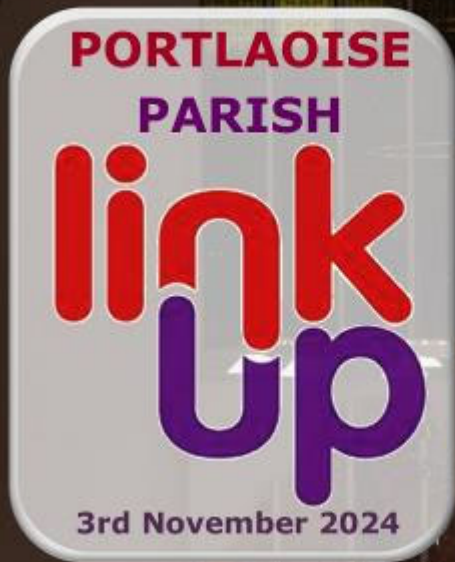


**Thirty-First Week
in Ordinary Time**



IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER

Throughout the Month of November Masses will be celebrated for those whose names are inscribed on our 'Dead List'. If you wish to have your loved ones included envelopes are available in the Development boxes, in the Church porches and at the Parish Centre.


You are also invited to place the names of your own dear faithful departed on the memorial trees in the Sanctuary of the Parish Church.

ANNUAL BEREAVEMENT MASS
Monday 4th November 7.30pm

The Parish Centre 057 8621142

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

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November, Month of the Faithful Departed

IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER

That time of year again - when we remember all those who have gone before us. Ours is not an empty remembering but is filled with hope. Hope in him who said **'I am the resurrection and the Life'**. If you wish to enrol your loved ones in our November list of the dead to be remembered at Masses during the month, envelopes are available in the Church Porches or at the Parish Centre.

This week Masses for the Dead List will be celebrated on: Wednesday at 7.30am, Thursday at 7.30pm & Friday at 7.30am.



Love is as love does

We should never lose sight of what Jesus said: that we should love others as we do ourselves, choosing self-deprecation over self-glory. Indeed, many

of us have a warped and unhealthy understanding of self-love. The right kind of self-love is not being selfish, but honouring the temple that houses God. So, whilst we are asked to remain humble and obedient, there is absolutely nothing wrong with looking after ourselves, taking care of ourselves, and being gently on ourselves when times are tough. After all, if we cannot do this, then how are we going to learn to bestow love upon others.

Love, then, is not easy. We are asked to love ourselves, to love others and to love God. If we are the ship, then where do we steer? What chart do we use to point the way? Well, ultimately, we learn of God's love through two fundamental channels: through Scripture, and through our family and loved ones. In terms of the former, then we are in a wonderful position to hear his voice through Scripture today and every day at Mass. The liturgical year is an unparalleled teacher of the Bible, as it presents to us a rolling story of God's love year in, year out. In terms of the latter, then we must own the fact that we have a duty to teach love to those close to us, to pass it on. Too many times history has shown us how a widescale dearth of love can impact on entire generations.

And remember, that love is a doing thing, a verb. As the saying goes: 'Love is as love does.' When we pray let us thank God for the gift of his love and ask him that we may come closer to Jesus' ideal of human love in all that we do and say, especially around those who challenge us or whom we may find difficult to bear.

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

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.



We welcome into our Parish Community

Cooper James Guerin, Raheenahoran
Ronan Shane O'Connor, Dunamase Court
Matteo Enver Ibraj, Goldencroft
Jax Liam Roche, Rossvale

Who were baptised last weekend.

IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER

Thought for the Day

God, thank you for the people in our lives whom we are remembering in a special way during the month of November.

We thank you for being a compassionate God who walks with us in our dark moments of grief and loneliness.

We are thankful for all who continue to love and support us through our grief.

Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us hope, direction and courage.

May we now live our lives treasuring the memories of those special people we have known and loved and help us to bring light and hope to others.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Remembrance Prayer
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference

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To find out more please attend one of the information evenings being held throughout the Diocese
All meetings start at 7.30pm, with Tea & Coffee from 7.15pm

- Monday 4th November, Mount Wolesley, Tullow
- Tuesday 5th November, Westgrove Hotel, Clane
- Wednesday 6th November, Solas Bhríde, Kildare Town
- Thursday 7th November, Dolmen Hotel, Carlow
- Wednesday 13th November, Parish Centre, Leighlinbridge
- Thursday 14th November, Mt. St. Annes, Killenard

For further details please contact
Patrick Roche, Director of Parish Development
www.kandle.ie

083 830 5681
parishdevelopment@kandle.ie



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VOTE #1

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.

