

**25th May 2025**

## **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Students from Scoil Chríost Rí and CBS pictured in Carlow Cathedral. They had walked part of the Columban way, an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of the inspirational 6th century monk, St. Columbanus, who was born at the foot of Mount Leinster. Their pilgrimage concluded with a quick tour and prayer in the Cathedral of the Assumption.

The 26th International Columban Day will be hosted in Carlow on July 12/13th.

More detail on events will follow.



**The Parish Centre 057 8621142**  
**E-mail: [info@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:info@portlaoiseparish.ie)**

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



### **The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 31st May**

After the Angel Gabriel had announced to Mary that she was to become the mother of Our Lord, Mary went from Galilee to Judea to visit her kinswoman Elizabeth, soon to be the mother of John the Baptist. Elizabeth greeted Mary with the words, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Mary burst forth with the song of praise, which we call the Magnificat, beginning, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord." We are told that even John the Baptist, still unborn, leaped for joy in his mother's womb. We are shown, side by side, the two women, one seemingly too old to have a child, but destined to bear the last prophet of the Old Covenant, of the age that was passing away; and the other woman, seemingly not ready to have a child, but destined to bear the one who was himself the beginning of the New Covenant, the age that would not pass away.



### **God Knows No Orphans**

There are times in our lives when we feel a sense of abandonment. We might be left with feelings of panic, despair and emptiness at the break up of a relationship, the loss of a loved one; or when the future we thought so secure is turned on its head through job loss, financial ruin or illness. The disciples must be feeling a little like this today at the prospect of Jesus' departure.

In today's gospel, Jesus is preparing his disciples for life without his physical presence. He is teaching them how to transcend these moments of fear and uncertainty "Those who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them..." Undoubtedly, knowing we are loved helps transcend feelings of abandonment, but Jesus reminds us that love is a two way street. Love isn't just a feeling it's a decision, and staying in God's love means making a decision to keep his words. This doesn't mean God will no longer love us if we fail to keep a commandment, but it does mean that wanting to keep his words is at the heart of our relationship. It's not about trying to live up to an impossible set of expectations; it's about developing into confident Christians in an atmosphere of love and support.

Today's gospel speaks to those who are suffering insecurity and fear. As a Christian community we have a responsibility for promoting belief in God's love and in the continued support of the Holy Spirit. In this way, when any one of us comes to grief, that belief can come to the rescue. For those who know they are loved, healing comes more quickly. There can be no abandonment in a kingdom that knows no orphans.

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

Monday - Friday: 7.30am & 10am

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.

### **Cemetery Mass**

**St. Peter & Paul's, Portlaoise**

**Next Sunday 1st June at 1pm**



### **COLLECTION FOR**

### **OUR RETIRED PRIESTS**

### **THIS WEEKEND 24th/25th MAY**

We ask for your support for this collection which will be held this weekend.

There are a number of retired Priests in our Diocese, a number of them in Nursing Homes and others with need for extra assistance to remain in their own homes.

With a reduced number of priests in Parishes it is now necessary to invite the assistance of the faithful in the Diocese to contribute to the Retired Priests Fund by way of this annual collection.

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

### **Ratheniska Cemetery Mass**

**Friday 6th June at 7pm.**

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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.**

### 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

**All are welcome!**

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**THURSDAY MAY 29TH 11AM TO 1PM.**

The Laois Alzheimer Café will provide a warm, welcoming space for people with dementia, their family and friends, social and health care professionals, to meet, exchange ideas and learnings. All are welcome.

For further information please contact

**Grainne Roche Duff 087-6075037**

[grainne.rocheduff@alzheimer.ie](mailto:grainne.rocheduff@alzheimer.ie)

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# 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**.

