

**PORTARLINGTON LIONS CLUB  
ANNUAL TRACTOR RUN**

The Annual Tractor Run & Auction takes place Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Registration from 10.30am at the Railway Bar. Set off at 12 midday sharp. Complimentary refreshments upon return to the Railway Bar. With our now famous auction immediately afterwards. Prizes for best presented tractor. Registrtrion fee €20 per vehicle. Qualified drivers please. Further information contact Gerry on 086 3584611 or Brendan on 086 4415219. Looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

**EMO / RATH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE**



The Pilgrimage will take place from August 25<sup>th</sup> until August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Hotel Roissy. Cost €735 per person sharing. If you are interested in travelling on this Pilgrimage and want further details, please contact Tony on 086 1225833 or Deirdre on 087 2299457.

**ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB,  
CLONEYHURKE R32 CY89**

The A.G.M. of the Club will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 8.30pm. Dancing lessons held on Monday nights with Dolores from 7.45 – 9.15pm. Keep-Fit on Wed. & Fri. nights with Eimear from 7-8pm (Friday nights sponsored by Offaly Sports Partnership).

**CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP  
CAREERS FAIR 2024 - DUBLIN**

The Department of Social Protection is hosting a Construction Apprenticeship Careers Fair on Thurs. 29<sup>th</sup> Feb. 10am to 2pm – Tallaght Stadium D24 FNK6. Build your future – Work in Construction.

**CHURCH CLEANING - RATH**

Volunteers needed to assist in a community effort to clean the Church in Rath on Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> March between 10am and 12 Noon. If you are free to help, please TEXT Sinead Ward on 087-6109340 or Deirdre O'Grady on 087-9659848.

**SPIORAID NAOIMH PRAYING COMMUNITY**

**Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat**  
Venue: Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Portlaoise.  
Time/Date: Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 0am to 1.30pm.  
Mass 10am. Confessions available. Retreat continues in the Parish Centre from 10.45am to 1.30pm. (Exposition, Rosary, Holy Spirit Novena, Praise & Worship, Teaching, Prayer Ministry). Contact: Michael Nerney 086 8157305 / Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill - All Welcome

**PORTARLINGTON TENNIS CLUB A.G.M.**

AGM will be held on Wed. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 7.30pm in the Clubhouse. All Adult Members & Parents of Child Members are invited to attend.

**BREATHWORK & MEDITATION CLASSES**

Would you be interested in breath work and meditation classes in person or online? If so please contact Anne Lawlor via email [anne.lawlor26@gmail.com](mailto:anne.lawlor26@gmail.com)

**HOUSEKEEPER WANTED**

Portarlington area – Hours and details to be discussed. Contact Merna on 086 6016322 for further details.

**LOCAL ENTERPRISE WEEK**

Local Enterprise Week is taking place from Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> March – Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> March - A week long programme of events and training during Local Enterprise Week 2024. Local Enterprise Office Laois 057 86 61800 / Email [localenterprise@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:localenterprise@laoiscoco.ie)

**PORTARLINGTON  
LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2024**

This year's pilgrimage takes place from 30<sup>th</sup> July – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Seven (7) night's full board. Cost €1,060 per person sharing. €280 extra for single room. Further details & booking phone: Marie on 087-7589896 or Vera 087-9311813.

**5K RUN / WALK**

**In aid of Portarlington Lourdes Pilgrimage**  
The Heritage 5k Run/Walk will take place on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> March. St Michael's A.C. are holding it this year in aid of the Lourdes Portarlington Pilgrimage Group. Registration is from 9.30 at the Heath Club. Entry fee €10. Cash prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>. Changing & showering facilities available. Refreshments available afterwards, compliments of the Hotel. Special thanks to The Heritage, SuperValu & Portarlington Credit Union.



**PORTARLINGTON  
CREDIT UNION**

February draw winners 2024  
€10,000 – Jane O'Neill  
€2,000 – Ciara Guinan & also Kathleen McNally  
€1,000 Patrick Hearty & also Eoghan Fitzpatrick  
€500 to each of the following:- May Rock-Fitzgerald; Valerie Moloney; Kieran Lambe; Vincent & Elaine Lawlor; John Murphy; Michelle Holland; Mary Broderick; Rose Flanagan; Jillian Davis & Susan / Alan McKenna  
€400 to Martina Coughlan  
The next draw will take place in April 2024. Congratulations to all our winners.

