



BLESSING OF THE FAMILY CRIB

God of all people, from the very beginning of creation you have shown us your love: when our need for a Saviour was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives He brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless our family and all who will look upon this crib in the coming days; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and lift our thoughts to Him, who is God-with-us, our Emmanuel and the Saviour of all. Amen.

THE EMIGRANT NEWSLETTER 2022

The Portarlinton / Killenard Emigrant Newsletter is on sale in various shops around the locality. Price €5.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Coláiste Iosagáin, Portarlinton



Students from Coláiste Iosagáin will host a Christmas Carol Service on Monday next, 12th December from 12.30pm-1.15pm in St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton. People are invited to view this Carol Service on the Parish Webcam from 11.30am. www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlinton

COURTWOOD G.A.A. AGM

Courtwood GAA's Annual General Meeting will be held on Mon. next, 12th December at 8pm in Rath School. All are welcome to attend. Members who would like to forward any motions, recommendations or nominations, please contact Siobhan 087 2726245 or Email secretary.courtwood.laois@gaa.ie.

O'DEMPSEY'S GFC JUVENILE'S MONSTER HAMPER RAFFLE

Our Monster Hamper Raffle is back for 2022. There is 1 x €500 hamper, kindly sponsored by McLoughlin's SuperValu, & 5 x €150 hampers to be won. All money raised goes back into the Juvenile's Club. Your support is really appreciated. Tickets available in local businesses & online at www.odempseysgfc.ie

GRACEFIELD GAA LOTTO RESULTS

5.12.2022 – Numbers 01, 25, 27, 17 – No jackpot winner. €50 to each of the following:- Madeline Murphy / Joe Murphy / Paddy Bryan / Brendan Oakley / Frank Higgins Christmas Bonus €30 to the following:- Anne O'Connor / David Bannon Jr. / Sharon & Isobelle / Margaret Walsh. Promoters prize: Burbages. Next week's jackpot €3,800

"USE YOUR BRAIN NOT YOUR FISTS"

An assault can wreck a victim's life, but it can also ruin your own future. You could lose your job, your ability to travel, even your freedom, not to mention the distress it would cause your family. This is a Garda initiative as part of their mission of Keeping People Safe that is aimed at reducing and preventing assaults which can have serious consequences for both victims & perpetrators.

TROCAIRE GIFT OF LOVE

Give hope for a better world this Christmas with a Trocaire Gift of Love. There are 23 Trocaire gifts to choose from, such as chicks, emergency water & solar lamps, ranging in price from €5 to €100. The gifts can be purchased at <https://trocaire.org/gifts> or phone 1800 408 408.

COMMUNION CALLS

Communion calls to the sick & house bound will take place next week as follows:-
Tuesday 13th December 2022
Congress Tce; Crowe Lane; St. Brigid's Sq; Station Court; Newmill Court; Canal Rd; Corrig Derrymore; Lea; Lough; Old Pound; Rathmiles
Wednesday 14th December 2022
Ballybrittas; Bellgrove; Ballyadden; Courtwood; Fisherstown; Jamestown; Coolaghy; Ballycullane; Morette; Coolbanagher; Knightstown; Killeen; Tinnakill; Woodbrook; Portlaoise Road
Thursday 15th December 2022
Assumpta Terrace; St. Patrick's Terrace; St. Joseph's Terrace; Avondale; Shandra; Annamoe; Bog Road; Patrick Ave; Gracefield; Patrick St; Rosecourt; Droughill; Bishopswood; Clondoolusk; Cushina; Botley Court

ADVENT

Advent is a time of waiting and preparing, offering us many rich symbols for our Prayer Space. We can use this time to make spiritual preparation for Christmas. The ritual of lighting candles on the Advent Wreath helps us to do this. The pink candle, symbolizing joy, is lit on Gaudete Sunday. It reminds us that Christmas is very near and the candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR 2022



We hope to perform a full programme of music this year. Practices will be held as follows:- Tues. 13th, Wed. 14th, Tues. 20th & Thurs. 22nd December at 7.30pm. New members welcome. Singers live longer (official) Sunday 9am Mass as always!

EMO / RATH PARISH LOTTO

Winning numbers 18 – 19 – 20 – 24 No Jackpot Winner. €25 to each of the following:- Terry & Cian C/o Deirdre Mollie Ryan C/o Meabh / Linda O'Regan C/o Meabh / The Foy Boys C/o Rose John Lowry C/o Ann
Next week's Jackpot €7,200
As this is the only fundraiser for the Parish, your support would be greatly appreciated. If you could sell a book of tickets or help on Monday evenings to check the tickets contact the Parish office. Tickets available in Emo Shop, the Village Shop, Ballybrittas & the Parish Office, Portarlinton.

SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN

The National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin on December 12th. This review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards, as detailed in Safeguarding Children – Policy & Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016.

