

**PORTLAOISE
PARISH**

**link
up**

6th April 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Active Retired



**Portlaoise Active Retirement Group
2005 - 2025**

**Organised a memorial service in the
Parish Church last Wednesday to
remember deceased members over
the past 20 years.**

**Monsignor John and the Rev. Janet
Finlay conducted the service**



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

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



The First Stone

It's a sad fact of life, if you do something good, it isn't remembered for very long. You are only as good as your last good deed. But if you do something bad, there will be those who insist on never forgetting it. There will always be those who mutter, "Oh that's 'so and so' the one who had the affair." "That Mr.

Thingymajig, the one who embezzled the company funds." It's a very sad human failing. We are loathe to let the failings of others go.

In today's gospel reading the Scribes and Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught committing adultery. According to the Law of Moses such a woman should be stoned. What has Jesus to say on the matter? As ever, The Scribes and Pharisees are seeking to trap Jesus into giving an answer that is unlawful. Jesus however is great at not falling into traps. "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone," he replies.

When we have made a mistake in life, the last thing we need is condemnation. Condemnation is rarely useful.

Condemnation sends us to a dark place where we fester. Denied our second chance, our self esteem is eroded. We begin to see ourselves in a different light. Other people think we are bad or weak so perhaps we are. Our self image spirals downwards, we start to behave the way people expect us to behave.... badly! But the people, who have pointed the finger of blame; are they really in any position to judge?

We are extraordinarily quick to throw the first stone. Our powers of empathy are limited. Perhaps we enjoy moral outrage. Perhaps we enjoy gossiping at someone else's expense. Today we are challenged. The next time we open our mouths to condemn, we are asked to find mercy instead, the same mercy we expect when we have fallen from grace.

Stations of the Cross

Friday during Lent after 7.30pm Mass in Parish Church.

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.

Mass times for the coming week

ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

Monday—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.

Our Easter Ceremonies on RTE

RTE television will broadcast the Good Friday and Easter Vigil ceremonies from our Parish Church.

Our Good Friday Passion ceremony will be at 3pm and the Easter Vigil at 11pm (later than usual to facilitate RTE). All our ceremonies will also be transmitted via Shalom World and our own webcam.

Our full Holy Week timetable will be published in next week's Linkup and also available on our website.



Thought for the Day

Jesus never wants evil. He only wants what is good and life-giving.

Therefore, in his great mercy, he instituted the sacrament of Reconciliation so that no one will be lost, so that we can all find the forgiveness we need, no matter how great our mistakes have been. Pope Francis said: 'Let us not forget this: God never tires of forgiving us! The problem is that we ourselves get tired, we do not want to ask, we grow weary of asking for forgiveness. He never tires of forgiving, but at times we get tired of asking for forgiveness. Let's never get tired! And let us too learn to be merciful to everyone.'

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Weekly Classes Schedule

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

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

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

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

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- ❖ Autism Awareness Day
- ❖ World Book Day
- ❖ Internet Safety Week
- ❖ Jersey Days.
- ❖ Friendship Week and many more.

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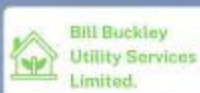
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world find refuge and
the light of hope?*

John Paul II



Welcome to the Feast of Mercy being celebrated at:

Sts. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.

Sunday 27th April 2025

Ceremonies commence with Confessions from 2pm,

Mass starting at 2.45pm

Blessing with Blessed Sacrament.

Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image

Blessing with St. Faustina's Relic

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Pointing Fingers—Throwing Stones

One day Jesus got up early and went to the temple. As often happened, a group of people gathered around Jesus and he sat down and began to teach them. As he was teaching, some teachers of the law brought a woman who had been living a sinful life and made her stand before Jesus. "Teacher," they said, "this woman was caught in a terrible act of sin. The law of Moses says that she should be punished by stoning. What do you say?" The Bible tells us that they were trying to trap Jesus into saying something against their laws so that they could bring charges against him.

Jesus bent down and began writing with his finger in the dirt. The men kept questioning Jesus trying to get him to say something. Finally, Jesus stood and said to them, "Whoever is without sin, let him be the first to throw a

stone at her," then he bent down and continued writing in the dirt. The men who had accused the woman looked at one another and walked away.

