

Parishes of Portarlington & Emo



Very Rev. Thomas Dooley P.P. Tel: (057) 8643004 Rev. Eugen Dragoş Tamaş Tel: (057) 8646517
Very Rev. Michael Noonan P.E. Tel: (057) 8623431



Tel: 057 8643004 - Email: portarlingtonparishoffice@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.

DIOCESE www.kandle.ie

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 051-350725 **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
Ailish Higgins – Diocesan Director of Safeguarding - Tel: 085-8021633 dlp@kandle.ie E-mail safeguarding@kandle.ie

PRIESTS PHONE NUMBERS

PARISH OFFICE

SAMARITANS 24-hour helpline: 116 123 Email: jo@samaritans.org

CELEBRATION OF MASS VIA WEBCAM

Link to live streaming from
St. Michael's Church, Portarlington



Portarlington & Emo Parish
@EmoParish

MASS TIMES

St. Michael's Church, Portarlington

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 Sat. / 11am Sun.

Sacred Heart Church, Rath

9am Sun.



11th January 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Year 'A'

WEEKEND ANNIV. - PORTARLINGTON

Sat. 10th January 6.15pm

Ray McEvoy, Garryhinch Cross (M.M.)
Martin Harte, Marian Hill (2nd Anniv.);
Joseph Sweeney; Ann Sweeney & son Thomas Sweeney; Ann Connolly, Spa St; Marie Confrey & dec. members of the Dowling Family;
Mary O'Leary, Killenure (5th Anniv.);
John Gorman, Cloneygowan (6th Anniv.);
Andrew O'Neill, St. Brigid's Sq. (5th Anniv.);
John & Mary Lalor; William Lalor; Josie, Andy & Seamus Molloy, Portlaoise

Sun. 11th January 12.15pm

Maureen McEvoy, Avondale; John & Bridie O'Donnell, St. Brigid's Sq. & grandson, Philip Brennan; Bridie Carroll, Fermoy (3rd Anniv.); Mollie Coughlan, Kilmalogue; William Hanley, Dublin

Sat. 17th January 6.15pm

Julia & Matt Colgan, Annamoe; John & Kathleen Wright; Leonard Wright, Droughill; Elizabeth Dempsey (nee Knight), Monasterevin & St. Mary's Terrace (10th Anniv.); Maurice & Rachel Kelly, St. Michael's Park.

Sun. 18th January 12.15pm

Ann Hennessy, NaCluainte (2nd Anniv.); Michael Dunne, Cushina (3rd Anniv.); James & Kathleen Walsh; Reg & Leah Youster; Patrick Bradshaw Jnr. & dec. members of the Bradshaw Family, Lea; Pauline Hooks, Patrick St.

WEEKDAY ANNIV. - PORTARLINGTON

Wed. 14th Jan. 10am – Brid Whelan, Bishopswood (70th B/Day Remembrance)
Fri. 16th Jan. 10am – Kathleen Dunne, Rosecourt (1st Anniv.)

ANNIVERSARIES - KILLENDAR

Sun. 11th January 10.30am

Mary O'Leary, Killenure (5th Anniv.); Eberhard Bauer, Clonanny & Germany (11th Anniv.); Paul Carroll, London & Clonanny

Sun. 18th January 10.30am

Catherine McGill, Ballycarroll
Patsy McGurrell, Garryvacum (26th Anniv.)

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY



The Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place from 18th Jan. until 25th January.

Theme: "One Body, One Spirit, One Hope" (Ephesians 4:4)

ANNIVERSARIES EMO

Sat. 10th January 7.30pm

Teresa Ryan, Woodbrook (3rd Anniv.)
Bridie Fitzpatrick, Dangans

Sun. 11th January 11am

Sun. 18th January 11am

Danny Brophy, Killeen (20th Anniv.)

ANNIVERSARIES RATH

Sun. 11th January 9am

Chrissy Fenlon, Ballyadden (M.M.)
Liam Kelly, Bellgrove (1st Anniv.); Anne Tynan, Jamestown; Anne Delaney, Coole; Paddy & Mary Flynn, Cobh / Fisherstown;

Sun. 18th January 9am

Teresa O'Connell, Courtwood; Edward Boland, Jamestown (11th Anniv.); Mary Duffy, Ballyadden; Moira Donoher, Ballyadden; Lar Nolan, Courtwood; Joe Flanagan, Dunmaise

DECEASED

Please pray for the following who died recently:

Matthew (Matt) Keating, St. Mary's Tce.
(Formerly Borris, Carlow)

Breda Redmond (nee Carroll), Dublin & formerly Portarlington

Austin Brereton, Bracknagh (Brother of Brian Brereton)

Liam (William) Mitchell Passed away on 7th January in Birmingham, formerly of Annamoe (Brother of Albert, Cecil, Mary, Kathleen & the late PJ Mitchell)

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Jesus' baptism marked a significant moment in the life of Jesus. He now goes about doing good, working the signs that make him known as the Servant of God.

