

Parishes of Portarlington & Emo



PRIESTS PHONE NUMBERS
 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

PARISH OFFICE
 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 **SAMARITANS 24-hour helpline:** 116 123 Email: jo@samaritans.org
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 djp@kandle.ie /E-mail safeguarding@kandle.ie

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.



CELEBRATION OF MASS VIA WEBCAM

Link to live streaming from
St. Michael's Church, Portarlington
www.mcnlive/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlington



Portarlington & Emo Parish
 @EmoParish

22nd February 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Year 'A'

WEEKEND ANNIVERSARIES PORTARLINGTON

Sat. 21st February 6.15pm

Diarmuid (Derri) Leahy, Celbridge & Portarlington (1st Anniv.); Tom & Peg Nolan, Bracklone Street; Brid Whelan, Bishopswood (7th Anniv.); Peter Hynes, Orchard Drive; Baby Ailbhe Whelan; Alo Maher, Marian Hill; James Walsh, Bracklone St.; Lyla Murphy, Naas

Sun. 22nd February 12.15pm

Jimmy Murphy, Congress Tce. (8th Anniv.); Willie Flanagan, Cloneyhurke; Willie Barnes, Cloneyhurke; Kathleen Mulvey; Canal Rd, Mary Smith, Church View; Steve, Nellie & Paddy Allen, Main St. & dec. members of the Allen & Moran Families; James, Anna & Rosaleen Doyle, St. Brigid's Square

Sat. 28th February 6.15pm

Robbie Maher, St. Mary's Tce. (M.M.)
 Chris & Peg Maher, St. Mary's Tce.; Sarah Brady, Botley Court (1st Anniv.); Johnny Murphy, St. Joseph's Tce. (2nd Anniv.); Patrick Cullen, St. Michael's Park (10th Anniv.); Sheila Gopal, Church View (B/Day rem.); Celine & Brendan Lawless, Patrick St;

Sun. 1st March 12.15pm

Povilas Valunas, Lithuania (M.M.); Regina & Vaclava Jablonsks, Lithuania; Stase & Alexandera Braciskus, Lithuania; Fiona Donagher, Bishopswood (4th Anniv.); Noel Kenny, Station Rd. (10th Anniv.); Donie O'Meara & son, Patrick O'Meara, Annamore

ANNIVERSARIES KILLENARD

Sun. 22nd February 10.30am

Eileen O'Leary, Ballintogher (7th Anniv.)
 Paul Maher, The Hermitage (8th Anniv.)
 Tim & Chris Brennan, Ballybrittas
 Eddie Kelly, Rathleash; Mary O'Brien; John & Lilie Tynan, Old Pound

Sun. 1st March 10.30am

Jack Quinn, Killenard (4th Anniv.)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

The Rath-Ballybrittas Development Association in conjunction with the Sacristan of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Rath, are looking for volunteers to assist in a community effort to clean the Church on Saturday the 7th of March, 2026 between 10:30am-1:30pm. If you are free to help for an hour or so please come along, many thanks.

WEEKDAY ANNIV. PORTARLINGTON

Wed. 25th Feb. Esther Dunne; Patrick Dunne; Patrick & Kathleen Dunne; Maura Breen; James Dunne, St. Michael's Park
Thurs. 26th Feb. Sarah & William Kelly, St. Patrick's Tce. Nora Kelly, St. Patrick's Tce.
Fri. 27th Feb. Robert Smart, Drogheda & Avondale (B/Day Rem.) Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Barrow Bank; Mick Keegan, Garryinch; John & Cathy Casey, Geashill

ANNIVERSARIES - EMO

Sat. 21st February 7.30pm

John Fitzpatrick, The Heath (M.M.)
 William (Billy) Molloy, Fisherstown (M.M.)
 Dan Kavanagh, The Commons
Sun. 22nd February 11am
 Attracta Corcoran, Emo (M.M.)
 Fr. Jack Rodgers (7th Anniv.)