Sequence Dancing each Monday 11am, Parish Centre, Portlaoise. Tuesdays 11am Line Dancing, Sean Chistin, Ballyfin R32 AY99. Wednesdays 8pm, Set Dancing, Sean Chistin, Ballyfin. All are welcome. Contact Maureen on 087 - 6482038.

Portlaoise Active Retirement meets every Wednesday afternoon in the parish Centre at 3pm For an afternoon of friendship activities and fun new members always welcome

Monday 4th Nov. bowls in St. Mary's sports hall 2-4pm New members always welcome , tuition given.

Wednesday 6th Nov. Club sing along with Caroline.

Thursday 7th Nov Cards in Sue Ryder centre Kilminchy 3pm tuition given. New members always welcome.

Wednesday 20th Nov. Christmas dinner and show.

For any further information please contact pro Sheila at 087-6204617.

Free of Charge: 60 x 1lb CLEAN JAM JARS Contact 085-7809133.

Portlaoise Cemetery From Monday 4th Nov. Portlaoise cemetery gates will be closing at 4pm for wintertime.

Portlaoise Parish Lourdes Committee would like to advise that their 2025 pilgrimage to Lourdes is now full. A cancellation list is in operation and you can phone Frances on 085-8142666 or Sean on 086-3633785 to place your name on the list.

Gold Chain Lost If anyone found a gold chain with a small gold cross attached with brown Scapulars tied to it. It was lost in the Town of **Abbeyleix**, Please contact **Micheal** on mobile number **087-9212028** as it is of a very sentimental value to me.

Graiguecullen MONSTER Bingo On Tuesday. St Fiaccs Hall @ 8:30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €3,950. Double number €2,840. Lotto €1,050

Results of Whist Drive held in Parish Centre Tuesday, 29th October

Top Score: Tied; Molly O'Brien & Peter Stevenson. 1st Lady: Margaret Flanagan, 2nd Lady: Theresa Mulhare, 1st Gent: Mary Delaney, 2nd Gent: Liz Cooper, 1st Half: Catherine Galvin, 2nd Half: Tied; Tom Kearns & P J Cahill. Raffle: 1st Mary Delaney, 2nd Mary Delaney, 3rd Tom Gowing, 4th Bernie Cahill, 5th Mary Dunne, 6th Sheila Duff.

Whist continues every Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm, New players welcome. Lessons available, please leave your name and number at Parish Centre reception.

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).

Vocations Society of St. Joseph; Holy Hour, Adoration, Prayer for vocations, 3pm Friday in the Parish Church.

Retired HSE staff Annual Mass: in Hospital Church Mountmellick on Wednesday 6th November 2024 at 2.30pm. All retired HSE employees welcome. Refreshments served & names taken for Christmas dinner

Annual Prayer for Deceased Staff and Members of Laois County Council: You are invited to attend the annual prayer service in memory of deceased staff and members of Laois County Council which will be held on: Wednesday 13th November at 6.00pm, in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. Please note that people of all faiths are welcome to attend to remember our colleagues and friends.

Day of Prayer, For Holy Souls in Purgatory, Emmanuel House, Clonfert, Co. Galway: Led by Eddie Stones and Team. Sunday November 10th at 11.00am. Talks, Music, Confessions; Holy Mass. Please bring a packed lunch. All are welcome.

