

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 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
Ailish Higgins – Diocesan Director of Safeguarding - Tel: 085-8021633 dlp@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 (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.mcmedia.tv/camera/st-michaels-church-portarlington



Portarlington & Emo Parish
@EmoParish

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Year B

WEEKEND MASSES PORTARLINGTON

SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER - 6.15pm Mass

Gerard Hyland, Station Road (M.M.)
Anne Browne, Ballymorris Manor (1st Anniv.)
Christopher Mooney, Kilbride House; James Kennedy, Gracefield; Maureen McDermott, Garryhinch; Eamon Scott, Shandra,

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER - 12.15pm Mass

Christy Smith, Ballymorris; Jack Hyland & Son, Billy, Garryhinch; John & Annie Dunne, Garryhinch, Bridie & Peter Dunne, Peter & Dora Goley, Roskeen, Geashill, George & Mary Donagher, Sons Georgie & Gerard, Daughter Elizabeth & dec. members of the Horan family, Marian Hill & Bracklone Street

ANNIVERSARIES KILLENARD

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 10.30am Mass

Helen Whelehan (3rd Anniv.); Christina Nicholls (nee Boland), Bracklone Street; Mary, Joseph & Peg Boland; Dec. members of the Boland Family, Ballycarroll

ANNIVERSARIES EMO

SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER 7.30pm Mass

Kathleen Malone (nee Kearney), Rosecourt, Portarlington (M.M.); May Rowe, Killimy; Martin & Anne Buggy, Knightstown; Kathleen Keegan, Lough (6th Anniv.); Mary Mulhall, New Inn, Emo, Patrick & Catherine Walsh, dec. mem. of Walsh family

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 11am Mass

ANNIVERSARIES RATH

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 9am

Michael O'Connor, Courtwood; Paddy & Cora O'Dwyer; Molly & Joe Currimis; Annie & Joe O'Dwyer; Tim O'Connell, Coolroe; Mary Nugent; Sarah Whitbread

ANNIVERSARIES PORTARLINGTON (Weekdays)

Wed. 3rd Jan: Maggie Kelly (5th Anniv.), Annamoe & her Granddaughter, Grace O'Neill, Church View

✠ DECEASED R. I. P. ✠

Your prayers are requested for the following who died recently:-

Andrew McCann, Rose Cottage, Ballymorris

Felix Connors, Fardrum, Athlone. Requiem Mass on Mon. 1st Jan. in St. Michael's Church at 12 noon. Burial in St. Michael's Cemetery

Bobby McCann, USA, formerly Bracklone Street, Portarlington

John Douglas, Newbridge, formerly Bracklone Street, Portarlington

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

O God, bless our family
and all its members & friends;
bind us together by your love.
Give us kindness & patience
to support each other;
and wisdom in all we do.

Let the gift of your peace come into our hearts and remain with us.
May we rejoice in your blessings
for all our days. Amen.

FIRST FRIDAY 5TH JANUARY 2024

Friday next, 5th January is the First Friday of the Month. Mass as follows:-
Portarlington: 10am

THE EPIPHANY

Saturday next, 6th January 2024
On 6th January we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, which commemorates the arrival of the three wise men and their recognition of Jesus as the Messiah, the One sent by God.
In the Irish tradition it is often called Nollaig na mBan or Women's Christmas.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY



Saturday 6th January 2024, Feast of the Epiphany is a Holy Day.
Masses on the Holy Day as follows:
Portarlington: 10am & 6.15pm
Killenard: 10.30am
Emo: 7.30pm
Rath: 9am

WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Monday 1st January 2024

World Day of Peace, celebrated on Jan. 1st every year, is primarily a Catholic feast day dedicated to universal peace on the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. The Pope & the Vatican Church stress the need to care & share tolerance for each other, & to create a society that focuses on good moral values & does not yield to the temptation to disregard others. The benefits of a peaceful society have been the emphasis of every year's World Day of Peace.