**Chime – National Charity for Deaf and Hearing Loss in Ireland**: Laois Outreach Clinic held in Portlaoise Parish Centre, **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May** (10.00am – 12.30 pm). Our free and confidential clinic provide one to one support, information and advice about deaf and hearing loss. For more information contact Chime **057-9351606 / text (086-1436476)**

**ADHD Ireland Supports**: ADHD Ireland hosts support groups in Portlaoise for parents and adults. Join us at Portlaoise Parish Centre on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am, or at Shamrock House (R32 AH51, beside the Garda Station) on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> – parents at 7pm, adults at 8pm. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat!

**Call 01 874 8349** for details.

**Thank You : The Irish Franciscan Lourdes Pilgrimage Committee** thanks all who supported the recent Church Gate collection in Portlaoise, The Heath, Ratheniska, Abbeyleix, Ballyroan, Raheen, and Shanahoe. Funds raised will support the 2025 pilgrimage, taking place from 24th–29th September.

Enquiries: [lourdes@franciscans.ie](mailto:lourdes@franciscans.ie)

**Bealtaine Tea Dance**: Everyone is invited to a free Tea Dance at the Dunamais Theatre, Portlaoise on Wednesday, May 28th at 2:30pm. Enjoy live music with Danny Webster and MC Maureen Culleton. Refreshments served – no booking required. **Enquiries: 087 648 2038**.

**Portlaoise Active Retirement**: Active Retirement Group meets Wednesdays at 3pm in the Parish Centre. Bowls on Monday 26th from 2–4pm in St. Mary's Hall. Tea Dance on Wednesday 28th at 3pm in the Dunamais Theatre (no regular club that day). Cards and chat on Thursday 29th at 3pm in the Sue Ryder Centre, Kilminchy. New members welcome. **Contact Maria on 087 918 7157**.

**Parish Centre Whist Drive Highlights – May 13<sup>th</sup>**: **Top Score**: Sadie Chester. **1st Lady**: Breda Fitzpatrick; **2nd Lady**: Margaret Flanagan. **1st Gent**: Christy Fitzpatrick; **2nd Gent**: Peter Stevenson. **1st Half**: Mary Delaney; **2nd Half**: Molly O'Brien. **Raffle winners**: M. Delaney, P. Stevenson, M. Dunne, C. Galvin. Thanks to all for your support. Whist continues every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. New members 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** invites you to join us every Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Parish Prayer Hall as we come together in prayer and service to Our Lady.

**Annual Mass on the Green – Lower Beladd**: The Annual Mass on the Green in Lower Beladd will be celebrated on Wednesday, 4th June at 7:00 p.m. All are warmly invited to join in this special evening of prayer, community, and reflection. Everyone is most welcome.

**Rosary at the Grotto**: Rosary will be recited at the Grotto **every evening 8.00pm** for the month of May. All are welcome.

**Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat**: Spioraid Naoimh Praying Community hosts a retreat on **Saturday, 31st May 2025**, 10am–1:30pm at **St. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise**. Mass at 10am, followed by prayer and reflection in the Parish Centre. Contact: Michael Nerney 086 815 7305 | [www.spioraidnaoimh.com](http://www.spioraidnaoimh.com)

**Bus to Knock**: Join us on a prayerful journey to Knock for the Rosary Rally, **June 7** - to reserve a seat, call **087-121 0263**

**St. Pio Glove – Public Visit**: The St. Pio Glove will be available for veneration at Fitzpatrick's House, Kilberry, Athy on Saturday, 14th June from 11am to 5pm. **All welcome. For more information, contact Ann on 085 169 6189**.

**Radio Maria Ireland – 10 Years**: Thanks to our supporters, Radio Maria Ireland celebrates 10 years of commercial-free Catholic radio. Listen on Saorview 210, the free app, online at [radiomaria.ie](http://radiomaria.ie), or on Facebook Live.



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### Portlaoise Pilgrimage to Fatima

A Mass for all pilgrims travelling to Fatima on 12th June will be celebrated in the Parish Church on 27th May at 7:30pm.

Tickets will be distributed in the Parish Centre after the Mass.