Christmas Cards



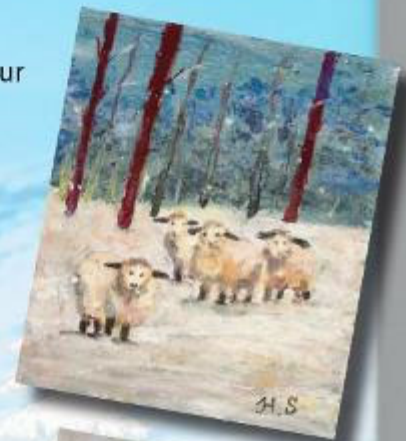
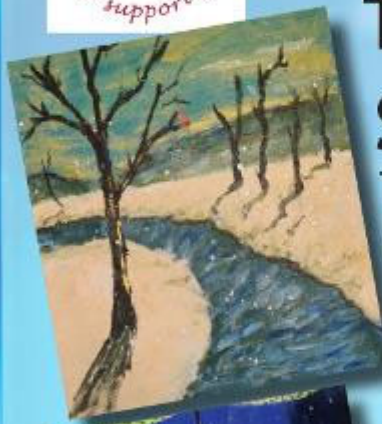
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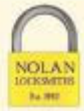
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23rd Nov: Muriel & Fran Curry
30th Nov: Damien Davis
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 Lisa Celler
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 Fr. Joseph Mary Dhan
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 Fr. Barry Braun

Register here 

(more speakers to be announced)



The Greatest Commandment

I imagine that most of you have a list of rules like this in your classroom at school. If we walked through every classroom in your school, we would probably see a list of rules hanging on the wall. Even though there might be some slight differences, most of them would say pretty much the same thing. They would say things like:

- Listen Carefully
- Follow Directions
- Obey the Teacher
- Work Quietly
- No Bullying
- Be Kind to others



If you were to ask me which classroom rule is most important, I know what I would say. I would say that the most important rule is to respect and obey your teacher and the second is very much like it - be kind and show respect for your fellow students. If we would just follow those two rules, there really wouldn't be a need for any more.

The religious leaders of Jesus' day liked to sit around and discuss the law. They especially liked to ask Jesus questions about the law hoping to trick him into saying something that would cause people to turn against him. One day they were questioning Jesus and he answered them with one good answer right after another. One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realised that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

Most of you know the ten commandments, don't you? How would you answer that question?

This is how Jesus answered. He said, "The most important commandment is this:

'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.'

The second is equally important:

'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

**Father, help us to
love you with all
our heart, soul, and
strength - and to
love one another as
we love ourselves.
In Jesus' name we
pray.**



There is no other commandment is greater than these." After hearing Jesus' answer, no one else dared to ask him any more questions! What a wise answer.

If we could just keep those two commandments, we wouldn't have any trouble keeping the rest of them, would we? Let's go to the Father and ask him to help us.

IN NOVEMBER, WE REMEMBER



Do you know where our Remembrance Tree is located in the Parish Church?



WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In November we remember all those who have died. If you have anyone belonging to you who has died, a grandparent, Aunt, Uncle or even a good friend. You can put the name of that person on the Remembrance Tree in the Parish Church.



In November, we remember the people we love who have gone before us. To help us remember those we love who have died, and brighten our hope that they are now in heaven with God, today write the name or draw a picture of someone you love who has died. This could be a family member, a friend, a neighbour or a pet. It can also be for those people who have no one to pray for them.

Do you remember the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead?

This is the story about the promise of eternal life.

When Jesus heard that his friend Lazarus had died, he travelled to Bethany, the home of Lazarus. Martha, the sister of Lazarus, greeted Jesus. She said she was sorry Jesus had not come sooner, but she believed Lazarus would be raised on the last day and live with God forever. Jesus told Martha that he himself was the resurrection and the life and that those who believed in him would live forever. Then he called out to Lazarus, who walked out of the tomb, alive.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life for all of us.

We pray for those who have died because we have hope that they will live with God forever and that we will be reunited with them.

All the Saints of Ireland

Wednesday November 6th is the Feast Day of all the Saints of Ireland.

This poem gives us an insight into the Saints we meet in our daily lives.

I know a lot of Saints, I do!
So let me mention just a few:
I know someone who runs a team
And teaches kids to play and dream,
Who stands in cold and wind and rain
on days they play and nights they train;
Someone who's there when we are sad,
The best and gentlest friend we've had,
Someone who says, 'Just do your best'
When I am sacred to take the test;
A friend who takes the time to show
how things are done when I don't know,
A teacher who just always knows where
that comma always goes;
And others who are kind and good,
who try to act as Jesus would,
Who shows God's love in all they do.
I know a lot of Saints, don't you?