CAROL SERVICE



A Carol Service will take place on Sunday 18th December at 7pm in the Church of the Ascension, Rathadaire. Everyone is very welcome to this community event.

SUPPORT FOR THE PARISH

If you wish to make a donation to Portarlinton / Emo Parishes, please see bank details below, where you can transfer directly to the Parish Accounts.

PORTARLINGTON PARISH

B.O.I. Portarlinton BOFIE2D
Portarlinton Parish No. 1 Account
IBAN - IE28 BOFI 9018 6154 5717 14
Portarlinton Parish Clergy Fund A/C
IBAN: IE59 BOFI 9018 6196 5850 57

EMO PARISH

B.O.I., Mountmellick BOFIE2D
Emo Church No. 1 Account
IBAN - IE16 BOFI 9018 1051 4302 54
Emo Parish Clergy Fund Account
IBAN: IE34 BOFI 9018 1022 2378 77

NCBI CHARITY SHOP

NCBI Charity Shop is now open at The Tannery, Link Rd, Portarlinton. We invite members of the local community & beyond to visit the store & sample some of our top quality pre-loved clothing, accessories and more. Donations are accepted at this store as are expressions of interest in volunteering. You can contact shopvolunteer@ncbi.ie

OFFALY ALZHEIMER CAFE

Bridge House Hotel – Tullamore.
Mon. 9th January at 10.30am. Special guest: Beth Wogan (Tullamore branch of Family Carers Irel.). She will talk about the different services they offer. The Offaly Alzheimer Cafe will provide a warm & welcoming space for people with dementia, their family & friends, social & health care professionals to meet, exchange ideas & learnings. Everybody welcome. For further info. contact Claire Dolan 087 7151323 or email Claire.dolan@alzheimers.ie

ALONE - Are seeking Volunteers...

Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to Older People once a week? ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested please sign up here: <https://alone.ie/volunteers/>
For more information, contact Frances on volunteer@alone.ie or on 086 1085965.

I.C.E. (In case of emergency)

Age Friendly Laois I.C.E. cards are an aid to first responders in identifying a person & having vital information in an emergency situation. Contact Tom Curran for info. on how to obtain one of these cards or to find out more about Age Friendly Laois – Phone 057 8664150 / 086 0363426 or Email tcurran@laoiscoco.ie

USED STAMPS

Used stamps needed for the missions. Drop them into 'The Nook', Patrick Street.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each Sunday of Advent in St. Michael's Church, from 5 to 7pm. Weekly Adoration continues on Tuesday's after the 10am Mass finishing with the Rosary at 7pm.

LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS FOOD APEAL

Christmas Food Voucher Appeal
Closing date for requests Tues. 13th December. Put your written request (Name & contact number) in the box located in Portarlinton Credit Union or Whelan Electrical.

PARISHES OF PORTARLINGTON & EMO



Advent

PRIESTS PHONE NUMBERS
Very Rev. Thomas Dooley P.P. Tel: (057) 8643004 Rev. Joe O'Neill C.C. Tel: (057) 8646517
Very Rev. Michael Noonan P.E. Tel: (057) 8623431



PARISH OFFICE

Tel: 057 8643004 - Email: portarlintonparishoffice@eircom.net / Parish Office Hours: 9.30am – 1.30pm Mon. – Fri.
Anniversary Masses, Baptisms and Weddings can be booked by contacting the Parish Office during opening hours.

DIOCESSE www.kandle.ie **SAMARITANS 24-hour helpline:** 116 123 Email: jo@samaritans.org
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 087 7640557 **AWARE** Lo-call Helpline 1890 303 302 **G.R.O.W.** www.grow.ie Info: 1890 474 474
PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: Jackie McNulty; Frances O'Dwyer; Mary Joyce; Clare Nerney
Kathleen Sherry – Director of Safeguarding - Tel: 085-8021633 dip@kandle.ie E-mail safeguarding@kandle.ie

MASS TIMES

St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton
10am Daily Mass (Monday – Friday)
6.15pm (Vigil – Sat.), 9am & 12.15pm Sunday
St. John's Church, Killenard 10.30am Sun.
St. Paul's Church, Emo
7.30pm (Vigil – Sat.) & 11am Sun.
Sacred Heart Church, Rath 9am Sun.