Through our baptism, each one of us is ordered to the life of Christ – Priest, Prophet & King – and the Father looks on us with favour.

NEW YEAR PRAYER



I said to the Man who stood at the Gate of the Year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown". And He replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light and safer than a known way!"
So I went forth, and finding the hand of God, tread gladly into the night, and He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

*So, heart, be still:
The stretch of years which wind ahead, so dim to our imperfect vision, are clear to God; our fears are premature.
In Him all time hath full provision.*

M.L. Hoskins

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Open the heavens almighty Father, and pour out your spirit upon your people. Renew the power of our baptismal cleansing & fill us with zeal for good deeds. Let us hear your voice once again, that we may recognize in your beloved Son our hope in inheriting eternal life. Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives & reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God forever and ever. AMEN



Catholic Schools Week

18th – 24th January 2026.

Normal lives, called to Holiness

Catholic Schools Week 2026 celebrates the extraordinary call to holiness in the midst of ordinary life. Inspired by Pope Francis's reflection on Saint Carlo Acutis, recently canonised as the first millennial saint—this year's theme invites pupils, teachers, families, and parishes to explore the call to holiness as something both universal and accessible. Holiness is not for a few, but for all; not reserved for religious professionals or mystics, but for every student, teacher, parent, (and grandparent!) living each day in friendship with Jesus Christ.

<https://catholiceducation.ie/catholic-schools-week-2026-catholic-schools-normal-lives-called-to-holiness/>

PORTARLINGTON G.A.A.

Couch to 5K – Come as you are – No fitness required. Starts Mon. 12th Jan. from Portarlington GAA Centre at 7pm. For anyone who wants to run, walk or even crawl a 5K in 2026. All are welcome and all at your own pace.

REFLECTION

**"When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their
flocks, the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart."** Howard Thurman

PARISH OFFICE

Please be aware that all notices / anniversaries for the Parish Newsletter MUST be with the Office by Wednesday of each week for inclusion in the following weekend Newsletter.

PORTARLINGTON PARISH

ENVELOPES

The envelope boxes are available at the Church porches. The boxes contain weekly collection envelopes & special collection envelopes. To register write your name & address on 1st envelope. This contribution goes towards the upkeep of schools, churches & parish buildings. Sincere thanks for continued contributions.

Please take a box!

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Any Parishioner giving more than €250 to the Parish will entitle the Parish to a tax refund. This includes donations made by both PAYE persons and Self Employed persons. On this basis any Parishioner who contributes €250 or more to the Parish in 2025, this donation will entitle the Parish to a tax rebate. Forms available from the Parish Office. Sincere thanks for your generosity in contributing to the Parish.



Digital Support Drop In Sessions / Ciocraí Comhrá / Knitting Club / Lego Free Play: Social Chess (Adults only): Portarlington Junior Book Club / Baby Book Club Adult Book Club

For further information on any of the above or to book phone 057 8643751 or Email portarlingtonlibrary@laoiscoco.ie

ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB CLOONEYHURKE

R32CY89

Irish Speaking Sessions: Commence on 12th January 7-8pm. €2 each night. Children free, but must be accompanied by an adult. Come and enjoy learning to speak Irish in a pleasant and happy atmosphere. Help sheets will be provided with everyday phrases and words.

All very welcome.

Keep Fit: Wednesdays & Fridays 7-8pm. Cost €8 each night.

Dancing Lessons: Thursdays 7.30-9pm. €10 each night.

Social Dance: The next Social Dance will take place on Sat. 24th Jan. Further details later.

CHRISTMAS TREE SHREDDING

At Solos Eco Garden Shop & Garden Centre, Lea Road. January 11th (today). Donations to Portarlington Meals on Wheels.

ST. BRIGID'S CAMINO

Mon. 2nd Feb. – Monasterevin. Further information from Monasterevin Parish Office 045 525346. www.monasterevinparish.ie

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

2026

Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road

Thurs. 5th March 2026 at 11am in St. Michael's Church, Portarlington

Presentation Primary School, Station Road

Thurs. 5th March 2026 at 2pm in St. Michael's Church, Portarlington

Sacred Heart National School, Rath

Wed. 11th March 2026 at 11am in Church of the Sacred Heart, Rath

St. Paul's N.S., Emo & Clooneyhurke N.S.

Wed. 11th March 2026 at 2pm in St. Paul's Church, Emo

Scoil Naomh Eoin, Killenard

Thurs. 19th March 2026 at 11.30am in St. John's Church, Killenard

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

2026

Presentation Primary School, Station Road

Sat. 9th May 2026 at 11.30am in St. Michael's Church, Portarlington

St. Paul's N.S., Emo & Clooneyhurke N.S.