Christy Kenneally





Time to Think!

Who Cares for the Carer

In every community, often silently and heroically, are people who voluntarily care for a vulnerable loved one. For me personally, those who care for a vulnerable loved one are truly inspirational. In the context of a vibrant rich economy, most carers receive abysmal remuneration regarding the contribution they make to enhance a loved one's life.

It goes something like this. You wake up. It's the middle of the night. You are in your own home, but you don't know where you are. You decide to get dressed but you can't find your clothes. You decide to go downstairs but you can't find the stairs. Eventually someone comes to you but you don't know them. You've never seen them before. They tell you they are a son or a daughter, a husband or a wife. And they coax you back to bed.

That mini drama is re-enacted in different forms across the country every day and every night and every hour of every day and every night. Because across the country thousands of people, old and not so old, suffer from some form of dementia or senility, the best known of which has been labelled Alzheimer's Disease.

Such multiple conditions are not always, as people sometimes think, an advanced form of the kind of forgetfulness or cognitive deterioration associated in the common mind with the passing of years. More often than not that isn't the case. Apparently, there's no direct relation between old age and, say, Alzheimer's as the condition described in the first paragraph above can also inflict people in their thirties. With Alzheimer's, the memory collapses, the ability to reason is diminished and the personality can change. Alzheimer's gets progressively worse. It is incurable and it ends in death. It may not be clear whether it's hereditary or whether it can be brought on by stress. It has to do with the formation of some kind of plaque in the brain and scientists are researching a way to check or eliminate that plaque.

But there is hope. While there is at present no cure for, say, Alzheimer's disease, there is medicine available that can temporarily improve some symptoms. And there are cognitive stimulation therapies becoming available. But while the scientists do their research, those with dementia in many of its varied forms can face a bleak future and those who care for them can face particular problems and special needs. For the carers of Alzheimer's patients and others, a further dimension is the important question of who is going to care for the carers?

For the carers of Alzheimer's patients and others, the usual often difficult demands associated with caring can be exacerbated. In this instance it isn't just a question of keeping an eye on them, ensuring that they don't come to any harm, washing, bathing, putting them to bed. It's also repeating the same thing, possibly multiple times a day. It's trying to find a predictable reaction in the troubled, unfocused eyes that stare vacantly into the distance. Allied to that is the change in personality of the patient, the sense that part of them is no longer there, a kind of living death.

There is too the sense of guilt people sometime feel when, with the best will in the world, a satisfactory level of care can't be offered in the home and a patient with particular needs has to be facilitated in a nursing home. Responsibilities to oneself and to others can sometimes through misunderstanding or insinuation,

be wrongly misrepresented as selfishness. There is something particularly heart-rending about a wife sitting in the shadows talking to a much-loved husband who doesn't really know who she is – or vice-versa. Or a daughter realising for the first time that the shell of life that now harbours her father has somehow lost the set of personality characteristics that shaped so much memory and so much love. Or even worse still, a mother trying to get some reaction from a son who stares at her as if he has never seen her before. Or the medley of other experiences when the person being cared for is no longer the person they knew.

The temptation is to treat them as unthinking, uncaring, not knowing. As if somehow behind the puzzled eyes there is no thought, no idea, no memory. That may not be the case because the world they now live in is impenetrable to the onlooker. Whatever the loss, they are still themselves, inhabiting a very private world in a very limited way, but still a world that, for all its limitations, is still their world. Whatever the change they can still throw an eye in a characteristic way, turn the head or even occasionally smile. Lucid moments can be unambiguously cherished like the sun forcing its way through the clouds on a dismal day. But those of us outside that experience cannot tell the carer of an Alzheimer's or dementia patient what to be or what to do. It is so easy for those outside this sometimes (or maybe often) grim experience of tangible personal loss to speak words of love and duty, to trot out clichés about responsibility to our own flesh and blood.

Most of us haven't earned that right and we should respect the difficult landscape that carers inhabit with the grace of our silence. We need to listen to the needs of those who care, not to pry into or analyse from a distance the very personal and private connection between the carer and the cared, and not to pretend that we understand the lonely and often long journey of caring. Budgets and elections, as we know, come and go, and are often full of suggestions about how carers could be helped or rewarded in some way for the work they do. It seems incomprehensible that the hidden heroines (and sometimes heroes) of such care should so often warrant such a relatively poor response in the rich country in which we now live.



