

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

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, 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.



8th February 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY IN O.T.

Year 'A'

WEEKEND ANNIVERSARIES PORTARLINGTON

Sat. 7th February 6.15pm

Matthew (Matt) Keating, St. Mary's Tce. (M.M.)
Paddy Geoghegan, Clonsast (1st Anniv.);
Joseph Connolly, Pine Villa (4th Anniv.)
Brendan & Eileen Thompson, Portlaoise Road (5th Anniv.); Mary (Bunty) Ward, St. Michael's Park (5th Anniv.); Dan & Eileen Maher, Annamoe; Bob Foran; John Corcoran, Ballybrittas; Ollie Whelan, Marian Hill; Lizzie Evans, St. Joseph's Tce. (10th Anniv.);
Donal Hanlon, Gracefield; Patrick & Una Mitchell & dec. members of the Mitchell Family; Lorraine Dodson, Dublin & Crann Nua (13th Anniv.)

Sun. 8th February 12.15pm

Eamon Coogan, St. Joseph's Tce. (2nd Anniv.);
Charlie Mooney, Botley Court (7th Anniv.)
Robert Francis Magee, Station Road (20th Anniv.); Maria Magee (nee Mulcahy), Station Road; Patrick & Una Mitchell & dec. members of the Mitchell Family; Deceased members of the Bishop & Dorrian Families

Sat. 14th February 6.15pm

Michele McNamara, Gracefield; Deceased members of the Barnes Family, Tierhogar

Sun. 15th February 12.15pm

Thomas & Rose Hoey, Kilbride; Jack Keller, Lea Road (5th Anniv.); Elizabeth McCormack, Coolraven (9th Anniv.); Frances Mason, Garryhinch (10th Anniv.); Dec. members of the Mason Family; Veronica Moran, Kilrush & Droughill; Mossie Kelly (nee Sweeney), St. Michael's Park (30th Anniv.); Patrick Crossan, Ballymorris & dec. members of the Crossan Family, Cloneygowan; Jane Moran, Cloneyhurke

ANNIVERSARIES

KILLENARD

Sun. 8th February 10.30am

Mary Mondonie, Hilton Head, South Carolina (recently deceased); Mossie & Kathy Stack

Sun. 15th February 10.30am

Kathleen Kearney, Ballybrittas (4th Anniv.) Jim Kearney, Ballybrittas; Kathleen Malone (nee Kearney), Rosecourt; Brendan McHale, Ashgrove, Ballybrittas (5th Anniv.); Patrick Keane, Killenard (14th Anniv.); Ben McCormack (5th Anniv.); Deceased members of the McCormack & Lennon Families;

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT

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

WEEKDAY ANNIV. PORTARLINGTON

Mon. 9th Feb. Pat & Chrissie O'Brien, Dublin; Maggie Kelly and granddaughter, Grace O'Neill (Birthday Remembrance)

Tues. 10th Feb. Deirdre O'Reilly, Canal Road; Lorcan Fullam, Dublin & Shiphouse

Wed. 11th Feb. Thomas & Mairead Kennedy, St. Michael's Park; Bill & Philomena Rogers, Bracknagh

Thurs. 12th Feb. ---

Fri. 13th Feb. Maura Lawlor, Foxcroft St. (7th Anniv.); Joseph Murphy, St. Patrick's Tce; Robert (Bob) McSweeney; Bernadette McSweeney, Newbridge

ANNIVERSARIES EMO

Sat. 7th February 7.30pm

Peter & Norah O'Connor, Old Pound; Dec. members of the O'Connor Family; Robert McGuirk, Knightstown; William & Kathleen Byrne, Killimy; Frank & Bridget Copeland & dec. members of the Copeland Family; Mary, Betty & Kitty Lynch, Killeen

Sun. 8th February 11am

Eamon O'Connell, Straboe, Portlaoise (M.M.)

Sat. 14th February 7.30pm

Sean & William Greene, Morette

Sun. 15th February 11am

Patrick (Paddy) Booth, Coolbanagher (1st Anniv.)