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## Peace of Mind and Heart



I must confess that when I was a child, I was afraid of the dark. At the end of the day, when it was time to turn out the lights and go to bed, I wanted to know that I was not alone in the darkness. That is where my Teddy Bear came to the rescue. Somehow, the darkness was not so frightening with "Teddy" in the bed with me.

Have you ever been afraid? Of course you have. We are all afraid at times. It is nothing to be ashamed of - even adults are sometimes afraid. Some of us may be afraid of the dark. Some may be afraid of the thunder and lightening that comes with a storm. Did you hear the thunder last Tuesday? Did you see the

lightening? Wow! I was certainly afraid! Here are just a few of the things that people are afraid of: bugs, bees, snakes, heights, dentists, doctors, dogs, cats, mice, and germs.

When Jesus told his disciples that he was going to return to his Father, they were afraid. What would happen to them? Would the enemies recognise them as his followers and try to harm them?



Jesus knew that his disciples were afraid and he offered these words to comfort them. "I am leaving you with a gift — peace of mind and heart. Don't be troubled or afraid. Remember what I have told you: 'I am going away, but I will come back to you again. I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me.'"

These words were a great comfort to his disciples and they are a great comfort to us today. When Jesus returned to his Father heaven, he asked the Father to send the Holy Spirit to comfort his disciples until the day when he returned. That includes you and me! What a wonderful gift Jesus has given us -- peace of mind and heart. We no longer have anything to fear. Whenever we find ourselves in the dark or in the storms of life, Jesus is with us.



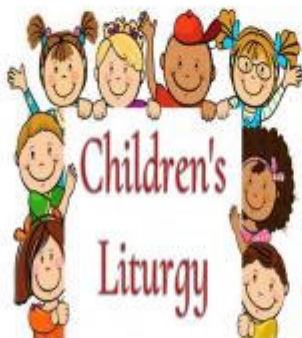
### Prayer

Father,  
we thank you for  
the Holy Spirit  
who guides us and calms our  
fears.

We also thank you for the  
promise that one day we will  
be in Heaven with Jesus.

In his name we pray.  
Amen.

### The Children's Liturgy Group



which takes  
place each  
Sunday during  
the 12:30pm  
Mass, will now  
take a break for  
the summer.

We look forward to  
welcoming you all back in September!

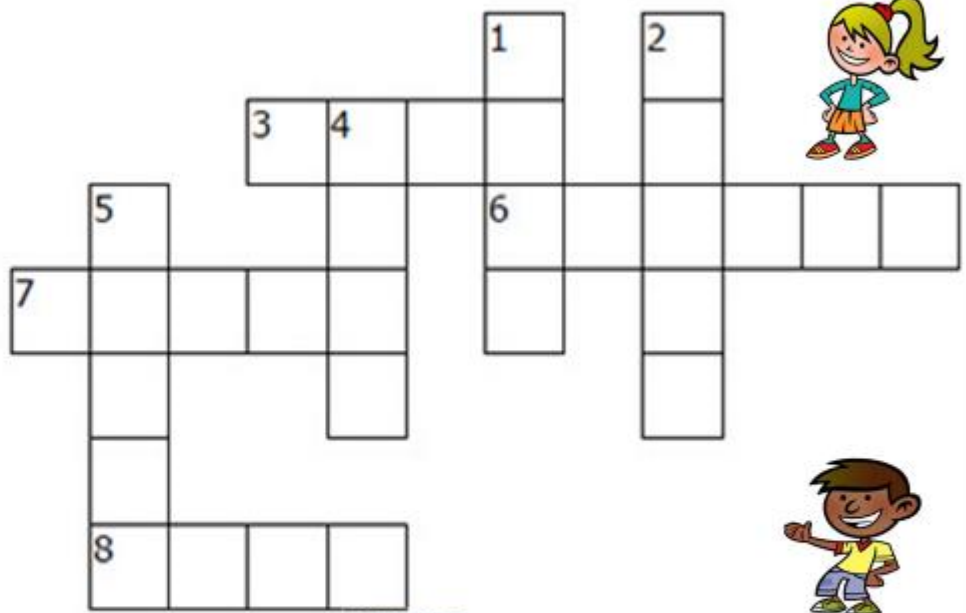
Jesus is always with me,  
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## Peace of Mind and Heart