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



**Ruach Catholic Ministry
Portlaoise, Ireland**



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- Basic Catechism, and
- Study of Vatican Council II

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12 NOON FR PRINCE'S CLASS

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Programme for **MEN**, De La Salle Centre, Castletown, R32 N6D8
Friday to Sunday, 15 -17 November 2024

Are you feeling trapped, aimless, or "stuck" in life? Are you tired of running into brick walls or up endless cul-de-sacs? Is your life in chaos because of a recent bereavement, illness, a broken relationship or the loss of a job? Then, you are in what is often called "threshold" or "liminal" space.

MALEs (Men as Learners & Elders) Ireland are running a weekend programme (either day or residential) for men like you in Castletown beginning with evening meal at 6pm on 15th November and concluding with Sunday lunch at 1pm on Sunday 17th November. Using meditative practices, drumming, circle time, reflective nature walks, creative rituals, and personal storytelling, you'll explore with other men the reality of your experiences in a sacred, safe and confidential environment. For more information text Kevin at 087-1763729

OR, check out "malesireland" website

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



John Walsh
Loughteague,
Stradbally



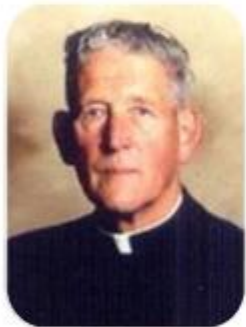
Nancy Conroy
(née Barry)
The Downs,
Portlaoise



Anne O'Reilly
(née Delaney)
Lakeglen,
Portlaoise

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

***In Loving Memory of
FR. GREGORY BROPHY***



20th Anniversary occurs
Saturday 9th November.

*"For this God is our God
forever and ever;
He will be our guide even
to the end"*

Rest in Peace

***In Loving Memory of
MARY TAAFFE***

*Late of Droimnin and Ballymanus.
5th Anniversary occurs 6th November 2024*



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

Remembered by
Kathryn and family.

Rest in Peace Mary

***In Loving Memory of
EUGENE (Hughie)
McLOUGHLIN***

63 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.

23/8/1949-31/10/2022

**2nd Anniversary away from
home occurs**

31st October 2024

*For all you were to us in life
And all the joy you brought,
Your memory is with us,
In every single thought.*

*The pain we felt at losing you will never
go away*

*But knowing that you're in our hearts
Helps us through each day*

When you were here we always felt

That nothing could go wrong

But you're still our inspiration

and your memory keeps us strong

And though our hearts are heavy

They're also full of love

And that's enough to comfort us

As you look down on us from above

***Sadly missed and always remembered by your
loving wife Patsy and son Eugene xxx***

Masses offered.

God called your name so softly

That only you could hear

And no one heard the footsteps

Of angels drawing near

The golden gates stood open

God saw you needed rest

His garden must be beautiful

He only takes the best.

**Love Always, Imelda, Danny, Danielle, Shane,
Aaron, Tamzin, Jack, Amber, Emily & Anna xxx**

On his day of Remembrance,

*We celebrate Hughie, Who's life was a Mosaic of Joy,
have & unforgettable moments shared by all who
knew him.*

Sadly missed by Geraldine, Christy & Family.

Dad.

*Years have gone but love remains in every joy and in
life's pains. Though you left this world you're by my
side.*

Forever my Dad, my Strength, my Guide.

Sadly missed by Daughter Trisha xx

Dad.

*Dad remembering you is easy. I do it everyday, Missing
you is the heartache that never goes away.*

Love always Yvonne, Jamie, Ava, Dylan & Ellie xx

Rest in Peace Eugene

**In Loving Memory of
GRETTA KELLY**

Kellbyrne House, Rathevan, Portlaoise.
11th Anniversary occurs 8th November 2024



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter and Paul's Parish Church,
this **Sunday 3rd November at 11.15am.**

*If we could visit heaven, on this our
saddest day, maybe for a moment our
pain would go away.*

*We'd put our arms around you and
whisper words so true, that living life
without you is so very hard to do.*

*We cannot bring the old days back when
we were all together, but loving thoughts
and memories will stay with us forever.*

*Loved and remembered always by
Christy, Adrian & Rebecca.*

Rest in Peace Gretta

**In Loving Memory of
SEAN HOLOHAN**

Formerly 40 Oakleaf Place & Newtown Stradbally.



