sun, 9th March 2025** – 10:30am Mass & veneration. All are welcome. **Info: 085 887 549.**

**Eucharistic Healing Service** led by Fr. John Keane in S.S. Mary & Laurence Church, Crookstown R14 WD80. Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. All are welcome.

**PRAYER OF ST THERÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS TO THE HOLY FACE**

Oh Jesus, who in Thy bitter Passion didst become "the most abject of men, a man of sorrows", I venerate Thy Sacred Face whereon there once did shine the beauty and sweetness of the Godhead; but now it has become for me as if it were the face of a leper! Nevertheless, under those disfigured features, I recognise Thy infinite Love and I am consumed with the desire to love Thee and make Thee loved by all men.

The tears, which well up abundantly, in Thy sacred eyes appear to me, as so many precious pearls that I love to gather up, in order to purchase the souls of poor sinners by means of their infinite value. Oh Jesus, whose adorable face ravishes my heart, I implore Thee to fix deep within me Thy Divine image and to set me on fire with Thy Love, that I may be found worthy to come to the contemplation of Thy glorious Face in Heaven. Amen.

**Feast of the Holy Face – Tuesday, 4th March 2025**

The Parish Church invites you to honour the Feast of the Holy Face on Tuesday, 4th March 2025. An image of the Holy Face will be available for veneration in the church throughout the day. All are welcome to come and spend time in prayer and reflection.

Human Life International (Ireland), Quilligold Centre, 26th Street, Suncroft, Kildare, Co. Kildare, P23 9Y99, Ireland  
Tel: (086) 827095, email: info@hlireland.ie, www.hlireland.ie  
C.R.A. No: 206265A Charity No: DFN 12338 C.R.N. 734975

## The Heaths St Patrick's Day Parade:



- We are reaching out to all musicians, bands, businesses, organisations and community groups to participate in The Heaths St Patrick's Day Parade.
- To participate, you will need to create and design your own banners, floats and signs and to really stand out, maybe add costumes and props to enhance the overall parade experience.
- Taking place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of March.
- The parade will commence at The Heath GAA Community Hall and proceed to The Heath church for 9:30am mass.
- For any information please contact Samantha 086 366 7583.



## **PODIATRIST** **MAY COLLINS**

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

Tel.;

**086-3785327**

By Appointment only.  
VHI-Aviva-Laya approved



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

24/7 Emergency Service.  
Auto - Home - Commercial

**086-2624270**

**085-2833064**

**Shop: 05786-20135**

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

## **ACTIVE BUILDING** **SERVICES**

Domestic Plumbing.  
Oil Fired Central Heating.  
Plumber on call, Portlaoise  
and surrounding areas. Tel. ;  
**Fergus 089-4541868**

## **GRASS CUTTING** **SERVICES**

Private houses,  
Industrial Estates,  
Private Estates.

**Contact Lee :**  
**087-1949233**

## **PLUMBER AVAILABLE**

All domestic, solid fuel and  
oil servicing.  
Water softener installation.  
Full Bathroom Renovations.

**Contact Alan;**  
**085-1141395**

## **WINDOW AND** **DOOR REPAIRS**

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

**083-3153211**  
[www.kukic-hms.ie](http://www.kukic-hms.ie)

## **PAINTING &** **DECORATING**

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

**089-4459958**

## **MATHS GRINDS** **AVAILABLE**

- **Junior Cycle** – €30
- **Leaving Cert** – €35

**Contact Caoimhe at**  
**089-4822249**

## **Mountain View Eco Wood** **FIREWOOD SALES**

- \* Net bag softwood logs €5
  - \* Trailer load logs
  - \* Net bag kindle wood €3
  - \* 20kg bags Coal now €15
  - \* Net bag hardwood logs €7
  - \* 12 bags of 20kg smokeless oval coal+1 free kindling for €150.
- Free delivery. Card or cash accepted.



**Contact Fintan 087-7645855**

## **KPS CLEANING**



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

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

**087-9737073**

## **CLARE'S** **DOG SERVICE**



**Stradbally Rd. Portlaoise**  
Quality Service

Dogs required for Student  
grooming. Discounts apply. Tel.

**089-4890869**

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



## **GARDEN** **SERVICES**

Hedges Trimmed  
fallen storm trees cut up, taken  
away, Green waste removal  
Garden clean ups  
Locally Based.

**Contact Richard;**  
**087-9828558**



## **GREG THE** **HANDYMAN**

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

**Contact 089-9567135**

## **S&R SERVICES**

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

**087-4896429**

## **ATTENTION SMALL** **BUSINESSES**

Struggling with admin, payroll,  
VAT, or accounts? We can help!  
20+ years Exp.  
Available daily as needed.