I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart.  
And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give.  
So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:27



**TEACH**  
**WORDS**  
**OBEY**  
**HEAR**

**LOVE**  
**AFRAID**  
**HOME**  
**PEACE**

### DOWN

1. To receive a sound using your ears
2. Parts of a language which can be spoken or written
4. To carry out or fulfil a command, order, or instruction.
5. To give instruction to others.

### ACROSS

3. To have a deep feeling of affection toward a person
6. Have a feeling of fear
7. A time when people live and work together happily without violence
8. A place where someone lives; a residence.

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

**WORDS**  
**HEARTS**  
**SPIRIT**  
**HOME**  
**GLAD**  
**TEACHING**  
**FATHER**  
**LOVE**  
**OBEY**  
**HOLY**  
**GREATER**  
**AFRAID**  
**WORLD**  
**PEACE**  
**COME**



# Time to Think!

## The Lord hears the cry of the poor!!

First Holy Communion, continues to be an incredibly special day, not just in the life of young people, but for their entire families and indeed school communities. I appreciate the role our local catholic schools play in faith formation and how generously the school community embraces this occasion. Our local parishes, have indeed been uplifted because of the presence of the young families, presenting their cherished child to receive the Lord's presence in the Eucharist.

I was inspired by the wonderful gesture of warm hugs, given to these children by proud parents, after they received their first Holy Communion. It was an occasion where a lot of effort paid rich dividend in the lives of these young people.

In stark contrast, I was haunted by those dreadful images on our news screens, of children crying with the hunger, being starved to death in Gaza. I thought of the pregnant women crying for a cup of water, innocent civilians, beautiful people, now victims of one of the worst genocide's humanities has ever witnessed. Starvation is never a weapon of war. The Israeli attack on Gaza is both brutal and evil. I was lost for words and deeply depressed as the president of the United States suggested he would oversee with the Israeli people the development of a "new Gaza" for the purpose building five-star resorts and elite golf courses. In the same vein receiving from Qatar a new airplane valued at over \$400 million dollars.

This economic perspective displays how an extremist interpretation of capitalism can dehumanize people into a zero currency. Commodity is more important than the human person. Wealth and economic opportunity in this context seem to be far more important than the fundamental human right to life, shelter and food. As Christians we are constantly reminded by the actions of Jesus in the Gospel, that might be not right. The Christian Gospels promote a society that is just and free, where people come before profit. I love the psalm that prays, "The Lord hears the cry of the poor". Those flowing tears on children's hungry faces in Gaza should truly haunt the moral conscience of all of us not just to express solidarity but to be vociferous and staunch in our condemnation of this brutal genocide.

At the conclusion of the Mass of Inauguration of his pontificate on Sunday May 18th, Pope Leo XIV prayed the Regina Caeli and appealed for people suffering due to war. He thanked the 200,000 people and numerous delegations attending the Eucharist, expressing his gratitude to the representatives of nations, Churches, and various religions. "In the joy of faith and communion, we cannot forget our brothers and sisters who are suffering because of war," said Pope Leo. He recalled

that "the surviving children, families, and elderly" in Gaza have been reduced to starvation, as the Israel-Hamas war continues. In Myanmar, noted the Pope, "new hostilities have cut short innocent young lives."

Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, speaking to the tiny Christian community recently said, "We are living in a time filled with darkness, and there is no need to elaborate because you know it well. In these moments, we must first look to Jesus, for He gives us the strength to endure this dark time. Over the past years, we have learned that we cannot rely on humans. How many promises were made and never fulfilled? And how much violence and hatred arose because of people? To remain steadfast in hope, we must be deeply rooted in Jesus. If we are connected to Him, we can look at one another in a unique way. I don't know when or how this war will end, and every time we approach the end, it seems like we start anew. But eventually, the war will end, and we must not lose hope. When the war ends, we will rebuild everything: our schools, our hospitals, and our homes. We must remain resilient and full of strength. And I repeat: We will never abandon you, and we will do everything we can to support and aid you." It is in this message of hope we all are called to respond with generosity to the plight of the most disadvantaged.

The Irish people by virtue of our own history have always empathized with the suffering of Palestine. In the coming days, Tánaiste Simon Harris is once again due to meet Senator Frances Black to present a timeline to enact the Government's version of the Occupied Territories Bill. An action, that firmly grounded in Justice, would clearly confirm a deep solidarity to the plight of the poor.

The Lord hears the cry of the poor!! O God of all hope and peace, we bring to you the needs of our broken and hurting world. Our hearts are breaking with images of lives lost and torn apart by grief in Israel and Palestine. We pray for an end to violence and warfare so that the challenging work of rebuilding may begin. Help us, O Lord, to affirm our common humanity so that in our differences we may build together for justice and peace.



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

[illegible]

**BEYOND TREATMENT NUTRITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR  
CANCER PATIENTS.**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 11:30am**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION AND BOOKING CALL THE CENTRE ON  
0578681492**

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

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



**BER BRENNAN**  
Summerhill Lane  
Portlaoise.



**CHARLIE BERGIN**  
Shanahoe, Laois.



**SHEILA O' TOOLE**  
Shanahoe, Laois



**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

*Our sympathy to their families.*

A message of sympathy may be left for the family by  
logging on to the death notice at  
[www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices](http://www.portlaoiseparish.ie/deathnotices)

**1<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
In Loving Memory of  
HARRIET WHELAN**

*(née Dempsey)*

*"Villa Rosa" Mosse Lane, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Laois /  
Portarlinton, Offaly*



*19<sup>th</sup> May 2024*

*In our hearts, your love will stay,  
Guiding us through each passing day.  
A kind soul, so gentle and true,  
We cherish the memories of you.*

*Though you're gone, you're never far,  
You light our lives like the brightest star.  
In the quiet moments, we feel your embrace,  
Forever cherished, in God's grace.*

*Your memory lives on in all we do,  
Harriet, our love is forever with you.*

*Resting peacefully in God's loving arms.  
"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

*Sadly missed by her beloved:*

*Sisters Patricia and Theresa*

*Brother-in-law Seamus*

*Brother Paddy*

*Late brother Leo*

*Sons Vincent and Eric*

*Daughter Louise*

*Son-in-law Pietro*

*Grandson Thomas*

*Friends and neighbours: Julie, Dolores,  
Geraldine, Sheila, Marion, Mark, Frank,  
and Mrs. Cook*

*Rest in Peace Harriet*

**In Loving Memory of  
PADDY FITZPATRICK**

*Station Road, Portlaoise*

*3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary occurred on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025.*



*Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in St Peter and Paul's  
Church on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May at  
12.30pm*

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

*Sadly missed, loved and  
forever remembered by Imelda, Brian, David,  
Kevin and Laura, extended family and friends.*

*Rest in Peace Paddy*

**In Loving Memory of  
BRIDIE FOYLE**

**1 Ridge Road, Portlaoise.  
12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025**



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
**Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 10am.**

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

*Always in our thoughts,  
Forever in our hearts.*

**Sadly missed by her daughters Caroline & Ann, sons-in-law Martin & Fergal and grandchildren.**

*May Bridie Rest in Peace*

**1<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
In Loving Memory of  
JOE CUNNEEN**  
**Rathleague**



The Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in **Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May  
at 6.30pm.**

Loved and missed by his wife  
Margaret, sons David and Stephen,  
daughter Mary, daughters-in-law,  
grandchildren and extended family.