16th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church, next Saturday
9th November at 6.30pm.

*If tears could build a stairway,
And heartaches could make a lane
We would walk to Heaven and
bring you home again.*

Sadly missed by your wife Chris, children,
daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, sisters and
grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

May Sean Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
NOEL BRENNAN**

Grenville, Dublin Rd. Portlaoise.
13th Anniversary occurs 1st November 2024



*Noel, You are too precious to be forgotten
and too priceless to ever replace.*

*I wish I could share another moment with
you and see your smiling face.*

*Someone as special as you is truly hard to
find. Someone with a heart so pure,
so caring & so kind.*

*I'll cherish the memories we made all the
times we spent together and ill hold them dearly in my heart
from now until forever.*

*Always missed & loved,
Alice & Shauna xxxx*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 9th November at 6.30pm.

Rest in Peace Noel

**In Loving Memory of
JIM SEXTON**

"Padua", Clonminam Road, Portlaoise.
21st Anniversary occurs 3rd November 2024.



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

*Always loved and remembered by Pat,
Mary, Frank, his daughter-in-law Hilda,
grandsons, great-granddaughters,
extended family and friends.*

Anniversary Mass to remember Jim and his late wife
Bridget will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church on Sunday 24th November at 11.15am.

Rest in Peace Jim

**In Loving Memory of
WILLIAM (Bill) O'REILLY**

Marian House, Dublin Rd., Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurs 5th November 2024



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, this
Sunday 3rd November at 12.30pm.

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

Thinking of you today and always.

Sadly missed by his loving wife Maura and family.

May Bill Rest in Peace

**In Loving Memory of
MARY CARROLL**

76 St. Brigid's Place Portlaoise.
49th Anniversary occurs at this time.



*Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered everyday,
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts you're always there.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered
by your loving brother Oliver and
the Carroll family.*

Rest in Peace Mary



May They Rest In Peace

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

3 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
8th Anniversary occurred 1st November 2024



Anniversary Mass was celebrated
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church,
Friday 1st November at 10am.

**A Loving Mother, Grandmother
and Great-grandmother.**

*You gave us years of happiness,
Then sorrow came with tears,
You left us lovely memories,
We will treasure through the years.*

*Sadly missed and always remembered by your
loving family and friends.*

Rest in Peace Maureen

**In Loving Memory of
BREDA WALSH**

(née Keogh)

Late of Chelmsford, Essex and Ridge Road,
Portlaoise.

8th Anniversary occurs 6th November 2024.



*Our family chain is broken,
And nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us
one by one,
The chain will link again.*

*Forever Loved
Never forgotten
Always missed.*

*Matty, Jason, Helena,
Emma and Shane, all
the grandkids and
extended family.*

Rest in Peace Breda

**In Loving Memory of
KEVIN BOWE**

Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
6th Anniversary occurs 5th November 2024.



Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter &
Paul's Parish Church on
Saturday 2nd Nov. at 6:30pm.

*Death leaves a heartache no one
can heal, love leaves a memory no
one can steal.*

*As our heartache has only grown,
you now have Rob at your side
in your heavenly home.*

*Sadly missed by your wife Marie, children
Suzanne, Kevin, Sandra, Paul and Kenneth,
grandchildren, sisters Betty & Patty and brother
Frank and extended family.*

May They Rest In Peace

**In Loving Memory of
Mark Scully**

Millbrook Portlaoise.

1st Anniversary occurs 2nd November 2024.



Also his father Patrick (Pat) whose
Month Mind occurs at this time

Your memory is our keepsake from
which we never part.

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

Loved forever, Sharon, Cliff, Ryan,
Kate & Emma

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish
Church this Saturday 2nd November at 6.30pm

Rest in Peace Mark

**In Loving Memory of
DENIS KAVANAGH**

Pallas Little, Portlaoise.
2nd Anniversary occurs 11th November 2024



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on
Sunday 10th November at 11.15am

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

Sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace Denis

**In Loving Memory of
DANNY O'CONNELL**

The Rock of Dunamais,
13th Anniversary occurs 6th November 2024



13th Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's
Parish Church next Saturday,
9th November at 6.30pm.

*Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered everyday,
No longer in our lives to share, but
in our hearts you're always there.*

*Sadly missed by his loving wife Mary and all his
family, extended family and friends.*

May Danny Rest in Peace

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
And Month's Mind Remembrance
In Loving Memory of
Teresa Shiels
 28 Beladd Lower, Portlaoise.



The family of the late Teresa Shiels - her sister Nancy, brothers Billy and Pat, nieces, nephews, godchildren and grand nieces and nephews would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and express our gratitude to those who sympathised and supported us in our very sad loss.

Thank you to all our neighbours, relatives and friends who attended and helped out over Teresa's funeral. All who sent messages of sympathy and mass cards and left messages of condolences on RIP.ie. We have found great comfort in all the condolences and kind words received from these.

In particular we would also like to thank the staff of the Cedar Clinic and Kilminchy Pharmacy who took such good care of Teresa, all the staff in Portlaoise Regional Hospital (especially those on Emo Court) who treated Teresa with such kindness and allowed us to fill Teresa's last few days with so much love and laughter. Anne Marie and Dr. Basinaud in the Respiratory Clinic who both went above and beyond in their care of Teresa. To Ellen, Mary and Bridgie your friendship meant the world to Teresa and she found great comfort having you there with her. We sincerely thank Monsignor Byrne for celebrating Teresa's Requiem Mass, Michelle Bartley for her assistance in preparing the funeral mass and John Hosey for his wonderful singing. Special thanks to Keegan's Funeral Directors, their knowledge and professionalism made such a difference at such a difficult time. Special thanks also to the gravediggers for preparing Teresa's final resting place.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually. Please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks to you all. Much love and missed everyday by her loving family.

Teresa's Month Mind Mass was celebrated in St. Peter and Paul's Parish Church on Saturday 2nd November at 6.30pm

Rest in Peace Teresa

In Loving Memory of
Sean Phelan

Fisherstown, Co. Laois
 1st Anniversary occurs 5th November 2024.



Life is not qualified by fluent English,

Branded clothes or a rich lifestyle.

It is measured by the number of faces
 who smile when they hear your name.

**Sadly missed by your sons Denis and Trevor
 and their families.**

Rest in Peace Sean

In Loving Memory of our dear
Father and Husband
DANIEL (Dan) NORTON
Sheffield Ave. Portlaoise.
 6th Anniversary occurs 5th November 2024.

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church, on Saturday 9th November at 6:30pm.



Those we love don't go away,
 They walk beside us everyday,
 Each of us in our own way,
 Have special thoughts of you today.

Sadly missed and always remembered
 by his loving wife Margaret, daughters,
 sons, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law,
 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

May Dan Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
CECELIA MULHALL

85 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise.
 21st Anniversary occurred 1st November 2024.



*Never more than a thought
 away
 Deep in our hearts you will
 always stay
 Loved and remembered every
 day.*

**Always remembered by your
 loving family x**

May Cecelia Rest in Peace

In Loving Memory of
GEORGE BREEN

137 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise.
 4th Anniversary occurs 4th November 2024
 and George's Birthday occurs 2nd November.



*The special memories of you
 will always bring a smile,
 If only we could have you
 back for just a little while,
 Then we could sit and talk
 again, just like we used to do,
 You always meant so very
 much and will always do too.
 The fact that you're no longer*

*here will always cause me pain, but you are
 forever in my heart, until we meet again.*

**Also remembered his recently deceased
 son Darren (Hagi) Breen.**

Sadly missed by your loving family and friends.

Rest in Peace George



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Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe, Abbeyleix
Applications for Admission 2025-2026

The school will be accepting **Applications for Admission to Junior Infants for the school year 2025-2026** from Monday, 4th November 2024 to Monday, 25th November 2024.

A waiting list for our **Sonos Autism Class** is currently in operation and you can forward an 'Application for Admission Form' should you wish for your child to be placed on that list.