**Contact :**  
**083-0053989**

## **CARPENTER/CABINET** **MAKER**

**Specialising in Kitchen**  
**Respraying, Refurbishment**

Wood panelling, Doors, Skirting  
boards, Architrave, Flooring

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

## **PROFESSIONAL PAINTER** **AND DECORATOR**

**20+ Years Experience**

Interior/Exterior  
Residential/Commercial  
Handpainted Kitchens  
and Bespoke Furniture

**Contact Gary Kelly:**  
**086-0717172**



## **PAT LALOR TARMACADAM** **Church Avenue, Stradbally**

- Tarmacadam
  - Kerbing
  - Drainage
- Free Quotations  
VAT Registered

**Tel. 083-0211577**  
**E-mail: [patlador37@gmail.com](mailto:patlador37@gmail.com)**

**NEW YEAR - FRESH START  
TIME TO DECLUTTER?**

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

**Richard 085-2529893**

**TV SERVICES**

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

**057-8732998  
087-3636497  
083-3742600**

**QUALIFIED HOME TUTOR  
REQUIRED**

For 15-year-old student in Irish, Maths, Science, and Business under Dept. of Ed. Home Tuition Scheme. Teaching Council Registered. Based in Portlaoise.

**Contact: Karen at  
087-4145150**

**FOR SALE**

High back orthopaedic chair, adjustable height legs, 8 months old, in perfect condition. Cost €200

**Contact:  
086-3511472**

**HANDYMAN SERVICES**

Offering a wide range of reliable services:

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



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

**Contact Mick  
Phone: 085-2151277**



**ROSARY  
AT  
THE SHRINE**

Market Square,  
Portlaoise

**This Sunday and  
on the  
First Sunday of every month  
at 2:30pm. All are welcome.**

**STATIONS OF THE  
CROSS**



**Friday evenings during Lent  
at 7.30pm**

**St. Bridget's Church Shanahoe,  
Abbeyleix. R32AH90**

**ROSARY AT THE GROTTA**

Rosary will be recited at the Grotto on the First Friday (7<sup>th</sup> March) at 8pm.  
*All are welcome.*



A multi-round trivia presented by  
**Shanahoe Parents Association**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 8pm sharp till late Doogue's Bar, Raheen

**COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN!**

**Table of 4 = €40**

**RAFFLE ON THE NIGHT**

**Laois Scór Sinsir  
over 17 competition**

Clárú/Pre-registration: [irishculturalofficer.laois@gaa.ie](mailto:irishculturalofficer.laois@gaa.ie)



**2025**

**7pm, Laois Centre of Excellence  
Dé hAoine 7ú Márta**

• Table Quiz • Set Dancing • Ballad Group • Instrumental Music • Céili Dancing • Solo Singing • Recitation/Storytelling • Novelty Act



**LINE  
DANCE**

**LINE DANCING WITH MOEZ**

- ⇒ **Tuesdays at 11 AM at St. Mary's Bingo Hall.**
- ⇒ **Suitable for beginners.**
- ⇒ **€10 per class.**

**For more info, please call or text 087 1448052.**



Advertise to thousands of weekly readers on paper and online!

**Contact Link up  
office: 057-8692154**

# CateKIDS

Portlaoise Parish [www.portlaoiseparish.ie](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie)

HANDING ON  
THE FAITH



## A Tree and Its Fruit

Do you like fruit? My favourite fruit is an apple. Do you like apples? Apples not only taste good, but they are good for you. Surely you have heard the saying, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." How about bananas? There are lots of ways to eat bananas. They are great on cereal at breakfast, aren't they? Have you ever eaten banana bread? Yum, yum! One of my favourite snacks is a banana smoothie. Oh, did I mention that bananas have lots of vitamins? What is one of the best ways to get a lot of vitamin C? The orange, of course!

Where do we get all of these delicious fruits? They come from fruit trees, don't they? Apples come from an apple tree. Oranges come from an orange tree. Bananas come from a banana tree.

Jesus had a lot to say about fruit. He told his followers that they were to bear fruit. Now I don't think he was talking about apples, oranges, and bananas. What do you think Jesus meant when he told his followers to bear fruit for him? When Jesus says that good people produce good fruit, he doesn't mean the kind of fruit that we eat. He means that if we are following him, we will want to do the things that make God happy. We will do good things, we will help people, we will share what we have with others, and we will treat other people with respect.

Jesus said, "A tree is identified by its fruit. A good person produces good things from a good heart, but an evil person will produce bad things from an evil heart. What kind of fruit tree do you want to be? A good tree producing good fruit, or an evil tree producing evil fruit?"