*Rest in Peace Joe*

**Months Mind  
In Loving Memory of  
CHRISTINE RONAN**  
**(née Whelan)**

**Higgins Park Fairgreen Village, Portlaoise.**



Christine's Month's Mind Mass will be  
celebrated on **31st May at 6:30pm in  
SS Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise.**

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

**Much loved & sadly missed every day  
by your heartbroken family.**

*May Christine Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
JOHN FITZPATRICK**  
**Ballinlough, Ballyroan**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Died 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019**



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at  
**St. Patrick's Church, Ballyroan, on  
Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025, at 9:30am.**

You left us special memories,  
Your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you,  
You are always by our side.

**Sadly missed by his wife Alice,  
daughter Una And son-in-law Mark.**

*Rest in Peace John*

**In Loving Memory of  
DR. PAULINE MORRIS WALSH**  
**Blackrock, formally of Colliers Lane, Portlaoise.**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025**



Anniversary Mass will be  
celebrated in **Sts. Peter &  
Paul's Parish Church this  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am.**

**Sadly missed by her  
loving mother and family.**

*Rest in Peace Pauline*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE  
In Loving Memory of  
KEVIN YOUNG**  
**34 St. Brigid's Place, Portlaoise and formerly  
Derreen, Cloneygowan, Co. Offaly.**



Though you are gone,  
your love remains,  
A light that in our hearts still burns.  
Forever missed, forever near,  
In every thought, you are so dear.  
Thinking of you always, from  
Pamela, Roger, Rosie, Melanie,  
Aaron, Chloe, Hannah, Nicole  
and all you grandchildren.

*Rest in Peace Kevin*

**In Loving Memory of  
JAMES KERRY**

**Late of Capoley and formerly 74 Marian Place  
6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurred on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025.**



For those who think of him today  
A little prayer to Jesus say.  
Loved and Missed by his Family.

**Sadly missed, loved and  
forever remembered by your  
loving family.**

*Rest in Peace James*

**In Loving Memory of  
SEAN CONROY**

**Ballydavis, Portlaoise.  
21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary occurred on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025.**



*We miss you more than  
words  
will ever say.*

**Loved and remembered always by  
your loving family.**

*Rest in Peace Sean*

**In Loving Memory of  
LOUIS G. CULLITON**

Glendowns, Portlaoise.  
6th Anniversary occurs 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025



Anniversary Mass will be celebrated  
in Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church  
on **Saturday 31st May at 6:30pm.**

**Sadly missed by his loving wife  
Mairéad, sons Donn and Eamonn,  
daughter Síle, sisters Nano, Maura  
and Alice, and extended families.**

*Rest in Peace Louis*

**In Loving Memory of  
MICHAEL FARRELL**

Lakeglen, Portlaoise.  
9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025  
Also remembering him on his birthday.



*It's not what we write,  
or even what we say,  
But what we feel inside as we  
think of you today.  
No matter how life changes,  
no matter what we do,  
A special place within our  
hearts is always kept for you.*

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in  
Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church on  
**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 10am.**

**Love always, Patricia and Patrick, also your  
brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews xxxx**

*May Michael Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
Our Dear Mother  
ROSANNA GING**

O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 26<sup>th</sup> May  
2025.



**Also remembering our  
Father Patrick and brothers  
John and Michael at this time.**

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

**Always loved and remembered  
by their loving families.**

*May They Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
Our Wonderful Dad  
PATSY DEEVY**

24 Lakeglen, Portlaoise.  
7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025.



*What we'd give if we could say,  
"Hello Dad" in the same old way,  
To hear his voice and see his smile,  
To sit with him and chat for a while.  
A true friend we could turn to,  
When times were good and bad,  
One of our greatest blessings,  
The man that we called Dad.*