ANNIVERSARIES RATH

Sun. 8th February 9am

John Corcoran, Ballybrittas; Liam O'Dwyer & dec. member of the O'Dwyer & Kirwan Families; Orla Duane

Sun. 15th February 9am

Patrick & Brigid Wilson, Coolroe & dec. members of the Wilson Family

DECEASED

Please pray for the following who died recently:



Hughie Nevin, Dublin

Edward (Neddy) Bailey, Birmingham & formerly Cappakeel



WE WELCOME INTO THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY THROUGH BAPTISM

Ollie Evan Farrell, Garryhinch
Rían Bischof, Newtowncashel, Longford

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Wednesday 11th February 2026

"Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful" (Lk 6:36)

Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes



The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is set aside each year as the occasion when we celebrate World Day of the Sick. It is the opportunity to acknowledge once again the important place the sick & suffering have in our community.

PRAYER

*Almighty God, giver of life and health:
Send your blessing on all who are sick
and upon those who minister to them,
that all weakness may be vanquished
by the triumph of the risen Christ:
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.*

AMEN

PARISH STATISTICS

2024 & 2025

PORTARLINGTON	2024	2025
Baptisms	93	111
1st Holy Communion	135	130
Confirmation	181	178
Weddings	16	22
Funerals	53	58

EMO	2024	2025
Baptisms	36	22
1st Holy Communion	48	43
Confirmation	52	47
Weddings	3	7
Funerals	15	14

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND

Catholic Marriage Encounter in

Ireland.

Dates: 20th – 22nd March / Venue:

St Mary's, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A WEEKEND LIKE NO OTHER.

Online: www.marriageencounter.ie



O'DEMPSEY'S GFC NEWS

Players and Club Volunteers for 2026

Preparations are underway at the Old Pound for the 2026 season! If you are interested in playing with O'Dempsey's (U5's up to Adult teams), or getting involved as a mentor or on one of our committees like Facilities, Healthy Club, Fundraising, Juvenile etc.) contact chairperson Brian 087 4185541/ Secretary Mai 087 4191450

Membership for 2026

Membership is due - Please arrange to renew your membership, it is particularly important for players that are training and will have games in the coming weeks. Visit the 'O'Dempsey's App' to register for 2026.

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

St. Paul's LGFA are delighted to be the Laois Club selected to host this year's Gaelic4Girls programme. This initiative is open to all girls aged 7 to 12 years in Emo & Portarlington 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 and your daughter wish to try out a new sport & are interested in participating in the programme, contact Aoife on 087 7887345 (prostpaulsgfa@gmail.com) or Lauren 085 8667223 childrensofficer.stpauls.laois@lgfa.ie or follow our social media (Facebook & Instagram) @stpaulslgfa if you wish to view updates.

PORATARLINGTON LIBRARY EVENTS

Valentines Craft Table: Sat 14th Feb from 10:30am while stocks last. No need to book but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Pancake Day Storytime and Craft: Wed. 18th Feb. 3pm . Suitable for 4-11yrs Places limited Booking essential.

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.

Ciocal Comhrá Every Tuesday 11am. New members always 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 evenings 6pm-7pm, enjoy a game of chess , a cuppa and a chat . New members welcome.

Portarlington Junior Book Club: Meeting on the last Wednesday of the month. Club is suitable for 9-12year olds. Booking is essential.

Baby Book Club: Baby Book Club meets on Wednesday mornings 10:30am (except for school holidays). Booking is essential.

Adult Book Club: We meet on the last Tuesday of every month. Booking of any of above & further information from 057 8643751 or Email portarlingtonlibrary@laoiscoco.ie

PORATARLINGTON 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 a local child. 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.

PORATARLINGTON LOURDES



DRAW RESULTS 4TH FEB. 2025

Portarlington Lourdes Invalid Committee
Draw was held on Tuesday 3rd Feb. at BINGO in Portarlington GAA Centre.