Jesus stood and spoke to the woman. "Where are your accusers? Did no one condemn you?" he asked.

"No one," the woman answered. "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."

Have you ever seen someone doing something wrong and you pointed an accusing finger at them? I think most of us would have to admit that we have. I had a pastor one time who was fond of saying, "Remember, when you point your finger at someone, there are three fingers pointing back at you." Try it, point your finger at someone and then look at your hand. Three fingers are pointing back at you!

That is the point of Jesus' teaching in our lesson today. Not one of us is perfect and we should remember that when we want to point fingers or throw stones at someone else. I have a small stone for each of you. Take it home and put it somewhere that you will see it when you think you might be tempted to point out someone else's faults.

What did we learn in today's Gospel? This is what I learned.

- **Jesus teaches at the temple:** Jesus was teaching people in a special place called the temple. It's like a big church where people go to learn about God and pray.
- **A woman is brought to Jesus:** Some people brought a lady to Jesus who had done something wrong. They wanted to see how Jesus would help her.
- **The people wanted to trick Jesus:** These people were trying to play a game with Jesus. They thought they could make Him say something wrong, but Jesus is very wise and kind.
- **Jesus is gentle and caring:** Instead of being mad at the lady, Jesus was very understanding and kind. He wanted her to learn from her mistake and become a better person.
- **Jesus shows us how to forgive:** Jesus forgave the lady and told her not to do the bad thing again. This teaches us that we should be forgiving and kind to others, even when they make mistakes.
- **Jesus is a great teacher:** Everyone who heard Jesus that day learned a lot from Him. They saw how He was wise, gentle, and kind, and wanted to be more like Him. We can learn from Jesus too and try our best to be good and kind to others.

This story from the Gospel teaches us to be kind, forgiving, and always try to learn from our mistakes.

Jesus is our loving teacher who shows us how to be better people and love one another.

My Prayer

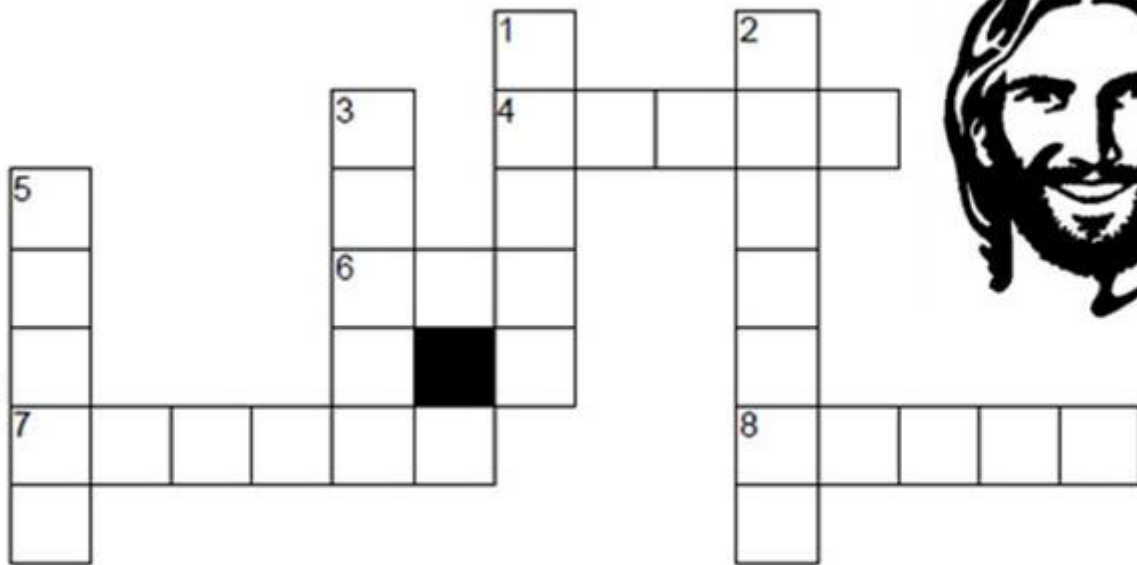
Our Father, help us to have the forgiving attitude that Jesus taught us in our lesson today.
It is in Jesus' name that we pray. Amen.