**Sadly missed by his sons Pat and  
Brendan, Daughter Hannah,  
daughters-in-law Sylvia & Maura, son-in-law Paddy,  
grandchildren Craig, Rebecca & Paddy.**

**Also remembering his dearly departed wife  
Kathleen at this time.**

Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in Sts. Peter & Paul's  
Parish Church, on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 12.30pm**

*May Patsy Rest in Peace*

**Also remembering at this time Patsy's brother**

**JAMES (Jimmy) DEEVY**

17 O' Moore Place, Portlaoise.  
27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025

*May James Rest in Peace*

**In Loving Memory of  
WESLEY O' BRIEN**

47 Heather Lane, Esker Hills, Ridge Rd., Portlaoise.  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home; 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025



*It broke my heart to lose you,  
But you didn't go alone,  
For a part of me went with you,  
The day God called you home.*

**Sadly missed by Mam, Dad, brother  
Lorcan, son John and extended  
family and friends.**

*Rest in Peace Wesley*

**In Loving Memory of  
PATRICK (Paddy) CARROLL**

25 Dr. Murphy's Place, Portlaoise  
43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary occurs on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025.  
Also 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday Remembrance; 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025.



*A Dad's love is special,  
A gift beyond compare,  
You only know the meaning,  
When he is no longer there.  
A special time, a special face,  
A special Dad we cannot replace,  
With an aching heart we whisper low,  
We miss you Dad, and love you so.*

**Love Micky, Tommy, Ann, P.J., Eileen and John, sons-in-law,  
daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.**

*May Patrick Rest in Peace*

**1<sup>st</sup> BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**  
**In Loving Memory of**  
**PAUL JOSEPH KENNA**  
 Balladine, Abbeyleix.  
 First birthday away from home.



Paul's First Anniversary and Birthday Mass will take place in **the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix, on Saturday, 7th June at 5pm.**

Little did we think, as we celebrated your big 40th on the 23rd of May last year, that it would be your last birthday with us — and that just a few short weeks later, on the 11th of June 2024, our world would be shattered as you fell asleep forever.

You truly were the light of our family, and we are all so grateful, proud, and honoured to call you our son, brother, uncle, nephew and friend.

As a family, we wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone for their support, kind words, and memories of Paul over the past 12 months. They have been a great source of strength.

**Your smile, your laugh, your heart so true,  
 Left a light in all we do.**

**Though you're gone, you're always near,  
 In every memory, smile and tear.**

**With love,**

**Mum, Dad, Sheila, Fiona & Families**

*Rest easy, Paul (Pinky).  
 We love you always.*

**In Loving Memory of**  
**PAT BYRNES**

**29 Beechfield, Portlaoise.**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occurs 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025**



Pat's Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in **Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish Church** on **Saturday 31st May at 10am.**

**Husband:**

*Wonderful memories of one so dear,  
 Treasured still with a love sincere,  
 In our hearts he is living yet,  
 We loved him too dearly to forget.*

*Sadly missed by your loving wife Margaret, never forgotten.*

**Dad & Grandad:**

*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 by your loving children; Mark, Anna, Joanne, Marguerite & Daniel, your 16 grandchildren and your 1<sup>st</sup> great grandchild, Jaxson Harding.**

*May Pat Rest in Peace*

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**  
**In Loving Memory of**  
**MARY FARRELL**

**20 Mountain View Square, Portlaoise.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday away from Home**

*Those we love never go away,  
 They walk beside us everyday,  
 Unseen, unheard, but always near,  
 Still loved, still missed and very dear.*

**Sadly missed, loved and remembered  
 by her loving husband Patrick,  
 daughters Martina, Mary, Sheila,  
 grandchildren and extended family.**

*Rest in Peace Mary*



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Escorted Tour to Knock & Co. Mayo - Guest Speaker: Marion Carroll

**Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> June 2025**  
Train/Bus to Westport  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
Return Bus/Train Home

**Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

\*Arrive Westport  
\*Onwards to Castlecourt Hotel for check-in.  
\*4 Course Dinner. Hotel entertainment.