CELEBRATION OF MASS VIA WEBCAM

Link to live streaming from St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton
www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlinton



Portarlinton & Emo Parish @EmoParish

SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER, 2022

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2022

"Gaudete Sunday"

YEAR A

WEEKEND MASSES PORTARLINGTON

Sat. 10th December – 6.15pm
Lily Tinkler, Assumpta Tce., (1st Anniv.)
Michael Ward, St. Michael's Park (2nd Anniv.)
Kevin Slattery (5th Anniv.) & deceased members of the Slattery Family; Richard Mangan, Spa St. Margaret Kennedy, Gracefield; Eamon Mullen, Bracklone; Michael & Elizabeth Woulfe; James & Mary Flanagan; Paddy Confrey & dec. members of the Dowling Family; Ned & Mindy Kelly, St. Michael's PK & their Daughter Frances; Patsy O'Malley, Clonmalire (2nd Anniv.)
Sun. 11th December – 12.15pm
Jim Fahy, Arlington Est. (5th Anniv.)
Darren O'Neill, St. Brigid's Sq; Michael Gibson, St. Michael's Park; Redmond Hanlon, Gracefield; Eugene & Mary Boland, Main St; Clare O'Byrne, Station Road; Maureen & Pat Gorman, Church View; Stasia Walsh, Maudie Walsh, Sean Walsh, Kathleen Banks (nee Walsh) & Catherine Milner; Edward, Mary, Dessie & Eamonn Shortall; Phyllis Hallissey (nee Shortall, St. Michael's Park)

WEEKDAY ANNIV. PORTARLINGTON

Mon. 12th Dec. Michael Hanlon, Assumpta Tce.
Tues. 13th Dec. Thomas Kennedy, St. Michael's Park
Wed. 14th Dec. Mick & Kath Brennan & Ted Lawlor, Foxcroft Street
Thurs. 15th Dec. Paddy Young, Bracklone Street (16th Anniversary)
Fri. 16th Dec. Christy & Pat Kennedy, Lucan

ANNIVERSARIES KILLENARD

Sun. 11th December – 10.30am
Catherine Finn, New Mill Court (2nd Anniv.)
Dec. members of the Finn Family, Bracklone St. Christy Carroll Jr. & deceased members of the Carroll Family; Martin Terrett, Derrymore.

DECEASED

Your prayers are requested for the following who died during the week:

Kathleen Delaney (nee Bracken), Ballinakill & formerly Portnahinch (Sister of Eamon Bracken)
Pat Moore, Kilcullen & formerly Emo
Bridget Keegan (nee O'Connor), Morette

ANNIVERSARIES EMO

Saturday 10th December 7.30pm
Jim McEvoy, Coolaghy; Daniel Keane, Rath Philip Carney, Killiny; Robert Pigott, Woodbrook; Jack & Maureen Nerney, Cappakeel; Jim & Mary Nerney, The Poplars
Sunday 11th December 11am
Patrick Mangan, Carn (10th Anniv.)

ANNIVERSARIES RATH

Sun. 11th December – 9am
Paddy & Cora O'Dwyer & deceased members of the O'Dwyer, Coffey & Currims Families
Michael O'Connor, Courtwood; Annie & Larry Ryan, Bellgrove; Alice & Myles Christie, Monasterevin; Tom Ryan, Bellgrove

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Christian Community through Baptism
Emo Parish
Thomas Jeremiah (TJ) Deegan, The Limetree
Eabha Grace Purcell, Coolaghy
Ciala Grace Butler, Coolbanagher

TODAY – SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER ADVENT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Featuring singers, Anthony & Victoria McGorian accompanied by Pianist, Tom Conroy.
Starting 4pm in St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton

Songs / Hymns will include 'Walking in the Air', 'Count your Blessings', 'White Christmas', 'O' Holy Night and many more classics. Please come along for a beautiful celebration of Christmas music. Donation only.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION

The National Annual St. Vincent De Paul collection will take place at all Masses this weekend (10th / 11th December). Sincere thanks to everyone who supports St. Vincent de Paul, your donations are gratefully appreciated.
You can contact Portarlinton St. Vincent de Paul on 087 7640557.

CHRISTMAS STATIONS

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Stations for the support of the Priests of the Parish. Your generosity is, as always, appreciated.

FR. MICHAEL CONNELL S.D.B. Celebrating the end of his Jubilee Year 50th Anniversary of his Ordination

Today (Sun.) at 10.30am in St. John's Church, Killenard, where Fr. Michael Connell will mark the end of his Golden Jubilee Year. After the Mass you are invited for refreshments in The Thatch, as it was not possible to do this last year due to Covid restrictions. This reception is Fr. Michael's 'Thank you'. No cards or presents please! – Your presence at the celebration & reception is a gift in itself.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2022

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES
Saturday 24th December, 2022
St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton, 6.15pm and 9pm Mass
St. John's Church, Killenard - 7.30pm
St. Paul's Church, Emo - 8pm
Sacred Heart Church, Rath - 7pm



CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
Sunday 25th December, 2022
St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton 9am and 12.15pm
St. John's Church, Killenard 10.30am
St. Paul's Church, Emo 11am
Sacred Heart Church, Rath 9am

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION (Penitential Service for Christmas)
Mon. 19th December Rath 7.30pm
Tuesday 20th December St. Michael's Church 7.30pm
Wednesday 21st December St. Joseph's Church, Mountmellick 7.30pm