Michael McKenna, Shinrone & Ballybrittas
 Jeremiah O'Connor, Coolaghy; Mary O'Connor, Ballycullane; Margaret Sweeney & Nora O'Laughlin, Poole St., Dublin; Sean & Peter Kelly, Derries, Ballybrittas; Elizabeth Kelly, Emo Park

Sun. 1st March 11am

Cian Hand, Morette

ANNIVERSARIES - RATH

Sun. 22nd February 9am

Fr. Jack Rodgers (7th Anniv.)

Sun. 1st March 9am

Jimmy Flynn, Fisherstown (1st Anniv.)
 Andy Mulhare, Rath, Ballybrittas

DECEASED

Please pray for the following who died recently:

Patrick (Paddy) Smyth, Droughill
 Evan Power, Derrymore
 Noel McMahon, Shandra
 Sarah (Sadie) Duffy (nee Brophy), Monasterevin & formerly Lough
 Michael Pidgeon, Corrig Lodge

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Christian Community through Baptism:-

Aoife Olivia Redmond, Whitefields
 Noah Murray, Cushina Road
 Liam Murray, Cushina Road
 Francis Theodor Rozik, Lough Gate
 Malvia Sibanda, St. Joseph's Tce.
 Prosper Sibanda, St. Joseph's Tce.
 Adeobayo Excel Ademola
 Senkhosi Tseledi Mamba
 Lewatle Abang Pheto
 Cullen Thomas Colgan, Annamore

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Today, Sun. 22nd February is Safeguarding Sunday in the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin.

EMIGRANT NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Meeting will take place on Tuesday next, 24th February at 7.30pm in Fr. Noonan's House. All Committee members are requested to attend.

P.T.A.A. - SHORT TERM PLEDGE

Parishioners who wish to take a short-term pledge for Lent are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie or to speak to a Pioneer in the parish. The short-term Pioneer pledge for Lent is a gesture of solidarity with people who are living "one day at a time" according to the 12 Step AA programme.



LENTEN STATIONS



Lenten Stations for the support of the priests of the parish will be held this weekend taking the form of a second collection. Envelopes available in Church porches if you haven't got envelope boxes & wish to contribute.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Wednesday for Lent commencing 7.30pm in St. Michael's Church, Portarlington.

ADORATION BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday after 10am Mass concluding with the Rosary at 7pm. Also each Sunday of Lent from 5 – 7pm (concludes with the Rosary)



This weekend we welcome the children who are to celebrate the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the parishes of Portarlington & Emo in May and June of this year.

TRÔCAIRE

Meet the Family from the Trôcaire Box

At just 28, Uwamahoro has the weight of three generations on her shoulders. Living on the equivalent of 60 cent income a day from working in the fields of the local community, Uwamahoro is supporting her mother (67), her daughter (7) and her niece (12). If there is no work in the fields, she cleans clothes or offers to clean the school to earn a wage. She works from 7am until 1pm every day. The grandmother, Verediana, lives with a disability & is unable to work. The family do not have any livestock or land, so they are solely reliant on Uwamahoro's income to buy food, along with whatever they can gather themselves from around the local community, such as cassava leaves & beans.

ST. PAUL'S L.G.F.A.

St. Paul's LGFA are the Laois Club selected to host this year's Gaelic4Girls programme. This initiative is open to all girls aged 7-12 years in Emo & Portarlinton parishes & surrounding areas who are currently not registered with a club. It is seen as an opportunity to introduce girls into Ladies Gaelic Football. Gaelic4Girls is a 10-week programme aiming to develop athletic & social skills in a fun, enjoyable, non-competitive & inclusive environment. Girls will engage in 1 session per week where they will learn new skills & create new friendships. If you & your daughter wish to try out a new sport & are interested in participating in the programme, which will begin week commencing March 2nd should contact Aoife on 087 7887345 (prostpaulsgfa@gmail.com or Lauren 085 8667223

childrensofficer.stpauls.laois@lgfa.ie or follow our social media (Facebook & Instagram) @stpaulsgfa if you wish to view updates.

SOCIAL DANCE - PORTARLINGTON

Social Dance Sat. 28th Feb. in The Parochial Hall, Market Square, Portarlinton. Music by Glen Flynn. Doors open 8.30 Refreshments served - €10 Admission.