## Our Prayer

Father, we want to be identified as a good tree, producing good fruit. Help us to do the things we know will be pleasing to you. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*Lent begins Next Wednesday 5th March*

**Remember these are the three things we are asked to focus on for Lent.**

**Praying:** Spend a little more time with God.

**Sacrificing:** Giving up something that you really like.

**Almsgiving:** Giving to those who have very little or sharing what you have with someone who needs it.

**"Repent and believe in the good news of the Gospel"**





# The Season of Lent



# LENT

## Facts about Lent:

- Lent is a time when Christian people get ready for Easter.
- Lent is a sacred time within the Church calendar. It is a time of fasting, prayer and almsgiving.
- Lent lasts for forty days reminding us of the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert doing penance and fasting. It begins on **Ash Wednesday (5th March 2025)** and finishes before sunset on Holy Thursday. We don't count Sundays in the forty days because Sundays are days of celebration in the Church calendar.
- Purple vestments are worn by the priest during Lent.
- The Gloria and alleluia are not prayed at Mass during Lent.
- Lent comes for the word "lente" which means springtime.
- Many people promise to do something during Lent to help them to be more like Jesus. Sometimes they give up something they like, they fast from sweets, or television. Other people promise to do something like being kinder, going to Mass, saying prayers or to put money in the Trócaire box to remind them to help others who are not as lucky as they are.
- What we do during Lent helps us to get ready for Easter.



A S H  
Wednesday

## Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday



Ash Wednesday is the First Day of Lent. On Ash Wednesday people are asked to fast. On Ash Wednesday the priest blesses the ashes and uses them to make the sign of the cross on our foreheads. The priest or minister says *'turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel'*, or similar words. Wearing ashes is a sign that a person is going to make an extra special effort during Lent to use his/her gifts for the good of others.

I promise to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

as I make my journey through Lent to Easter.

## My Lenten Prayer



Lord Jesus,  
be with me as  
I try to keep  
my promise  
and help me to  
be more like  
you everyday.  
Amen.



# Time to Think!

## Prayers for Pope Francis

As I write this article, I am acutely aware that Pope Francis's health is seriously declining. He has led the Catholic Church with integrity, humility, and a deep commitment to living out his faith. His life has been shaped by Jesus Christ, and he has embraced those on the periphery, just as Christ did. Pope Francis is regarded as one of the most significant world leaders, known for his reasoned voice in a turbulent world. Regardless of his current situation, his pontificate will be historically significant.

From the beginning, Francis's papacy surprised many. After Pope Benedict resigned in February 2013, Jorge Mario Bergoglio became the first Jesuit pope, the first pope from the Americas, and the first to take the name Francis. He made immediate changes, opting for a simple lifestyle, living in the Vatican guesthouse instead of the Apostolic Palace and using a Fiat instead of a Mercedes-Benz. His playful rapport with the public signalled a joyful shift in papal leadership.

Pope Francis's actions have consistently defied expectations. He has confessed his sins, embraced the disfigured, visited a migrant camp on Lesbos, and reached out in war-torn countries. He even admitted his mistake in defending a Chilean bishop accused of covering up abuse, demonstrating humility and compassion.

His papacy has also seen significant reforms in the Vatican. He created an advisory council of cardinals, investigated the Vatican Bank, and

appointed a woman, Sister Nathalie Becquart, to a key role in the Roman Curia. These changes marked a departure from previous papacies, emphasizing transparency and collaboration.

Pope Francis has also focused outward, addressing the climate crisis in his encyclical *Laudato si'*, traveling to predominantly Muslim countries, and advocating for inclusion, as seen in his compassionate remarks to the LGBT community. His leadership has emphasized mercy and understanding.

His concern for the poor has remained central. He highlights the many forms of poverty—material, spiritual, and moral—and calls for a renewed focus on evangelization and care for the poor. His papacy is revolutionary, not in political terms, but in a return to the Church's roots of passion for the mission and the poor. If Pope Francis resigns or passes away, a conclave will elect his successor. His appointments have been prophetic, creating a College of Cardinals that reflects the universal nature of the Church. During this uncertain time, I pray that the Spirit of God remains close to him. Pope Francis has been a compassionate shepherd, bringing good news to the poor.

May the Lord be near to all who are sick, and may we be inspired by his joy and compassion.

### Prayer for Pope Francis

Loving and Merciful God,

We come before You in prayer, lifting up Your servant, Pope Francis, during this time of need. You are the Source of all healing, and we ask You to surround him with Your loving presence. Grant him strength, comfort, and recovery. May Your divine grace rest upon him, restoring his health and filling him with renewed energy to continue leading Your Church with compassion and wisdom.