GOD OF PEACE, HEAR OUR PRAYER!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain. Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarrelling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

IMPORTANT DATES 2024

Ash Wednesday 14th February
Good Friday 29th March
Easter Sunday 31st March
Ascension – 12th May
Pentecost – 19th May
Trinity Sunday – 26th May
Corpus Christi – 2nd June
First Sunday Advent – 1st December

SCHOOL ENROLMENT 2024 / 2025



Rath National School

Junior Infants 2024: Thurs. 8th January until 31st January. Forms available from our website www.rathns.ie or phone Amanda at 057 8626270 or email office@rathns.com
ENROLMENT OPEN DAY – Rath N.S.
13th January 2024 from 11am – 1pm.

Emo N.S.

Junior Infants 2024 enrolment 8th January 2024 until 26th January 2024. On line at emons.ie

Cloneyhurke National School

Enrolment 15th January until 5th February 2024. Forms available at info@cloneyhurke.net or phone 057 8623271 or www.cloneyhurke.net

Scoil Naomh Eoin, Killenard

Application forms for Junior Infants 2024/25 are available from Mon. 8th January. Download from www.killenardschool.weebly.com, collect from the school office or request by email office@naomheoin.ie or phone 057 8626217.

Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road

Enrolment from 8th January until 29th January 2024. Download at www.stpatricksbns.ie or request a form by emailing info@stpatricksbns.ie or white to Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road

Presentation Primary School

Enrolment for Junior Infants 24/25 will commence on 8th January until 29th January 2024. Application forms available from School office or Website.

PORTARLINGTON LOURDES COMMITTEE ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DRAW

1st prize Trip to Lourdes / 5 prizes of €50 each. Draw takes place Tues. 6th Feb. Tickets €2 each or 3 for €5.

If you would like to buy tickets or sell some books of tickets, contact Marie Corcoran or any Committee Member. Thank you to Portarlington Credit Union for sponsoring the 1st prize of the trip to Lourdes & to Super Valu for the other prizes. Happy New Year to all.

YOGA CLASSES



Yoga Classes commence January 2024 in the Old School Hall, Emo. If interested in joining, contact Louise on louise.a.gorman@gmail.com

THE PARISH OFFICE



The Parish Office will re-open on Wednesday 3rd January, 2024. Notices for the Parish Newsletter and Anniversaries must be into the office by Wednesday of each week for inclusion that weekend. We wish everyone a very happy New Year.

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

ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB

CLONEYHURKE - R32CY89

Dancing New Year's Eve – Sun. 31st Dec. (tonight) from 8.30pm. Music by Pat Daly. Adm: €10. Refreshments served. Sincere thanks to everyone for their support during 2023 and we wish you all a Happy New Year.

SACRAMENTS 2024

CONFIRMATION 2024

Sacred Heart NS, Rath

Wed. 13th March 11am

St Paul's NS, Emo

Wed. 13th March 2pm

Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road, Portarlington & Cloneyhurke NS

Friday 15th March 11am

Presentation Primary School, Station Road

Friday 15th March at 2pm

Scoil Naomh Eoin, Killenard

Thurs. 14th March at 11.30am

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

Sacred Heart NS, Rath

Sat 27th April 11.30am

St. Paul's NS, Emo

Sun 28th April 11am

Scoil Naomh Eoin, Killenard

Saturday 11th May at 11.30am

Presentation Primary School, Station Road

Saturday 18th May at 11.30am

Scoil Phadraig, Canal Road, Portarlington

Saturday 25th May at 11.30am

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 Cribs.

The Priests of the Parish
wish all Parishioners a
HAPPY, SAFE & PEACEFUL
2024

SUPPORT FOR THE PARISH

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

PORTARLINGTON PARISH

B.O.I. Portarlington BOFIE2D
Portarlington Parish No. 1 Account
IBAN - IE28 BOFI 9018 6154 5717 14
Portarlington 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

PORTARLINGTON PARISH

ENVELOPES

The envelope boxes are available at the Church porches this weekend. 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 to all.

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 2023, 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.

Lotto.

EMO – RATH PARISH LOTTO
NEXT DRAW TAKES PLACE ON 8TH
JANUARY 2024 WITH A JACKPOT
OF €6,000

USED STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS
Used stamps needed for the missions. You can drop them to Delaney's, Bracklone St.



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