1st Prize - TRIP TO LOURDES

(Sponsored by Port. Credit Union)
Phil Bourke, Sandy Lane

Four Prizes of €100 each

(Sponsored by Super Valu, Portarlington)
Margurite Fenlon; Rachael Walsh;
Breda Horan; Lily Sheils

Congratulations to all our winners and sincere thanks to everyone who supported us.

MEDJUGORJE GROUP PILGRIMAGE

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje will take place from Oct. 14th until Oct. 21st. Departs Dublin to Dubrovnik - Cost €875 for 7 days. Single Supplement + €170. Travel insurance optional. Accompanied by Spiritual Director Fr Sean Hyland C.C. For further information and booking contact Michael Nerney on 086 815 7305

COME AND SEE

Men and women aged 18-0 interested in exploring the Carmelite Way of Life with Carmelite Friars and Nuns. WHERE? Avila Carmelite Centre, Dublin D04 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

SPIORAID NAOIMH PRAYING COMMUNITY

Growth in the Holy Spirit Monthly Retreat
Sat. 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.

MOUNTMELLICK DRAMA GROUP

presents "ALBERTINE IN FIVE TIMES" at the Mountmellick Community Arts Centre on Thurs.12th, Fri. 13th & Sat. 14th Feb. Commencing 8pm. Ticket €15 each (at door)

ST. BRIGID'S SOCIAL CLUB

CLOONEYHURKE

Social Dance: The next Social Dance will take place on 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 February 26th. Evidence of a passport is needed or else email applications@seanadvoter.ie

PORATARLINGTON TENNIS CLUB - A.G.M.

Will be held at 7pm on Thursday 26th February. Check out website www.portarlingtontennisclub.ie

PORATARLINGTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

P.C.D.A.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the PCDA will take place on Thursday 19th February in the PCDA Office at St. Michael's NS, Kilmalogue (Girl's old school). AGM Commencing 7.30pm. All very welcome to attend this meeting.

GRACEFIELD GAA CLUB LOTTO

2/2/2026 – Week No. 6

Numbers 27, 15, 25, 13 – No jackpot winner.

€50 to each of the following:-

Terence O'Neill; Robert Moore; Rose & Jack; Ronan Walsh; Mary Dooley. Promoter prize: Colette O'Reilly

Next week's Jackpot €5,600



EMO – RATH PARISH

Next draw takes place 9th February with a **Jackpot of €5,000**.

COURTWOOD GAA

Club membership now Open:

Apply through Clubforce App / Register with Tom O'Connell / Aileen Carroll or PJ Kelly.

SAMARITANS

Support lines are available

24 hours a day, 365 days a year, offering Non-judgmental & confidential support whenever you need us. Free-phone 116123. Text 087 2609090 - Email jo@samaritans.org

PORT. PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Upcoming events:

Fri. 13th Feb: Valentine's Day Crafts 10.30am-11.30am / **Fri. 20th Feb.** Mid-term break – No class / **Fri. 27th Feb.** National Strawberry Day – Themed Crafts and Snacks 10.30am – 11.30am.

The group meet 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.

EMO RETIREMENT GROUP

Emo Retirement Group will meet in the Old School, Emo on Tuesdays 8pm. New members very welcome. Fee €15 / year membership.

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.

HAPPY HEARTS ACTIVE RETIREMENT



Join us for some fun activities & weekly chats.

Thursdays 2-4pm in Sandra's Studios, Portarlington Community Centre.

Call us on 087 8061567.

BE STRONG IN THE LORD

Strengthen your Catholic Faith

Human Life International Ireland mission event with relics of St Therese and the Holy Face. Be restored – Paulstown, Kilkenny. 7pm on Thurs. 12th February (R95FX25).

EDUFIT

A free 6 week online expert led & evidence based women-specific exercise & lifestyle medicine programme to help women thrive in midlife & beyond. Comm. Wed. 11th Feb. 1pm. Reg: <https://edufit.ie/menowell-2-laois-2026/>