



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: 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.

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 dlp@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 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.mcnlive/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlinton



Portarlinton & Emo Parish
 @EmoParish

28th December 2025

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Year 'A'

WEEKEND ANNIVERSARIES PORTARLINTON

Sat. 27th December 6.15pm

John Green & Mary Green; Daughters
 Bernadette (Berlo) & Marian & son Michael
 Green; Eileen Meredith; Michael Moore, St.
 Michael's Park; Vincent Meredith; Maureen &
 Donie McDermott, Garryhinch; Daughter in law,
 Bridget McDermott, London; John Dillon,
 Derryvilla & deceased members of the Dillon
 Family

Sun. 28th December 12.15pm

Andrew McCann, Rose Cottage (2nd Anniv.);
 Christy Smith, Ballymorris (6th Anniv.)
 Gerard Kelly, Seskin; Joe Walsh, Bracklone
 Street; Pat Butler, Station Road; Deceased
 members of the Nolan & Butler Families;
 Anne Browne, Ballymorris Manor (3rd Anniv.);

Sat. 3rd January 6.15pm

Mary Lawlor, Kilbride (M.M.)
 Lauri Lawlor Snr. (23rd Anniv.) & Lauri Lawlor
 Jnr. (22nd Anniv.), Kilbride; Tom Murphy, Corrig;
 Rose McCann, St. Brigid's Square (3rd Anniv.);
 Eamon Scott, Shandra; Nuala Murphy, Main St.
 (41st Anniv.); William & Bernadette Maloney &
 deceased members of the Maloney Family;
 Maggie Kelly & her granddaughter,
 Grace O'Neill.

Sun. 4th January 12.15pm

Jack Hyland, Garryhinch
 Frank & Sheila McCague, Station Road;
 John & Annie Dunne, Garryhinch; May, Bridie &
 Peter Dunne; Patrick & Dora Goley

WEEKDAY ANNIVERSARIES PORTARLINTON

Mon. 29th Dec. 10am: Alice McCann & Ronan
 Culleton

Wed. 31st Dec. 10am Mary Redmond,
 Mountmellick / James Kennedy, Gracefield

ANNIVERSARIES KILLENARD

Sun. 28th December 10.30am

Helen Whelehan, Ballycarroll; Catherine McGill,
 Ballycarroll; Frank Sheils, Garryvacum (2nd
 Anniv.)

DECEASED

Please pray for the following who died
 recently:

Daniel (Danny) Gallagher, Treascon
Thomas (Tom) Garry, Patrick Street
Marie Higgins, London (Sister of Mrs. Dilly
 Webster)

ANNIVERSARIES EMO

Sat. 27th December 7.30pm

Martin & Ann Buggy, Klnightstown
 Mary Mulhall, New Inn

Sat. 3rd January 7.30pm

Matthew & Mary Ellen Dunne, Coolaghy;
 May Rowe, Killimy

Sun. 4th January 11am

Mary Maher

ANNIVERSARIES RATH

Sun. 28th December 9am

Paddy & Cora O'Dwyer, Newbridge;
 Deceased members of the O'Dwyer & Currims
 Families; Donncha Fox; Thomas & Catherine
 McHale, Rath; Peter & Mary Blanche, Ballon;
 Joseph McHale, Rath; Thomas & Molly
 Blanche, Bellgrove

Sun. 4th January 9am

Liam Carroll, Courtwood (5th Anniv.);
 Caroline Malone (6th Anniv.), Fisherstown;
 Anne Delaney, Coole; Anne Tynan,
 Jamestown; Tim O'Connell, Coolroe; Mary
 Nugent & sister Sarah Whitebread, Essex,
 London;

FIRST FRIDAY

FIRST FRIDAY – 2nd JANUARY 2026

Friday next, 2nd January, is the First Friday
 of the Month. Mass will be celebrated in
 Portarlinton at 10am.

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the Parish Office will re-open
 on Mon. 5th January 2026.
 Office opening hours
 Mon – Fri. 9.30am – 1.30pm. All notices for
 the Parish Newsletter to be in with the Office
 by Wednesday of each week.



THANK YOU

The Ryan Family of Ballybrittas express their
 sincere thanks to all who offered support,
 kindness and generosity during this time,
 Through the collection, Paul's funeral and the
 Carol Service a total of €4,500 has been
 raised for Cancer Charity. Your support is
 deeply appreciated. Wishing you all a very
 happy New Year.