"But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds," declares the Lord. **(Jeremiah 30:17)**

-Amen.



# Congrats

Congratulations and welcome back to Sr. Sybil, who recently travelled to Kerala, India, to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of her religious profession alongside fellow members of the UMI order. Sr. Sybil has been serving in Ireland since October 14th, 2017, and we are deeply grateful for her dedication and service to St. Peter & Paul's Church and the parish. May she be blessed with many more happy and fruitful years of service.

## Golden Jubilee



1975 - 2025

*"I will praise the name of God with a song;  
I will magnify Him with thanksgiving" (Ps. 69:30)*

With profound gratitude to God and to Blessed Brigida Morello, our Foundress, we, the Ursulines of Mary Immaculate, Amala Province celebrated the

### Golden Jubilee of the religious profession of

**SR. SYBIL UMI**

ON SATURDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY 2025



Rt. Rev. Dr. Alex Vadakumthala, Bishop of Kannur, and Rt. Rev. Dr. Dennis Kuruppassery, Auxiliary Bishop, celebrated the Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist on this joyful occasion.

Ursuline convent  
Portlaoise Ireland

Sr. Veena Panamkatt  
Provincial Superior  
Ursuline Convent  
Payyambalam Kannur



## St. Vincent de Paul - SVP

No 1 Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois



Dear Parishioners,

St Vincent de Paul Portlaoise would like to thank you all for your extreme generosity during a very busy time over the Christmas period. Thank you to all who supported our Church collection weekend. Thank you to all who donated food, toys, and treats this year and to those who donated directly to our St Vincent de Paul shop, thank you to all who donated on line and in any other way, we would also like to thank all the local businesses who once again showed incredible support for our charity.

These donations will directly benefit local families and individuals and allows us to reach out to more local people in the New Year, Donations like this help us to look after the most vulnerable in our community and these people will have access to food, heat, electricity, and education throughout the coming year.

Our charity would not be able to continue the work we do in the local community without the very generous and continued support from local people like you. We as a conference are committed to ensuring that any local family that may find themselves in an emergency will get the help they need.

As always, we appreciate your unrelenting support year on year and know that we can rely on you all to raise much needed funds for our charity. Your donation will be vital in helping us succeed, and will make an incredible difference to people's lives.

**Thank you**  
**St Vincent de Paul Portlaoise Conference**

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

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



**JOSHUA  
GONDUE**  
*Kilminchy  
Portlaoise*



**JOHN  
KENNEDY**  
*Spink  
Abbeyleix*



**EDDY  
HUTCHINSON**  
*Killamuck  
Abbeyleix*



**REV THOMAS  
O'SHEA P.E.**  
*Arles who  
served in  
Portlaoise  
1972-1984*



**JOHN  
O'MAHONEY**  
*formerly Portlaoise  
Rd, Abbeyleix  
& London*

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**



*Our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family of*

**AARON HUSSAIN,**  
*Kilminchy, Portlaoise*

*who died tragically last weekend.*

**MAY HE REST IN PEACE**

**In Loving Memory of  
LAR DOOLEY**

**29 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise.**



*7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025.  
Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 10am.*

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

*Sadly missed and fondly remembered by his family,  
neighbours and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Lar*



**MOCHUA PRINT & DESIGN**  
MEMORIAL CARD SPECIALIST

**A SPECIAL MEMORY  
OF YOUR LOVED ONE**

**Clonminam Business Park  
Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
R32 EH11**

**057 86 34050**

**info@mochuaprint.ie**

**www.mochuaprint.ie**



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
*In Loving Memory of*  
**CARMEL SCANNELL**  
**(NÉE DUNNE)**  
*Newpark, Portlaoise*



The family of the late Carmel Scannell wishes to express our sincere gratitude for the sympathy and kindness shown to us during our recent bereavement. We are grateful to our relatives, neighbours, work colleagues, friends, and those who travelled long distances to attend the funeral.

A special thanks to Ellie Fitzpatrick (Carmel's good and close friend), who visited her regularly in her final year. Thank you to those who sent Mass cards, made phone calls, and posted messages of condolence online.

We sincerely thank Fr. Erick Ebot for his guidance and support in celebrating Carmel's funeral Mass. We also sincerely appreciate the efforts of everyone involved in planning the funeral Mass (Michelle Bartley), the beautiful singing at the Mass (Sarah Troy), and John Delaney for the rosary recital.