**EMIGRANT NEWSLETTER (2023)**

Some copies of the 2023 Emigrant Newsletter are still available in the Parish Office (€5 each) & some of the local shops. A sincere thank you to all who contributed articles and to the shops for selling the books. Articles are now being collected for the 2024 issue. If you have a story or an item of local interest, now is the time to write it down and send it to the Parish Office. [portarlingtonparishoffice@eircom.net](mailto:portarlingtonparishoffice@eircom.net)



**O'DEMPSEY'S  
G.F.C. NEWS**

**Lotto Results 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
Numbers: 6, 7, 11, 30. No Jackpot Winner.  
Match 3 Winners: Eamonn Fitzpatrick / Mary Lalor. Promoter: Noel Behan. Next draw: Mon. 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. with a Jackpot of 5,000  
**Membership 2024**

Club membership is now due for 2024. It is important that all our Juvenile and Adult players are registered to ensure they are fully covered to play and train. You can renew or buy your membership on our 'O'Dempsey's GFC' app, just go to the 'Membership' section and check out the different membership options available. These include Family options as well as OAP and Social Memberships. If you have any queries contact our registrar Kate on 0861679363.

**O'Dempsey's GFC Golf Scramble**  
Our Golf Scramble is swinging back into the Heritage Golf Resort on Good Friday – 29<sup>th</sup> March for its 3<sup>rd</sup> year. While a club fundraiser, it is always a great social day out too. Team Bookings and Tee Sponsorship can be made through the Event link on our club app and on our social media. Tee and prize sponsorship opportunities are also available. Contact Georgina for further information – 0868251468.

**THANK YOU**

**Lenten Station Collection**  
Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the Lenten stations for the support of the priests of the parish. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

**Portarlington Parish Clergy Fund A/C**  
IBAN: IE59 BOFI 9018 6196 5850 57

**Emo Parish Clergy Fund Account**  
IBAN: IE34 BOFI 9018 1022 2378 77

**Lotto®**

**EMO - RATH PARISH LOTTO**

19<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2024 / Week No. 1227. Numbers: 1, 2, 3, 14 – No Jackpot winner. €25 to each of the following:- Linda O Regan C/o Mena / I. Brophy C/o Deirdre / Caroline Kehoe C/o Vera / The Langford Family, Killimy C/o Deirdre / Michael Dunne, Clonamone C/o Deirdre. Next draw takes place Mon. 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. with a **Jackpot of €7,200**

**GRACEFIELD GAA CLUB LOTTO DRAW**

19<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – Numbers 6, 20, 31, 4  
No jackpot winner. €50 each to: - Tom Garry / Jake McLoughlin / David Redmond / The Mahers / Mary Foy. Promoters prize Jamie Hanlon. Next week's jackpot €11,600.

**SENIORS BINGO**

Seniors Bingo is back Wednesday nights at 8pm in the Social Services Centre. Come along for a few games and a cuppa afterwards. The **Social Services AGM** takes place on Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7.30pm in the Social Services Centre.

**EASTER CAMP**

At Scoil Phádraig, Portarlington. Tues. 2<sup>nd</sup> to Fri. 5<sup>th</sup> April for boys and girls. Activities football, basketball, yoga, coding, baking, arts and crafts, music and dance and much more. Further info: email [eastercampport@gmail.com](mailto:eastercampport@gmail.com).

Please note this is a private run camp ran by teachers in the school but is not affiliated with Scoil Phádraig.

**PARISH STATISTICS 2023**

**PORTARLINGTON**

Baptisms 86  
1<sup>st</sup> Communion 157  
Confirmation 236  
Weddings 24  
Funerals 69

**EMO PARISH**

Baptisms 26  
1<sup>st</sup> Communion 48  
Confirmation 54  
Weddings 5  
Funerals 19

**PARISH COLLECTIONS 2023**

**PORT. – COLLECTION TOTAL €25,259**  
Trocaire €8,165  
Retired Priests €4,209  
Peters Pence 1,340  
Mission Sunday 2,100  
Syria / Turkey 6,350  
Morocco Earthquake 3,095

**EMO - COLLECTION TOTAL €9,430**

Trocaire €3,015  
Retired Priests €1,275  
Peters Pence €735  
Mission Sunday €760  
Syria / Turkey €2,840  
Morocco Earthquake €805

**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](mailto: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](http://www.kandle.ie) **SAMARITANS 24-hour helpline:** 116 123 Email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** 087 7640557 **AWARE** Lo-call Helpline 1890 303 302 **G.R.O.W.** [www.grow.ie](http://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 [dip@kandle.ie](mailto:dip@kandle.ie) E-mail [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto: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 (Vigil – 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.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlington](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlington)



Portarlington & Emo Parish  
@EmoParish

**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**WEEKEND MASSES  
PORTARLINGTON**

**Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> February - 6.15pm Mass**  
Edward (Stan) Kennedy, Clannmalire Crescent & Gracefield (M.M.); Baby Ailbhe Whelan (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.); Edward & Margaret Rogers, Main St; Patrick Cullen, St. Michael's Park; Anna & James Doyle & daughter Rosaleen Doyle, St. Brigid's Square; Tom & Peg Nolan, Bracklone Street; Patrick & Kathleen Dunne; Esther Dunne; James Dunne; Maura Breen & Patrick Dunne Jnr.; Betty Ward, Bracklone St. (27<sup>th</sup> Anniv.); Johnny Ward, Bracklone Street & their son, Philip Ward

**Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> February - 12.15pm Mass**  
Bill Storey, Garryhinch (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
Fr. Jack Rodgers (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)

**ANNIVERSARIES - KILLENARD**

**Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> February - 10.30am**  
; Fr. Jack Rodgers (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
Paul Maher, The Hermitage; Paddy & Lulu Hughes; Eddie Kelly, Rathleash

**WEEKDAY ANNIVERSARIES  
PORTARLINGTON**

**Tues. 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Barrowbank (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
**Wed. 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Sarah & William Kelly; Nora Kelly, St. Patrick's Tce; Robert Smart, Avondale & Drogheda (B/Day Remembrance)  
**Thurs. 29<sup>th</sup> February** – Catherine Mulvey, Canal Road; Andy Mulhare, Rath  
**Fri. 1<sup>st</sup> March** – Fiona Donagher, Bishopswood Road (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.)

**ANNIVERSARIES - EMO**

**Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> February - 7.30pm**  
Cian Hand, Morette; Dan Kavanagh, The Commins; Fr. Jack Rodgers (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
**Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> February – 11am**  
Michael McKenna, Ballybrittas & formerly Shinrone (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.); Jimmy & Vincent Conroy & deceased members of the Conroy Family, Cappakeel; ; Fr. Jack Rodgers (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)

**ANNIVERSARIES - RATH**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. 9am**  
Fr. Jack Rodgers (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.); Lar Nolan, Courtwood; Joe Flanagan, Dunamaise; Brigid Wilson (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv.) & Patrick Wilson & deceased members of the Wilson Family, Coolroe; Patrick & Elizabeth Lacey, Bellgrove, sons, Patrick & Martin Lacey, Bellgrove; Paddy & Rose Byron Bellegrave, & deceased members of the Byron & O'Toole Families

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**



**We welcome into the Christian  
Community:-**

**Noah Michael Wilkinson, Graigavern Lodge**  
**Katie Alison Timmons, Graigavern**  
**Ariana Johnsons Saulic, Monasterevin**  
**Isla Nuala Lawrence, St. Michael's Park**  
**Kyle Thomas Cassidy, Na Cluainte**

**FIRST CONFESSIONS**

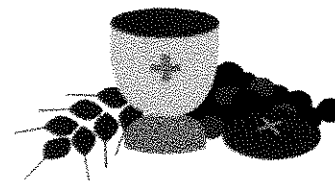


**Sacred Heart N.S., Rath:**  
Tues. next, 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in Church of the Sacred Heart, Rath  
**St. Paul's N.S., Emo:**  
Wed. next, 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in St. Paul's Church, Emo

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT**

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

**First Friday  
Mass**



**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2024**  
Friday next is the First Friday of the Month. Mass will be celebrated as follows:-  
Portarlington (Friday) – 10am  
Rath (Thursday) – 9.30am  
Emo (Friday) – 9.15am

**MASS DURING LENT**

**Sacred Heart Church, Rath**  
Mass will be celebrated during the season of Lent in the Sacred Heart Church, Rath every Tuesday at 9.30am  
Celebrant: Fr. Eddie Kavanagh.

**Trocaire**

**"Let justice flow like a River,  
righteousness like a never-failing  
stream." (Amos 5:24)**

Travelling so far for water each day affects other parts of the lives of Malita and her children, Margaret, Patrick & Patricia. Carrying 20 ltrs. of water leaves the children tired and some days they are not able to go to school. Farming is an important part of how the family support themselves, but a lack of water makes farming difficult. Trocaire and our partners in Malawi are working to create solutions to the water shortages, such as digging bore holes close to villages. |To learn more go to <https://www.trocaire.org/our-work/working-in-ireland/parishes/>

Please support Trocaire in helping communities develop sustainable access to clean, safe and reliable water supplies by taking home a Trocaire box or going to [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org).

**A FAMILY PRAYER FOR LENT**



Creator God,  
be with us as we make our  
Lenten journey together as a family.  
Give us the strength to do  
what we have promised,  
and the love to help one another along the way. When Easter comes, may our Lenten promises have brought us closer to You and to Your Son, Jesus. Amen

**THE POOR CLARES**

The Poor Clares in Galway are holding a Monastic Experience Day for young women who might be interested in their way of life. The event will take place from 10am to 5pm on Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The day is designed to help those who may be exploring the possibility of a religious vocation to find out more about the Poor Clare way of life. Anyone wishing to book a place should email [vocations@poorclares.ie](mailto:vocations@poorclares.ie)