PORTARLINGTON LIBRARY EVENTS

Digital Support Drop In Sessions: An LOETB tutor will be available on Fridays 10:30am-12:30pm for 1/1 support sessions. Bring along your device and any digital queries you may have. No booking necessary.

Ciorcal Comhrá. Every Tuesday 11am. New members welcome. / **Knitting Club:** Meets every Friday morning 10:30am-12:30pm. All skill levels from beginner to advanced are welcome!

Lego Free Play: Saturday's 10am-1pm

Social Chess (Adults only): Wednesday 6pm-7pm. New members welcome. / **Portarlinton**

Junior Book Club: Last Wednesday of the month, suitable for 9-12year olds. Booking essential. / **Baby Book Club:** Wed. mornings 10:30am (except school holidays). Booking is essential. / **Adult Book Club:** Last Tuesday of every month. Booking of any of above & further information from 057 8643751 or portarlintonlibrary@laoiscoco.ie

PROTECTING & RESTORING LAOIS'

NATURAL WATERS

Community Information Meeting in the Maldron Hotel, Meelick, Portlaoise R32 HKN3 on Mon. 2nd March at 7pm. Find out about LAWPRO's work to improve water quality in the area. Discover how you can help protect & improve your local natural waterways. Everyone welcome. www.lawaters.ie

KENPO KARATE

Tuesdays from 4-6pm in Sandra's Studio, Portarlinton Community Centre. Contact Sensei, Paul Brennan on 086 4069573 for booking information & costs.

RECYCLE BOOK FAIR

KILLENARD - MARCH 5TH & 6TH

Due to last year's huge success, the Book Fair is back at Scoil Naomh Eoin. This is a lovely opportunity to clear out shelves, recycle pre-loved books and discover new stories to enjoy. Details: Children's books only / Must be in good condition / All books €2 each or 3 books for €5.

Books must be handed in by 28th February. **BAKE SALE** - Fri. 6th March, while browsing the fair.

LAOIS OPEN DOOR THEATRE

Presenting the hilarious comedy 'Perfect Wedding' in Dunamais Theatre on Thurs. 26th & Fri. 27th Feb. @ 8pm. Tickets €20 / €18 at www.dunamais.ie. All welcome!

PORTARLINGTON PILGRIMAGE



The 2026 Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday 17th July until Fri. 24th July, 2026. Further details later.

COME AND SEE

Men and women aged 18-30 interested in exploring the Carmelite Way of Life with Carmelite Friars and Nuns. WHERE? Avila Carmelite Centre, Dublin DO4 YF66. WHEN? 28th February 2026 from 10.30am - 4pm. Cost is FREE. Light lunch provided. Register before 25th Feb: opendayAvila@gmail.com
Nuns: www.carmelitesisters.ie
Friars: www.ocd.ie

ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB

CLONEYHURKE

Social Dance: The next Dance will take place Sat. 21st February. Music by Michelle Murphy.
Irish Speaking Sessions: Every Monday night commencing at 7pm. Adm: €2. Children free. All age groups welcome - Never too late to start. Help sheets available also.

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

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

GRADUATES

Don't Lose Your Seanad Vote

Irish citizens with degrees from designated 3rd level colleges are eligible to vote in the 'Higher Education' constituency which replaces the NUI and Trinity panels in Seanad Éireann. Thousands of previous voters are unaware that they have been removed from the register. To secure your vote, go to www.seanadvoter.ie before Feb. 26th. applications@seanadvoter.ie

5K CHARITY RUN / WALK

In aid of Bravehearts

St Michael's Athletic Club are holding their annual 5K Charity Run on Sunday 1st March in aid of Bravehearts. It takes place at the Boys National School. Juvenile 1K run starts at 10.30 am and 5K run at 11 am.

ALADDIN

Mountmellick Macra presents *Aladdin* at Macra Hall Sun. 22nd February (today). Show times: Sunday matinee at 3pm, evening show at 7pm. Tickets: €15 adults, €10 children, available from O'Gorman's Newsagents (cash only). Family rates on the door; card payment accepted on the night. All welcome!