All information regarding 'Applications for Admission' including 'Application for Admission Forms' for both Junior Infants and the Sonos Class can be found on the dedicated 'Parents' section of the school website www.shanahoens.net

'Application for Admission Forms' can also be obtained from the school by emailing shanahoens@gmail.com, by phoning the school office at (057) 87 39715 or by writing to Ms. Isobel Magner (School Secretary) at Scoil Fionntáin Naofa, Shanahoe, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois R32 F899.

In addition to finding information about the school on our website, you can also follow us on Facebook at 'Shanahoe National School', Instagram at 'shanahoe_ns' and Twitter/X at 'ShanahoeNs'

There is now an independent after-schools facility namely 'Na Bláthanna Beaga' in operation in Shanahoe Community Hall which is adjacent to the school.

For further enquiries about admissions for the school year 2025-2026, please contact the school Principal Mr. Barry Whelan at principalshanahoens@gmail.com or at (057) 87 39715

School Motto: 'Mol an óige agus ticfaidh sí'



Portlaoise Parish Primary Schools

Enrolment 2025/26

Enrolment forms will be available from 25th October 2024

Enrolment forms are available directly from each school:

Gaelscoil

Holy Family Junior School

Holy Family Senior School

Ratheniska NS

Scoil Bhríde

Scoil an Fhraoich Mhóir, The Heath

Portlaoise Parish



Results for

31st October 2024

06

13

18

19

No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

WINNERS

Ellen Brennan

Mary Dunne

Ethna & Richard O'Hara

Marie O'Brien

Billy Bohan

Peter Doolan

Conor O'Brien Snr

Betty Redmond

Jack Croke

MATCH 3s €1,000

9
Match
3s
Receive
€112
each

PROMOTER

Tommy Brennan

Mary Dunne

Mary Claire Gorman

Marie O'Brien

Lucy Kelly

Lotto Gift

Lisa O'Brien

Parish Centre

John Loughlin

Clergy of the Parish



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



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



Fr. Simon Jin
Tel: 057 8661605



Fr. Adriano de Oliveira
Tel: 057 8600121



Fr. Erick Ebot SVD



Deacon Eugene Keyes
Tel: 057 8621142

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

Safeguarding

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person
Ailish Higgins safeguarding@kandle.ie

Parish Centre



Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Phone: 057-8621142 / 057-8660722

E-mail: info@portlaoiseparish.ie

Twitter: @portlaoiseparis

MANAGER Declan Kelly

Parish Secretary Michelle Bartley

Accounts Michelle Conroy

Sacristans Parish Church

Sr. Sybil and Sr. Julie

(Sacristy phone attended prior to Mass times 057 8600119)

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



Secretary: Julie Conroy

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11am to 1pm & 2.15pm to 5pm

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PARISH SHOP

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THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Deuteronomy 6:2-6 | Psalm 17:2-4, 47,51
Hebrews 7:23-28 | Mark 12:428-34

Support for the Parish

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

* Making your offering in the boxes at the entrances

* Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes available at 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





for Offaly Centre Independent Living

PERSONAL ASSISTANTS/HCAs/CARERS NEEDED

Offaly Centre for Independent Living are currently looking for Personal Assistants/Healthcare Assistants to join their Relief Panel in the Laois area.

Rates of pay are €16.40-€18.39 per hour Monday to Saturday and €30.80-€36.78 on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

The role involves supporting people who live with disabilities, in our communities, to live independent lives. The duties include but not limited to are assisting people with personal care, light housework, accompanying to appointments or engaging in their hobbies with them.

The ideal candidate:

- At least 6 months related experience providing quality care is essential.
- Must hold a QQI level 5 Healthcare Award or working towards completing a major award in Healthcare Support or equivalent within the next 12 months.
- Must be a resident of Ireland.
- Up to date patient moving and handling certificate is desirable.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Reliable and trustworthy with a strong commitment to providing high levels of care.
- Full clean drivers licence with own transport is essential.
- Fluency in English
- Ability to work alone, use initiative and be mindful of health and safety and other organisational policies at all times.

To Apply:

If you meet the criteria, we are interested in hearing from you to fill upcoming vacancies for day, evening and weekend work.

For all interested candidates, please forward a copy of your CV to Lorraine Weldon, PA Service Manager via email at lorraine@ocil.ie or call (085) 8894828 for more information.