Sun. 10th May 2026 at 11am in St. Paul's Church, Emo

Scoil Naomh Eoin, Killenard

Sat. 16th May, 2026 at 11.30am in St. John's Church, Killenard

Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road & Clooneyhurke N.S.,

Sat. 23rd May, 2026 at 11.30am in St. Michael's Church, Portarlington

Sacred Heart N.S., Rath

Sat. 6th June, 2026 at 11.30am in Church of the Sacred Heart, Rath

VACANCIES

Mount St Anne's Retreat centre, Killenard is looking for dynamic and experienced people to join their team at this busy Centre in Killenard. Vacancies for **Domestic Assistants** (duties include cleaning, vacuuming, preparing bedrooms for overnight guests, assisting in the kitchen when required, etc.). Vacancy also for a **Chef**. Duties include prepare & serve fresh food daily, create menus, ensure the health & safety of kitchen environment is maintained, keeping accurate records within HACCP and MSA policies & handbook, adhere to day to day kitchen operations complying with policies and procedures of MSA. Email CV to: operationsmanager@mountstannes.com. For information about the Centre visit our website on www.mountstannes.com.

ACTIVATOR POLE WALK

Laois Sports Partnership Activator Pole walk in Emo Court. Meet at the car park at Emo court. Starting Mon. 12th Jan. for 6 weeks. Walk starts 11am / Poles provided. Approx. 3km. Contact Catriona on 086 7935234

SPIORAID NAOIMH PRAYING COMMUNITY

Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat Sat. 31st Jan; 21st Feb., 21st Mar. & 18th Apr. from 10am to 1.20pm. Mass 10am – Confessions available. Retreat continues in Ratheniska Room Parish Centre after Mass at 10.45am. (Exposition, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry). Contact Michael Nerney 086 8157305. Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairí O'Domhnaill PP www.spioraidnaoimh.com.

PAIR OF SUNGLASSES FOUND

Pair of sunglasses found near St. John's Church in Killenard recently. Contact the Parish Office.

GRACEFIELD GAA CLUB LOTTO

5.1.2026 – Week No. 2 – Numbers 14, 11, 23, 17

No jackpot winner. €50 each to:-

Martin McAtee; Margaret Walsh; Mary Evans;

Darren Campbell; Darragh Lawrence.

Promoter prize: Colette O'Reilly.

Next week's Jackpot €4,800

EMO – RATH PARISH

Next draw takes place on Mon. next, 12th January 2026 with a Jackpot of €4,400.

BEGINNERS LINE DANCING CLASSES

Thursdays 7.30 – 9pm. 10 classes for the price of 7 (€70) or pay as you go €10 per class. Further info. call or text John on 086 8333200.



Samaritans support lines are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, offering

Non-judgmental and confidential support whenever you need us. Free-phone 116123.

Text 087 2609090

Email jo@samaritans.org

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

SACRAMENT

St. Michael's Church, Portarlington every Tuesday after the 10.30am Mass until 7pm.



KILLENARD LEGO CLUB

Saturday's from 10am to 11.30am in Killenard Community Centre. Cost €15 (siblings €10). To register for future weeks contact Eoin on 085 1270126. Limited places.

PORT. PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Fri. 16th Jan: Sensory Play / Fri. 23rd Jan: Phonics with Robot Reg / Fri. 30th Jan: Baby Rave Meets on Friday's from 10.30am – 11.30am in Portarlington Community Centre. For ages 0-5 years. New members welcome. A chance to connect with other parents while your little one enjoys some play time & activities. Fees: Members €2 / Non members €4.

L.O.E.T.B.

Portarlington Further Education & Training Centre Bracklone Street. January courses and timetables now available. Phone 057 8623161 or portarlingtonfetac.ie

ZUMBA

Venue: Parochial Hall, Portarlington R32 YK24. No experience, no membership – just fun. €10 per class. All levels welcome. 6.45pm to 7.45pm on Tuesday's. Booking through 087 6431743.

LEARN HOW TO CROCHET

Mondays from 7-9pm in Portarlington. Beginners & improvers welcome. Contact Jacqui on 087 2998944 for further details & venue.

EMO RETIREMENT

GROUP

The first meeting in 2026 of the Emo Retirement Group will be held on Tues. 13th January in the Old School, Emo at 8pm. New members very welcome. Fee €15 / year membership.

PORTARLINGTON LOURDES COMMITTEE

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DRAW

1st Prize Trip to Lourdes (Sponsored by Portarlington Credit Union). 4 prizes of €100 each (Sponsored by Super Valu). Draw takes place 3rd Feb at 9pm during Bingo in the GAA Centre. Tickets €2 each (or 3 for €5) available from Committee Members or the Parish Office.