INVITATION TO MASS AT THE CLOSING OF THE JUBILEE HEAR

Dioceses across the world will mark the closing of
 the Jubilee Year on the Feast of the Holy Family,
 28th December. This day coincides with the
 closing of Holy Doors in the Roman Basilicas of
 Saint Mary Major, St. John Lateran, & St. Paul
 Outside the Walls. The Jubilee Year will officially
 conclude with the closing of the Holy Door at St
 Peter's Basilica in Rome by Pope Leo on the 6th
 January. Bishop Denis invites all parishioners
 across the diocese to join him in giving thanks for
 the graces of the Jubilee Year in the celebration of
 the Mass, in the Cathedral of the Assumption
 Carlow, at 10:30am Mass. Music will be led by the
 Cathedral Choir.

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER



Lord,

You make all things new.
 You bring hope alive in our hearts
 and cause our Spirits to be born again.
 Thank you for this new year
 and
 for all the potential it holds.
 Come and kindle in us a mighty flame,
 so that in our time,
 many will see the wonders of God
 and live forever to praise Your glorious name.
 Amen

WORLD DAY OF PEACE Thursday 1st JANUARY



World Day of Peace is celebrated on Jan. 1st
 every year and dedicated to universal peace on
 the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. The
 benefits of a peaceful society have been the
 emphasis of every year's World Day of Peace.



CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTION

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the
 collection for the Priests on Christmas Day. Your
 continued support and generosity is greatly
 appreciated.

IMPORTANT DATES

2026

Ash Wednesday – 18th February
Good Friday – 3rd April
Easter Sunday – 5th April
Ascension – 17th May
Pentecost – 24th May
Trinity Sunday – 31st May
Corpus Christi – 7th June
First Sunday of Advent 2026 – 29th November

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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



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!

PARISH CALENDAR 2026

Parish Calendar for 2026 now available at the Church porch or in the Parish Office.



Digital Support Drop In Sessions / Ciorcal Comhrá / Knitting Club / Lego Free Play:
Social Chess (Adults only): Portarlinton
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 portarlintonlibrary@laoscoco.ie



THE GATE OF THE NEW YEAR



*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,
and clear to God; our fears are premature.
In Him all time hath full provision.*

M.L. Hoskins

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

2026

Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road
Thurs. 5th March 2026 at 11am in
St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton
Presentation Primary School, Station Road
Thurs. 5th March 2026 at 2pm in
St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton
Sacred Heart National School, Rath
Wed. 11th March 2026 at 11am in
Church of the Sacred Heart, Rath
St. Paul's N.S., Emo & Cloneyhurke 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, Portarlinton
St. Paul's N.S., Emo & Cloneyhurke 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 &
Cloneyhurke N.S.,**
Sat. 23rd May, 2026 at 11.30am in
St. Michael's Church, Portarlinton
Sacred Heart N.S., Rath
Sat. 6th June, 2026 at 11.30am in
Church of the Sacred Heart, Rath



THANK YOU

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the recent collection for the Priests of the Parish and also for your contributions to the parish over the year. Your generosity is to be commended. We thank all who attended the Christmas Ceremonies and who viewed the Ceremonies on our Webcam. We thank the Organists, Choirs, Musicians, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Sacristans, Altar Servers, those who decorated the four Churches and who erected the Cribbs.

**The Priests of the
Parish
wish all Parishioners
a HAPPY, SAFE
& PEACEFUL
2026**



GRACEFIELD GAA CLUB LOTTO

22nd Dec. – Week No. 52

Numbers 30, 12, 6, 1 – No jackpot winner. €50 each to: Edward Geoghegan; Madeline Brady; Gillian Treacy; Fiona O'Connor; Shane Storey.
Promoter prize: Mary Slevin
Christmas bonus prize of €30 each to: Adrian Dunne; Colin Hanlon; John Hanlon; Ann O'Brien.
Next Jackpot is €4,600 – Draw will take place Mon. 5th January 2026.



EMO – RATH PARISH

Next draw takes place on Mon. 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

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings & princes are home,
when the shepherds are back
with the flocks,
Then the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
to heal those broken in spirit,
to feed the hungry,
to release the oppressed,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples,
to make a little music with the heart...
And to radiate the Light of Christ,
every day, in every way,
in all that we do and in all that we say.
Then the work of Christmas begins.*

Howard Thurman, adapted

SET OF 2 KEYS LOST

St. Michael's Church – Last week. Have Yellow tag. Contact the Parish Office.

ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB CLONEYHURKE

Dancing Lessons & Keep Fit:

Resume in the New Year

Sincere thanks from the Committee to their supporters during the past year.

CHILDMINDER AVAILABLE

Mature retired healthcare worker seeks part-time childminding job in Portarlinton, Ballybrittas & surrounding areas. Can also babysit days or evenings as required. Full clean driving licence. Contact Marion on 086 1719070



**COLLECTORS FOR JANUARY
SACRED HEART CHURCH, RATH**

Frank Duffy & Paddy Wilson