Pointing Fingers & Throwing Stones

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them. "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her" John 8:7

Puzzle is based on John 8:1-11



ACROSS

4. To send something such as a rock or a ball through such as a rock or a ball through the air
6. To break God's laws or commandments
7. To say that someone has done something wrong
8. Prophet who received the 10 Commandments

DOWN

1. Another name for a rock
2. To judge someone; to sentence someone for a crime.
3. The Son of God
5. An adult female person.

**WOMAN
ACCUSE**

**SIN
MOSES**

**JESUS
STONE**

**CONDEMN
THROW**



J	I	K	Z	S	Y	H	A	T	A	J	P	P	A	D
X	O	B	Y	D	T	X	I	S	E	F	O	I	C	F
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S	K	O	T	L	J	I	N	W	E	N	P	Z	U	N
L	R	P	I	M	S	T	E	E	A	P	E	L	S	D
C	M	I	E	O	S	H	Q	M	G	U	H	C	E	W
C	H	Q	S	R	T	N	O	C	O	N	D	E	M	N
H	A	P	T	N	A	W	S	E	B	Q	O	F	P	M
Z	K	B	H	I	U	E	Z	K	J	D	W	E	K	V
A	C	L	R	N	G	M	Y	F	E	A	I	B	Y	Q
G	G	Z	O	G	H	B	P	Q	S	W	L	M	E	X
V	G	E	W	A	T	B	D	J	U	J	O	D	U	S
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O	C	Y	V	A	C	U	N	R	F	I	R	S	T	F
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JESUS

MORNING

ACCUSE

THROW

WOMAN

TAUGHT

ADULTERY

FIRST

SIN

TEMPLE

STONE

CONDEMN

TEACHERS

CROWD

LAW





Time to Think!

Preparing for Holy Week

The month of April has begun with splendid sunshine and blue skies. This is a beautiful time of year, nature awakens within us all a time of hope and new beginning. Next week, we begin Holy Week, beginning on Sunday 13th, Palm Sunday. The past few weeks of lent have moved quickly by. These days, spiritually, we are invited to indulge in a wonderful promise that our God conquers darkness, transforming fear into hope, sadness into joy, anxiety into a deep confidence, that in Christ, all will be well.

There is no shortage of bad news, we live in a turbulent and troubled world. Our economy is exposed by U.S. tariffs, as being very vulnerable, despite huge progress in recent years. Images across the world of war, famine and devastation caused by natural disasters makes us all somewhat fragile. It is precisely in this context, at a particular moment of time, where Jesus in his final days, lived and witnessed every aspect of human vulnerability.

Often people ask how God allows such bad things happen?. As we journey through life, our human experience teaches us words or answers, to the why of human suffering, are not found readily. Jesus, doesn't give an answer to the why of human suffering, but rather by his example offers each one of us a great sense of empathy as he himself carried the cross.

As we enter Holy Week, we walk with Jesus through the most sacred and challenging moments of His life. This is a time to pause, reflect, and open our hearts to the mystery of God's love. From Palm Sunday's triumphant entry to the silence of the tomb, we see a journey that mirrors our own—moments of joy, betrayal, suffering, and, ultimately, resurrection. So, this Holy Week, let's journey with Him. Let's serve like Him, endure with Him, wait with Him, and rise with Him. For in His passion, we find our salvation; in His rising, we find our joy. This Holy Week, Seven days, filled with Religious Symbolism and Rituals, from Washing Feet to Venerating the Cross. Holy Week tells the very hopeful story of Jesus' great love and resilient compassion. A free love, given in an absolute fashion. A love, told powerfully by a God who "lay down his life for his friends".

On Holy Thursday, we witness Jesus washing the disciples' feet, a radical act of humility. He shows us that love is not a feeling alone but a service, a giving of oneself. How often do we hesitate to serve, to forgive, to kneel before others in compassion? Jesus in Gethsemane reminds us that we are not alone. His fragile and very vulnerable experience of doubt, frustration and extreme anxiety is a powerful solidarity with so many who are uncertain and overwhelmed. I think especially of those who live with anxiety, ill health, bereavement and the horrible reality of war and violence especially Christians being persecuted across the world.