PART-TIME CLEANER IN RATH N.S.

Part-Time Cleaner. Afternoon / Evening cleaning. School Term Position Competitive Hourly Rate *Ideal Candidate:* • Reliable & punctual • Trustworthy • Able to work independently • Cleaning experience desirable (not essential) Further information please phone 057 862 6270 or principal@rathns.com

EPILEPSY IRELAND

Over 45,000 people in Ireland live with epilepsy. For further information: www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thurs. 26th March 2026.

SOCIAL GATHERING

Art, Craft, Up-cycle gathering on the last Friday of each month, starting Friday next, 27th Feb. from 10am - 12 Noon in the Old School, Vicarstown. Welcome to all - Suitable for retired persons & anyone who is free to join in. Join us on a drop-in basis, no booking and no charge - Craft, cuppa n chat.



COLLECTORS FOR RATH - MARCH

Liam O'Flynn & Eamonn O'Connell

PORTARLINGTON TENNIS CLUB A.G.M.

You are invited to Portarlinton Tennis club AGM. *On the 26th February commencing 7.30pm.* Please come if you can. Your Opinion Counts. www.portarlintontennisclub.ie

GRACEFIELD GAA CLUB LOTTO

16th February 2026 - Week No. 8
Numbers 25, 29, 19, 6 - No jackpot winner.
€50 to each of the following: - Lisa O'Neill; Billy Murphy; Chelsea Murphy; Jason Knight; Paul Murphy. Promoter prize: Colette O'Reilly.
Next week's Jackpot €6,000

EMO - RATH PARISH LOTTO

Week No. 2009 - 16th February 2026
Winning Numbers 2, 3, 5, 16 - **No Jackpot winner.**
€25 to each of the following:- Paula McCormack c/op A. Lowry; Paul Kirwan c/o D. Lawlor; Marion Alcock c/o B. Gorman; Donna Booth c/o S. Strong; Ger Dunne c/o D. Lawlor.
Next draw 23rd Feb. Jackpot of €2,200.

COURTWOOD GAA

Courtwood Combined Lotto - No winner of this week's Jackpot - Two €20 winners this week were Niall Donohoe & Niall O'Connell. Jackpot next week €17,200. Tickets can be purchased from Ballybrittas Service, The Final Furlong & through Clubforce Apt.



By simply scanning this QR Code it will bring you straight to the Clubforce apt. Make sure you enter before Monday at 5pm.

PORT. PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Fri. 27th Feb. National Strawberry Day - Themed Crafts & Snacks 10.30am-11.30am. The group meet on Friday's from 10.30am-11.30am in Portarlinton 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.

PORTARLINGTON LIONS CLUB

ANNUAL TRACTOR RUN

Sun. 1st March 10.30am for 12 noon. Departure at the Railway Station Carpark. Proceeds in aid of Psychological & Full Educational Assessment for local children. We are adding a children's tractor circuit, with prizes on the day for each child's tractor. Complimentary refreshments and Auction immediately afterwards in the Railway Bar.



O'DEMPSEY'S GFC

Club Social and Awards Night: Annual Club Social and 2025 Awards Night at O'Dempsey's on Sat., 28th February from 8.30pm. With awards on the night from Minor up to Senior & Juvenile Mentor of the Year, we hope to see you there!

PORTARLINGTON TAEKWON-DO

Free Trial Class - Beginners classes from 7-13 years. New members welcome. Dedicated beginners class Tues. 4.30 to 5.15pm. Contact 086 3617001 for further information.



FEBRUARY MEMBER PRIZE DRAW WINNERS

€10,000 Keelan Hunt / €2,000 each - Bridie Mooney & Michelle Crampton; €1,000 each - Gerald Browne & Tony Murphy; €500 to each of the following: Sinead Walsh; Caroline Dempsey; Ashling Hoey; Denise Langford; Majella O'Neill; Marie & Pat Byron; Sean Trimble; Brendan Molloy; Patrick Dempsey; Mary Keogh; Samantha Doran; Michael Dunne; Stephen & Patricia Fullam; €350 to David Prendergast.

Congratulations to all winners!