We extend our gratitude to all at the Cedar Clinic, along with Jim and his team at Hughes's Pharmacy, for their exceptional care of Carmel for many years. Our thanks also go to the many caring staff of Bluebird Homecare who attended Carmel in Newpark. We are especially grateful to the staff of Dunamaise Ward (M.R.H.P.) for their excellent care.

A sincere thank you to Matthew and David of Keegan's Funeral Directors for their kindness, professionalism, and care during this difficult time, and also to those who prepared Carmel's final resting place.

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

*May Carmel Rest in Peace*



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

Capoley, Portlaoise.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 3<sup>rd</sup> March 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 sister Mary, Brother in law Tom and family

*May Breda Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
LILY DARGAN**

32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary occurs 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

**LAURENCE DARGAN**

47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Late of 3 Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise.

Gone, yet not forgotten, although we are apart,  
Your spirit lives within us, forever in our hearts.

*Loved and remembered always by  
Mary, Eugene, Sean and Ronan.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
PADDY DEMPSEY**

47, Marian Ave., Portlaoise .

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Occurring on March 5th, 2025

Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in Sts. Peter and  
Paul Church on Saturday,  
March 1st, at 6:30 pm.



He left us 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.

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your  
daughter Cora, son Cyril, son-in-law Joe,  
daughter-in-law Noeleen, and grandchildren  
Emily, Alan, Conor, Tara, and Ryan.*

*May Paddy Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
ELIZABETH FLEET (Lily)**

Limetree Ave. Kilminchy, Portlaoise .



10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Away from Home.  
Also remembering her  
brother John, who passed away recently.

Mass will be celebrated on  
Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, at 6:30 pm in  
Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Church,  
Portlaoise.

*When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little, but not for long,  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that once we shared  
Miss me, but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take,  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the Master's plan,  
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick at heart,  
Go to the friends we know.  
Laugh at all the things we used to do  
Miss me, but let me go*

*Sadly missed by your loving husband Frank, your  
daughters Janet and Ciara, and son in laws:  
Jonathan and Damian, grandchildren: Craig,  
Amy, Sophie, Olivia, Rhys, Lewis, Lily and all family  
and friends.*

*May They Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
KAREN COONAN (née Dixon)**

Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.



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

*Loved and remembered always,  
Joyce, Des, Katie and Ashling,  
Eddie & Mary*

*May Karen Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
WILLIAM (Billy) O' SULLIVAN**

Harpurs Lane, Portlaoise.

11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025



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

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30am.

*Sadly missed by all his loving family.*

*May William Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
& FIRST ANNIVERSARY**

**In Loving Memory of  
CHRISTY CAHILL**

**St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise**



**1st Anniversary on  
09/03/2025  
Christy's Anniversary  
Mass will be celebrated  
on Sunday 09<sup>th</sup> March at  
12:30 P.M. in Sts. Peter &  
Paul's Parish Church**

The family of the late Christy Cahill would like to express our deepest appreciation & gratitude for the sympathy & kindness shown to us over the past year.

We sincerely thank all those who attended the Funeral Home on that wet Monday night, those who called to the house, posted messages of condolences, mass cards, attended the Requiem Mass or the Burial.

Special word of thanks to Monsignor Byrne and the priests of the parish for all their prayers and assistance.

Sincere thanks to Jim and the staff in Hughes Pharmacy for the care, attention, patience and kindness shown to Christy over the years.

Thanks to Keegan Undertakers for their professionalism, support and guidance, to the gravediggers Brendan and Adrian & Heather Fogarty for the music.

Also sincere thanks to all the staff in the Dunamaise Ward of Portlaoise Hospital & the Palliative Care Team.

To the staff of the Cedar Clinic and the Ambulance Services many thanks for your attention and care over the years.

Deepest gratitude to Christy's carer Jim Brennan, Public Health Nurse Fiona & the Home Support Services team.

*May Christy Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
ELIZABETH (Lil) GALLAGHER**

**Mosse Lane, Portlaoise.**



**Died 25<sup>th</sup> February 1999.  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.**

*O far the touch of a vanished hand,  
And the sound of a voice that is still.*

**Always loved and remembered by  
Frank, George and Mary.**

*Rest in Peace Elizabeth*

**In Loving Memory of  
BOB MULHALL**

**85 Marian Place, Portlaoise. Died 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013.  
12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.**



*Dad, our thoughts are always with you,  
Your place no one can fill,  
In life we loved you dearly,  
In death we love you still.*

**Always loved and remembered  
by your loving family.**

*May Bob Rest in*

**In Loving Memory of  
WILLIE GING**

**Late of 70 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.  
Who died 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008**



*You were always there when  
we needed you,*

*No task too great or small,  
With a loving heart and  
willing hands,  
For us you did it all.*