Good Friday confronts us with the cross—raw, real, and heavy with the weight of human suffering. Yet, it's not the end. Jesus' cry of abandonment becomes a cry of trust: "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." In our own crosses—our struggles, losses, or fears—can we trust that God is near, even when we feel forsaken?

The Prayer of Abandonment by Charles de Foucauld is a profound expression of trust and surrender to God's will. Charles de Foucauld (1858–1916), a French Catholic priest, hermit, and missionary, lived a life of simplicity and devotion, particularly among the Tuareg people in the Sahara Desert. Though he didn't formally compose this prayer as a standalone piece, it is derived from a meditation he wrote in 1896, reflecting his spirituality of self-abandonment—letting go of personal control and entrusting oneself entirely to divine providence.

The prayer is often presented as follows

"Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures—I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father.

Then comes Holy Saturday, a day of waiting. The tomb is sealed, and silence reigns. It's a reminder that faith often means holding on in the dark, trusting that light is coming.

Finally, Easter dawns. The stone is rolled away, and death is defeated. This is our hope: that no darkness is final, no wound beyond healing. Christ's resurrection invites us to rise too—to new life, new purpose, new love. Holy Week is an invitation to pause, reflect and nourish our spiritual selves. In a secular world, Easter eggs have been on sale since last Christmas. Easter, is much more than chocolate and lamb. Holy Week is indeed seven very sacred days. I pray that the grace and love of God will accompany you throughout these special days.



Fr. Paddy invites you to follow him on Twitter @frpaddybyrne, now over 33,800 followers or @AbbeyLeixP or leave a comment on his blog on our parish website; www.portlaoiseparish.ie/articles

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**.

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

Monday 7th April: Bowls in St. Mary's Hall from 2-4pm. New members welcome. Tuition given.

Wednesday 9th April: Sing along with Caroline. New members welcome.

Thursday 10th April: Cards & Chat in Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy at 3pm. New members welcome. Tuition given. For further information contact Maria at 087-9187157

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

Daffodil Day 2025 – Thank You! : Thank you to everyone who made Daffodil Day 2025 a great success—our dedicated volunteers, local businesses, schools, organizations, and generous donors. Funds are still coming in, and the total will be shared in the coming weeks. Your support is truly appreciated!

Lions Club Portlaoise invites you to a **Public Information Evening on the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015**, presented by the Director of the Decision Support Service (DSS). Learn about key reforms, support frameworks, and advance planning tools. **When:** Tuesday, 8 April 2025, **Where:** Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise, **Time:** 6-7pm. **To book**, call Freephone (01) 211 9750 (EPA Helpdesk) or email EPAhelpdesk@decisionsupportservice.ie.

Whist Drive Results – Tuesday, April 8th, Parish Centre : **Top score** – Margaret Flangan;

1st Lady – Bernie Cahill; **2nd Lady** – Tom Jacob; **1st Gent** – Tom Kearns; **2nd Gent** – Catherine Gavin; **1st Half** – Leslie Hunter; **2nd Half** – Paric Dowling. **Raffle winners:**

1st Catherine Fitzpatrick, **2nd** Catherine Galvin, **3rd** Liz Cooper, **4th** Ann O'Dowd, **5th** Tom Kearns. Thanks to all for your support—Whist continues every Tuesday at 7:30 PM in the Parish Centre, and new members are always welcome!



Lourdes Savings Group: The Lourdes Savings Club will be finishing up on the 10th April. Any further outstanding payments can be made directly to Marian Pilgrimages.

Graiguecullen Bingo: Tuesday 8th April, St. Fiaccs Hall at 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €2,520, Double number €950. Lotto €700

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 6.30pm in the Parish prayer hall. All are welcome!

Stations of the Cross: Friday evenings during lent at 7.30pm. St. Brigid's Church Shanahoe, Abbeyleix R32 AH90.

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.



Portlaoise Tennis Invites the Community to Free Taster Days!

Portlaoise Tennis is excited to welcome the local community to its **Free Tennis Taster Days**, offering a fantastic introduction to the sport for all ages and skill levels. Whether you're a complete beginner or have some experience, this is the perfect opportunity to pick up a racket and join a growing community of tennis enthusiasts.