**Monday 09<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

\*A Day in Knock.  
\*Avail of Mass, Confessions, Private time.  
\*Tour of Grounds and Museum.  
\*Return to Hotel for Dinner and Marion Carroll talk.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

\*A rest day in Westport.  
\*Avail of Mass in St. Mary's Church.  
\*Amble along the mall and explore the shops.  
\*Relax in the hotel, treat yourself to a spa day.  
\*Explore Westport House.  
\*Return to Hotel for Dinner & Entertainment.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

\*Visit Croagh Patrick & Famine Memorial.  
\*Sheepherding demonstration.  
Mass in Kylemore Abbey and self-guided tour.  
Return to Hotel for Dinner & Entertainment.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

Morning Mass. Return bus/train home.

**Price €699.00 pp sharing - Package includes:**  
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Knock Pilgrimages, Co. Mayo

"But you will receive power when the  
Holy Spirit has come upon you"  
Acts 1:8

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## Portlaoise Parish



Results for  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025



No €20,000 Jackpot Winner

### WINNERS

Emily McCarthy  
Paula Byrne  
Eunice Burns  
Donal Bland  
Sheila Paisley  
Pat Bannon  
Jolanta Zadora  
Patrick Maher  
Lily Whelan  
Lena Kelly  
Quicksilver  
Nora Carroll  
Sinead Cantwell  
Dinah Maguire  
Phil Dwane  
Mary Burke  
Maureen Thompson  
Joe Thompson  
Michael Dollard  
PJ Kelly  
Ruby Darcy & Lucy Conroy  
Cian Kinsella  
Declan O'Rourke  
Peter Haslam  
Amy & Shane Dowd  
Ann Carroll  
Dan Kissane

MATCH 3s €1,000

### PROMOTER

Ericka McCarthy  
Rocky Kehoe  
Beth Kelly  
Paul Dooley  
On Line Lotto  
On Line Lotto  
On Line Lotto  
Mary Hennessy  
Lily Whelan  
Lena Kelly  
Kathleen Baldwin  
Elizabeth Dowling  
Anthony Preston  
M. Maguire  
Thelma Brown  
Peter Ryan  
Peter Ryan  
Peter Ryan  
Parish Centre  
Paul Dooley  
Lucy Conroy  
M. Farrell  
Betty O'Rourke  
Mary Haslam  
Catherine Kearns  
Ann Carroll  
Liam Kelly

27  
Match  
3s  
Receive  
€38  
Each

Next Week's Jackpot is €20,000

## 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](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



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Subject to availability of space

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PARISH SHOP

057 8621142 - Claire Scully

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 / Psalm 66:2-3, 5-6, 8  
Apocalypse 21:10-14, 22-23 / John 14:23-29

## 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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- \* Using the Envelope boxes for regular donations - boxes  
available at Church porches and Parish Centre
  - \* Direct payment by cheque or cash
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  - \* 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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# OLD FORT FES

# QUARTER IVAL

27TH - 29TH JUNE 2025

PORTLAOISE, CO LAOIS



FRIDAY



SUNDAY

**SMASH HITS!**

**transmitter**

LIVE MUSIC STREET THEATRE MEDIEVAL HERITAGE DISPLAYS  
HISTORICAL TOURS CELTIC CON ARTISAN MARKET PUB TRAIL

Weekend or Nightly Tickets on sale from Dunamaisé Box Office or [oldfortquarter.com](http://oldfortquarter.com)

[@oldfortquarter](https://www.facebook.com/oldfortquarter)

[oldfortquarterfestival](https://www.instagram.com/oldfortquarterfestival)



**TICKETS  
ON SALE**

Thursday  
15<sup>th</sup> May

SATURDAY



**Aslan**

AFTERNOON GIG

**TAYLOR  
SWITCH**  
TRIBUTE SHOW