*Loved and missed today &  
everyday.*

*From Liam and Helena and all your loving family.*

*May Willie Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of our  
dear brother, uncle, and  
nephew**

**MICHAEL GREENE  
Well Road Portlaoise**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary away  
from home occurs on  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025**

*There is always a face before me  
A voice I would love to hear  
A smile I will always remember  
Of a brother I loved so dear  
Deep In my heart lies a picture  
More precious than silver or gold  
It's a picture of my brother  
Whose memory will never grow old.*

**You are loved and missed every day Michael  
from your sister Mary, brothers Christy, Joe &  
Paul, aunt Ellie, sisters-in-law, nieces &  
nephews.**

*Rest in Peace Michael*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOSEPHINE LALOR**

*(née Walsh)*

**1 Borris Little, Portlaoise.**

**Died 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012; 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



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

*Always remembered by her sisters  
Mary, Dolores, Veronica and her  
brothers Oliver and Joe.*

*Rest in Peace Josephine*

**In Loving Memory of  
KAREN COONAN** *(née Dixon)*

**Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise. Died 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.**

**7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs at this time.**



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

*Our hearts still ache in  
sadness, and secret tears  
still flow,*

*What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know.*

**Sadly missed by her husband Owen, son Matthew,  
parents Anne and Brendan, brother Alan,  
extended family & friends.**

*May Karen Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOSEPH DEEVY**

**Late of Lakeglen, Portlaoise.**

**27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in**

**Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church this Sunday**

**9<sup>th</sup> March at 11:15am.**



*Though your smile is gone forever,  
And 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,  
And we have you in our hearts.*

**Sadly missed by his loving daughter Marie, son-in-law  
Seamus, grandchildren Blaine, Evan, Aoife & Clodagh,  
their partners, great-grandchildren Ellie Mae,  
Heidi Marie, Leah, Molly, Bobby and Tom and families.**

*May Joseph Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**In Loving Memory of  
SEÁN QUINN**

**Blandsfort, Ballyroan.**



**Seán's Month's Mind  
Mass will be celebrated  
in St. Patrick's Church,  
Ballyroan, on Sunday,  
9th March, at 9:30 am.**

Seán's wife, Marie, his sister Anne, and the extended Fitzpatrick and McWey families would like to express our sincere gratitude to all who sympathised with us on the sad passing of Seán. Those who travelled long distances, sent floral tributes, Mass cards, and messages of condolence.

We are truly grateful to our relatives, neighbours, and friends who brought food and refreshments to the house and helped in so many ways, as well as to Seán's former work colleagues who visited him regularly during his illness.

A heartfelt thank you to Mountrath Day Care and Abbeyleix C.N.U, where Seán spent many happy and fulfilling days, and to the Comfort Homecare team, especially Tricia and Martha, as well as Christine and Tina from the HSE, who cared for Seán so well at home.

A special thank you to his G.P., Dr. Madden, and the medical and nursing staff at Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise. Thanks also to Casserly's Pharmacy, who looked after Seán over the years. We deeply appreciate the wonderful nurses and carers at The Residence, Portlaoise, who provided such compassionate care during his time there, as well as Clann Medical and Palliative Care Nurse Niamh.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Fr. Paddy Byrne, Fr. Petru, Fr. Seán Conlon, Monsignor John McEvoy, Laura, and the wonderful Ballyroan/Abbeyleix Choir, all of whom made Seán's Requiem Mass so meaningful. Thank you also to Richie and Nora for their care in preparing the church.

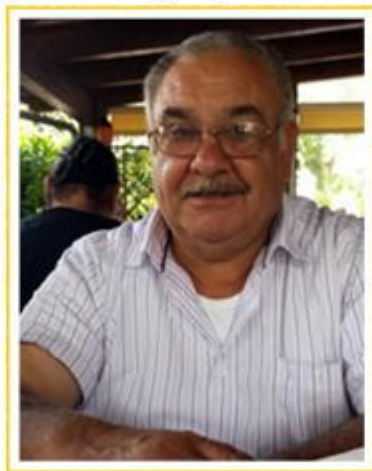
A special thanks to Kelly Undertakers, Eamon, and Kevin, for the dignity, care, and compassion shown to Seán and his family during this difficult time.

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

*May Seán Rest in Peace*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*In Loving Memory of*  
**GIOVANNI (Nino) CIAMBERLANO**  
*1 Glenregan, Portlaoise*



***Nino's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter & Paul's Church on Sunday 2nd of March at 12:30pm.***

The family of Giovanni (Nino) Ciamberlano would like to express our sincere gratitude for the sympathy, kindness, and comfort shown by family and friends since Nino's passing on the 28th of January 2025.