The **Free Taster Days** will take place on **April 24th, April 27th, and May 1st**, from **3:30pm to 8:30pm** at **Holy Family Senior School**. Sessions will be available for **kids, teenagers, and adults**, ensuring everyone gets a chance to enjoy the game.

What to Expect:

- No experience necessary – complete beginners welcome!
- Equipment provided – just bring yourself and a positive attitude.
- Fun games, coaching, and a friendly atmosphere.
- Sessions tailored for different age groups, including a dedicated **adults-only session**.

Portlaoise Tennis is committed to fostering a **welcoming and active community** where people of all ages can connect through sport.

Tennis is a great way to stay fit, have fun, and meet new people!

For more information or to sign up, contact us at 086-3821614 or visit www.portlaoisetenis.ie.

Follow us on Instagram for updates!

Join us and discover the joy of tennis – we can't wait to see you on the court!



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



ANNIE RYAN
(née Rohan)
Ballydavis
Portlaoise



DONAL RYAN
Abbeyleix
& Roscrea

*Even though I walk through the darkest
valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me;
Your rod and your staff - they comfort me.*

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

On Angel's Wings
all-greatquotes.com

On Angel's Wings you were taken away,
But in my heart you will always stay.
I will hear your whisper in the tallest trees,
Feel your love in the gentle breeze,
And when I find I miss you the most,
Inside our beautiful memories
I will hold you close.

You are an Angel watching over me
With the comfort and blessings you bring,
You embrace my heart and hold it close,
Forever on Angel's Wings.

By - Crailin Hardy



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**In Loving Memory of
CATHERINE DEVOY**



Raheenabrogue, Ballyroan.
2nd Anniversary occurs 7th April 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
The Church of The Most Holy Rosary,
Abbeyleix on **Sunday 13th April** at
11.00Am.

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by her Husband Martin, Daughters
Mary and Margaret, Son-in-law Paul
and all her grand children.*

Rest in Peace Catherine



**In Loving Memory of
PHYLLIS (Phil) CULLETON**



(née Bowe)

St. Martins, Rossleighan, Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 15th April 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated
in Sts. Peter and Paul's Church on
Sunday 13th April at **12.30pm.**

*Death ends a life, not a relationship,
All the love you created is still there,
All the memories are still there,
You live on—in the hearts of every-
one you have touched and nurtured
while you were here.*

*Sadly missed by her Husband John, Sons John, Shane
Paul and Philip Anthony. Brothers and Sisters and
her grand children.*

Rest in Peace Phyllis



**In Loving Memory of
PATRICK (PADDY)
CARRIGAN**



Capoley, Portlaoise, Portlaoise.

(Late of Ballyfoyle, Co. Kilkenny)

4th Anniversary occurs 7th April 2025

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter and
Paul's Church on **Sunday 6th April** at **10.00am.**



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

*Sadly missed, loved and remembered by his loving
wife Lizzie and family.*

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
In Loving Memory of
ROBERT (BOBBY) YOUNG
Killenny, The Heath



Bobby's Month's Mind
Mass will be celebrated in
The Church of the
Assumption, The Heath, on
Sunday 6th April at 9.30am

We the family of the late Bobby Young, would like to sincerely thank all who sympathised and supported us on our recent sad loss.

Thank you to all who called to the house, attended the funeral home and the funeral Mass. We are deeply grateful to all who sent Mass cards, messages of sympathy and shared their memories with us.

Our sincerest thanks to Msgr. John Byrne for his spiritual support to Bobby particularly in his time of illness and to Fr. Paddy Byrne and Fr. Nick Harnan who concelebrated his funeral Mass.

There are many people who assisted us at the time of the funeral for which we are so grateful - all the team in the Parish Centre for their support and kindness, our musician Elaine Bigley, for the beautiful music, our sacristan Phyllis Booth, the grave diggers PJ and John Gleeson, as well as a sincere thank you also to David Goode and Matthew Keegan Undertakers for their compassion and professionalism.

Over the last few years of his life, Bobby received fantastic support from many healthcare professionals, we would particularly like to acknowledge and express our sincerest thanks to all the wonderful staff in the Heart Optimisation Clinic, the Midland Regional Hospital and to Dr. David Booth and staff in the Cedar Clinic. A special thanks and heartfelt appreciation to the HSE Home Care Team for their invaluable support and in recent times the Palliative Care Team for their truly exceptional care which allowed Bobby to remain at home.

A heartfelt thank you also for the unwavering support we received from our kind neighbours, relatives and friends and we will forever be grateful to the Heath GAA, Heath IFA, Macra and the Heath Hall and Cemetery Committee who provided guards of honour.

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

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

May Bobby Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
JERRY LODGE

'Curradubh', Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.
7th Anniversary occurred 3rd April 2025



No farewell words were spoken,
 No time to say goodbye,
 You were gone before we knew it,
 And only God knows why.

Deeply regretted by his
loving family

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal

In Loving Memory of
LIAM ADAMS

Glenlahan, Portlaoise /Bridge Street Tullamore.
1st Anniversary occurs 14th April 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter and Paul's Church on Sunday 13th April at 12.30pm.

Those we love remain with us,
For love itself lives on,
Cherished memories never fade,
Because one loved is gone,
Those we love can never be,
More than a thought apart,
For as long as there is a memory,
They live on in our heart.

Sadly missed by his ever-loving family and friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

In Loving Memory of
MICHAEL (Mick) MCDONALD
"The Gateaux Man"

"St Jude's", Dublin Rd, Portlaoise .

1st Anniversary occurs 15th April 2025

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter and Paul's Church on
Saturday 12th April at 6.30pm.



You always had a smile to care,
A good life came to an end,
You died as you lived,
Everyone's friend.

Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife Mary,
sons Stephen and David, grandchildren,
great-grandchildren, and friends.

May Mick Rest In Peace

In Loving Memory of
CHRISTINE MAHER

28 Oakleaf Place, Portlaoise.
4th Anniversary occurs 9th April 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the
Church of the Holy Cross, Ratheniska, next
Sunday 13th April, 10am.

We cannot have the old days back
when we were all together,
But silent tears and loving thoughts will
be with us forever.

Loved and missed always by your loving
husband Joe, sons, daughters, brothers,
sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great-
grandchildren and extended family and friends.

Rest in Peace Christine

In Loving Memory of
SALLY (Sarah) WHELAN

The Cottage, Beladd, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise.
30th Anniversary occurs 6th April 2025.



Quietly today your memory we
treasure, missing you always,
forgetting you never.

Sadly missed by Bridie

Rest in Peace Sally

**A DAILY PRAYER
FOR PEACE**

WWW.KANDLEE.IE



Loving God
We pray for the people of
Ukraine
For all those suffering or afraid
that you will be close to them and
protect them
We pray for world leaders
for compassion, strength and
wisdom to guide their choices
We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in
need.
May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
becomes a reality for the people
of Ukraine and for all the world
Amen.

This Lent we invite you
to join with Bishop
Denis and parishes
across the diocese each
day by lighting a candle
and praying the prayer
for peace in Ukraine and
in our world.



@KANDLEE
Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin

ADORATION - SS Peter & Paul Church, Portlaoise

Adoration takes place Monday to Friday after
10am Mass until 7pm, Saturday 2-6pm, and
Sunday 2-7pm.

We invite anyone who can commit to spending
time in adoration each week to contact Helena
(087 9611331) or Ray (089 2502878), to help
ensure someone is present with Jesus in the
Blessed Sacrament at all times.

"Could you not watch with me one hour?" - Mt 26:40



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

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MORE INFORMATION:

PHONE: 087 7821260

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Portlaoise Parish



Portlaoise Parish



Results for
3rd April 2025



No €16,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Noel O'Neill
Caroline Gleeson
Paula Kelly
Clare Laffan
N Wynne
Anna May Dowling
Paddy Kelly

MATCH 3s €1,000



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Kitty Laffan
Anne Brennan
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Carmel Whelan

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Next Week's Jackpot is €17,000

Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Outside office hours
in emergency only Tel: 0852134285

Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie



Chrism Mass

You are warmly invited to join with Bishop
Denis and the priests of the diocese in the
Cathedral, Carlow at 7:30pm on Monday, April
14th to celebrate the Chrism Mass - this is the
largest diocesan celebration during the year!

Supporting our Parish

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

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Please choose a way to make your contribution

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

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Portlaoise Parish Clergy Fund Account:

IBAN: IE12AIBK93327916658201

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Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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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