We extend our deepest thanks to the staff of Portlaoise Hospital for their unwavering care and compassion in looking after Nino, not only in his final days but over the last two years. To the Dunamaise Ward, the CCU, and the Palliative Care Team—you are truly angels. Your kindness and dedication in caring for Nino and supporting our family will always be remembered. We also offer our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Crotty and his exceptional team of doctors and nurses in the Haematology/Oncology Unit, as well as the staff of Tullamore Hospital, for their tireless efforts throughout Nino's illness.

A special thank you to Dr. Simon Honan and the team at Maryborough Family Practice for their attentive care, and to Jim, Deirdre, and all the staff at Hughes Pharmacy, who always went above and beyond.

To Nino's many friends—your support and companionship have been an immense source of comfort to Stella over these past few weeks. The visits, cups of tea, and conversations have helped ease the difficult days, and we are truly grateful.

We also wish to thank Fr. Erick Ebot for his prompt visit to Portlaoise Hospital, for his compassion, and for administering Nino's last rites. Our gratitude extends to Monsignor John Byrne and Deacon Eugene Keyes for celebrating the funeral Mass and allowing us to include prayers and messages in Italian from Nino's family abroad. A heartfelt thanks to Heather Fogarty, whose angelic Italian singing brought us immense comfort.

Our deepest appreciation goes to Nino's dear friend John Moloney and his colleague Tom Fox of Moloney Undertakers for their professionalism and compassion in guiding us through Nino's final journey. They went above and beyond to ensure we had time alone with him. Thank you also to Matthew Keegan for facilitating Nino's rosary in his funeral home and to John Delaney from the Parish Pastoral Team for leading the prayers. Sincere thanks to Michelle Bartley in the Parish Centre for her kindness and assistance in preparing and helping us share a translation of the Mass with Nino's family and friends in Italy.

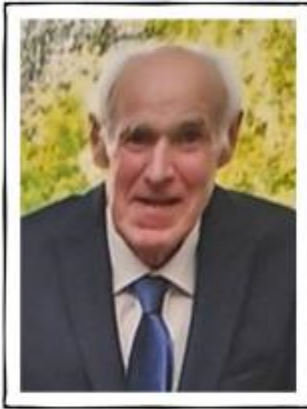
Finally, a very special thank you to Claudia's husband, Christy. Not only was he Nino's chaperone for most of his hospital visits alongside Stella, but he was also an invaluable source of medical knowledge and support. His late nights spent finalizing prayers, photos, and arrangements in the background have not gone unnoticed. Thank you, Christy, for everything you have done over these past two years.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest appreciation. We are grateful to all who assisted in any way, sent messages, left condolences online, attended the rosary and funeral Mass, and shared fond memories of Nino. Your kindness, laughter, and tears have meant the world to us.

*"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal"*

*May Nino Rest in Peace*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
*In Loving Memory of*  
**WILLIAM (LIAM) ROHAN**  
*Corbally, Abbeyleix*



***Liams Months Mind  
 Mass will be  
 celebrated in  
 St. Fintan's Church  
 Raheen on  
 Saturday 8th  
 March at 7pm.***

The family of the late Liam Rohan wish to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who attended Liam's wake and Requiem Mass, offered Mass cards, and sent messages of sympathy on his recent passing.

We are deeply grateful to our extended family, relations, neighbours, friends, and all those who called to see Liam and helped in any way throughout the funeral.

Our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Simon Honan and all at Maryborough Family Practice, MIDOC services, O'Donnell's Pharmacy, and Breslin's Pharmacy for their care and support for Liam.

We are especially grateful to the Comfort Homecare team, without whom it would not have been possible to care for Liam at home. A special thank you to the medical and nursing staff at Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise and the Community Nursing Unit Abbeyleix for looking after Liam so well while he was in your care. To Sonya and the Palliative Care Team, and Denise and all the Public Health Nursing Team, we deeply appreciate the care and professionalism you provided to Liam in his final weeks, ensuring his comfort at all times.

A sincere thank you to Fr. Paddy for visiting Liam in his final days and for celebrating a meaningful Requiem Mass. Thanks also to Fr. Petru for leading the prayers at Liam's wake.

Finally, we extend our gratitude to Eamon Kelly and all at Kelly Funeral Services for their care, guidance, and professionalism during this difficult time.

Please accept this as a token of our heartfelt appreciation.

*May Liam Rest in Peace*

***In Loving Memory of***  
**SHARON TOBIN**

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday away from home occurs 27<sup>th</sup> February.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025.



***Dear Sharon,***  
*Your birthday comes, yet you're  
 not near,  
 Still, in our hearts, we hold you  
 dear,  
 We see your smile in skies so  
 bright,  
 Your love shines on in golden  
 light.  
 Though Heaven holds you, dear  
 and bright,*

*You walk beside us, day and night,  
 Forever sister, always near,  
 In heart and soul, you're still right here.*

***Dearly loved and forever missed from Susan,  
 Catherine, Tracey, Nicola. Ciera, Henry, Rachel  
 and Aideen.***

*Rest in Peace Sharon*

***In Loving Memory of***  
**SHARON TOBIN**

9 Elm Lawn, Portlaoise.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday away from home occurs 27<sup>th</sup> February.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025.



*If roses grow in Heaven Lord  
 Please pick a bunch for me.  
 Place them in my Mother's arms  
 and tell her they're from me.  
 Tell her I love her and miss her,  
 and when she turns to smile,  
 Place a kiss upon her cheek  
 and hold her for a while.*

*Because remembering  
 her is easy,*

*I do it everyday,*

*But there is an ache within my heart  
 That will never go away.*

***Miss you and love you always  
 Love your daughter Victoria and two boys  
 Lennon and Noah***

***We love you forever mammy sleep tight  
 xxxxxxxxxxxx***

*Rest in Peace Sharon*



# Portlaoise Stone Centre

## Five Generations in Stone Cutting

Established in 1991 by Terry Swayne manufacturing superior quality headstones.

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

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

## Visit our Showroom

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

Unit 3B Clonminam Business Park  
Portlaoise, Co. Laois. R32 DW71  
Tel: 057 8660258  
Mobile: 087 2538930

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



# KEEGAN'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

50 Years of Professional Service in Portlaoise.



Contact Matthew

**087-2549195**

David **087-2369887**

## HENRY RANKIN

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise

**087-2562137**



Pictured Above : Members of the Ukrainian Community in Portlaoise gathered and marched last Saturday to mark the third anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and to remember all those who lost their lives since the conflict began. "Lest we forget"



# PORTLAOISE Saint PATRICK'S DAY

MONDAY MARCH 17 STARTS 12:30PM

PARADE AND STREET FESTIVAL

Please join us to make the St. Patrick's Day more fun for all the family.

STREET ENTERTAINMENT, BOUNCY CASTLES, LIVE MUSIC, FOOD & CRAFT STALLS, CARNIVAL RIDES & MUCH MORE!

For more information:

If you are a local business or group that would like to get involved, please contact us via our Facebook page!



## Portlaoise Parish



## Results for

27<sup>th</sup> February 2025

12

14

26

32

WINNERS

MATCH 3s €1,000

PROMOTER

No €11,000 Jackpot Winner

No Match 3 Winners



Follow Us @PortlaoiseParish  
& Like Us portlaoiseparishlaois

www.portlaoiseparish.ie

Next Week's Jackpot is €12,000

## Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin  
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira  
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes  
Tel: 057 8621142

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

## Safeguarding

All safeguarding statements and policies can be viewed on our website and our Church Porches.  
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person  
Ailish Higgins [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

## Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

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

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)

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



LINK UP

Monday to Friday

9am to 5pm

057-8692154

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

Subject to availability of space

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

PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

## Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiasticus 24:4-7

Psalm 91:2-3, 13-16

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Luke 6:39-45

## 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



# CUISLE CENTRE

## *cancer support group*



Block Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

✉ info@cuislecancersupport.com

☎ 0578681492

🌐 cuislecancersupport.com

### MONDAY

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

**REFLEXOLOGY/ REIKI**  
(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

**COUNSELLING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**



**SUPPORT NURSE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**



### AQUA AEROBICS

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

### TUESDAY

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

(DEVELOPED BY STANFORD UNIVERSITY)

NEXT PROGRAMME STARTING APRIL 2025

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



### CITIZENS INFORMATION ADVISER

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

### WEDNESDAY



### CHAIR YOGA

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

**'LOOK GOOD, FEEL BETTER'**

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

**BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

FUNDED BY LAOIS HOSPICE

### MANUAL LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE

A SPECIALISED GENTLE MASSAGE FOR PATIENTS WITH LYMPHOEDEMA, WHICH MAY RESULT FROM SURGERY OR RADIOTHERAPY.

(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

PART FUNDED BY LAOIS HOSPICE

### ART

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

### THURSDAY

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



### PLAY THERAPIST

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



### CHAIR YOGA

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

### PROSTHESIS & BRA FITTING DAY.

STARTING 20TH FEBRUARY  
SPACES AVAILABLE  
(BOOKING ESSENTIAL)

### GARMENT FITTING

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

### CLIMB PROGRAMME

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

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